

11 November 2016

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

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

#### **Remembrance Day**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the poppy appeal and bought a poppy this week. Today the children were helped to think about everyone affected by war, in particular those who have lost their homes and families through war and suffering and those who have given their lives in wartime throughout history.

#### **Early reading and writing workshops for parents and carers**

Many parents and carers of children from Nursery, Reception and Year 1 attended these workshops on Tuesday. Feedback was very positive with many people saying they had learnt a lot about helping their child at home. Thank you to Jenny Guest, Bee Clements and Katie Clapton for leading and to Janet O'Neill for running the morning crèche.

#### **Full Governing Body Meeting**

On Wednesday the governors of our three school federation met at Brindishe Lee. Governors heard from a group of year 6 children there about how they learn to be responsible for keeping themselves and others safe. Governors discussed areas of the Schools' Community Development Plan (SCDP) and how inclusion, diversity and equalities are prominent threads throughout the children's learning this year.

We also approved a range of policies and monitored the tri-school budgets and discussed the significant cuts that all Lewisham (and most of London) schools will experience in the next financial year.

#### **Performances this week**

It has been a rich week for performances. On Wednesday, in Brindishe Green's school hall, the Shakespeare Schools Festival cast performed Twelfth Night for every child in Y5 and Y6 across our 3 schools. Once again the entire cast was magnificent and their audience thoroughly enjoyed the play. Very well done to Sam, Talia, Raquel and Jessica from BM for their superb acting and to Kimberley Givens and Laura Yardley for their very hard work leading on this project.

Yesterday our older children were delighted to hear the Bellazona Brass quintet from Trinity Laban perform for them – we are grateful to parent and Head of Brass at Trinity Laban, Oren Marshall, for organising performances at all 3 Brindishe Schools.

#### **Keeping safe online**

We hear from our older children about how they belong to groups on messaging apps such as 'WhatsApp'. These groups are not always monitored carefully by adults and this can lead to children getting themselves into difficulty. In school we spend time educating children about how to keep safe online and what to do if they see or hear something that makes them feel uncomfortable or vulnerable, such as cyber-bullying or sexting.

It is very important that adults at home know about their child's online activity, and educate themselves in how to help their child stay safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> and

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> are helpful websites for parents and carers.

You might also be interested to know the recommended lower age limits for the most popular social media sites and messaging apps:

Age 13	Twitter Facebook Instagram Pinterest Google + Tumblr Reddit Snapchat
Age 14	LinkedIn
Age 16	WhatsApp
Age 18 / or age 13 with adult permission	You Tube Flickr

### Dates for your diary

**12 Nov** 'Shine' begins again

**Week beginning 14 Nov:** 'Celebrating Diversity' week at Brindishe Schools

**14 Nov** Able Writers' Workshop

**14 Nov** Rainbow Theatre for Y3

**18-23 Nov** Book Fair in Manor Hall,  
3.15pm

**25 Nov** Winter Fair 3.15pm

**28 Nov** 'Turning of the Year' concert at  
Blackheath Halls

**1 Dec** Y6 to Hazard House

**6+7 Dec** EYFS/KS1 perform 'Prickly Hay'

**13+14 Dec** KS2 Winter Performances

**15 Dec** Christmas Lunch for children

**16 Dec** Last day of term

**3 Jan** INSET day for staff only

**4 Jan** Children back to school

Best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Gerlinde Achenbach  
Headteacher

## PSFA (Parents, Staff, Friends Association) News

WINTER FAIR 25th NOVEMBER 3.15 -  
5.15pm

**VOLUNTEERS** - We need plenty of volunteers to help us run the stands and games at the fair please! Could you spare just 30 minutes to help make the fair really fun for the children? We have some helpers already but are in need of at least 65 more! The more people volunteer, the shorter time each volunteer needs to give. Please contact us (contact details below).

**ESTATE AGENT BOARDS** - We are looking for people to take a Cluttons Estate Agent board outside their house to advertise the fair. Cluttons will give us £10 for every one of the boards and we receive match funding from Santander so each board is then worth £20. It's such a great easy way to raise money for the PSFA! Our deadline for submitting names and addresses is this coming Monday 14th, so please contact us by email ASAP if you can take a board. They are usually up for a maximum of 3 weeks.

**DONATIONS** - could you make a donation of a children's gift for the tombola, or an adult gift (no alcohol please) for our gift room? Please bring any donations to the office and we will collect from there, or contact us to arrange collection.

**GREETINGS CARDS** - DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS MONDAY 14TH!

Don't forget that the deadline for ordering your child's Greetings Card design is this coming Monday. Forms can be collected from the office, and completed orders should be left at the office with your payment and artwork.

Facebook: Brindishe Manor PSFA

Email: [brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com)