

**Friday 16 December 2016**

Dear parents and carers, friends and families,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for helping to make 2016 another successful and rewarding year for Brindishe Schools. We have seen our children enjoy much success and enjoyment in their classrooms, their shared and outdoor learning spaces, playgrounds, pitches and halls and out and about on many educational visits in London and the south east. We have seen many changes and improvements this year including a big increase in our IT provision for everyone and a welcome investment into our premises in all three schools. We are grateful to our local authority Lewisham for funding over a million pounds worth of building works on Brindishe Schools' buildings and classrooms in the last 12-18 months. Thank you everyone for your patience and flexibility whilst these works have taken place – we really do appreciate it.

This year Brindishe children have danced on ( Catford!) Broadway, sung in the Blackheath Concert Halls and at the Dome, played in and won many tournaments (including now representing Lewisham Borough in Pan-London competitions in tag ruby,

athletics and hockey). They have performed Shakespeare in Greenwich Theatre and had the red carpet treatment at the National Television Awards. Brindishe children have 'Shone' on Saturdays, written beautiful poetry, 'Educated and Celebrated', cooked delicious healthy treats and crafted wonderful sculptures. They have helped us to raise literally thousands of pounds for charity including for Crisis at Christmas and Unicef and have generously donated their time and energy to support each other as buddies, ambassadors and leaders and members of The Children's Teams. These include being our Young Interpreters, our Eco Teams helping us to be Green through our Eco Team, they've Lead the Learning with children in different classes and of different abilities, our Digital Leaders showed us all how to use technology well and safely and to stay at the forefront of IT and, of course, the children have represented their school in many important inter-school events throughout the year. All of this is made possible by a very talented and creative team of Brindishe people working inside and outside classrooms to give the children the best education we can. On your behalf I thank them all. They do a great job.

You might be aware that for many new parents and carers a place for their

child in a Brindishe School is highly sought after and because of this we are usually in the group of the most oversubscribed schools in Lewisham. **For this reason I was delighted to hear yesterday that we will be able to offer 'bulge' or extra Reception classes in both Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor in September 2017.** This means we can offer 8 new Reception class across the Brindishe federation altogether. This will be 3 at Brindishe Green, 3 at Brindishe Manor and 2 at Brindishe Lee for the next academic year. We will not need to build new classrooms because will re-use the classrooms already on site as the previous bulge classes (from 2010/2011) will leave at the end of their year 6 in the summer of 2017.

I'd like to thank the governors of Brindishe Schools for their support and efforts on behalf of our nearly 1500 Brindishe children. The Federation Governing Body, a group of committed volunteers, led so capably and earnestly by Spyros Elia our Chair of Governors and Jackie Stirling our Vice-Chair, work tirelessly on your behalf to make sure we do all we can provide the very best we can for every Brindishe child no matter to which school they belong. Their work is often unseen but never unappreciated.

Finally may I thank all of the parents and carers and family members who bring their children to our schools every day ready to learn and ready to succeed with us. Your support is very much appreciated and I know how resourceful and generous you are in helping our schools. I wish you all the very best for the festive season, Happy Christmas to those who are celebrating and to everyone in our community and beyond a peaceful and happy 2017.

With very best wishes

Dame Vicki  
Executive Headteacher  
Brindishe Schools

**Dear parents, carers, staff,  
governors and friends**



**Winter Fest!  
KS2 ...**

My word ... what an absolutely wonderful performance KS2 gave this week! It is a delight to see everyone joining together to present a whole school bonanza such as we saw on Tuesday and Wednesday. Amazing singing, thoughtful and creative sketches brought together with fabulous performance poetry.

Thank you children and staff for such a great, seasonal celebration.

**CHRISTMAS  
COMMUNITY**



**F@B Christmas Fayre**

A very big **THANK YOU** to the F@B team for organising a wonderful Christmas Fayre on Saturday. Well done all stall holders and chefs and a special thank you to both Rudolph the Red Nosed Pianist and Santa for joining us!

Excellent effort from Year 6! There were so many beautiful Christmas crafts and some great games to play ... I am sure they will enjoy the fruits of their labours later in the year. Well done.

As yet, we have not heard the total raised ... we will share that news in the new year.



**LEWISHAM FOODBANK**

Thank you for all the donations you have sent in for the Lewisham Foodbank. We are collecting everything from the three Brindishe schools together and will be delivering the boxes of food and toiletries in time for sharing at Christmas.

**A heartfelt thank you!**

**CRISIS @ CHRISTMAS**



A final thank you from us for your generosity with donations towards our Christmas collection for the charity, CRISIS. Our Brindishe Lee total was £700 and together, across the Federation, we have raised an amazing £2500.

This is an incredible achievement, well done and thank you everyone.

**Dates for your diary ...**

**Tuesday 03 January 2017**  
Staff professional training day

**Wednesday 04 January 2017 @ 09:15**  
First day of spring term for the children.

**Thursday 05 January 2017 @ 17:00 – 18:00**  
Open evening for new Reception families

**Week beginning Monday 09 January**  
Y6 Boosters to re-start.

**Finally ...**

As we finish this term we say goodbye to Sara Clifford-Gray from our office team. Sara has been with us for eighteen months and leaves us today to move on to new adventures.

We send her off with love and hope for many happy days and a big thank you for welcoming so many families and visitors to Brindishe Lee with such warmth.

Sending everyone wishes for a very, very happy holiday! See you in 2017 ...

Lisa Morris  
Headteacher

## Message from F@B Christmas Fayre



Thank you to all the children and their adults who came along to last Saturday's F@B Christmas Fayre! As in previous years, our star attractions included the opportunity for children to visit Santa's Grotto as well as a last chance to buy a winning Raffle ticket. We were delighted to host many more of our regular Fayre attractions, while also welcoming brand new innovations including the wonderful Rudolf's Piano JukeBox. We hope everyone enjoyed the event - and many congratulations to all the lucky winners of our amazing Raffle draw on the day!

As well as bringing together families and friends to enjoy all the festive activities, refreshments and musical interludes, the Christmas Fayre is a major fundraiser for F@B. A few receipts are still to be counted and we will let you know how much we raised as soon as we can.

We are enormously grateful to EVERYONE who kindly gave up their time to help in so many ways with the Fayre - whether that be by baking cakes, organising/helping out on a stall or activity, selling Raffle tickets, cooking or serving food and drinks, helping with back room tasks such as programme design and collecting Raffle prizes, or simply lending a hand with clearing away after the event. A special word of thanks also to all the school staff who were extremely supportive of the Fayre organisers and helped both with guidance and practical assistance. The ability to run successful F@B events is entirely down to the brilliant team working by all our supporters and volunteers! THANK YOU!!