



Brindishe Manor Newsletter
Friday 29th January 2021
Headteacher: Kate Porter



Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

As we approach the end of the fourth week of term, it is important for us all to recognise how well everyone is doing. We have been speaking to parents and carers over the last few weeks, who have naturally been worrying about their child/ren but take it from us, you are all doing an amazing job.

If, on a particular day, it is a struggle to stick to the timetable set and to complete all the tasks, it is important that you try and support your child as best you can, but please do not worry. Read a book, put on BBC Bitesize or throw a ball in the park: your child will not be disadvantaged in any way. Use these moments as a chance to take stock, recharge and start again. On these days, try to just focus on the one main assignment set so that the teacher can give feedback to move the child on in their learning.

Next week, the schools will be providing lots of opportunities for children and families to look after their wellbeing as we all recognise Children's Mental Health Week. What better way to support each other moving into week 5.

I have also had the opportunity to talk to some parents and carers this week who have raised their thoughts and concerns around the online learning offer. As always, we appreciate these comments and will always ensure these are discussed and then used as a tool for improvement if we feel we need to change our offer.

Heading into the weekend, please may I also take this as an opportunity to remind you that even though the rates of infection are dropping slightly, it is our duty to do all we can to keep everyone safe. We have done so well to keep the Critical Worker Provision open throughout January and hope to continue to do so whilst we remain in lockdown.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Rachel Waite

Executive Head
Brindishe Schools

A huge well done and thank you to all of our families who are continuing to engage with the online learning as best as they can. We know it is a really challenging time for everyone, especially those parents and carers who are also trying to work and home school. Please remember that we are here for you and we will help and support you in any way we can.

Remote Learning Support

Some parents have asked for tips to further support learning at home. As we know, there is no one-size-fits-all, we appreciate that everybody's circumstances are different, but these are some general tips that you might find helpful. Please refer to the link listed below as well as our suggested Top Tips. Useful EEF link - [https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/videos/EEF Supporting daily routines during school closures.mp4](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/videos/EEF_Supporting_daily_routines_during_school_closures.mp4)

Who to contact and when?

If you have any questions or queries during this time, please can we ask that you use the following email addresses so that the right person can get back to you:

info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk – queries about online learning, accessing devices, Free School Meals, concerns, general questions.

support@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk – if you need technical support with Itslearning, log in details or Weduc

Children's Mental Health Week – Monday 1st February – Friday 5th February

Children's mental health charity Place2Be has set up Children's Mental Health Week 2021. Its aim is to highlight the importance of mental health within children and young people.

What is the theme of the week?

The theme of Children's Mental Health Week this year is **'Express Yourself'**.

The aim is to encourage children to express themselves in a variety of ways. For example, expressing yourself can be about sharing your feelings, thoughts and ideas through creativity. Children could express how they feel through a

piece of artwork or writing, or they could express it through a performance such as dance or drama. An important part of this theme is that expressing yourself doesn't mean that you're the best at something. It's all about finding a way to show other people who you are and how you feel. It's about showing how you see the world and finding a way to 'express yourself' which feels good to you. Expressing yourself in a way that's unique to you is a great way to improve mental wellbeing.



Live Zoom sessions

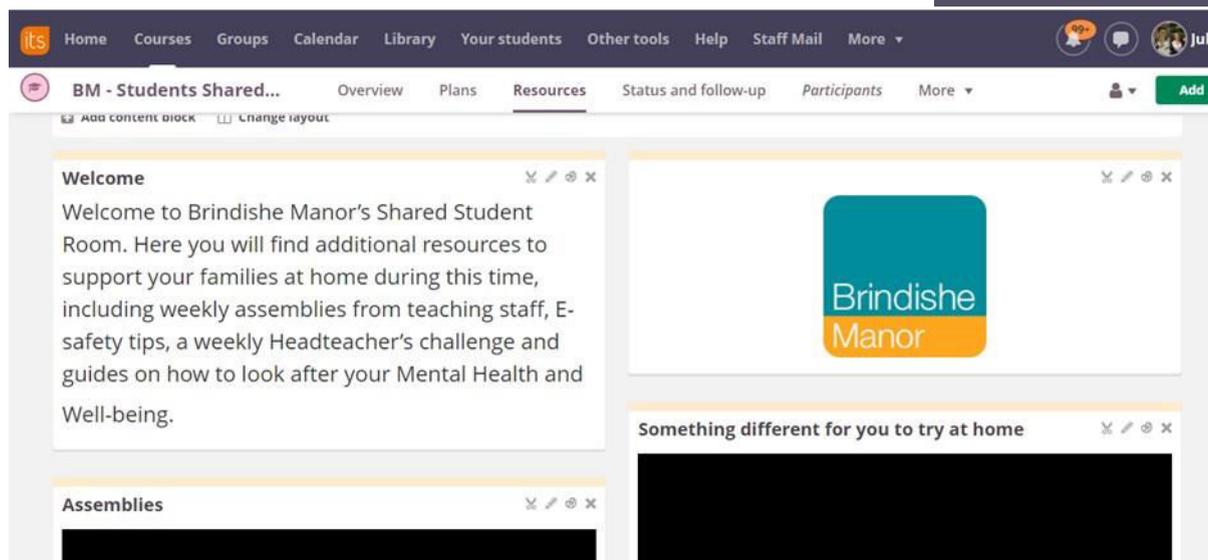
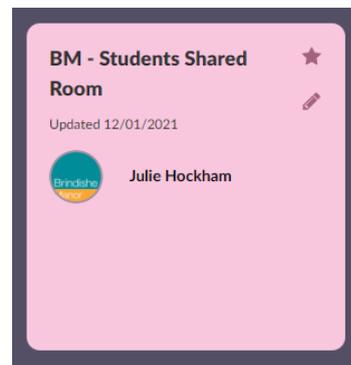
Next week, there will be a range of online resources uploaded which recognise children's mental health on our shared learning page and the focus of our **'live' zoom sessions will include the children being able to express themselves through what they wear**. They could wear a hat, a party outfit or their brightest top – whatever they choose which expresses who they are.

We look forward to hearing and seeing all of the children's learning.

Finished your learning and want something else to do? Need suggestions for how to keep yourself mentally and physically fit?

Don't forget to access the BM – Shared Students Room. Here you will find assemblies by Miss Porter and other members of the Senior Leadership team, a project to do at home each week, information on e-safety, useful website links and even parent/carer workshops to give you help on how to support your children with maths and different aspects of English.

There is a large section on mental health and wellbeing for both children and parents/carers and a 'Virtual days out' section if you would like to get out of the house without actually leaving it!



Virtual drop-in sessions for children with challenges to their learning

Our Inclusion lead and SENCO Miss Dee will be offering weekly virtual drop-in sessions from next week. These are an opportunity to discuss any concerns or questions that you may have about your child's learning or behaviours. You can book a 15 minutes appointment via either Zoom or by phone by emailing jdee@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk please say which day you would like and if you would prefer Zoom or a call.

The dates for February are:

Tuesday 2nd Feb 10-12noon

Monday 8th February 2-4pm

Thursday 25th February 3-5pm

ItsLearning: Assignments

Well done to all our children who have been logging in to Itslearning every day and uploading their daily assignments. **Assignments must be uploaded by 3.15pm. It is very important that every child completes and uploads each daily assignment on time so that the teacher can respond to it on the same day.**

Other learning can be uploaded to the child's Shared area for home learning folder. We want to be able to see and praise all your child's hard work.

Shared area for home learning

All classes have a folder in the **Resources tab of ItsLearning** where children can upload work, photographs and videos that they have been doing during the week so the **teacher and the other children in the class** can see and celebrate the fantastic effort everyone is making.

Jet Class's Weduc Calls

Unfortunately we had to cancel Jet's Weduc calls on Wednesday and Thursday this week. If you would like to reschedule an appointment for your child to see Mr Sinclair, please go onto Weduc and re-book for either Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd or Thursday 4th.

Best wishes,

Kate Porter and the Brindishe Manor Team

PSFA news – 15 January 2021

Virtual Valentine's Day Cake Sale

Happy New Year to all the Brindishe Manor community. We hope you're all safe and well. Times continue to be challenging and to prevent traditional forms of fundraising. Usually before the February half term we would hold a cake sale - one of our most popular events.

This won't be possible this year but could you donate the money that you would have spent at the cake sale to help raise funds? The minimum JustGiving donation is £2 and whatever you are able to donate will be much appreciated.

For the full cake sale experience, you could bake a Valentine's Day themed treat to enjoy at home. Share pictures with us on the Brindishe Manor PSFA Facebook page; we'd love to see what you make.

We are working this term to support remote learning - donating money to buy books to be distributed to children who might not otherwise be able to access them, contributing to musical instruments and other resources. In the current circumstances budgets are being stretched like never before - every donation helps no matter how large or small.

If you are able, please donate via this page to support all our children's learning and experience <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/virtualcakesale>

Thank you.

Autumn term fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, fundraised and took part in the Halloween Trail, 2020 Exercise Challenge, Christmas Lights Trail and also everyone who bought personalized cards and gifts as part of the Christmas Cards art project.

Thanks to all of you we raised over £5,000 in a single term and this will be increased by donations from the employers of some parents who offer matched funding.

This is an incredible achievement and will help to pay for playground equipment and improvements (for when everyone is allowed back into the playground) and also to help support additional resources for remote learning. We honestly can't thank everyone enough for your support, enthusiasm and generosity.