



Brindishe Lee Newsletter
Friday 12th February 2021
Headteacher: Ms Maxine Sebire

**Brindishe
Lee**

Dear parents, carers, governors, staff and friends,

This week at Brindishe Lee we have been so impressed again with the quality learning that has been uploaded every day onto *Itslearning* as well as the discussions occurring on Zoom and Weduc. Children from across the school have been sharing what they have been doing at home and in the school provision. We will share and celebrate some of this lovely learning in Friday's Praise Assembly, which you can find on *Itslearning*.

Thank you again Brindishe Lee community for all your support and help in the implementation of remote learning. We recognise that you will be trying to juggle many commitments of your own and so we are grateful for all you are doing to facilitate and support your child's engagement with their learning. We appreciate that some days may, for whatever reason, allow more learning to take place than others. Whatever your child is able to engage with and complete will add value.

We hope next week you all have a lovely half-term break. Stay safe, well and warm everyone.

Kind regards,

Ms Sebire and the Brindishe Lee Team.

Support

If you have any questions or queries during this time, please can we ask that you use the following email addresses, so that the right person can get back to you:

- **Queries** about online learning, accessing devices, Free School Meals, login details, concerns, general questions – info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk
- **Technical Support** with *Itslearning* or *Weduc* – support@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk
- **Wellbeing Support** - You can still email recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk for wellbeing support from the staff at school.

Half-Term Break Reminder – Monday 22nd February to Friday 26th February 2021

This is the last newsletter before the half-term holiday. School is closed for everyone over half-term and there is no expectation that children will need do any school work over the week.

If you would like to take part in some fun and creative activities, please refer to our online *Shared Student Room*, the PDF attached to this newsletter or the Kindness Challenge listed below. We hope you all manage to have a restful break.

As this period of lockdown continues, please keep yourselves and your families safe and remember that the latest guidance can always be found on the government website here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>



Half-Term Ideas

We have compiled a parent/carer resource bank with suggestions to keep the family entertained over the half-term break. The suggested resource bank is intended to offer ideas for holiday activities for the whole family to enjoy, such as a free online beatboxing workshop from the V&A, sounds of nature bingo from *The National Trust* and virtual tours of *The Warner Bros. Studios*. Please refer to the PDF attached to this newsletter for further information. You can also look on our *Shared Student Room* on *Itslearning* for more ideas.

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 9th February 2021, children in school and at home celebrated the 18th edition of Safer Internet Day at Brindishe Lee, with the theme of 'Together for a better internet'.

Children were able to enjoy an assembly from our Online Safety Leads across the federation which focused on safe and unsafe internet behaviours. Alongside this, teachers planned online safety activities for everyone to enjoy as well as taking part in a live BBC Safer Internet Day stream. We will continue to plan and deliver online safety lessons to all children during this lockdown period. Please also refer to the *Shared Parent/Carer Room* which is updated regularly with online safety tips and tools. This week you can find tips for screen adjustments, eye exercises and ten-minute break ideas.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Challenge for the Half-Term Break

During the half-term, as a family, you may wish to take part in our weekly kindness challenge.

If you have completed any of the challenges and would like to share these with your teacher, please email them to us at info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk or post them onto *Itslearning* in the **Share and Celebrate** folder.

Please refer to the suggestions listed below.

Weekly Kindness Challenge

Focus: Kind to animals

- **Day 1** - Looking at the natural world can be good for our mental health. As a suggestion, you could watch live cameras of animals, e.g. pandas or elephants - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4SiFUNYdTs>. You could draw what you see and e-mail your pictures to school.
- **Day 2** - If you are lucky enough to have a pet, spend 20 minutes playing together today. Try and teach your pet a new trick! If you do not have a pet, you can invite animals to your home by creating a bird feeder: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=7yV6V6rtpyc>
- **Day 3** - Many animals are in danger of being extinct. To find out more information about this topic, with a trusted adult, click on this link - *Blue Planet* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04tjbtX>. As a suggestion, you could design a poster to inform people about what they can do to protect and save endangered animals and the planet.
- **Day 4** - Listen to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYAJopwEYv8> by yourself or with your family. It is a famous piece of music that is supposed to sound like a bumblebee flying. As you listen, write, draw or paint what it makes you think about.
- **Day 5** - Spend some quality time together as a family by holding your own animal quiz or creating your own animal board game.

A selection of useful wellbeing and support links:

- The Anna Freud Centre - <https://www.annafreud.org/>
- Child Bereavement UK - <https://www.childbereavementuk.org/coronavirus-covid-19-information>
- Young Minds - <https://youngminds.org.uk/>
- Winston's Wish - <https://www.winstonswish.org/>

Please look at our updated Shared Student Room and our Parent/Carer Room for further information and support around the topic of Mental Health and Wellbeing for parents/carers and children.



F@B Lottery Draw Winners

Huge congratulations to the following winners of this terms F@B Lottery Draw

1st Prize: Dawn Jacovou £80 (lottery number 4)

2nd Prize: George Morrison £40 (lottery number 8)

Remote Learning - Update

After the half-term break, whilst the children continue learning from home, we would like to offer your child/ren an additional opportunity to take part in the interactive sessions via Zoom with their class and teachers. We hope that these sessions will give the children further opportunities to interact with their peers and the staff at Brindishe Lee. The new timetable with an additional session will take place the week commencing Monday 22nd February 2021.

Please refer to the letter sent out to parents/carers on Monday 8th February outlining the new timetable as well as the safeguarding protocol. If you have any questions, please email info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk

The Virtual School Library

Oak National Academy and the National Literacy Trust have come together to launch their Virtual School Library to keep children reading during lockdown. Every week, a popular children's author will become 'Author of the Week' and provide a free book or audiobook and exclusive videos and activities aimed at primary school children, all available at library.thenational.academy.

This week former Blue Peter presenter **Konnie Huq** is sharing 'Cookie and the Most Annoying Boy in the World' the first book in the Cookie series that she both wrote and illustrated, as an audiobook. You can listen completely FREE! There is also an exclusive video from Konnie as well as a Q&A session.

You can also find this library link and other reading resources on the *Shared Student Room* on *ItsLearning*.

Free School Meals

During the half-term break, any family in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a Sainsburys e-voucher for the value of £15 per child.

The National Free School Meals voucher scheme, *Edenred*, will re - commence after half-term and remain in place during this school closure period. If your child is currently attending school they will be provided with a hot lunch and you will therefore not receive a voucher.

Devices and Connecting Online – Reminder

Having the right device to access remote learning is essential, and we believe that now we have been able to get devices out to families, all our children have access to some form of computer or tablet to enable them to work properly from home. However, there could still be a number of families needing to use one computer, so if this becomes a problem in your household, do please contact info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk .

We appreciate, also, that broadband width and speed can become an issue for some households, and if this does become problematic, please contact us to see if there is anything we can do to help this situation.

And finally ... thank you!

We would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone again for their ongoing support and patience during this challenging time. As a senior leadership team, we would also like to thank all our staff who have pulled together, are working tirelessly either at home (many with their own families) or in school, and who are doing everything they can to provide fantastic learning opportunities. We cannot thank you enough!

Best wishes and happy half-term to you all,

The Brindishe Lee Senior Leadership Team.

