

Friday 9th May 2019

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends at Brindishe Manor,

This week at Brindishe Manor **The circus is in town**

Last week was a bit of a whirlwind at Brindishe Manor. What with a circus in town and a four day week, it passed in the blink of an eye! I walked into the main hall on Wednesday to find the some reception children balancing on the trapeze and doing some juggling. It was great to see the children enjoying themselves and learning new skills at the same time. A big thank you to the reception team for organising. It was also great to hear that the reception children raised a fantastic £140.80 from their recent cake sale. Well done to all involved. The year 6 children have been working very hard in the lead up to SATs next week. Alongside the year 6 staff, they have worked their socks off all year and we will be cheering them on this week!

Fantastic attendance this week!

Key stage 1: Moonstone – 100%

Key stage 2: Opal – 99.1%

Well done to these classes!



Please ensure that generated passwords and usernames for learning platforms, such as Hegarty Maths and Sumdog, are not shared with other children or adults that are not parents and carers. In school we talk to the children about internet safety and how to stay safe online. One of the very important messages we share with the children is not to share usernames and passwords with each other. If you would like more information about how to help your child stay safe online, please visit <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

Challenge Partner Review



Last half term we had our Challenge Partner Quality Assurance Review. We have now received our full report and I am delighted to be able to share with you that the team, which included an Ofsted accredited inspector and two experienced senior leaders from schools outside London, judged each area to be outstanding.

The full report will be published on the school website but I thought I would share some of the highlights

Outcomes for pupils

Outcomes in Key Stage 1 at the expected standard and greater depth have been above the national average in all subjects since 2016.

Outcomes in Key Stage 2 are exceptionally high in all subjects, including grammar, punctuation and spelling. The three-year average for reading and mathematics was in the top 10% of schools. Outcomes at the expected and higher standard in combined reading, writing and mathematics have increased each year and were well above the national average in 2018.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

- Teaching is highly effective and promotes a love of learning. Pupils said, 'The best thing about school is learning. Teachers are supportive: they boost confidence and always explain learning'.
- High quality questioning to pupils of all ages provokes thinking and challenges pupils to self-assess and explore further. Open questions probe pupils' depth of learning.
- Relationships are exemplary. High quality interactions between staff and pupils enhance learning. Pupils are extremely respectful.
- Teachers use assessment skilfully. They monitor pupils closely, intervene with effective feedback and use misconceptions to move learning on. Pupils know it is 'good to make mistakes'.
- Pupils lead learning throughout the school. It begins from the early years foundation stage (EYFS) 'planning in the moment' to excellent transition into Year 1, where pupils learn through structured exploratory play.



Rights Respecting news

Over the next few weeks our assemblies and class discussions will be focused on

Article 12

Every child has the right to express their feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or a child's day-to-day home life.



Special lunch on Thursday 16 May

A special lunch menu, including vegetarian options, is on offer to all our children on Thursday 16th May, to celebrate our achievements in sports, and our upcoming sports day events this term.

If your child would like a lunch and they are in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6, the cost is £2.30. There is no lunch charge for children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.

Please complete and return the slip you received this week (only if your child is packed lunch) with your payment to the school office by **Tuesday 14 May** this week.

We need to know as soon as possible if you will be taking up this special meal so that our school cook can order and prepare in good time.

Dates for your diary!



Y6 SATs week 13th May - 16th May

Y6 trip to Chessington 17th May

Y2 trip to Museum of London 20th May

Walk to school Week 20th - 24th May

Y5/6 tri-school sports day 23rd May

Choir concert at Sandhurst School for the Hither Green Festival 6pm 23rd May

Ice Lolly and Cake Sale 24th May

Half term 27th - 31st May, **INSET day on 3rd June. Children return to school on Tuesday 4th June**
Science Competition Week 24th - 28th June. More details to be announced later in the term.

And finally...

As well as wishing year 6 all the very best for the week ahead, please remember that we will be welcoming them to breakfast on Monday morning and know you will join us in wishing them all a happy and successful week.

Many thanks.
Enjoy the week ahead.

James Baguley,
Deputy Head
Brindishe Manor

In class this week...

Each week we will continue to share with you what each year group has been focusing on in class and offer some ideas on how you can support your child over the coming week.

Nursery

This week with our cross age learning partners, the children have been shown how to access apps available on our iPads, such as BeeBots and Tech Monster. Many of these apps require the children to follow and give instructions using coding. In Maths, the children have been learning some new vocabulary: 'addition', 'subtraction' and 'equals'. They have explored different ways to show their number sentences and use relevant symbols. We have been discussing which foods are healthy as our story focus has been 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children have been identifying which foods are good for us and which foods would make us sick if we have too many.

Reception

A huge well done to our Reception entrepreneurs for their hugely successful bug biscuit sale, which raised a grand total of £140.80! The children really enjoyed the process of baking, selling and eating the biscuits.

The money raised went towards our Circus Workshop which took place on Wednesday. It was a brilliant session which all the children thoroughly enjoyed. They walked on a tightrope, balanced on a huge ball, rolled on a roller bowler and practised their plate spinning, juggling, diabolo and flower stick skills. The circus trainers commented on how confident our children were to just have a go, and also on their concentration, determination and focus; one of the trainers couldn't believe they were still in Reception, as he felt sure they must be Year 1 already. Well done children - we're so proud of the resilience, determination and curiosity you show in all your learning!

Year 1

We have been learning about the month of Ramadan. In this month Muslims fast for the entire month without food or water from sunrise to sunset. The children have learnt why Muslims fast, who can and cannot fast, the five pillars of Islam and the importance of being charitable to the less fortunate. Why not decorate a charity jar and collect coins to then donate to your chosen charity? We also talked about the celebration of Eid that marks the end of Ramadan too. Find out if there are other religions that take part in fasting. In Science, we have started to look at the parts of a plant, some of us had the opportunity to go outside in the field to collect flowers. We then dissected them to see how each part works. You could research and name different types of plants and find out the different stages of the life cycle. In Maths, the children have really mastered the idea of regrouping which helped them process column addition much quicker. In Onyx class, we have moved onto bridging over a ten. You can try the following number sentences to practise: $13 + 9 =$, $17 + 15 =$, $18 + 16 =$. Make sure you add the ones column first!

Year 2

In Year 2 children explored further the traditional tales. They made their own puppets and settings to act out some of the stories. Children really excelled at sharing imaginative ideas about the characters and their adventures. Ruby class has even started to plan their new versions of known fairy tales!

On Wednesday, during the KS1 assembly, Ms Kozysa discussed with the children the oceans and the seas of our planet. Various marine species are endangered either because of extensive fishing or because of the plastic pollution. Children in Year 2 expressed how concerned they are by this issue.

We are still brainstorming ideas for how our school community could help to raise awareness about the plastic pollution and its impact on animals as well as humans. If you have any ideas you would like share, please create, for example, a poster, a presentation or a model to show at school.

Year 3

This week in maths, we have been learning about volume. To understand what volume is, we started by pouring different amounts of water between measuring cylinders and jugs. To do this, we learnt how to read measurements on the cylinders and jugs. We then compared amounts of volume, we also solved problems that involve adding and subtracting volume. In English this week, we have continued reading the story from last week (title cannot be revealed just yet), we predicted what might happen in the story and wrote the next part of the story ourselves. Next week will read the rest of the story and the title will finally be revealed!

Year 4

This week in literacy, we have been continuing our learning on persuasive writing. The children wrote a response to an individual who wanted to demolish our school to build houses. Even though this was an imaginary situation, after reading their persuasive responses, I can truly say I think they could collectively have persuaded him not to do it! Well done Year 4.

Plastic is fantastic, or is it? We are now planning and writing a persuasive letter on a topic that the children have chosen. In Amber class, we have chosen to write a letter to confectionery companies to persuade them to look at more eco-friendly alternatives for their packaging. Did you know that some well-known brands of confectionery still use non-recyclable materials? *Can you make a persuasive poster at home to persuade people to use plastic alternatives?*

Topaz class are writing letters to a range of establishments, both local and national, with complaints that they have chosen and we are looking forward to seeing their persuasive writing skills in their independent writing.

Following on from our learning on tenths and hundredths, we will be looking at adding and subtracting decimals. A great way to support your children at home is to do this through money. *You could maybe write your child a shopping list with a few items and their prices and ask how much your total bill is.*

Year 5

In Year 5 this week we have been using the film narrative – ‘It’s not a planet, it’s our home,’ to write in the third person and present tense. The children have been using the skill of ‘showing’ not ‘telling’ the reader about the astronaut with a final surprise reveal at the end. It has been quite a difficult task but the children have persevered and honed their editing skills to produce an interesting piece of descriptive writing.

We have continued to research the Solar System. The children enjoyed using the papier mache planets to show where each planet would be relation to the sun; it was rather an eye-opening activity for some!

We have been impressed at how maturely the children have responded to the science topic of ‘How babies are made’. We have a question box in class for children to share any questions and we will be answering these each week.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have had one last sprint to the finish line revising for the upcoming SATs! We've been incredibly impressed by their tremendous effort and feel that they are more than ready.

Nest week, it is important that all children arrive to school promptly so the SATs can run as smoothly as possible. As you already know, there will be a breakfast for the Year 6s from 8:30am from Monday to Thursday to ensure they have the time to settle in before the tests begin.

If the children wish to cover any key concepts that they may be unsure of then they are welcome to do this. However, we really hope that everyone has a well-deserved rest and relaxes this weekend!

We have quite a few trips coming up over the next few weeks: Chessington World of Adventures, Year 5 and 6 Sports Day and a visit to the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition at the Natural History Museum. It would be a big help if permission slips for these could be handed in as soon as possible.

Finally, we'd just like to thank all of the children in Year 6 for the incredible focus, positivity and resilience they have shown. We're already very proud of how well they've done this year!

PFSA News and Updates!

Cake Sales

Both the cake sales in aid of the Vitality Run and the Spring Cake Sale Competition were great events. Thanks to those who donated and especially to all the very creative and talented entries for the Spring Cake Sale Competition. We also managed to raise £109 and £254, respectively. Thank you to the Gardening Club for judging the entries and a big well done to the winners and runners-up.

The next Cake Sale will be the Friday before Half-Term (24th May) - at 3.15pm onwards as always. All donations (home-made or shop-bought) very welcome, as long as no nuts are included.

Happy Outdoors Day

A huge thank you to everyone who came along on the 24th of March for Happy Outdoors Day, the Reception play area is transformed! This would have not been possible without the help and organisation of the PSFA and the Brindishe Manor School team, all the volunteers on the day and all your generous donations that allowed us to buy all the materials and plants.

Vitality Half Marathon Run

The money is in and we are very pleased to announce that all our amazing runners have raised just under £4,000!!! This is an extraordinary amount, thank you to everyone who ran, fundraised and organised this incredible event!

KS1 Movie Night

The children really enjoyed the screening of movie "Sing" with popcorn and drinks. This seems to be a very popular event; we will work to make it more regular and open to other years.

Garden Club

Big thank you to the Garden Club for all their hard work on making our school look greener! You will notice lovely plants and flowers right at the entrance, this would not have been possible without their very capable green little fingers and the contribution from the PSFA towards the plants and flowers. Thank you for your continued support!

Have a lovely weekend!

The PSFA Team