



# Brindishe Lee Newsletter

31st January 2020

Interim Headteacher: James Baguley

Brindishe  
Lee

## Last week at Brindishe Lee...

The weeks are flying by and it was another busy week at Brindishe Lee. Last Tuesday, year 3 went to the Horniman museum, as part of their study into the Stone Age. They had a great time and learnt lots of new facts! A big thank you to Ms Kirkland and all the parents who helped out on the day. The busy week continued on Thursday, when the year 1 children went to the science museum, as part of their science topic. They had a great time and once again a big thank you to Ms Nelson for organising and the wonderful support from the parents and carers of year 1.

## A message from the F@B team...

We will be having our termly F@B 'Gardening' morning on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. If you are able to help we will be starting at 9.30 am in the morning. Please drop by at any time during the morning to lend a hand. Your help would really be appreciated!

## Term dates....

Term dates for next year, 2020 / 2021, are on our website to help you to plan your holidays outside term time.

Please note for this year that the 2020 early May Bank Holiday has been moved back by four days across the UK to coincide with the

75th anniversary of VE Day. It will be on **Friday 8 May 2020**.

## Meet the Teacher meetings Y1 – Y6 from 10 – 14 February

Please be reminded that between Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> parents and carers of children from reception to 6 can meet with their child's class teacher. This 'meet the teacher' meeting is a chance for you to meet with your child's class teacher, discuss your child's progress and their next steps. Meetings are booked online via Arbor's Parent Portal and are currently open. If you need help to log in to Arbor then please contact the school office.

## Reading volunteers...

We are once again on the look out for parents or carers who would like to listen to some of our children read. Please contact me if you are able to give up an hour or two each week to support our children.

## A message from our Rights Respecting Team...

We are still on the look out for parents and carers to join our rights respecting team. Please speak to Ms Hearne, Mr Baguley or a member of the office team.

## Rights Respecting focus... Article 2 (non-discrimination)

In assembly last week we spoke about Holocaust Memorial day. This includes the convention that applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

## Talented parents and carer - we need you...

We are on the look out for talented parents and carers, who have an interest, passion, hobby or profession they could share with the children. For example, you may have an interest in photography, art, or you may be a chef! We want to hear from you, as we are aiming to organise a series of wide ranging workshops for the children giving them the opportunity to learn about different things. Please let a member of the office team know or speak to myself or Ms Matthews on the school gate.

## Online Safety message... WhatsApp

*WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world with a reported 1.5 billion people using it to send and receive texts, photos, videos and documents. Its free, encrypted and allows for group chats where many people can share messages, video and images instantly. The app,*

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however, has an **age restriction of 16+**. This is because it can be difficult for children to manage the risks involved with instant messaging, especially when in large groups. The app also has a 'live location' feature, where they can share their exact location instantly, however, this can also mean they can expose their location to strangers. We would strongly urge you to monitor your child's activity on WhatsApp, as this can cause unnecessary angst for children, especially when it is misused.

### Lee Green Cycling Bus

Just a quick reminder, that we are having our first Lee Green Cycling Bus of the New Year at Hither Green station (Fernbrook Road side at 8.00 am this coming Friday (7<sup>th</sup> Feb). Put the date in your diary! It will be stewarded by Lewisham Cyclists. However, your child must be accompanied by an adult.

Upcoming rides:

6<sup>th</sup> March

3<sup>rd</sup> April

1<sup>st</sup> May

5<sup>th</sup> June

3<sup>rd</sup> July

### Fantastic attendance this week!

Key stage 1: Year 1: 95.19%

Key stage 2: Year 6 Cherry  
98.52%

### Dates for your diary...

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February** – F@B

Gardening Day. Start time of 9.30 am

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 4 and Year 6 will be visited by Zoolab and their animals on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>

February. Year 4 will be exploring rainforest animals and their habitats and Year 6 will be exploring the evolution of the animals and how they have adapted for their particular habitats.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – year 5 dance workshop. Thomas Tallis School

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb** 6pm Full Governing Body meeting at Brindishe Manor School. Leahurst Road. Please let us know if you would like to attend as an observer and we will arrange seating for you.

**10-14 Feb** Mid-term review meetings

**17-21 Feb** Half term

Have a lovely week,  
James Baguley  
Interim Headteacher  
Brindishe Lee

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## An important message from Ms Doran (AWSO lead) and Mr Baguley...

We know how important good attendance is for each child's learning and progress at Brindishe Schools. We want to work with our families to achieve this. Good attendance is 96% or higher. You can check on your own child's attendance by logging into Arbor's Parent Portal using your unique login details. You can help your child have good attendance by making sure they are in school every day in term time, that they are well and by not taking holiday during term time or adding on days to the start or end of a holiday period.

- **Holidays:** there are already 13 weeks of the year given over to holidays and therefore a holiday taken during term time will not be authorised.
- **Exceptional Circumstances:** there may be occasions where, due to exceptional circumstances, you need to request a term time absence. To do this you must complete a request form in advance. Request forms are available from the school office. Our Attendance Policy details the kinds of circumstances for which we will consider authorising an absence during term time. Please ask Clare Doran, our AWSO, for details.
- **Medical Needs:** some children with more serious medical conditions may need to attend appointments during the school day. These absences are always authorised and we keep copies of appointment letters on the child's file. Where possible we ask that you make routine doctor or dentist check-up appointments outside of school hours. Should your child's attendance fall below 96%, we will monitor any absences and will ask to meet with you should we not see any improvement. If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance at school, please speak to me, to Clare Doran (our AWSO) or to Ms Matthews