



Lee Manor – in partnership with Brindishe Schools

Week ending Friday 2nd May 2014

Headteacher – Alex Bell Executive Headteacher - Vicki Paterson DBE

Dear parents, carers, colleagues, friends and families,

Staff News

It was with surprise and sadness that this week we heard from Alex Bell that he has decided to leave at the end of the summer term. Mr Bell wants to change some priorities in his life and this includes spending more time with his family.

He has greatly enjoyed his three years with us, and remains strongly committed to the school and the federation. I'm sure that you will join with us in wishing him and his family well in the future – and especially them having more time to enjoy it together.

We can also let you know this week that Kath Margetts, currently seconded to the deputy headship of Brindishe Green has now accepted a long-term secondment to become Head of School at Turnham Primary in Lewisham as it joins in a four term partnership with Stillness Junior School. I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Kath on her promotion.

In the light of these changes we are in the process of planning the recruitment of our next leadership team, which will be for Brindishe Manor and we will keep you all posted.

Dame Vicki Paterson Spyros Elia
Executive Headteacher Chair of Governors

Marathon Man

Today we were delighted to welcome David Wright from Chandler Wright Hair in Blackheath who raised just over £2500 for Brindishe and Lee Manor schools by running in the London Marathon. The children held an assembly for him and presented him with cards and letters of thanks. David's page is still open at www.justgiving.com/david-wright007 if you would like to donate.

Open Day

This week we were visited by prospective families interested in Lee Manor school. Thank you to the children who hosted each of the tours so well. We had many, many extremely positive comments from the families who visited.

School Meal Price Increase from May 2014

Lewisham will be increasing the cost of Primary School Meals from £1.80 to £1.90 per meal with effect from 5th May 2014. This increase has been designed to cover the cost of food price inflation over the current and forthcoming year. At £1.90 Lewisham meals will continue to provide all of the Government nutritional requirements and compare favourably with other local authorities. The two course daily menus vary throughout a three weekly cycle and the Authority is constantly striving to improve the quality of the ingredients. Over 80% of the meal offer uses fresh, quality products from sustainable sources.

If you pay for school dinners please do remember to pay in advance. You can pay for school dinners at the school office or online via the 'Parent Pay' service. We will be happy to give you log in details at the office.

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School Crossing Patrol Officer

Lewisham is looking for a new lollipop person for the school crossing on the junction of Manor Lane with Fernbrook Road. More details can be found on

https://ig29.i-grasp.com/fe/tpl_Lewisham01.asp?newms=jj&id=113317&

Place2Be – our school based counselling service

Emily Elliot explains a little about the Place 2Be service we have at Lee Manor:

There are times when children feel particularly sad, confused, fearful or angry, due to all kinds of different reasons. Some children become withdrawn; others may become challenging or demanding in their behaviour: that's when having Place2Be in school is especially helpful.

Place2Be works with children one to one and in small groups, offering regular support for those children who will benefit most. All pupils can find help with friendship issues and other worries by choosing to visit Place2Talk. In Place2Talk short 15 minute sessions over break or lunchtimes are available for any child who would like to come along to.

There is a special Place2Be room inside the school where children can go to express and think about their worries, through talking, creative work and play. In Lee Manor school a therapeutically trained school project manager called Emily supports this process.

In the Place2Be playroom, upstairs in Lee Hall, there is a wide range of toys, games and creative materials for the children to use to help them to express themselves in a way that feels safe for them.

You are welcome to talk to Emily here at Lee Manor, either face to face or via telephone. Please call 02088520852 and ask to be put through to Place2Be if you would like to ask any questions, or if you would like to refer your child for counselling with Place2Be. You can also talk to our Inclusion Manager Jessica Sexton who can refer you to Place2Be.

Rugby Success

Congratulations to Django Bates in year 4 whose team Old Colfeians Centurians won the Under 9s Kent Rugby Finals last weekend.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity thank all governors, staff, families and most importantly children for three very exciting and rewarding years at Lee Manor.

It has been a real privilege to be headteacher of a school that I care so much about and in whose future I very much believe.

However, the time is now right for me to spend more time on people and projects that have been put on hold for the last three years.

I still very much look forward to the rest of the term ahead and send my good wishes to you all.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend,

Alex Bell
Headteacher

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News from the PSFA

Some updates on forthcoming PSFA events for Summer Term:

Friday 20th June – The Return of the Lee Manor Quiz Night*

Sunday 13th July – Summer Fair

(* this is rescheduled from 9th May due to, er, the Chair forgetting to do anything about it. Apologies!)

More detail on each to follow in news updates closer to the time. As with all PSFA events we really rely on the support of parents to both run as volunteers. If you have spare time available please get in touch. We'd be very grateful. And it's a great way to support the school and meet other parents like you! Email leemanorpsfa@gmail.com

Thanks to everyone for reading the letters last week on the direct debit scheme. And many thanks for the fantastic response we've had so far. Amazing! Some news on the impact funds being raised will follow in subsequent newsletters. And for those who haven't yet been in touch, if you'd like to find out how you can support the school in this simple, hassle free way please drop us a line at leemanorpsfa@gmail.com and we will show you how.

Thanks!

Scott McCready, PSFA Chair 2013/14