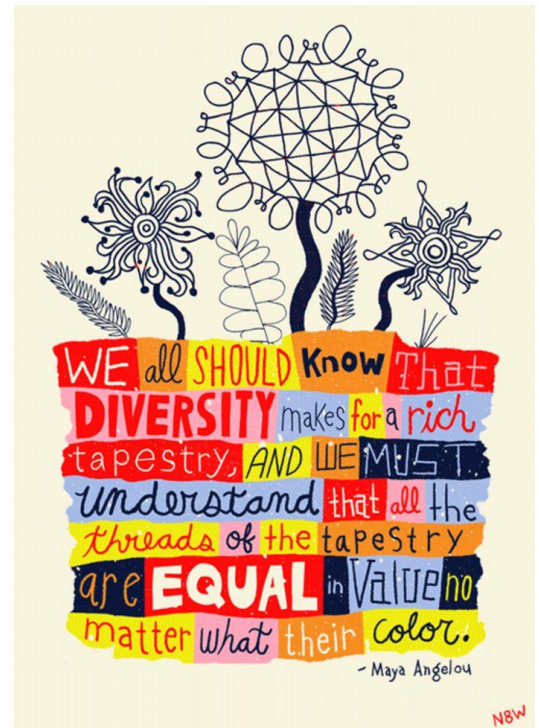


Friday 19th November 2021

Dear Children, Families, Staff, Governors and Friends,

Well, what a fantastic week we have had at Brindishe Green! Celebrating Diversity Week has been a huge success and we are so grateful to all the staff and children who have made it so special. All classes from across the school have taken part in a range of activities that have allowed the children to learn about inspirational people, celebrate each other's differences and express what makes them feel good about themselves. They have:

- Written letters to a child in another year group expressing what makes them special. They also received a reply to their letter.
- Each child has received a praise card from a friend in their class.
- There have been special assemblies throughout the week with a focus on celebrating our differences and the importance of being kind.
- Every class has learnt about an inspirational person and shared what they have learnt with the school.
- We received a very special video message from TV'S Dr Nighat Arif, telling them about what makes her special and that they should be proud of and share their differences.
- Lots of children and staff came to school dressed in their favourite outfits that make them happy, to raise money for Children in Need.



As the week comes to an end, we want to thank you all for making our school such a special place, and to say that we love that everyone is different at our school. Therefore, every week is Celebrating Diversity Week at Brindishe Green.

We hope you all have a peaceful and enjoyable weekend,
The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

Wonderful Work!

This week, ALL of the children from Years 1-6 received praise for their wonderful learning and behaviour in school. It has been wonderful to hear children praising each other and letting their friends know what they have done in school to be proud of.

Catch-up Flu Vaccination Clinics for Years 1-6

The School Nursing Team was at Brindishe Green on Friday 12th November to administer flu vaccinations to children in Reception – Year 6. If your child did not have the vaccination, there are local walk-in 'catch-up clinics' your child can attend without booking. The clinics are on Saturday 20th November and Saturday 27th November from 9.15am-4.30pm. Please check the attached poster for further information where these clinics will take place.

Christmas Performances

As we head towards the end of November, events for the end of term are starting to be planned out, including winter performances. As a Federation, we are very much looking forward to the children taking part in such festivities and exploring ways in which they can be held both virtually and in person. We know that there is still guidance around the bringing together of people in large groups and as a school we will ensure we do all we can to keep everyone as safe as possible. If an event is planned to be held in person and we feel that it is not safe to do so, we will inform you of the changes. We appreciate that this may cause some disappointment, but keeping everyone safe is paramount.

Waiting on Beacon Road at the Beginning and End of the Day

Over the past couple of weeks, we have asked parents and carers to wait outside of the school premises until the playground gate is opened. This is at the beginning and end of the school day.

Some parents have asked us why we have made this change. It is as a result of two incidents that happened while people were waiting. We have done this to stop people being crushed against the gate, prevent someone being hurt when the large group of people start moving forward, to slow down the flow and to stop people from overcrowding.

It has been said that all these things could happen if people are waiting outside on the footpath, but there is more space to spread out on Beacon Road. In most schools, families are not allowed onsite until the end of the school day and have to wait outside for the gate to open. Thank you to everyone who has supported us with this change.

Applying for Free School Meals for Children in Reception – Year 2

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to 'Universal Free School Meals.' This means that they all get a free meal in school every day.

Families with a low income or who are receiving certain benefits can also apply to be **registered as FSM**. This can be done by reading the criteria and completing a short form on the Lewisham Council Website – [Applying for FSM](#).

While you might not think that this is an important thing to do, it is worth applying if you think your child might be entitled. If your application for 'Free School Meals' is approved by the council, **any clubs arranged by the school are half price**. When the school was closed to most children during the pandemic and during the school holidays, families entitled to 'Free School Meals' received **supermarket vouchers** and/or **food hampers**.

We would also like you to know that the school also receives additional funding from the government for every child who is registered as FSM. We are able to use this money towards providing additional activities and resources to support your child with their learning. Please have a look at the Lewisham website if you think you might be eligible, or ask a member of the Brindishe Green office team if you would like support.

Our Weekly Online Safety Message from Ms Chin

Roblox has been a major hit with children worldwide, even though it is an odd-looking and often confusing game. For parents at least.

It is an online game creator system where lots of the content is created by "amateur" game creators. These game makers are able to create and publish games to the community using simple tools. Internet matters has created a quick guide to help you understand what makes Roblox so popular and how to ensure your kids don't get any nasty surprises.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/>



We are a Gold Rights Respecting School

On the 20th November it is World Children's Day – the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and a global day of action *for* children, *by* children.

On this occasion, we are looking at Articles 1 and Article 4 which define and implement the Convention.

Article 1 (definition of the child): Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention

Article 4 (protection of rights): Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights

(Protections from Violence, Abuse and Neglect). We want all children to know that no matter who they are, where they come from, what they believe, they are valued and important members of our school community and the world. We want to teach children to respect and celebrate the differences in others as well.

Improvements to Lewisham Park Playground

We all know the importance of having safe, imaginative, appropriate and attractive outside spaces for our children to play. Members of our local community are currently fundraising to rejuvenate Lewisham Park Playground. They are encouraging parents, carers, families and neighbours to sign a petition to signal support and would be most grateful for your support here: www.change.org/LewishamParkPlayground

If you have any questions about this initiative and/or would like to help, please contact Brindishe Green parent Becky Schutt at beckyschutt@gmail.com.

Young Climate Warriors - www.youngclimatewarriors.org

Every week we share a Young Climate Warriors challenge for your child to do at home with their family. Here is a reminder of how to sign up to the Young Climate Warriors website. This gives you access to 'Hit the Red Button' when you complete a weekly challenge. The website is free to sign up.

Click on this link: <https://www.youngclimatewarriors.org/>

Find the sign up page when you click on the sign up button on the right hand side.

Fill in the child's details with parent's permission.

Hit the red button on the challenges page on the website when you complete a weekly challenge:



Important Dates

Please look on the Weduc Calendar for key dates and information regarding your child's class.

- **INSET Day – 26th Nov 2021 – No children in school**
- Last day of Autumn term – 17th Dec 2021
- Winter Break 20th December – 3rd Jan 2022
- INSET Day – 4th Jan 2022 – No children in school
- Start of Spring term – 5th Jan 2022

Remember children must be in school by 9am every day and be collected at 3.15pm

A Message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

Raffle prize call out! - in just over a week's time BFG raffle tickets will go on sale. We're still on the lookout for prize donations. If you'd like to offer something please do get in touch:

bfgsocials@gmail.com

Get a Garment/Grab a Garment - Thank you to everyone who took part in the Get a Garment/Grab a Garment event. We are delighted that so many of the clothes you donated were able to extend their lives and find new homes. We are always looking for ways to improve how this works so if you have any thoughts please let us know: bfgsocials@gmail.com. The clothes left over will be taken to the Lewisham Donation Hub. Thanks you for everyone's help in making this a success.

Keep up!- find out more about what we are up to - follow us on Twitter: @bfghithergreen and connect via Facebook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group').

COVID UPDATES

Please see below a copy of the decision chart to support you in knowing what to do if your child or another member of your household is exposed to Covid-19 in the coming weeks.

What do I do if.....	What ACTION is needed?	When can I RETURN to school?
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19: Sore throat, runny nose, headache, tummy ache, chicken pox, tonsillitis, sickness, diarrhoea	Follow the usual School Absence Policy	When the child is feeling better or 48 hours if the illness is sickness/diarrhoea
My child has one or more of the 3 main Covid-symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means feeling hot to the touch on the chest or back A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing for more than an hour, or having 3 or more episodes in 24 hours A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE – this means being unable to taste or smell as usual 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Obtain a PCR test Self-isolate until results are known Siblings who have no symptoms should continue to attend school	On receipt of a negative test result and when your child is well enough to attend
My child tests positive for Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact the school to inform us, stating the earliest possible date of return Engage fully with NHS Test and Trace Engage with remote learning if your child is well enough to do so	After the applicable isolation period and when your child is well enough to attend Children can return after 10 days even if the cough and loss of taste/smell remains. This can last for weeks
My child tests negative for Covid-19	Contact school to inform us	...same day/next day and when they are well enough to return
Someone in my house is ill with Covid-19 symptoms	Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received. A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.	
Someone in my house tests positive for Covid-19	Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received. A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.	
NHS Test & Trace has identified my child as being in close contact of someone with symptoms confirmed as Covid-19	Obtain a PCR test for your child	

	<p>If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.</p>	
Someone other than NHS Test and Trace has informed me that I am a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19	<p>Obtain a PCR test for your child</p> <p>If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.</p>	
We/my child has travelled and needs to self-isolate as a period of quarantine	<p>Do not take unauthorised leave in term-time</p> <p>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</p> <p>Return from a destination when quarantine is needed</p> <p>Agree an earliest possible date for return</p>	...the quarantine period has been completed