

Friday 25th November 2021

Dear Children, Families, Staff, Governors and Friends,

It still feels very early but preparations for Christmas are already underway here at school and you will see below the details of what we have planned so that you are able to make your arrangements. I hope you will all find the advanced notice useful. I hope also that some of you are able to enjoy some additional time with your children over the long weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday.

We wish you all a lovely weekend,

The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

Vision and Values

This term we have been refreshing our vision and values as a school, articulating who we are and what we really believe about education across the Brindishe Schools. Attached to the newsletter this week you will find a poster summarising what we as a group of schools aspire to be. Our thanks to Miss Campbell who pulled together a lot of big ideas into one simple side of A4!

Children in Need 2021

A big thank you to everyone who took part in our 'Wear Your Happy' day last Friday and who made a donation to Children in Need. We are very pleased to let you know that we raised £391.13 for this fantastic charity



Wonderful Work!

Praise cards will return next week. Well done to everyone for the effort you put in day after day.



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

Christmas Performances

I am very pleased to be able to share with you what we have arranged for celebrating Christmas this year. As a group of schools, we have taken the difficult decision not to hold live performances inside as cases continue to rise and the risk to the community's health remains significant. At the same time, just as we didn't let that stop us celebrating last year, we have made plans to ensure that children participate in a range of activities. There will be a whole school celebration video similar to last year where every class will perform and this will be shared with you on Its Learning.

Additionally, each class will be holding a short concert outside on the stage in the playground which parents can come and watch too. The performances are listed below. All performances start at 9:15am and last around 15 minutes. Please bring your children to school as normal, allow them to go up to their classroom and remain on the playground near the stage. The children will be registered and brought back down by their teachers for the performance.

8th December - Year 4

9th December - Year 3

10th December Year 5

14th December Year 6

15th December Year 1

16th December Year 2



For children in Nursery and Reception separate information will follow in due course

Christmas Cards

Last year it was necessary for us to ask children not to bring Christmas cards to school. This year we would like to mindfully restart what we recognise is an important tradition. In a school as large as ours there is an enormous number of Christmas cards written each year which require a huge amount of time to sort and deliver and more importantly, create vast amounts of waste, something children have mentioned to staff several times. This year we would like to ask that if your child wishes to write a Christmas card, they write one to their whole class which can then be displayed and enjoyed by everyone. As always, we are not able to provide lists of children in the school.

Long Service Awards

Congratulations to Doris and Grace who work in our school's kitchen cooking and serving the children's lunch. Doris received a 20 year long service award from our catering contractor Raddish and Grace received a 5 year long service award. On behalf of all the children we wanted to say a big thank you for playing such an important role in the life of our school nourishing the bodies and minds of countless children between them.



We are a Gold Rights Respecting School

With International Day of People with Disabilities coming up on 3rd December, we're looking at Articles 2 and 23. These ensure children with disabilities a right to live a full and decent life with dignity, without discrimination.

This global event gives us a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of people with disabilities, as well as shine a light on barriers they still face today and the role we can all play in breaking them down.

Why not research the great achievements of differently abled people, from the athletes that compete in the Paralympics, to Stephen Hawking's contributions to science. You could watch the moving performances of Rose Ayling Ellis on Strictly Come Dancing or learn about Floyd Morris who rose to become the President of the Senate of Jamaica despite being blind. For older children (Y4 up) try reading This Kid Can Fly; It's About Ability (Not Disability) by Aaron Philip. Aaron was born in Antigua with Cerebral Palsy and by aged 14 was living in New York City working as a successful artist and model, this book is her inspiring story.



Colder Weather

As I am sure you have all noticed the weather is really starting to feel decidedly wintery. Please ensure that you send your children to school with this in mind, ensuring that they are dressed appropriately for the cold and with a suitable winter coat. Children do spend over an hour a day outside in all weathers except rain. Hats, gloves and scarfs are welcome too although we do suggest that you put a name in them and spend some time teaching your children how to store these items so they stay together and don't get lost. Scarves fit well in the sleeves of coats and gloves do best folded together and tucked into coat pockets!



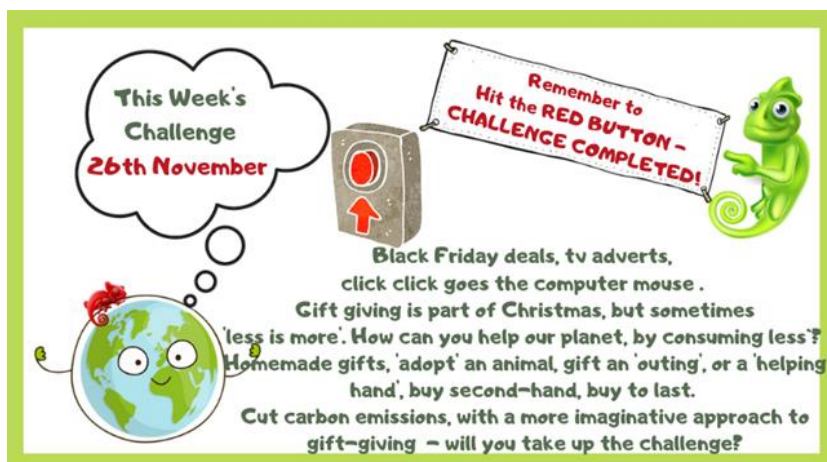
Young Climate Warriors



COP26 voices from around the world: 'For those who have eyes to see, for those who have ears to listen and for those who have a heart to feel, 1.5° is what we need to survive,' Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados. 'Your actions matter. No action or voice is too small to make a difference'. Vanessa Nakate, Ugandan Youth Climate Activist

COP26 voices from around the world need to be heard. Black Friday is upon us once again, deals and adverts trying to entice us to buy more; to consume more. Young Climate Warriors are challenged to consider how 'less is more', to adopt a more imaginative approach to gift-giving, to help reduce our carbon emissions this Christmas by consuming less ... giving our planet more of a chance.

The worse impacts of Climate change disproportionately affect poorer nations, often those who have contributed least to the emissions that cause it. Climate Justice is required. It is our responsibility to take action, no matter how small.



Our Weekly Online Safety Message from Ms Chin...

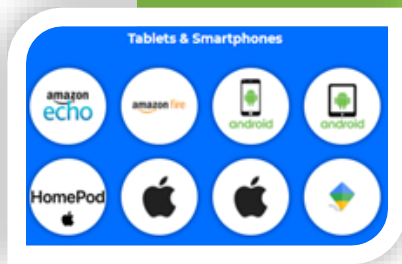
In app purchases

Some apps, even those which are free to download, may require you to spend money within the app, for example buying extras which can make a game easier to play.

In-app purchases are not always obvious. It's important to consider setting controls on the devices they use.

Check out the guide below to give you simple steps to set controls on a range of devices.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>



internet
matters.org

A message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

Raffle tickets ON SALE NEXT WEEK - from Monday we will be selling raffle tickets in the school playground before school. We have some amazing prizes lined up from cinema vouchers to dance lessons to panto tickets. Everything raised will go towards helping the school buy equipment and put on events for the children. If you have anything unwanted but new, suitable as a prize please get in touch.

bfgsocials@gmail.com The draw will be made in the last week before the school breaks up for the holidays.

Guess the baubles comp - we'll also be running a 'guess the number of baubles in a jar' competition from Monday before school. £1 for 3 guesses, 50p for one guess. Prizes for who ever gets closest.

Festive trail coming soon! - back by popular demand it's the BFG Festive Trail. Trail packs go on sale from 6th Dec containing a map and whole host of goodies. Watch this space for more info next week.

Keep in touch - 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 backA NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing for more than an hour, or having 3 or more episodes in 24 hoursA 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	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact the school to inform us, stating the earliest possible date of return</p> <p>Engage fully with NHS Test and Trace</p> <p>Engage with remote learning if your child is well enough to do so</p>	<p>After the applicable isolation period and when your child is well enough to attend</p> <p>Children can return after 10 days even if the cough and loss of taste/smell remains. This can last for weeks</p>
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	<p>Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same</p> <p>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.</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 in my house tests positive for Covid-19	<p>Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same</p> <p>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.</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>	
NHS Test & Trace has identified my child as being in close contact of someone with symptoms confirmed as 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>	
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	Do not take unauthorised leave in term-time	...the quarantine period has been completed

	<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>	
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