



Brindishe Manor Newsletter  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020  
Headteacher: Kate Porter



Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

This week in school the corridors and classrooms have been filled with beautiful singing as our children have been preparing to record their special winter songs for you (see below for more information). This week we have also had our second group of children complete their Bikeability course, which they have thoroughly enjoyed.

We had some wonderful news last week, Lizanne Le Roux, one of our teachers, delivered her twins safely on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Both boys are doing well and Mum is too! We can't wait to hear what the boys will be called and wish Lizanne, her husband and daughter all the best for their first Christmas as a family of 5!

### Winter performances

For many of our families who have been part of the Brindishe Manor community for a number of years, you will know that our winter performances are always a wonderful end to our Autumn term!

This year the performances are being posted on *Itslearning* for you to watch together at home. Some of the performances are already available on the class pages and the rest will be up and running by Tuesday.



### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Early Closure

On Wednesday you will have received a letter informing you that we will be closing early on the last day of term. Please make sure that you know what time your child must be collected from school on this day. All children must be collected from school by 1:40pm at the latest. We thank everyone for their support.

### Crisis at Christmas

Every year we collect loose change for the charity 'Crisis', which supports homeless people during the winter period. Your donations can support homeless people with food, shelter and companionship.



We are asking all children to wear either a Christmas jumper, something festive or an outfit of their choice on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**, which is the same day as our Christmas lunch. We are inviting children to bring in a donation on the day to put in to the collection buckets which will be available as they come in to school.

### Dates for your diary...

Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Crisis collection on gates
Tue 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	All online Winter performances available on <i>Itslearning</i>
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec -	Christmas lunch for R-Year 6
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec -	Dress Festive day
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec -	Last day of term, early finish 1:40p.m.
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan -	Staff training day NO school for children
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan -	Children return to school

### **Cards for children and tokens of appreciation for staff**

This year, we kindly ask children who would like to bring in Christmas Cards that they make or bring in one shared card for their class. The cards will be shared on a display board or table in their classroom for everyone to see and enjoy throughout the rest of term (from whenever they are received). We thought this would be a nice way for the class to come together and have a small festive display in class.

We have been asked this week by a few parents and carers about whether they can bring in a token of appreciation to a staff member towards the end of this Autumn term. Whilst we certainly do not expect any gifts from our families, should you wish to send a staff member in school a card or small token of appreciation then this would need to be given by **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**, so that the necessary precautions can be taken before staff take them home on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks

## PSFA NEWS - CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRAIL

As Christmas approaches many of the things we usually do aren't possible right now. So many of you enjoyed the Halloween trail that we thought a Christmas Lights Trail might be just the thing to bring some festive cheer. All money raised will, as always, go to Brindishe Manor School to support our children's learning and experience.

The trail is contact free - everything you need will be emailed to you to be printed at home. To take part:

1. **Click this link to go to the JustGiving page**  
**<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/brindishemanorpsfachristmas2020?invite=true>**
2. **Make your donation using the "Donate" button on this page**
3. **You will be sent an email receipt from JustGiving which MUST be sent to [brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com)**
4. **The PSFA will email you a number of downloads to allow you to take part in all the activities below.**

Our suggested donation is £5 (donated via this page) and the pack will include:

### **Map for a Christmas Lights Trail**

From Friday 11th - Sunday 20th December 2020 a number of houses in the local area will be decorated and marked on a map; there is no set start or finish point so you can plan the best route for you and your family. There will be a visual scavenger hunt - spot some Christmas themed items on your way round the trail. How many can you find?

**PLEASE ADHERE TO ALL COVID 19 RELATED GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS AND GUIDELINES IN PLACE ON THE DATE YOU DO THE TRAIL.**

### **Christmas colouring & word searches**

Keep little hands busy with some festive fun pictures to colour and word searches to complete.

### **Entry to a Christmas themed art competition**

Win a £10 Amazon voucher by entering something your child has made, drawn or painted inspired by the Christmas Lights Trail. Email a photo of your entry to [brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com) by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. The winner will be announced in the school newsletter week ending Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### **Christmas Cookie Recipe**

Bake some delicious Christmas cookies with this easy-to-follow recipe - ideal with hot chocolate after walking the trail.

### **Join in .....**

We hope you'll join the fun and help raise some money. Downloads will be sent on Tuesday 8th December for any emails received prior to that date and then as received for subsequent donations.

**Remember that the PSFA is a voluntary organisation so we do not have full time staff - please allow 24 hours from sending your email receipt (if this is after 8th December) before chasing a response.**

## Primary School Applications for 2021

This week we have added a short video to the school website to support new parents and carers to make a decision about their school application process for September 2021.

The application process for primary places for 2021 is now open.

- Applications are already open (apply online) - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

- Closing date for applications is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-primary-school>

## Virtual Nursery and Reception Admissions meetings

As we are currently unable to carry out tours for parents and carers of our Nursery, reception and the rest of the school, we would like to invite parents and carers who are looking for school places for September 2021 to an online presentation. There is one date left:

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 4:30pm**

The sessions will talk more about the ethos of our school, what the learning experience looks like in Nursery and Reception and how the children make the transition into Reception. We will share plenty of images of how our classrooms look and the types of activities the children will have on offer throughout the day.

If you would like to be booked on to this presentation meeting, which will be led by Kate Porter (Head) and Jenny Guest (EYFS and Y1 Lead), then please call or email the school office who will send you the details for joining: [info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk)

## Weduc – our new communication system

We will now be using Weduc as our way of communicating all key messages, dates, newsletters and information on the exciting events that are going on in school. Over the next term we will be introducing different features of the app but for now we will be focusing on the **newsfeed and calendar**.

- The newsfeed will contain all our newsletters, important messages and any information we want to share with you.
  - The calendar will give you immediate access to all key dates and events going on in school.
- All the key information you need will now be in one place, hopefully making it easier for all our parents and carers.

We wish you all a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing everyone next week for our last week before the Autumn term comes to an end.

Kate Porter and the Brindishe Manor team