

To our children...

On behalf of the people that teach and support you in school, we want to thank you for all being so amazing over the last few weeks. We know things may have seen a little different recently but you have embraced everything so well and we are really proud of each and every one of you. You have continued to wash your hands thoroughly, listen intently and been kind to each other when it has mattered most. Over the next few weeks, we know your home learning may not be what you want to do. We know at times you might not want to sit and write a poem or complete a worksheet on the 5 times table, but we have been asked to provide you with this to help with your learning at home. If you can, try as hard as you can – make your adults proud, surprise them with your knowledge. Then, fill your day with fun...phone a friend, read that book you've never got around to, play hangman, build a castle out of boxes...enjoy. If you are already at home or if you are still at school today, we want you to know that we will miss you immensely. Everyone at Brindishe Lee will be here for you and waiting for you at the school gates when we open.

Take care, keep safe...you are all very special 😊

To our staff...

You have all been truly amazing and we can't thank you enough. Your support, flexibility and strength have allowed us to keep the days as normal as possible for our children. In very challenging times, you have put smiles on your faces and taught our children giving them the most fantastic opportunities you can. Even if you have found a decision hard, a change not how you would want it, or a plan stopped at the last minute you have all pulled together. Your commitment has been astounding and the fact that so many of you have been able to offer support over the coming weeks shows just how passionate you are. Remember those small actions make a difference.

Thank you.

To all our parents.....

We all know the last few weeks have been very testing for everyone and we want to thank you for your patience, support and kind words. Sometimes communication may have been last minute, but we have been working as fast as we can to keep everyone safe and you all as up to date as possible.

Monday will seem very strange, it is the start of something very new to everyone, but please be aware of the words you speak around your children. I know the school closing will bring with it many stresses and strains, however, our children will hear us. Don't let them feel like a burden, they can sense our constant tension and anxiety. You don't need a minute by minute timetable or the pressure of completing every task set on every day. You will not be judged on how good your teaching is or if they get 10 out of 10 in their spelling test.

Their behaviours will test you. You may see more tantrums and more meltdowns but try to hold on to the fact that you are their world, you are their safe place. They are scared and this is hard on them too. If you feel it is all getting too much, talk to us, let us know, we can still help. We are here for you all.

If we can offer one piece of advice leave your phone on the side and take time to play games with them, talk to them, watch films tucked under a blanket, make a den, bake a cake, sit and share a book together, sing a song as loud as you can, make silly faces. These are the moments you will all remember – the family moments with you and your children.

Itslearning

As our main source of online home learning, we are unsure as to how the infrastructure will cope on Monday morning. Our IT team have been working tirelessly with the company to make sure it will cope, but

if you do have any trouble logging on, there are still resources that can be found on our school website: <https://lee.brindisheschools.org/>

We will keep our online learning platform 'itslearning' open as the main form of communication and when we receive updates we will post on there. We will also send out emails or texts as and when necessary.

School Closure

Remember from Monday 23rd March 2020, school will remain closed until further notice. We don't know how long this is for, but we will tell you as soon as we have any information.

If you are a key worker or a member of the school team has spoken to you, Brindishe Green School will be open to provide you with childcare for the coming weeks. Please refer the letter sent home to you today for further information.

Keeping Safe

While school is closed, should you have any safeguarding concerns, please call Lewisham Social Care on 0208 314 8666, the Lewisham Multi-agency Safeguarding hub on 0208 314 6000, or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

We really do wish each and everyone one of you our very best. We can do this if we stay in touch, stay together, support each other – we are one community and we will be back together again soon.

Rachel Waite
Executive Head

James Baguley
Head of Brindishe Lee

Gerlinde Achenbach
Head of Brindishe Green

Kate Porter
Head of Brindishe Manor