



Brindishe Lee Newsletter

Monday 7th September 2020

Headteacher: Ms Maxine Sebire

Brindishe
Lee

Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back!

The end of the first week for our children has come and what a delight it has been to welcome you all back. All three schools have been filled with listening, talking, laughter and many smiling faces. It has been fantastic to see. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for the support you have shown. To the staff for guiding the children in their new ways of working and making the classroom feel safe and secure. To the parents and carers for following our new procedures and being patient whilst get a plans to work the best they can and, of course, to our children for their positive approach to everything that is asked of them. Thank you.

We now ask you, even more than ever, to continue to follow the new procedures we have in place. We appreciate you may have to walk a little further or wait a little longer but we want everyone to be as safe as can be. Please respect the social distancing rules, follow any one way systems in place and drop off/pick up at the allocated time. We are trying our hardest to make it work and we really appreciate your ongoing support.

We are still in very uncertain times but having your support is the best way you can help us. If you have any questions, thoughts and concerns, please do email info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk

Have a lovely weekend,

Rachel Waite.

Message from Ms Sebire

I would like to thank all of you for the support you have shown during this first week back at school. The children have been well prepared and are showing great enthusiasm and pleasure at being back in the classroom. It is great to see so many smiley faces around school! We are heartened to hear the laughter and chatter of the children playing and working with their friends; we definitely have our school back!

Attendance has been excellent so far and we are honoured that you feel confident in the processes and procedures we have in place enabling your child to return to Brindishe Lee. I would also like to express thanks for the effort everybody is making with the drop off and pick up routines. It is good to see so many children walking, biking or scooting to school and parents parking away from the school to reduce the traffic outside of school. This ultimately makes it much safer for the whole community.

Although so many of the children have settled well, we know for some children this may take a little longer. If you have any concerns about your child's settling back in to school, then please do let us know. You can use our recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk email address. A member of the senior leadership team will be able to get back to you or pass on your concerns to the appropriate adult.

Message to pupils

Well done to all of you for returning to school this week with such a positive attitude. You all appeared excited and happy to see your friends and the staff at Brindishe Lee. When I walked around the school this week, you were all working hard and enjoying your learning.

You are working beautifully in your class bubbles and are playing outside in your class areas which have been marked out for you. I have also been pleased to see that you are washing your hands, sanitizing and keeping your social distance when you need to. Well done!

Some of you will be very tired this evening, after a full first week back since March. Remember how important it is to go to bed at a reasonable time and get back into your daily routine.

COVID-19 Update

Please read this information carefully so we can help prevent a huge increase in demand for tests from people without coronavirus symptoms.

It is imperative that if any parent/carer or child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

or you are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse) you must get tested for coronavirus.

If a parent/carer or child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, **only they should be tested**. There is **no need** for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic.

All members of your household must stay at home until your test result has come back. Siblings will not be allowed into school IF any member of the household is showing COVID-19 symptoms and awaiting results of a test.

As we return back to school, children may feel unwell for example with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. **You do not need to book a test but may need to stay off and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual.**

Please ensure you notify the school if your child will be absent by phoning in to the school office before 9am.



Water bottles

Please ensure you send your child in with their own, labelled water bottle. The weather will be warmer next week and the children will need access to their own water whilst in the classrooms.

After school clubs and music lessons

We will not be running after school clubs or individual music lessons at the present time. We will continue to review these extracurricular activities and introduce them back in to school when we are able to safely do so.

Wrap around care

We welcome Sportacus, our breakfast and after school provision back from Monday 14th September. Please be reminded that the gate for entering in the morning and collecting children at the end of the day will be the side gate on Wantage Road. If your child is not attending because they have symptoms of COVID, you **need to ring Sportacus (Harry) on 07828 218690 in the morning and the school office immediately.**

Please ring the same number for any enquiries for a place for your child or email Harry@sportacus.co.uk. Harry will be able to answer questions you may have.

Secondary School transfer

There is now a digital version of the secondary school brochure available to download on the Lewisham website. Parents can sign up to receive weekly emails about the secondary school admissions process using the following link <https://r1.dotmailer-surveys.com/d7402e3-404ptedd>

It's looking less and less likely that open days will happen as usual. Some schools are already planning virtual tours and online presentations/meet the staff etc. Lewisham have created a web page for you to access with current information <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myserVICES/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school/secondary-schools-open-days>

We will be in touch with Year 6 and Year 5 parents separately about any further secondary transfer information.

School dinners

All parents/carers in Year 3 upwards who choose for their child to have a school dinner must ensure payment is made through the Arbor online portal.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to receive school meals for free, funded by the government's universal free school meals grant. Parents/carers of pupils from Year 3 upwards will need to pay for their child's meal unless you qualify for the free school meals grant. To apply for the grant, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> as soon as possible or contact the school office for further information.

Home Learning

Early next week, each class will receive a newsletter from their class teacher. Teachers will provide you with some information about the recovery learning taking place for each class over the next few weeks and details about our whole school and federation 'Take One Community' project. They will also provide you with further information about home learning and Reading Response books. Going forward, all home learning will be provided using our online platform, ItsLearning. Tasks may include reading challenges, online activities, science experiments, research etc. Paper worksheet tasks will not be used at this time.

PE

Please be reminded that children should come to school in their PE kits, including the correct footwear.

- Shorts or tracksuit bottoms/ leggings
- T-shirt
- Jumper or Zip-up top
- Trainers or plimsolls

PE times

Children will remain in their class bubble for PE and have their own allocated PE slot outside. At this present time, indoor PE will not take place.

Please see the PE days for each class in the table below.

Year 1	Monday
Year 2	Tuesday
Year 3 Sycamore	Thursday
Year 3 Magnolia	Wednesday
Year 4	Friday
Year 5	Wednesday
Year 6	Thursday

Dates for your Diary

Monday 14th September – Wrap around care begins with Sportacus

Thursday 12th November – Flu vaccination (more details to follow)

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you Monday.

Best wishes

Maxine Sebire
Headteacher
Brindishe Lee