



Brindishe
Manor



Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2026

Black History Month 2026 – Honouring Our Community

After half term we would like to create a presentation for the teachers to share with the children in assembly and class, that celebrates the contributions and achievements of Black and Black Mixed Heritage members of our school community who have made a difference to others.

This could be someone who works or has worked in the as a doctor, nurse or teacher, in environmental work, human rights, community work, charity work – or in any other role where they have made a positive difference to their community.

We would love to hear from you!

If you would like to share your story with the children, or know someone in your family – perhaps a grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, other relative or friend – who would be happy to take part, please let us know by emailing info-BM@brindisheschools.org by Friday 23rd October 2026.

We will bring these stories together into a presentation to share with the children and create a Black History Month display celebrating Black and Black Mixed Heritage people within our own school community.

Lewisham Foodbank Harvest Collection

On Monday our school council representatives from each class will be sharing details of our harvest collection with all children in our assemblies.

We would like to ask families who would like to contribute to our collection to bring in (and place in the boxes in the playground) any of the items listed below between:

Wednesday 14th October - Wednesday 21st October.

BE A HARVEST HERO
Every class can make a difference

Bring in your Harvest donations and help provide food, kindness and hope to local families in crisis.

Tinned meat	UHT milk	Deodorant
Tinned fish	Tinned rice pud	Shaving gel
Tinned veg	Ketchup/mayo	Sanitary towels
Tinned tomatoes	Cooking oil	Nappies
Rice	Coffee	Wipes
Pasta	Hot chocolate	Soap
Pasta sauce	Sweet treats	Shower gel
Tinned fruit	Savoury treats	Shampoo
Baked Beans	Jam/spreads	Loo roll
Pulses	Toothbrushes	Laundry pods
Cereal	Toothpaste	Washing up liquid
Non-dairy milk		Tin openers

Together we can achieve something amazing.

Lewisham Foodbank
353H Bromley Road SE8 2RP
volunteers@lewisham.foodbank.org.uk
lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

Lewisham Foodbank
Together with Trussell



FOREST SCHOOL UPDATE

You may have noticed that our new Forest School outdoor classroom is being constructed and will be completed next week.

This has been possible through the work of the PSFA and your generous donations.
We can't wait to start using it!

Parents Evening

Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October 2026

3:30-6:30pm

Parents
Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our parents evenings on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October 2026. The only exception is that parents and carers of children in Yousafzai class will have parents evening on Tuesday 20th October and Wednesday 21st October 2026. During your 10 minute appointment, teachers will be able to share how your child has settled into their new year group and answer any questions you may have. You will also be able to look at their learning so far.



We have a huge amount of lost property including; lunch boxes, jumpers, jackets and other items that are filling up our lost property boxes. We frequently ask and accompany children to look for lost property items, but there is still lots of it building up each week and we are unable to store it inside the building, as we simply do not have the space. Please remember to label everything and if you are able to have a look yourself, please do so. Weather permitting, we will pull all the items on to benches and ask the children to have a look for anything that belongs to them.



BIKES and SCOOTERS

We are noticing more and more bikes and scooters being left in the playground over night and over the weekend.

Please take your bikes and scooters home with you. Unfortunately this encourages people to enter the school premises and some items have been stolen in the past.



We are pleased to share an update about how we communicate with our families. From next week, we will be bringing our communications together in Arbor and on our school websites, meaning we will no longer be using the Weduc app.

As you may remember, our parent and carer surveys highlighted that many families felt there were too many different systems and platforms to navigate. In response to this feedback, we have been working towards simplifying our communication systems and making it easier for families to access important information, updates and key services in one place.

By making greater use of Arbor and our school websites, we aim to create a more streamlined approach to communication between home and school, while also reducing unnecessary costs and ensuring that our school budgets are used as effectively as possible to support our children.

Over the course of next week and into the next half term, we will share guidance and information to help you become familiar with using Arbor and our school websites to access the functions and information you have previously received through Weduc.

We recognise that any change to familiar systems takes a little time to get used to, and we will support families throughout this transition to ensure that communication remains clear, effective and accessible to everyone.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to bringing our communications together in this way and hope that you will welcome this move towards a simpler, more streamlined system for our school communities.



Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2026

The Big Future Survey

Dame Rachel de Souza is asking for your support in making sure as many children and young people as possible have the opportunity to take part in her final national survey.

The survey can be completed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture/>

The Big Future is a national survey of children and young people. It is a vital opportunity for pupils to tell the Children's Commissioner for England what matters to them, what they want for their futures and what they believe needs to change.

The survey takes just a short time to complete. You can access the survey here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/>.

With the deadline fast approaching, every child that takes part can make a real difference. The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame de Souza wants to hear from children in every part of England, from every background and in every type of school.



Dame Rachel de Souza
Children's Commissioner for England



TIME TO TALK AT HOME

Would you rather...?

... make one person very happy or make ten people a little bit happy?



For the first time, hundreds of thousands of children will be eligible to vote in the next general election at age 16, the biggest change to the franchise in half a century – yet just one in five children say politicians listen to them.

That's why I'm doing my final survey, *The Big Future*, to talk to a million children, to listen to them. And to find out about what it's like to be a child today.

I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like, now and in the future.



Childcare in Lewisham - Parent Survey 2026

Lewisham are seeking your thoughts and opinion on childcare in Lewisham. You can complete the survey regarding childcare wants/needs for your family and enter the chance to win a £50 gift card. Your response will help Lewisham to understand how the council could better support families with accessing childcare in the borough.

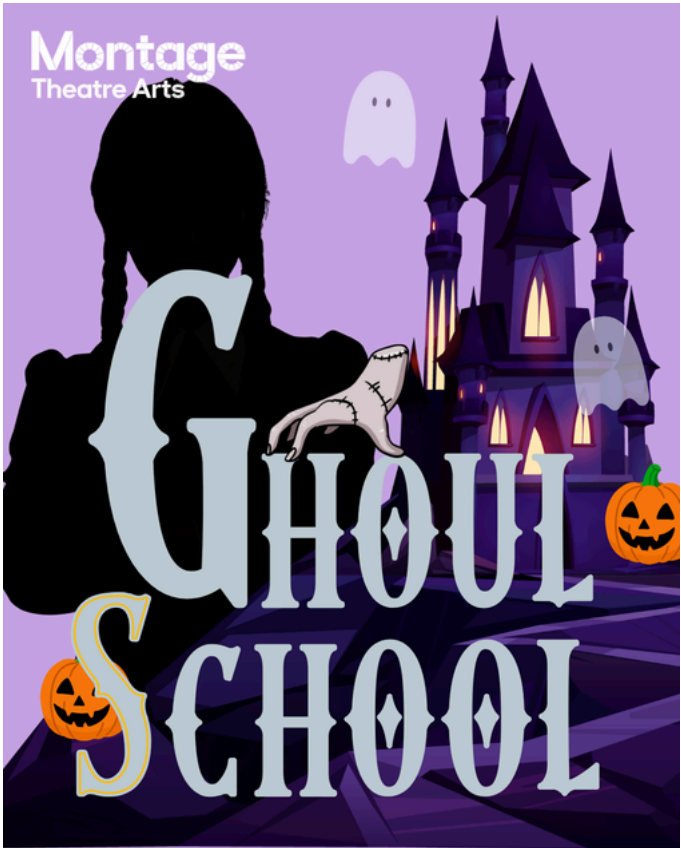
A screenshot of the survey form. At the top is the Lewisham Council logo and the title 'Childcare in Lewisham - Parent Survey'. Below this is a thank you message: 'Thank you for completing this survey. Your response will help us to understand how Lewisham council could better support families with accessing childcare in the borough. Your response will be kept entirely confidential.' It also provides contact information for the Family Information Service (FIS) at 'www.lewisham.gov.uk/fis'. A section titled 'Required' contains the heading 'About your family' and the subtext 'This provides us with information to help us understand individual needs'. The first question is 'How many children do you have?' with radio button options for 0, 1, 2, 3, and a '+' sign for more.

Montage Arts Ghoul School

Montage Theatre Arts is a charity that offers inclusive, supportive classes across drama, singing, and dance during term-time and holidays. They also have free and discounted places available for every course, making their courses affordable and open to all. This October Half Term, they are running a singing and dancing course from the 28th-30th called Ghoul School. Students aged 5-12 will work together and learn from industry professionals to put on a show for friends and family that's inspired by Wednesday and The Descendants.

They are running the course at Prendergast School in Hilly Fields, and it's guaranteed to be loads of fun.

You can [click here](#) to learn more and book. They have free and discounted places available, and accept HMRC tax-free childcare vouchers.



Online Safety Bulletin - Netflix Playground

Netflix Playground hosts a number of games aimed at kids aged 8 and younger. The games include Sesame Street and Peppa Pig. It is available as an app to all Netflix subscribers and has no additional in-app purchases and no adverts. Find out more here by clicking the link below.



Is your child in Year 6?
Important dates for secondary
school admissions

**Deadline for
applications -
Saturday 31st Oct**

Schools open for visits: **September/October 2026 (please check on school websites for up to date open day/evening information)**

Applications open (apply online): **Tuesday 1 September 2026**

Closing date for applications: **Saturday 31 October 2026 (we recommend that you submit your online application by Friday 23 October 2026)**

Closing date for supplementary forms (if required) to be returned to the school directly: **Saturday 31 October 2026**



Key Federation Dates

- **Half Term - Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October**
- **INSET DAY - Friday 27th November 2026**

Brindishe Schools Governing Body

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - rawaite@brindisheschools.org. An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carers can join the meeting.

Our second meeting for 2026/2027 will be held on Thursday 19th November at Brindishe Green School - 6pm.

Rights Respecting Article

Article 6 (life, survival and development)

Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

What are all the things that you need to survive and to develop?

Good health – physical and mental

Education

Healthy food

Clean water

Somewhere safe to live

People to look after you

A name and an identity so you can be registered for healthcare and education

Protection so you are safe from abuse and neglect

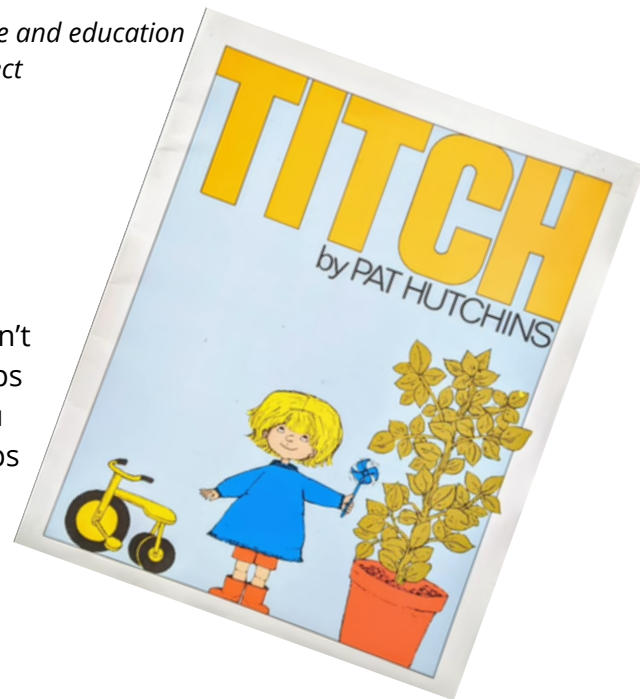
A good standard of living

Time and space to relax and play

Knowledge of your rights

Share this story about Titch at home with your child.

Can you think of three things that you can do now that you couldn't do when you were younger? Share your ideas as a family. Perhaps you can create a timeline showing what you could do when you were different ages – remember though, that everybody develops at different speeds.



Residents invited to help shape Lewisham's future

Lewisham residents are being encouraged to have their say on the borough's future by taking part in a new survey that will help shape the Council's Plan for Lewisham.

Hundreds of residents, community groups and partners have already contributed their views through a series of focus groups and engagement sessions. Now the Council is inviting all residents to take part in a short online survey, which takes around 10 minutes to complete.

The survey asks for feedback on the Council's proposed priorities over the coming years. These priorities will help shape a new Plan for Lewisham that reflects the ambitions, needs and aspirations of people who live, work and study in our borough. The plan will focus on creating a borough where everyone can thrive, with priorities centred on improving opportunities, tackling inequalities, supporting healthier communities, strengthening neighbourhoods, building a sustainable future and ensuring residents remain at the heart of decision-making.

The survey closes for contributions on the 1st November 2026.

Residents can [complete the survey online](#).





KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids Eat Free October 9th - 31st via Perks App

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with 1 paying adult

BILLS

Kids Eat Free Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

BREWDOG

Kids eat free this Oct with KIDS EAT FREE bookings

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

CHIQUITO

Kids eat FREE during all school holidays

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 Kids eat free during the October Half Term

FLAMING GRILL

1 Kid eats free weekdays this October half term

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE during school holidays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HARVESTER

Kids eat for £1 until November 1st 2026 via App

HUNGRY HORSE

2 Kids eat for £1 this October Half Term

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MARSTON PUBS

kids eat for £1 during the october half term

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TESCO

Kids Eat free weekdays with an adult purchase

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with a £15 adult spend via app

VILLAGE HOTELS

Kids eat free via the village app

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free weekdays in school holidays

Brindishe Schools Federation

Priorities 2026-2027

Securing the Best Practice, Achieving the Best Outcomes

Creating an Education without Boundaries



Brindishe
Federation

1

Building Capacity, Strengthening Accountability

- Teachers and staff will resume in meeting regularly in groups to share ideas and work on making things better for your children.
- As always, all our teachers and staff will have personal goals that link to our school's priorities.
- We will provide coaching, training and support to help all our staff become even better at what they do.

2

Diversity by Design: Every Voice, Every Story

- We will regularly check our curriculum to ensure all children can see people like themselves in the stories, examples and topics we cover.
- Children will learn best when they can get hands-on and creative which is one of our main aims.
- We will continue to plan our lessons so that children with special educational needs (SEND) or those who need extra help can continue to access the same exciting learning as everyone else.

3

Creating Meaningful Learning Experiences

- We will focus on developing children's speaking and listening skills (oracy) alongside their reading and writing.
- We will continue to strengthen Maths Mastery in EYFS so children spend more time really understanding number concepts.

4

Excellence Without Exception

- We will use our new tracking system called INSIGHT to strengthen how we monitor all children in their learning. This will help us quickly spot if any child or group of children needs extra support.
- We are still very committed to closing any gaps in achievement, so vulnerable children make just as much progress as their classmates.

5

Every Child Seen, Heard and Valued

- We will introduce a new behaviour policy called 'Promoting Good Relationships'.
- We're continuing to expand our range of clubs, trips and special activities we offer children.
- We've carefully planned our after-school clubs, lunchtime activities and special events so they complement what children are learning in class.



Brindishe Schools Federation Priorities 2026-2027

Securing the Best Practice, Achieving the Best Outcomes

Creating an Education without Boundaries

6

Engage, Enrich, Belong

- We will work hard to make sure children attend school regularly, aiming for at least 96% attendance across the school.
- If a child misses more than 10% of school (roughly one day every two weeks), we will work closely with you and your child to understand what's making it difficult for them to attend.

8

Every Child, Every Layer, Every Day

- We will continue to plan our lessons so that all children can access the same high-quality learning, whatever their needs.
- The government is introducing changes to how schools support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). We're preparing for these changes

10

Protecting Pupils in Every Space

- As we do every year, we're providing annual updated training for all our staff on safeguarding issues that happen outside of family life and in the digital world.
- We will further strengthen our leadership and systems in place to protect children when they're using technology at school.
- We will introduce a mobile phone policy that restricts when children can use phones at Brindishe Schools

7

Playful Minds, Happy Learners

- We're introducing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), which transforms playtimes into richer, more exciting experiences for children.
- We're creating even more opportunities for children to take on leadership roles and have their voices heard.
- We will continue with our 'Let's Go Zero' campaign, which means making our schools even more environmentally friendly and work towards becoming carbon neutral.

9

Beyond the Four Walls

- In our Early Years, we're focusing on 'oracy' – which simply means helping children become confident speakers and good listeners.
- We're expanding our outdoor learning and educational visits because children learn so much from hands-on experiences outside the classroom.
- We will help children understand why what they're learning matters and how it relates to their lives and the world around them by creating real-life experiences.