

11 May 2018

Dear parents, carers, friends and families at Brindishe,

### The future at Brindishe

### Governance at Brindishe Schools from September 2018

A message from the Chair of Governors:



“2018 marks my 25<sup>th</sup> year as a governor of Brindishe and 23<sup>rd</sup> year as the Chair of Governors. It has been an honour and a privilege to have been part of the amazing journey that Brindishe Schools have travelled. We now have three outstanding schools serving the communities of Lee and Hither Green. It has been my pleasure to have been able to ensure that the governing body has played its full and influential part on that journey.

As we are all aware the success of our Federation lies in being able to adapt readily and quickly to change, and in our ability to attract great teachers and

support staff and to grow great leaders. In this way our communities can be confident that each school will continue in future to offer the highest quality of education to every child – just as they all deserve.

The schools are in the best possible position to continue in their success as they enter this new stage of their journey and they are strong and vibrant. I am letting you know that I have decided that my part in the journey is coming to an end and that I will step down from my position both as Chair and as a governor in August 2018. Therefore I take this opportunity to wish everybody all the very best for the future which I am sure will be bright.

I give special thanks to all those people who have been with me on my journey from parent governor at Brindishe (now known as Brindishe Lee) to Chair of Governors of one of the first and undoubtedly one of the most successful, harmonious and united Local Authority Primary School Federations in the country.”

Spyros Elia JP  
Chair of Governors  
The Federation of Brindishe Schools

### Leadership at Brindishe Manor School from September

Our current Headteacher at Brindishe Manor, Gerlinde Achenbach, will move to take up her new post at Brindishe Green in September. Brindishe Governors appointed a panel to recruit her replacement. However despite our national adverts and networking we were

not able to find someone who met our expectations and seemed ready to take on the role of leading this outstanding school. The appointing panel, working with the new Executive Head of Brindishe, Rachel Waite, decided that they would put in place interim arrangements for September and then re-advertise the post for Easter 2019.

Accordingly we approached Kate Porter the current Deputy Head of Brindishe Manor and she has agreed to step up into the role of Headteacher on a full time basis for two terms. Her role as Deputy Head was then offered to Julie Hockham one of our most experienced teachers at Brindishe Manor. Julie was a Deputy Head in a Greenwich Primary School for 7 years and holds the National Professional Qualification for Headteachers. Julie will step up into the interim role on a full time basis for two terms.

We are all confident that this is the best option going forward and the team of leaders at Brindishe Schools will work well together to make sure these transitions are smooth and successful.

With best wishes,  
Dame Vicki Paterson  
Executive Head

### **This week at Brindishe Manor**

I hope everyone enjoyed the lovely sunny weather at the weekend. The children have been enjoying the sunshine at school too. We have been reminding them to try to stay in the shade when it is very hot and to drink plenty of water. Luckily our field and lots of areas around the school are very shady at lunchtime.

### **GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation**

From May 25<sup>th</sup> there will be new regulations to protect personal data and how and with whom personal data is shared. These new regulations will also affect schools as schools hold data on children and families such as children's medical needs, special diets, religious beliefs, ethnicity etc. We are sending by email today our updated privacy notice to all families. Please look out for it and take the time to read it. Thank you.

### **Hither Green Festival**

Children in our Year 1 choir are very busy preparing for their performance at the Hither Green Festival next Thursday. The concert will take place at Brindishe Green school at 6pm.

### **Rights Respecting School**

Each week in the newsletter, we will share one or two of the 54 articles that link with our learning in school or a particular theme for the week. This week we are focusing on

**Article 24; Children have the right to good quality health care, to clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment, so that they will stay healthy.**

**Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.**

Did you know that the most popular fruits in the UK are bananas, apples, oranges and grapes? Our assemblies this week have helped children to learn that it is important to eat a range of fruits and vegetables in order to have a balanced and healthy diet.

### **Fantastic attendance**

*Sapphire 98.3%*

*Amber and Diamond 100%!*

### **Mobile phones and ear pieces on site**

Please can we politely remind all parents and carers not to use their mobile phones or ear pieces once they come through the school gates. Drop off and collection times are very important times of the day for all the children, and we ask that you give your full attention to your child or to the class adults if they wish to speak with you. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Dates for your diary**

**1 – 31 May** KS1 SATs month (for Y2)

**14 May** KS2 SATs week (for Y6)

**15 May and 27 June** 6pm Full Governing Body meetings at Brindishe Green. Please let us know if you wish to attend as an observer and we will arrange seating for you.

**17 May** Hither Green Festival at Brindishe Green School, 6pm – Y1 choir

**24 May** Year 5 and 6 tri-school Sports Day at Ladywell Arena

**28 May – 1 June** Half term

**4 June** INSET day. Staff only - school closed to children

**5 June** Children back to school.

### **And finally...**

Next week Y6 children up and down the country will be taking their KS2 SATs tests. We are hosting a SATs breakfast for all our Y6 children from 8.30am Monday - Thursday and encourage them all to be there nice and early. They have worked incredibly hard this year and deserve to do very well.

We wish the Y6 children across all three Brindishe schools much luck.

With best wishes,

Gerlinde Achenbach  
Headteacher

## **PSFA (Parents, Staff, Friends Association) News**

### **CEILIDH JUNE 9th**

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the social event of the summer! Come and kick your heels up and have some fun. Send in your return slip, grab one of the PSFA team (see below), contact us by email or Facebook, or look out for our ticket desk next Friday 18th May at morning drop off time.

*Anne Mortensen, Sapphire class*

*Wendy Humble, Turquoise class*

*Claire Johnston, Amethyst & Diamond class*

*Sandra Sezgin, Amethyst & Diamond class*

### **“Our Rights Respecting School” Cake competition Friday 25th May**

Don't forget to get the creative thoughts going for entries - you have two weeks to come up with your entry! There will be prizes.....not to mention a lot of cake to eat.....

### **ICE LOLLY POP UP**

Now the weather seems to be settling into a warmer spell, look out for our ice lolly pop ups after school.

Have a lovely weekend.

The PSFA Team

[brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com)

Brindishe Manor PSFA (Facebook - come and join us to stay up to date with events)

***Don't forget you can translate this newsletter into more than 100 different languages on our website by using the translate button at the bottom of each page***

[www.brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk)