



Brindishe Federation

Newsletter

Thursday 25th July 2024



Rachel Waite, Executive Headteacher

At our last Governors meeting of the year, we spent time reflecting on the year gone by and sharing the many achievements that have taken place: three successful Ofsted, a finance audit, challenge partner reviews, statutory testing, trips and visits, school improvement groups, federation sports day, choir, staff planning to name but a few. But we don't stop. Analysis of our end of year outcomes and a review of our current SDP is taking place. The plans for 2024-2025 are evolving as the new School Development Plan takes shape. And one thing for sure is that, as another year passes, our Federation continues to grow. Each INSET, professional development session, preparation for reviews or shared event reminds me that during the challenging times within the world of education we are in a good place. We can truly embed the huge improvements we have made over the years and continue to make ourselves an 'exceptional' place for all children.

Over the past week, we said our goodbyes to some fantastic staff, amazing families and wonderful children. But a special mention must go to Year 6 who have made us so proud during their time with us and who hold our core values close and continue to believe in yourselves. And last but not least to our Chair of Governors, Liz, who has committed so much time to supporting both myself and the schools to be the best they can. Good luck to each and every one of you.

During some interviews recently, to secure some agency staff, the question was asked, 'why do you want to work within the Federation' and the responses always remind us of the unique place we belong to. 'A Federation where everyone can belong', 'a federation where every child has a voice and everyone is respected', 'a place where I can grow and develop', 'a place where I believe that the schools' ethos and commitment to each and every child is embedded throughout'. Although 'Thank you' seems such a simple phrase, in a very busy Federation, those two small words can hold such a lot. So from me, thank you to each and everyone of you; the heads and senior leaders, the teachers, the support staff, the premises team, the federation team, the IT team, the cleaners and the kitchen team. Thank you for your hard work day in day out, for the commitment to our children, for providing a safe and nurturing space to learn and most of all, during the longest of days, the darkest of nights for going above and beyond. Thank you.

Wishing you all the best for the summer break and we look forward to welcoming you back to another fantastic year.

Rachel Waite
Executive Headteacher



From Liz Murphy, Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year it's been for our three schools, starting and ending with Ofsted and with a lot of hard work and great learning in between. I'd like to congratulate all the children on their personal achievements this year, and thank everyone who contributed in any way towards their success, with a special thanks to Ms Waite, Ms Porter, Ms Matthews and Ms Bannister.

It's also been a busy time on the Governing Body with two new governors joining - Dominic Michel and Helen Fine - and as well as our usual work to support the schools and Ms Waite, we've undertaken training in Racial Equality and Preparing for Ofsted - the latter coming just in time for the real thing! As the school year draws to a close, I'm so appreciative of all the work that's been carried out on behalf of the children, but it's an especially reflective time for me as I'm stepping down both as chair and as a governor, a role I've been privileged enough to hold for around 20 years. I began as a parent governor when my two daughters Rachel and Eleanor Le Comber were pupils at Brindishe pre-federation, and I was fortunate to have my last meeting as chair at that school. On that emotional occasion, the children of Brindishe Lee sang for me, I was presented with the most enormous card from the children of Brindishe Green by Omar and Willow, from Brindishe Manor a beautiful watercolour painted by Tess Caller from Year 6, and from Brindishe Lee a unique portrait in wires by Year 6 pupils William K and Maya. I felt very spoiled and I'll admit that a tear or two was shed. It's been a pleasure and privilege to have played a part in helping thousands of children over the years achieve their full potential and take the next steps in their journey in education.

I've been lucky to have worked with and learned from such a talented and caring team of adults all dedicated to the education of your children. I'm especially proud of the Governing Body which is the most diverse, professional and engaged it's ever been, and with John Myres as the new chair, I couldn't be leaving it and the schools in more capable hands. It's also been a pleasure to meet so many parents and carers over the years, and I extend my good wishes for the future to you all.

These three schools will never be far from my mind and my heart, and I wish everyone who learns and works in them every success and happiness while at the Brindishe Federation and beyond. Have a wonderful summer.

Governing Body

Our Governing Body meetings are now over for 2023/2024. Our first meeting will be in Autumn Term 1 at Brindishe Green School on Tuesday 10th December. Please email Executive Headteacher, Rachel Waite if you would like to attend as an observer - rawaite@brindisheschools.org.



The Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge has begun in Lewisham Libraries - let's keep children reading over the summer. **The theme this year is Marvellous Makers. There will be a trophy for the school with the highest proportion of finishers.**

The Summer Reading Challenge is a free holiday activity for children. It's all about reading for fun and developing children's reading skills and confidence. The Challenge runs every year throughout the summer holidays at all of Lewisham's Libraries. Head to your local Lewisham Library and ask to join the Summer Reading Challenge. The children are encouraged to read six books over the summer holidays, tell the library staff what they think about each book and collect fun rewards. They can read anything they like such as stories, illustrated books, information books, graphic novels (comics), dyslexia friendly books, poetry or audiobooks. All of the libraries will be running fun events and activities throughout the summer which tie in with the Marvellous Makers theme of creativity.



Twitter / X

Brindishe Schools Twitter/X accounts are now up and running. This is a social media platform managed by the school senior leadership team and designed for all of our parents and carers to enjoy. Follow your school to see regular news items focusing on daily school life. We will share celebratory news as well as pictures and images of key events and learning. Find us below on X

@BrindisheGreen

@BrindisheManor

@BrindisheLee



Key Federation Dates

- End of Term - **Thursday 25th July 2024**
- **Children return to school - Wednesday 4th September**
- **October Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November**
- **INSET DAY - Friday 29th November**

To all of our Brindishe families at Brindishe Green, Brindishe Manor and Brindishe Lee, have a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 4th at 8.45am.