

26 September 2014

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

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

Our Nursery children have made a great start to school. They have enjoyed exploring all the exciting learning planned for them, and are starting to get to know their Reception class neighbours.

### **Exciting joint learning projects**

Last week every member of classroom staff across our 3 schools met in their year groups and teams to make plans for exciting joint learning projects for the coming year. Classes from Brindishe Manor, Brindishe Green and Brindishe Lee plan to work together on projects such as shared local visits, joint art projects and projects in which they will share their learning 'virtually' through a secure ICT learning platform (the MLE).

### **Sports Leaders**

Helen Coupe, our PE co-ordinator, would like to congratulate all our Young Sports Leaders who have made such a great start in leading sports activities for other children during morning play.

### **Languages Day**

Yesterday some children in Year 5 visited Blackheath High School to take part in an exciting opportunity to learn the basics of some modern foreign languages, namely French, German, Spanish and Mandarin. The children had a really enjoyable day, along with children from other local schools, including from our partner Brindishe Schools.

Blackheath High staff commented on how very responsive and polite our children from Brindishe Manor are. Well done to

everyone who took part!

### **Visitors to Brindishe Manor**

This week we were visited by one of our Federation School Governors. Liz Murphy was very impressed by our children's enthusiasm for their learning. Liz is an experienced governor at our three schools and her own children attended both Lee Manor and Brindishe Lee.

Today we were visited by Jim Mallory, local councillor for the Lee Green Ward. We toured the school and discussed the Local Plan for Lee Green. Jim's own grandchildren attend this school and he knows our school and its history very well.

### **Year 1 explore West Africa**

Year 1 are learning about the stories and culture of West Africa and would like your help. Do you have any West African artefacts, books, musical instruments or fabrics that Year 1 could have or borrow? If so they would love to hear from you.

Also, if there are any parents and carers who would like to share news of their relatives or their stories or experiences of life in West Africa, Year 1 children would be very happy to meet you. Please contact the teachers Charisse Phillips in Onyx class, or Emily DaSilva in Jasper class.

### **Learning about Islam in Year 5**

A very big thank you to Mr Ahmed, one of our Year 1 teaching assistants, who visited our year 5 classes last week to talk about being Muslim. This was to help the children who are learning about Islam. Ms Hockham and Miss Douglas say that the children listened very carefully and were able to ask a range of very mature questions afterwards.

There are lots of festivals from different faith traditions and religions taking place over the next few months. For example we have Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year), Diwali (Hindu Festival of Lights), Eid (Islamic festival to mark the end of Hajj), Hanukkah (Jewish Festival of Lights) and then Christmas.

We would really appreciate it if parents and carers could come into school to talk to the children about how these festivals are celebrated at home. If you would be happy to come in and talk to a class or group about festivals and celebrations important in your faith or religion or culture, please let your child's class teacher know or catch me or the deputy head, Kate Porter, at the school gate. We are always there at the beginning and end of the school day.

#### **Dates for the diary**

**Week beg 29 Sep:** 'Meet the teacher' meetings (week 2)

**2 October:** Secondary transfer meeting – please note start time is **6.00pm**, *not* 6.30pm

**3 October:** Year 5 visit The Horniman Museum

**4 October: Brindishe Schools' Fun Run** Sutcliffe Park, SE9

**7 October:** Brindishe Manor Open Day 9.15 – 10.30am and again at 5.00 – 6.15pm

**16 October:** School Journey meeting, 3.30pm and 6.30pm

**27 – 31 October:** Half term

**31 October:** Deadline for Y6 applications to secondary schools

**3 – 7 November:** Year 6 School Journey

**20, 21, 24 November:** School Book Fair

We look forward to seeing many of you at the **Brindishe Schools' Fun Run** next Saturday 4 Oct (see the poster attached). It promises to be a really enjoyable event. With best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Gerlinde Achenbach  
Headteacher