



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear families, governors, staff and friends,

Over the course of this week, the children and staff have had the chance to reflect on the past year: the events that have occurred; the changes that have happened; the loved ones that have been lost and those that are still recovering. Mrs Sullivan's assembly this week allowed for the children to think about the events; the values that are most important to us, and the heroes that have arisen from such a difficult time. A stark reminder of the experiences we have faced and how important it is to continue to follow the guidance and understand the role we all play in reducing the spread of the virus.

This week has also marked the start of Spring, and what a better way for us (with coats on at times) to be outside, learning together. Don't forget that as we enter British Summer time to put your clocks forward an hour on Sunday morning!

Have a great weekend!

### SMS/Text Messages

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Arbor will be changing their SMS provider. As a result, text messages that come from school will now be sent from a **different number**. As always, please do not reply to our text messages but instead send an email to [info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) if you have any questions.

**Class newsletter** Next week, your teachers will be sending out a class newsletter with some fun and exciting activities that can be completed over the holidays. This will include a challenge on Sum Dog and Bug Club, a fun project to complete, and other helpful suggestions. Keep an eye out to see what fun can be had over the Easter break.

**Music Clubs** If your child was taking lessons either during the Autumn or Spring term and you would like for them to continue after Easter, please sign up and pay through Arbor by 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Afterschool Sports Clubs (Teachsport)** After Easter the afterschool sports clubs will return to BG – as you will see, the choice of clubs is less than usual and unfortunately some year groups are missing out. This is due to restrictions around Covid-19. We have done our best to make sure as many children as possible will have the opportunity to take part, and want you to know that the decision not to offer clubs to some year groups has not been taken easily. Hopefully we will be able to offer additional clubs after the May half term.

**Message from the Governors** The role of the Governors is a very important part of our school improvement. We have been finding ways to let you know of all the work that goes on, including Governor Newsletter and contributions to our weekly news. This week is a note from John Myres.

### A Note from our Governor, John Myers

I'm proud to have been a governor at the Brindishe Schools for nearly a decade. We have a great set of governors that help to support the school, and discuss with the leadership how the schools can continue to grow and improve.

It's been a tough year for all parents, and all involved with the schools. One of the "hats" I wear as a governor is on health and safety which has never been more important. As a parent at Brindishe Green, I want my child to learn but more than anything I want them to be happy and healthy at school.

In the regular discussions I have with the three schools, it is so impressive how personally committed the whole team is to keeping children and staff safe. This year, they've had to constantly learn to ensure that as far as possible children and staff are well. Whether its bubbling, boilers or blue paper, the schools have invested and adapted to keep as many children in school as possible.

Hopefully we can all look forward to restrictions relaxing and some return to normality. As the schools return to normality, I know that they will still be rigorous in everything they do to keep children safe.

Executive Head: Rachel Waite    Chair of Governors: Liz Murphy

**In partnership with Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor**

## Warm Layers

Please can we ask that all children come to school wearing layers – a T-shirt and a warm long-sleeved jumper/hoodie, as well as a suitable coat. We have been told **we must keep classroom windows and outside doors open** for ventilation, and the classrooms are much colder than normal. Many of the children are finding it very cold inside, as well as outside.

## School travel: staying safe and keeping healthy

The children had an assembly this week focused on how to stay safe and keep healthy on the way to and from school. We talked about how walking, scooting, cycling or even jogging to school helps to keep us fit, and also helps towards the 1 hour of daily exercise recommended for children. Walking to school can help us to arrive at school refreshed and ready for learning, and a walk can also be good for our mental health.

For the few families who do need to travel to school by car, we discussed ways we could still reduce the traffic around school and the air pollution, such as:

- **'Park and stride'** - can you drive most of the way, but then park your car a few roads away from school, and 'stride' the rest of the way?
- **Driving slowly** and being very aware of children and adults who may be trying to cross the road
- **Turning off your engine** as soon as you have parked or stopped your car.

We also had a reminder about crossing roads safely, including staying with your adult when approaching roads. We remembered to 'Stop, Look, and Listen', when crossing roads, and recommended an extra 'Look' to check for electric cars and cyclists that may be very quiet.

We really appreciate your support with keeping our roads as safe as possible.



## Computer Equipment

During the last lockdown we handed out a number of laptops and iPads to families to ensure the online learning could take place. Please continue to use the equipment over the holidays to complete any work set by your class teacher and then we will then be asking for you to return the devices after the holiday. A station will be set up in the playground during morning drop off. Please make sure you bring in the equipment on the correct days:

Year 1/2	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 3	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 4	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 5	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 6	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April

## And finally...

**Weekly Sports Challenge** Over the past few weeks, the children (and teachers) have been taking part in the weekly sports challenge set by Mr Williamson. Last week was squats and this week the children have been taking part in the 'Star Jump' Challenge. Maybe you could set some challenges as a family over the Easter break.....let us know what you come up with and maybe we can set further challenges in school!

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Best wishes,

The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

## Important Dates

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April - Easter/Spring Break

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April - Summer term begins

**Week beg 26<sup>th</sup> April - Teacher/Parent Meetings (through Weduc – more information to follow)**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Bank Holiday

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May - INSET Day/Polling Station – school closed to all children**

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June - Half Term

### A message from Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

- **Easter trail** - The Easter bunny has been busy decorating a number of windows around Hither Green. Can you follow the map to spot them all? This is a free event being held between 1st - 4th April. No letters to find, no prizes to win - just a lovely walk around Hither Green. The trail map is attached. Let us know which is your favourite window! [bfgsocials@gmail.com](mailto:bfgsocials@gmail.com)
- **Brindishe Big Half fundraising page goes live!** - It's only four weeks until the BG Big Half and our fundraising page has just gone live. The Brindishe Green Big Half Team have had a fantastic week of training and they would love the support and help from anyone who can donate. Take a look at the fundraising page to see what our goal is: <https://www.rocketfund.org/bfg---big-half>
- **Get in touch** - We love hearing from you so if you have any comments or brilliant fundraising ideas do drop us a line. We're also on twitter (@bfgghithergreen) and FaceBook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group').