



Friday 9th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Friday myself, the Governing Board, the Local Authority and members of the Federation interviewed candidates for the Brindishe Manor Headship. It is with great pleasure that I would like to inform you that Kate Porter, our current interim headteacher, was successful and will begin the substantive post from September 2019. We will be in touch with you over the next week with the arrangements that will be in place during her maternity leave. On behalf of the Governing Board, the staff and the children, I would like to extend our congratulations to Kate and look forward to her beginning the permanent post in the new school year.

Best Wishes,

Rachel Waite
Executive Head

This week at Brindishe Manor

Year 5 School Journey

Year 5 children returned on Wednesday after three fabulous days at *Windmill Hill* in Surrey. They took part in a range of activities, including abseiling, Jacobs ladder and orienteering. The children enjoyed a disco on Tuesday evening too! Ms Coupe and the other school staff were very impressed with the children's organisational skills, how well they worked together and the fantastic co-operation during all three days!

Year 3 visit to The Museum of London

Sapphire and Pearl had a fantastic visit to *The Museum of London*, all of the children were very enthusiastic and were keen to find out more about the various artefacts at the Museum. They asked some great questions and brought back lots of facts from the day! Many thanks to the parents and carers who accompanied the children.

Early Reading and Writing Workshop for Nursery and Reception parents

We are planning to hold an Early Reading and Writing workshop for parents and carers of children in our Nursery and Reception classes. The workshop will be held at 9:15am and 6pm on Wednesday 5th December. We will be sending more details out to parents and carers next week.

Fantastic attendance this week!

Key stage 1: Turquoise 99.3%

Key stage 2: Jet 98.7%



Rights Respecting School

This week we focussed on **Article 14**:

You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

This week the children have been learning all about Diwali and understanding how different people believe in different celebrations. We have shared information in our assemblies this week and some children have carried out their own research and presented this to their class. **Happy Diwali to all of our staff, families & friends that have been celebrating this week!**



On Friday 16th November it is Children in Need and this will be a great opportunity for us as a school to help raise money for children and young people across the UK who are in particular need of support, relief or assistance.

The theme this year is '**Do Your Thing!**' and on Friday, if your child would like to, they can share with their class what it is they enjoy doing and what makes them shine. This might be a hobby, a talent, something from their culture or talking about their favourite place/people. The class teachers will be talking this through with the children at the start of next week.

On Friday 16th November we will also encourage everyone to come to school in their **pyjamas**. We only ask that children do not wear onesies and wear their trainers (not slippers). They should also bring a warm dressing gown or coat for the playground.

All donations should be brought into school on Friday morning and it doesn't matter how much you feel you can contribute...every little helps!

Dates for your diary:

November 13th

Open day for prospective parents

November 16th

Children in Need – Children invited to wear pyjamas for the day.

November 5th

Reading and Writing workshop for Nursery and Reception parent/carers

December 6th

Chamber choir concert at the Church of The Good Shepherd

December 7th

Winter Fair from 3:15pm

December 12th & 13th

Key Stage 1 winter performance

December 14th

Nursery Winter Workshop & Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas lunch for R, KS1 & KS2

December 17th & 18th

Key Stage 2 winter performance

December 19th

End of term

Please note that the Christmas lunch has now changed days to Friday 14th December!

Best wishes for a lovely weekend

Kate Porter,

Interim Headteacher

In class this week...

Each week we would like to share with you what each year group has been focusing on in class and offer some ideas on how you can support your child over the coming week.

Nursery...

This week we have been learning about the Hindu and Sikh festival Diwali. The children have enjoyed creating their own rangoli patterns with shapes and have been using positional language to help each other to create repeated patterns. We have also been using clay to make our own diva lamps and acting out the story of Rama and Sita with costumes and props. Thank you to Reema Hooks who helped us learn about Diwali by bringing in lovely items and sharing her experiences. If you have any family traditions or celebrations coming up that you would like to share with us please let us know.

As the weather gets colder please make sure your child has suitable clothing and footwear as we will continue to go outside. Additionally, please provide spare clothes for your child to change into if they get wet or dirty.

On Friday 14th December we would like to invite you into Nursery for a Winter Workshop. On the day we would like you to help your child take part in a range of winter crafts, games and storytelling. We will then finish with some singing. The sessions will last for 2 hours, 9-11 and 1:15-3:15.

Reception...

In Reception this week the children have been learning some new sounds ('n', 'm', 'd', 'i') and sounding out simple words like 'map' and 'nit'. In maths, we have been looking at patterns and counting. We have also been learning about Diwali, the Festival of Light and making diva lights.

The children decided to make a cinema (complete with tickets, posters and pretend popcorn) in our outside area and they have loved role-playing this. They have been using pounds to buy tickets and popcorn.

At home, you could look at prices when you're out and about and see if your child recognises any of the numerals. You can talk to them about how much things are and see if your child can count any of the pounds (or pennies) you have in your wallet!

Please could children bring book bags with purple books inside to school everyday. Many thanks!

In Year 1...

We are enjoying finding out about different animals using information books – thank you for bringing in all of your lovely home learning. In English, we have been discussing the difference between fiction and non-fiction books. Next week we will be looking at features of non-fiction texts so that we can make our own animal information books. *Can your child explain what fiction and non-fiction books are? What is so special about non-fiction books?*

In maths, the children are continuing to investigate different strategies to add and understand the relationship between numbers. Please try and practise number bonds for numbers up to 10 at home using different objects to represent the numbers (e.g. 4 spoons and 3 spoons make 7 spoons, $4 + 3 = 7$). This will help your child's number fluency and mental maths.

Thank you so much to our lovely visitors, Reema who taught Moonstone all about Diwali and John who taught Onyx all about schools in Kenya, as well as the animals that live in the country.

In Year 2...

Year 2 started this week with a fun filled Penguin Day. Many children and teachers came dressed up as penguins; children also brought penguins with them. We read the book *365 Penguins* and tried to solve problems from the book, for example how to count the penguins, how to store them and how many fish we need to buy to feed the penguins. Children made beautiful penguins using cups and card and researched different species.

Both classes have been working hard writing their instructions on how to take care of a penguin. In Science we discussed how do animals, including us humans, grow. Ruby class has worked on their Northern Lights artwork and Amethyst explored composing their own music using the glockenspiels.

In Year 3...

This week in maths, we have moved on to subtraction, we started by finding the difference between two numbers by using the column method as well as using base-ten. In English, the children have written their own endings to 'The Stone Age Boy', we started by discussing how the story could end. The children thought about how they could start their sentences in various ways to excite their readers.

Why not have a go at some of the subtraction activities on MyMaths over the weekend?

In Year 4...

Year 4 have had a very busy week as usual! Our new focus in English is Macbeth. The children have been very excited by the story line, in particular the ghosts, witches and supernatural side of Macbeth. We have begun to plan our own witch's potion by using the 'Witch's Song' from Macbeth as our inspiration. *We have started to think of rhyming couplets such as 'eye of dog, leg of frog', are there any more you can think of over the weekend? Remember the more gruesome the better!*

In science we have started to explore sound, the children had the chance to investigate 7 different sound based activities such as boom whackers, 2 cups and a piece of string and using tissue paper and a comb to create sounds with different pitches. They were very enthusiastic and like true scientists, we made notes about things we noticed at each station and recorded any patterns or links that we found.

In Maths, Topaz class are still conquering the world of division and Amber class have moved on to word problems! Please remember that there are tasks set on MyMaths to support your child's learning, especially times tables, and there are a fantastic selection of Maths games available for your child to access also. If you have any issues logging in or need support navigating round My Maths please do not hesitate to ask a year 4 adult for support.

We have also sent home the permission slips for Tudor day to gain permission for the children to try the Tudor food we will be making. Please ensure this is returned to school before the 22nd of November.

In Year 5...

All the children who went on school journey this week had a fantastic time. They were able to take on challenges and push themselves beyond what they thought they were capable of. All the adults on the trip were so proud of how the children conducted themselves throughout the three days, as were the PGL staff. Children were kind and considerate to each other and provided encouragement during the many different activities.

Children who remained at school have expressed how much they enjoyed the three days and it's been wonderful to look at some of the lovely learning they have done. The trip to Manor House Gardens was successful and the children created beautiful pieces of art from the visit. The staff who remained with these children were incredibly pleased with their resilience and enthusiasm.

Upon our return to school, we have thrown ourselves back into the swing of things - continuing with our work on fractions and climate change. This week in dance, children created their own short dances based on different types of weather. We had great discussions after watching each other about how emotive the dances were. The children created a relationship between the different types of weather and emotion. It was wonderful to watch!

In Year 6...

This week, Year 6's writing has focused on being persuasive and formal - writing a letter to a World War 2-era local official, to persuade him to treat a stranded German pilot kindly. Keeping with the persuasive theme, next week's writing will also be a letter - this time from a conscientious objector, explaining their decision to refuse military service.

Try having a discussion with your child about this theme - it's an area full of huge ethical implications!

PSFA NEWS...

The Winter Fair will take place on **7th December, 3.15-5pm**. We REALLY need volunteers to help run the amazing stalls! If you can help out for an hour, please do get in touch: brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com.

- The PSFA newsletter is a really great way to keep in touch with the events and activities taking place. If you'd like to receive it by email, please sign up here: <http://eepurl.com/dIPX4D>

- We also have a friendly Facebook page, which is great for keeping up with all the fun stuff that's going on. You can find us here - <https://www.facebook.com/brindishemanorpsfa/>