

16 June 2017

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

We were all very sad to hear of the tragic fire at Grenfell House in West London this week. It has been utterly devastating for so many families and communities living there.

There has been huge support from the local and wider London community donating clothes, food and essential items. We understand that the best kind of support that can be given now is financial, to help with the coming weeks and beyond.

If you would like to donate here is one of the ways you can do it:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/familiesofgrenfelltower>

We know this support will be much appreciated at a very difficult time for so many.

This week at Brindishe Manor

It has been a very busy week, including some unexpected events: on Wednesday a very large heron landed in one of our trees and stayed there all day. It didn't object to our Y6s doing some quiet observational drawing of its beautiful body and markings...

...and on Thursday we discovered very tiny mining bees making their home in Reception Classes' outdoor learning area. We're pleased to say they have now been helped to find a home safer for both them and us!

Year 3 enjoyed an immersive rainforest experience on Monday. Lauren Campbell, Pearl class teacher, reports... 'Splatt Theatre gave Y3 the opportunity to become part of rainforest life by combining art, DT, drama and storytelling. They took on the role of tribes and got creative, making ceremonial objects and special elements of Amazonian tribal life e.g. masks, rain sticks

and warrior accessories. All these aspects came together in an interactive story-telling.

The children learnt about the importance of recycling and being mindful of our unnecessary waste, especially around food packaging. This captivating experience really helped bring our learning of the Amazon rainforest alive.'

On Monday, Year 6 were visited by staff from Parliament, who talked to them about how our democratic system works. The children showed their impressive prior knowledge of the parliamentary system and learned a lot more about how elections are run.

Year 5 took part this week in a Viking Longship workshop. They built a one-quarter sized model, learning what types of wood each part was made from. They thoroughly enjoyed making shields, weaving, sewing the sails and creating the oars and even got to sit in the ship at the end.

Important: Safeguarding

We have a very important request for those of you entering or leaving the site during the school day, for instance dropping off your child at Nursery. Please **do not hold the main gate open** for others coming behind you. Likewise, we ask you not to 'tailgate' or slip in when someone else is going through the gate.

Our office staff need to account for everyone coming onto the school premises – and this means they need to **see you and speak to you through our entry system**.

Thank you for your support in keeping all our children and adults safe.

Fantastic attendance!

Attendance Cup winners this week are:

Emerald and Sapphire 100%

Quartz 99.3% Very well done to you all!

Dates for your diary

20 June Open Day for prospective parents

and carers: 9.15 – 10.30am and 5 – 6.15pm
26 June – 5 July New Reception induction meetings
12 + 13 July Y6 leavers' performance: more details from Y6 team
13 July Nursery 'Big Toddler' @ Manor House Gardens
14 July BBQ lunch – more details to follow
14 July End of year reports sent home
21 July 2pm Leavers' assembly
21 July End of term
24 July – 1 Sep Summer holiday
4 + 5 Sep INSET days – staff only
6 Sep Children Y1-6 back to school
6 Sep – 14 September Reception children 'staggered' start.
6 – 22 Sep Nursery induction meetings

And finally...

Now that the hot weather is here for a while, we take advice from Public Health England on keeping children safe in the sun.

- Apply sunscreen (at least 15 with UVA protection) before school every day
- Wear a sunhat - wide-brimmed is best – to avoid sunburn
- Wear loose, light coloured clothing that covers vulnerable areas such as the shoulders
- Bare toes need to be covered and shoes/sandals should have a heel strap

Please note that school staff are not allowed to apply suncreams to children for safeguarding reasons. We don't know what your creams your child may be allergic to and we don't want to ask staff to rub cream onto children's bodies. If you have a concern about your child's skin in the sun during the day please let us know via the school office.

Have a restful and warm weekend!
Best wishes,

Gerlinde Achenbach,
Headteacher

PSFA (Parents, Staff, Friends Association) News

SUMMER FAIR SUNDAY JULY 9TH 1-4PM

The Summer Fair is fast approaching! Teams are being gathered to run stalls and games, to bake cakes and to help set up. We urgently need volunteers to help - could you give 30 minutes on the day to run a stall? Or help in the weeks approaching with preparations? Many hands make light work, so please consider joining in - we guarantee you'll have fun!

TOMBOLA

Any donations for the adult tombola (new or unused gifts, bottles, toiletries, chocolates etc) and children's tombola (again new or unused toys and books) can be brought to the PSFA collection boxes outside the school office over the next 3 weeks.

RAFFLE

Could you donate a prize for the raffle? Or would your workplace donate something? Perhaps a spa treatment, a meal out, vouchers etc? Please contact us if you have any ideas.

MATCH FUNDING

We are always on the look out for companies that take part in matched funding schemes. Please let us know if you think your company might be eligible. We know how the application process works and will help with any paperwork. It makes a huge difference to our fundraising - each company that signs up can double the takings for any particular event during our year.

Everything we raise goes towards equipment and learning experiences for our children, so please take part in any way you can.

Have a great week ahead. The PSFA

Dont forget you can translate this newsletter into more than 100 different languages on our website:
www.brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk