

Friday 10th December 2021

Dear Children, Families, Staff, Governors and Friends,

It has been an absolute pleasure this week to begin welcoming parents and carers into school for our winter performances. Despite very chilly weather, the children performed beautifully and kept us smiling all the way through. It was a small but very welcome step towards normality. We are really looking forward to welcoming the parents and carers from Years 1, 2 and 6 to their performances next week and hope to see as many of you there as possible. With visits for our Year 1 and Year 2 classes this week it has been a busy and very exciting few days as we now start to look forward to the end of term.

If you are taking part in the BFGs festive trail on Saturday or Sunday we hope you have a wonderful time and look forward to hearing about it on Monday. We wish you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Best wishes,

The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

Wonderful Work!

This week the children across the school have impressed the adults with their focus and dedication to their learning. The children listed below have really shone throughout the week and will be bringing a praise card home:

Year 1 - Weiyi & Gabriella, Khalid & Abner, Cherry Class

Year 2 – Hamidah & Caroline, Sophia & Isabella, Maya & Cameron

Year 3 – Abdesamad & Amara, Parkhi & Rose, Jersha and Fenella

Year 4 – Omar & Leona, Stella, Edward & Olive R

Year 5 – Daniel & Amiyah, Tazrian & Arselan, Luca & Keira, Sirine & Ilyas

Year 6 – Oscar & Shakijah, Osman & Shola, Ana & Hari



Tuesday 14th December – Christmas Dinner and Festive Jumper Day

On 14th December it will be our '**Christmas Dinner and Festive Jumper Day**'. Children and staff are encouraged to wear their festive jumpers and money raised will be donated to the local charity – **Jumpers for Jimmy (The Mizen Foundation)**. There is no need to buy a new jumper! Reuse one you already have or create your own using decorations from your home.

Also on this day, the children (and staff) are being treated to an **online pantomime of Cinderella**, and **bags of popcorn** which have been donated by Bryan&Keegan. This has been organised by the **wonderful BFG**, and we would like to thank them for doing this. We are confident the children are going to have a wonderful, festive day.

Christmas Performances

Each class will be holding a short concert outside on the stage **in the playground** which parents can come and watch too. The performance dates are listed below. **All performances start at 9:15am and last around 15 minutes - please come wrapped up warm and make sure your children have coats and hats.** Please bring your children to school as normal, allow them to go up to their classroom and remain on the playground near the stage. The children will be registered and brought back down by their teachers for the performance.

14th December - Year 6

15th December - Year 1

16th December - Year 2

In addition to the live performances, we will also be creating Christmas videos of the children singing their Christmas songs. These will be available to watch on the last day of term.



Christmas Cards

Last year it was necessary for us to ask children not to bring Christmas cards to school. This year we would like to mindfully restart what we recognise is an important tradition. In a school as large as ours there is an enormous number of Christmas cards written each year which require a huge amount of time to sort and deliver and more importantly, create vast amounts of waste, something children have mentioned to staff several times. This year we would like to ask that if your child wishes to write a Christmas card, they write **one to their whole class which can then be displayed and enjoyed by everyone**. As always, we are not able to provide lists of children in the school.

Lewisham winter holiday programme of food and fun - December 2021

This winter, with funding from the DfE, Lewisham Council is providing a varied holiday programme, with free activities and lunches for school aged children and young people (aged 5-16 years - up to 19 for children/young people with SEND) eligible for and in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals.

A wide range of providers in Lewisham are supporting the delivery of this programme.

The programme is provided from **Monday 20th December to Friday 31st December 2021** and details for each club are listed in the attached flyer. [Please click here for the information flyer.](#)

If you have any questions or need support with registration, please contact HAFProgramme@lewisham.gov.uk

Design an Apron Competition

If you fancy doing something creative in the warm and dry this weekend, why not enter the Design Your Own Apron competition being run by Radish, our catering contractor? Create your design and send it in to Radish who will choose 10 winners from across all their schools. Each of the 10 winners will receive an apron with their design printed on it.

Step 1 Create a design on a sheet of A4 paper

Step 2 Scan or take a photo of your design

Step 3 email the image to catering.admin@radishallgood.com

The closing date is 31/12/21 and the winners will be announced on 14/01/22, good luck!



We are a Gold Rights Respecting School

December is an important month for several religions with people across the world celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa amongst other holidays and festivals.

This is a great opportunity to explore:

Article 14 (children's freedom of thought, belief and religion). Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights



Our Weekly Online Safety Message from Ms Chin...Cyber Bullying

While the emotional aspects of bullying continue to be devastating, the internet and social media have changed the way children experience bullying. Cyberbullying is bullying that happens online through social, gaming or instant messaging platforms.



To help you support your child on this issue, please take a few minutes to read the [useful top tips from Internet Matters](#) about how to protect your child from the lasting effects of cyberbullying by learning how to help them deal with it.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Internet-Matters-Guide-Cyberbullying-conversation-starters-6-10-years-v2.pdf>

Young Climate Warriors

'Nothing in the world is quite as adorably lovely as a robin when he shows off, and they are nearly always doing it.'

Mary Lennox in 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett.



This holiday we are encouraging children to pause and take time to support and enjoy our wild birds. All Young Climate Warriors' holiday challenges involve getting outside and exploring our natural world. Connecting with nature as a child is considered an essential building block in striving to protect and value nature into adulthood (Dasgupta Review of the Economics of Biodiversity).

Watch the robins 'showing off', listen to their birdsong - and learn to recognise it. Human impact on our natural world means that birds are struggling, but as humans we can make a big difference to their survival during colder weather by providing bird food - make a simple bird feeder - a Christmas wreath for birds - and then wait and watch.



Important Dates

Please look on the Weduc Calendar for key dates and information regarding your child's class.

Last day of Autumn term - **17th Dec 2021**

8th - 16th December - Winter performances (see above)

Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day - 14th December

Winter Break 20th December - 3rd Jan 2022

INSET Day - 4th Jan 2022 - No children in school

Start of Spring term - **5th Jan 2022**

Remember children must be in school by 9am every day and be collected at 3.15pm

A Message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

Festive Trail weekend! - From Saturday, the letters for the Festive Trail will be on display in windows around Hither Green. Follow the map in the pack (which have been on sale the last two weeks) to find the 15 locations. When you have found all the letters, you need to work out what festive phrase they spell. From Monday, there will be a box at school to collect your guesses and these will be entered into a prize draw. Remember to tell us what you think the phrase is, your name and class. Good luck! There are more detailed instructions on what to do in a separate document sent out with the newsletter. Do share your pictures with us on Facebook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group') and Twitter: @bfgghithergreen.

Please see the attached PDF for the Festive Trail.

Raffle draw - this week the draw for the raffle will take place. You can expect to hear if you've been successful via your child. We will also be revealing who came closest to guessing the correct numbers of baubles and distributing prizes.

Christmas food parcels - Over a hundred food parcels are being made available to families who require them over the Christmas holidays. These will be distributed on Monday at school pick up. Please speak to the school or email BFG to find out more: bfgsocials@gmail.com Thank you to everyone who has donated money, food and time.

Enjoy the Panto! - This Tuesday afternoon the children are being treated to a pantomime performance. With thanks to Bryan & Keegan who have donated popcorn for this event.

COVID UPDATES

Please see below a copy of the decision chart to support you in knowing what to do if your child or another member of your household is exposed to Covid-19 in the coming weeks.

What do I do if.....	What ACTION is needed?	When can I RETURN to school?
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19: Sore throat, runny nose, headache, tummy ache, chicken pox, tonsillitis, sickness, diarrhoea	Follow the usual School Absence Policy	When the child is feeling better or 48 hours if the illness is sickness/diarrhoea
My child has one or more of the 3 main Covid-symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means feeling hot to the touch on the chest or back A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing for more than an hour, or having 3 or more episodes in 24 hours A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE – this means being unable to taste or smell as usual 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Obtain a PCR test Self-isolate until results are known Siblings who have no symptoms should continue to attend school	On receipt of a negative test result and when your child is well enough to attend
My child tests positive for Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact the school to inform us, stating the earliest possible date of return Engage fully with NHS Test and Trace Engage with remote learning if your child is well enough to do so	After the applicable isolation period and when your child is well enough to attend Children can return after 10 days even if the cough and loss of taste/smell remains. This can last for weeks
My child tests negative for Covid-19	Contact school to inform us	...same day/next day and when they are well enough to return
Someone in my house is ill with Covid-19 symptoms	Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received. A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive, have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19 or are a confirmed contact of an Omicron Variant case.	
Someone in my house tests positive for Covid-19	Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received. A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive, have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19 or are a confirmed contact of an Omicron Variant case.	
NHS Test & Trace has identified my child as being in close contact of someone with symptoms confirmed as Covid-19	Obtain a PCR test for your child If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.	

	<p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive, have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19 or are a confirmed contact of an Omicron Variant case.</p>	
Someone other than NHS Test and Trace has informed me that I am a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19	<p>Obtain a PCR test for your child</p> <p>If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive, have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19 or are a confirmed contact of an Omicron Variant case.</p>	
We/my child has travelled and needs to self-isolate as a period of quarantine	<p>Do not take unauthorised leave in term-time</p> <p>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</p> <p>Return from a destination when quarantine is needed</p> <p>Agree an earliest possible date for return</p>	...the quarantine period has been completed