

Brindishe Lee Newsletter
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Friday 10 December 2010

Dear parents, carers, families and colleagues,

This week we very much enjoyed our Foundation stage/ KS1 Christmas performances of 'The Sleepy Shepherd.' The children were fantastic, they danced beautifully, sang strongly and read/acted very effectively - a real treat for the audience. Thank you to all staff involved, for their work on making the performances so successful, especially given the short time scale due to the weather!

Thank you too, to all the families / friends who came along to watch. We made a collection for the charity UNICEF and on just 2 days collected £279 - thank you for your very generous donations. We will be sending the money, along with the money that the children are collecting, to provide very necessary support for children all over the world.

Each class in school is working to save up for inspired gifts through UNICEF such as mosquito nets, and water pumps. The children are doing 'jobs' such as washing up, making their beds etc to earn small amounts of money to make a collective gift from their class. Please help us by suggesting jobs- you never know the helpful habit may stick!

We have had a suggestion that instead of giving individual cards the children may like to bring in one Christmas card for the class and/or make a donation to UNICEF.

Each year the staff chooses a charity to send a donation to instead of sending each other christmas cards.

On Monday night our choir took part in the 'Turning of the Year' concert at the Blackheath Concert Halls. Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Green children sang together and performed beautifully- they sang a number of songs with the other schools and performed "Don't stop believing" as Brindishe Schools choir. Thank you very much to Rycharde Everley and Deborah Barrett from Brindishe Green who led the children.

We also had the PHAB Lee Christmas fair last Saturday. We decided to go ahead with the snow still lingering and were very pleased with the fantastic support from our community. We were packed with people and the fair made the very handsome sum of £2680 to date.

Thank you very much to all the many parents/carers/friends and staff who supported the event, those who manned a stall, set up, cleared away, organised and arranged the event, organised prizes and spent money etc. We very much appreciate the organisation of the event by the PHAB LEE committee, the superb organisation enabled the whole event to run extremely smoothly and be very enjoyable.

Just to update you on our present kitchen project funded by PHAB - we have the builders in the lodge, a wall has been removed to open up the space for our new kitchen and the painting and decorating has begun. The kitchen units will then be fitted and we are anticipating that the new learning space will be available for teaching from the New Year. Very many thanks to the PHAB committee and to all those who help to run the fund-raising activities and to all the parents/carers, families, friends and staff who come along to PHAB events and buy the cakes, have a go at the games and buy the raffle tickets and so much more.....This has enabled PHAB to be able to donate £10000 to the kitchen project. Thank you everyone!

Kyle meets the HRH the Princess Royal!

You will know that Kyle Alexander in year 5 won the 'National Badger of the Year' award given by the St John Ambulance organisation. As part of his prize, Kyle attended the annual reception for 'Young Achievers' and had tea with HRH the Princess Royal at Buckingham Palace. Kyle reports that the food was nice especially the sausages and they drank from glasses with ER on them! Kyle's Badger set leader rang to say Kyle was absolutely amazing when asked in detail all about his award by the Princess.

Don't forget to order your Brindishe Lee CD!

The title, 'Unite' reflects the worldwide theme of our song choices.

CDs cost £8.00 and can be purchased via the school office. £1 from every CD sold will go towards replacing and repairing our musical instrument collection, which is used by every class. These CDs will make ideal presents for friends and family. Please support us by purchasing at least one CD. You can obtain an order form from the school office.

Performance Tickets

Tickets for the KS2 Carol Concert are now available; there will be 2 tickets per family. More tickets may become available on the morning of Wednesday 15 December.

There is no charge for the tickets but please ensure that you have a ticket as there is a limit on numbers and seating.

We will be collecting for a donation to The Good Shepherd church (as there are costs involved in our use of the building) and also for UNICEF at the Carol concert.

Staffing news

Tony Byrne who has worked with us for three years, is leaving and moving back to Norfolk where his family live. He will be much missed by children, families and staff alike. We thank him for all his work with us, especially for the extra skills he has brought to the school with his interests in rock band, guitar and chickens!

A new member of staff Bee Roddy has begun working with us, she is a GTP student and will be working with years 1 and 5 over the next year. We also currently have Ross Barnes working with us as a Teaching assistant in year 5.

Reminder re reception admissions

Please note that parents/carers with children born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 need to apply to Lewisham, for a reception place for their child by **15 January 2011**.

We are advised by the LA that there are many families who have NOT returned their reception forms to Lewisham admissions. Please remember to do so as late forms will not be accepted.

Attendance and punctuality matters!

Very good attendance this week from year 3 and 4 with 99%. Please keep those colds and illnesses at bay for children, with simple hygiene/healthy measures, such as washing of hands, eating healthy food, wearing warm clothing and getting plenty of sleep! Punctuality has slipped a little - please make every effort to ensure that the children are here on time every day!

Next week

Monday 13 December

11.00-11.30am

Year 4 will be demonstrating their

ukulele skills gained after just a few short weeks. Parents /carers welcome.

Tuesday 14 December

Year 2 visit to the Good Shepherd church

Drama Club 3.30-4.30pm

The last session of the term will be held on Tuesday as usual -children please bring your new script with you.

NRG Dance at St Matthew's academy

Wednesday 15 December

KS2 Evening Christmas Carol Concert at Good Shepherd Church 6.30-7.30pm

Thursday 16 December

Christmas lunch

Friday 17 December

10.30 am

Assembly for Tony Byrne.

Parents/carers invited

End of term

Tuesday 4 January

INSET day for staff

Wednesday 5 January

First day of spring term

Best wishes to all families

Diane Spalding

PHAB LEE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Congratulations to everyone who braved the icy pavements to attend Saturday's Christmas Fair. Thanks to your generous support and donations the event raised £2,680!

There are too many people to thank individually here, but we would like to thank all the many volunteers, both parents and staff, without whom the day would not have been possible. There were whole families, including grandparents, who were helping us right to the end! We do appreciate everyone's support. Richard Payne deserves a particular mention for sitting in a very cramped space for two hours taking photos of the children visiting Santa! These photos are now available at the school office.

PHAB would like to express their appreciation to the estate agents, Peter James, Kinleigh Folkard and Hayward and John Payne for their generosity in donating the star raffle prizes. Thanks also to Stewart McIntyre for his work in coordinating these donations. A final big thank you to Nick Parfett for his work on Raffle sales; and to Nick's employer, Barclays Bank, who has agreed to match the £710 raised on the raffle via Barclay's Matched Giving Scheme. Matched Giving Scheme's are an excellent way for charities such as PHAB Lee to boost event proceeds, if your employer runs such a scheme we would love to hear from you with a view to securing support at future fund raising events.

There were many highlights of the day including Santa and his wonderful helpers, a fantastic debut performance by the Brindishe Schools Community Choir and the Year Six Dragon's Den products sale.

Micro-Scooter Sale: if there are any outstanding orders for micro-scooters, please contact Fiona Lock at Lockfamily1@ntlworld.com by Monday, 13th December. There are also a small number of Christmas Puddings left for sale - if you would like to purchase one please email Fiona on the above address