

23 September 2016

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

This week at Brindishe Manor

It has been a very exciting start to term and learning is in full flow across the school. So far we have seen such excitement as a full WW2 air-raid in Y6, an alien spaceship crash landing outside Y1 and Safari rangers on the look out for elephants, tigers and lions. Children have been exploring Ancient Egyptian artefacts, bug hunting and learning lots of very exciting science.

There are visits planned for many year groups over the coming weeks – do look out for letters coming home about these.

Welcome Evening for new parents and carers

It has been lovely to welcome our new Nursery children this week. They have made a great start to the school. If you are a parent or carer from any year group who is new to our school, we hope you will join us at our Welcome Evening on 13 October. This will be a chance to meet with other new families, staff and governors and to find out more about the PSFA (Parents, Staff and Friends Association) of which all parents and carers are automatically members. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

Meet the teacher

The next fortnight has been set aside for parent/teacher meetings for Yrs 1 - 6. This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and to share any new information and we are very keen to meet with everyone.

You can book your appointment online using Parent Portal. Please ask at the school office if you are not sure how.

Sharing our School Development Plan

At the beginning of this term we shared our revised School Community Development Plan with the staff and very soon will also share this with our children. Each week I will focus on an element of the School Development Plan so that you have the fullest picture about our plans. We will:

Celebrate and Educate:

- *We will develop projects and engage with opportunities which specifically focus on equality and inclusion. We will ensure that access, success, enrichment and achievement in school is not dependent on being part of any social class, culture, gender identity, sexuality, family structure or particular group.*
- *We will promote independent, personalised learning in every class, supported by careful assessment of children's strengths and difficulties.*
- *We will develop our communities' understanding and appreciation for the diversity of family structures, cultures, religions, faith traditions and identities represented at our schools.*
- *We will continue to quality assure our provision through achieving Quality Marks particularly in science and through our Rights Respecting learning.*

Secondary Transfer

The deadline for applications to secondary school is 31 October 2016 and applications need to be made online at www.eadmissions.org.uk

Year 6 parents and carers are all welcome to come along to an information sharing meeting on 4 October at 6pm.

Please come and speak with us if you would like any advice or support with secondary transfer.

Dates for your diary

26 September Clubs begin. Violin classes begin.

Fortnight beg 26 Sep 'Meet the teacher' meetings for Year 1 – 6.

27 September Open Day for prospective applicants' parents and carers: 9.15 – 10.30 and 5 – 6.15pm. Please tell interested friends and neighbours.

29 September Y6 to Chislehurst Caves

30 September Y5 tri-school Olympics

4 October Secondary transfer meeting for Y6 parents and carers 6 - 7pm

5 October Y5 to the British Museum

10–12 October Year 5 School Journey

13 October Welcome Evening for parents and carers new to our school

17 October Y3 to the Horniman Museum

18 October and 9 November: Full Governing Body Meetings at Brindishe Lee at 6.00pm (let us know if you wish to attend as an observer and we'll arrange seating)

21 October Y2 to the Horniman Museum

31 October Deadline for secondary school applications

Best wishes to all families,

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher