

Brindishe Green School

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Friday 19th March 2021

Dear families, governors, staff and friends,

Today we were thrilled to see so many of our children, staff and families flooding through the school gates dressed in red to raise money for Red Nose Day: Comic Relief. Despite it being a very challenging time for everyone, it was wonderful to see the school community pull together in support of this charity which helps many worthwhile causes in the UK and abroad. It was heart-warming to hear so many of our children talk today about the importance of kindness and helping others who are in need. We are delighted to let you know that together we raised **£726.69**. **Thank you for your generosity.**



This week in school, lots of children learnt about National Panda Day on Tuesday (thank you Cedar class). They also learnt about the **National Census 2021**. They discovered the importance of this national event, how it only happens every 10 years and that every home **must** complete their census **before this Sunday 21st March**. Have you completed yours?

SMS/Text Messages

On Monday 22nd March, Arbor will be changing their SMS provider. As a result, text messages that come from school will now be sent from a **different number**. As always, please do not reply to our text messages but instead send an email to info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk if you have any questions.

Jewellery and Long Hair

As you know we **do not** have a uniform that must be worn but instead we allow children and families to choose the clothing that they feel most comfortable learning and playing in (with some exceptions). However, **we do not allow jewellery to be worn in school**, apart from essential religious items such as a Sikh bangle, and **only close-fitting stud earrings**. **We do not allow hooped earrings in school**. We also ask that long hair is tied back before coming to school. Both of these stipulations are for safety reasons.

Lockdown Learning Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey we sent out to gather your thoughts on the provision we offered during the spring lockdown. Alongside this, we are now in the process of gathering more information from staff and the children. All of this feedback will be reviewed and used to see how we can continue to use the online learning platform as a tool for home learning and to further improve online learning moving forward. If you stated on your survey that you would like the school to contact you for a personal response, someone will be in touch with you over the coming weeks.

Warm Layers

Please can we ask that all children come to school wearing layers – a t-shirt and a warm long sleeved jumper/hoodie, as well as a suitable coat. We have been told **we must keep classroom windows and outside doors open** for ventilation, and the classrooms are much colder than normal. Many of the children are finding it very cold inside, as well as outside.

Ardmere Cottages/Road and Beacon Road

Many thanks to those parents and carers who have been walking to school, avoiding Beacon Road, or parking away from the back gates on Ardmere Cottages/Road. We will continue to review the situation over the coming weeks to ensure that the area is as safe as possible.

Please can we ask all drivers to turn off your car engine once you have parked or stopped your car. Fumes from cars contribute to asthma, lung cancer and heart conditions, as well as having a dangerous impact on the environment. We will share more information with you on a 'Engine Off – Every Stop' campaign over the next couple of weeks.



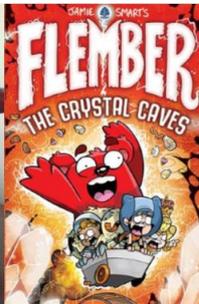
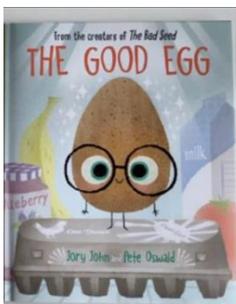
World Book Day/Week Competition Winners

As part of the World Book Week celebrations, we set the children a challenge to re-create one of their favourite book covers. **We were blown away with the time, effort and creativity that were put into the entries.** They were simply fabulous – thank you! It was such a hard decision to choose the winners and runners-up however the teachers came to a decision and we were able to celebrate everyone's entries in the classroom.

A massive well done! Here is a list of the winners and runners-up:

Winners: Devaani (Chestnut 3), Lennie (Bamboo), Ismaeel (Rowan), Poppy (Cherry), Kwabena (Magnolia) Rose and Arlo (Olive), Ase (Cedar), Amelka (Palm), Tazrian (Redwood), Malo (Beech), Elena (Banyan), Annie (Ash), Stanley (Oak), and Zolai, Lola, Gianni and Arwel (Willow)

Runners-up: Zac (Chestnut 1), Jakub (Chestnut 3), Renaye (Bamboo), Lotta (Rowan), Abdul (Cherry) Chloe (magnolia), Sol, Edie, Cyrus, Rita (Cedar), Alex, Och, Rudy, Nia, Abidah, Olivier (Olive), Rhiann (Maple), Elsie (Lilac), Florence (Walnut), Maya (Mangrove), Tiago (Banyan), and Rickael, Gabriel, Leilah and Sofia (Willow)



Important Dates

Sunday 21st March – Census Day

Thursday 1st April – Friday 16th April - Easter/Spring Break

Monday 19th April - Summer term begins

Week beg 26th April - Teacher/Parent Meetings (through Weduc – more information to follow)

Monday 3rd May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 6th May - INSET Day/Polling Station – school closed to all children

Monday 31st May – 4th June - Half Term

And finally...

Thank you to all our parents and carers who are wearing their masks or visors to school every day. Please can we ask that you keep them on until you have left the school premises and you are on Ardmere Cottages/Road. Thank you.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Best wishes,

The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

A Message from the BFG (Brindishe Friends Group)

We met this week to discuss some of the amazing things we'd done with the school over the past year and during lock-down and wanted to share them with you:

- OCT - Give a Garment / Get a Garment event - hugely successfully donation / reusing / recycling of pre loved clothes. Left over garments donated to Lewisham Hub for Refugees
- DEC - 670 bags of popcorn filled for a fun panto and popcorn afternoon for whole school
- DEC - Festive Trail: loads of prizes and raised over £1,250 in 2 weeks
- DEC - Secured £200 donation from CO-OP, plus other gifts and treats for 160 hampers for Brindishe families over the Christmas period
- DEC - Received £100 donation from tree sales from Tommy Mizen
- JAN / FEB - biscuit donations for the staff at school (2 donations)
- FEB - Received Mizen Foundation donation of 2 tablets for Brindishe families in need
- MAR - Held a free social quiz

The money raised from these events will help buy new playground equipment as well as books for the school library. Thank you to EVERYONE who has taken part, helped organise, donated gifts/money/items, etc. Without you we would not have been able to achieve all of this. The great news is we have lots more events planned including:

- **EASTER TRAIL** - free event to be held across 1st - 4th April. Maps will be distributed through the school so you can follow the route to spot all the decorated windows. No letters to find, no prizes to win - just a lovely walk around Hither Green.
- **BFG Big Half** - "7 days until the Brindishe Big Half fundraising page goes live" The Vitality Big Half may have been postponed but we still have 22 people running our own half marathon to raise money for Brindishe Green. Read how Chief Motivator and Brindishe parent Hayley's been getting on with her training further down.
- **SUMMER TERM GIVE A GARMENT/GET A GARMENT** - Covid rules allowing, we hope to have another chance to swap pre-loved items of clothing - this time with a summer theme! More info to follow.

PLEASE if you have a fabulous idea for how we can raise more money for the school, we'd love to hear from you - we have a ready and willing band of people who can make most things happen! Email us: bfgsocials@gmail.com. We're also on twitter (@bfgghithergreen) and FaceBook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group').

As promised, here's Hayley's running story:

"I'm not sure how I'm in the middle of leading the team for The Big Half but I'm really enjoying it and hopefully keeping the team connected. I started running very sporadically around 10 years ago. I could barely run 1km without feeling like I was good to collapse! Up until about 2 years ago I had only really ran 5km just to keep fitness up. Then I decided whilst watching The London Marathon in April 2019 that I was going to apply for 2020. Obvious believing I would not get a spot through the ballot but then I did! I really put everything I had into training, going from my 3.1 miles up to 20 miles last Feb. Then Covid hit and everything got cancelled/postponed. My motivation was so low and I was so gutted at how hard I had trained for everything to be suddenly uncertain. But then I received confirmation that I had secured my place in the October 2021 London Marathon and was so happy I didn't have to wait another year or 2! When this Big Half came up it's really helped me get my motivation back up. And I'm really enjoying seeing and hearing how the team are doing, the different routes, those hard days, etc. So thanks BG team for being part of my marathon journey!" #doingitforthekids