



Brindishe
Manor

Newsletter

Friday 25th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has been incredibly busy and longer than usual!

The children have settled really well into their new year groups and have already completed a great deal of learning in all of their subject areas. We hope that you were able to see some of their learning journeys at our open classroom earlier this week and enjoyed seeing your child's classroom.

A huge well done to all of the children this half term for all of the progress that they have made and we look forward to seeing them back on Monday 4th November for the second half of our Autumn term.

Have a wonderful half term everybody and a great rest!

Staffing news

Today we have said goodbye to Bernie Francis, one of our wonderful TAs. Bernie has worked at the school for 22 years and is currently supporting children in Reception. Today the children celebrated with Mrs Francis across two assemblies, presenting her with flowers, some gifts and cards that classes have made. She then had a tour of the school, visiting all of the children to say goodbye to them. Most of the children know Mrs Francis because she has always worked with our younger children in school and always supports our fairs and school events. We wish her every happiness in her retirement and hope that she will pop-in and visit us all from time-to-time!



...other staffing news

Julie Hockham, one of our Assistant Headteachers, has made the difficult decision to leave Brindishe Manor at the end of the Autumn term.

Miss Hockham joined the school 14 years ago and has worked tirelessly over those years to support children as a class teacher, subject lead, Assistant Head and so much more! She has run school journeys for our older children, supported the school at weekend and evening events and worked with countless families and classes over this time. She has given a huge amount of her own time over the years to improving standards at the school and the outcomes for our children. Miss Hockham has been instrumental in developing our curriculum and mentoring new staff who join us. She is a truly dedicated professional who Brindishe Manor staff have had the privilege to work with throughout her time here. Miss Hockham has decided to take some time for herself and explore options to work elsewhere in the education field.

We will all be incredibly sad to see her leave at Christmas and will miss her very much!



Free-School Meal Vouchers

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please check your email inbox today for your half term food E-voucher. When you log-in, you will now be able to make a choice between different retailers. Please note that some vouchers can only be used in-store, and not online.



Sleeping Beauty at The Broadway, Catford – For all ages!

Once upon a time in Lewishtonia, a princess is born. Not invited to the celebration party, wicked fairy Carabosse casts an evil spell which changes the Princess's life forever - but can she take charge of her own destiny. The perfect Gothic Fairytale with a soulful twist for Christmas 2024. Tickets @£12.50 per pupil. No booking fees and 1 free teacher place per 10 pupils. Selected school performance 4 – 21 December starting between 10am and 2pm (Relaxed and BSL performances available)

Use discount code CULTURE for 10% off when booking shows on Saturday 7th December

<https://www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk/events/sleeping-beauty/>

Key Dates

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November - Half term - look out for the PSFA Halloween trail info in a future newsletter.

Monday 4th November - Friday 8th November - DT week.

Tuesday 5th November - Year 4 Thunberg trip to Sainsbury's. Adults still needed for this to go ahead.

Wednesday 6th November - Year 4 Attenborough trip to Sainsbury's.

Thursday 7th November - Rec - Y6 Flu immunisations

w/b 11th November - Anti- bullying week

Monday 11th/Tuesday 12th Reception to Manor House Library

Wednesday 13th November - Amazing Esme performance for Years 2 and 3

Tuesday 26th November - Reception and Year 6 Height and weight check

Overall school attendance this week:	95%	
Top 5 classes with attendance over 95%: A huge well done to Pankhurst and Turing class who had 100% attendance this week	Pankhurst Turing Attenborough Yousafzai Thunberg	99% 99% 98% 98% 97%
Top classes with all children in on time	Kusama, Asher-Smith and Rashford Huge well done to them all 🎉	



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Secondary School Applications Deadline

Secondary School closing date for applications is fast approaching: **Thursday 31st October 2024**. We strongly advise that you submit your online application by **Thursday 24th October**. When you start your application, the system will identify your home local authority from your postcode and your application will be sent electronically to your council when you submit. Make sure your home address and postcode are correct, especially if you have made an online application for your children before.

All guidance can be found on the Lewisham website. Alternatively please ask a Senior Leader if you need further support.

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school>

Black History Lewisham 365 Events

The Little Mermaid – Spontaneous Productions

Saturday 28 September – Sunday 27 October 2024, Sydenham Centre, Lewisham



This new adaptation of The Little Mermaid by Jamaican playwright Lavern Archer reimagines the story with Caribbean culture, music, and dance. The production is aimed at families and celebrates Black culture. [Tickets are available now.](#)

The Council is also supporting events at Dalmain School, Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Schools, and a Black History Street Party, all aimed at celebrating the history and cultural contributions of the Black community in Lewisham.

Sydenham Arts Film Club - Black History Month Celebration

Thursday 31 October, 7.30pm, upstairs at The Sydenham Centre, 44A Sydenham Rd, London SE26 5QX

Join us in celebrating Black History Month with a special event featuring a screening of the inspiring documentary *Cymande*, featuring a live steel pan performance and an exclusive director's talk. *Cymande* is a powerful documentary that explores the legendary British funk band that revolutionised music in the 1970s. The film tells the story of Cymande's groundbreaking fusion of funk, jazz, reggae, and African music, which remains a vital cultural touchstone to this day.

The evening will also include a live steel pan performance by Heart of Steel, paying homage to the Caribbean rhythms and Afrocentric sounds that influenced Cymande's iconic style, setting the stage for a wholehearted celebration of Black music and culture.

Stick around after the screening for a West Indian rum punch and an insightful conversation with the film's director, Tim Mackenzie-Smith, as he discusses the making of the documentary, Cymande's enduring musical legacy, and their profound influence on Black British culture and beyond.

Tickets available on the door or [book your tickets now.](#)

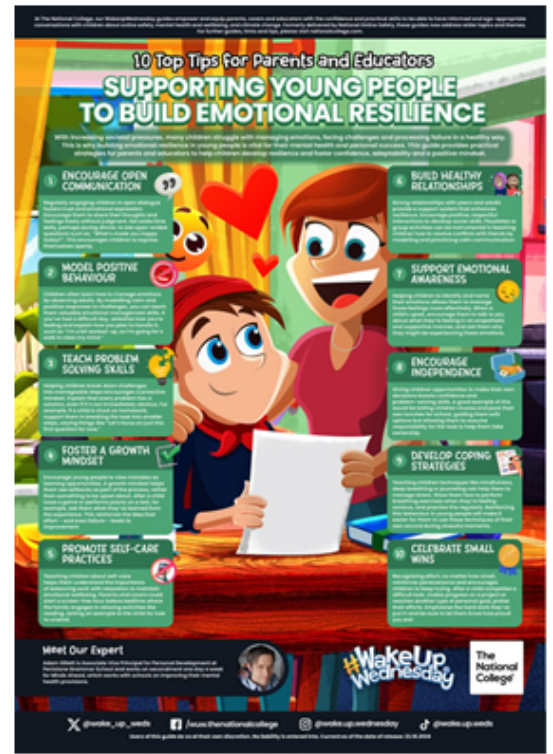


Supporting Young People To Build Emotional Resilience

Making a mistake isn't the end of the world, but that can be a difficult thing to learn for a lot of people. Most children are still learning it, in fact. These kinds of setbacks 🗨️ and the feelings they bring on 😡 can provoke severe and unhealthy reactions in young people, if they're not taught how to deal with their emotions in a healthy way.

However, it's sometimes tricky to know what you can do or say to help these youngsters develop the confidence and adaptability to process these feelings in the future 😊 That's why we've put together this guide featuring expert advice, letting you know how to build emotional resilience in the children and young people in your care.

Click on the image to download your free guide



Online Safety Bulletin Roblox

Roblox is a very popular game amongst young people and there are important factors all parents/carers should understand and consider. Roblox is a gaming platform where players can create and publish their own games. Roblox allows players to build and publish their own games. This means that other users could build games that contain adult or inappropriate themes that your child might see. Players can use the communication features of Roblox to talk to one other while they are playing. This means that there is a risk of cyberbullying or unwanted contact.

Five tips to help keep your child safe on Roblox.

Sign up with the correct age.

Make sure your child creates an account using the correct age. On Roblox, certain safety settings and parental controls are enabled by default for children under 13. However, you should still review the settings to ensure they've been set up correctly.

Build a list of age-appropriate games.

Not all games on Roblox will be appropriate for your child. The platform has a setting that lets parents and carers limit what their child can play by allowing them to build lists of age-appropriate games. You can also switch off in-app spending or set them monthly limits.

Explore communication settings.

You can manage who your child can speak to by disabling chat completely or limiting it to friends only. You can also switch off their inbox to stop them receiving direct messages.

Explore the platform together.

Ask your child to give you a demonstration of the platform to help you understand how they use it and explore some of the parental controls together. You could even consider setting up your own account and playing the games yourself.

Have regular conversations about gaming.

Continue to have regular conversations with them about what they are doing online. Ask your child open questions like 'What games have you been playing on Roblox recently?' or 'What platforms have you been using to play games?'.



Black History

Article 2 (non-discrimination)

The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Article 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups)

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

Black History Month takes place in October every year and is a celebration of key figures and events in Black history. Having begun in the USA, it has been celebrated in the UK since 1987, with the emphasis on celebrating particularly the history and contributions to society of people with an African or Caribbean heritage.

There is a different theme every year, for example in 2021 the theme 'Proud to Be', aimed to recognise the achievements and contributions that Black people make to the UK every day. The 2022 theme, Time for Change: Action Not Words highlights the importance of being an ally and coming together around shared common goals to achieve a better world for everyone.

Why do you think celebrating Black History is important?

To recognise the contribution and achievements of those with African and Caribbean heritage throughout history.

To ensure that we hear a diverse range of stories when considering the past.

To celebrate people's heritage and cultures.

Because all communities, including schools, should encourage respect for everyone and celebrate diversity and inclusion.

To think about how we can make the world a more equal place where everyone's rights are respected.

To learn how to challenge negative stereotypes.

To ensure that there is time and space for people to discuss more recent events and issues such as Black Lives Matter, the treatment of the Windrush generation and the death of George Floyd.

Because no one should be treated differently because of who they are.

To learn about racism and its effects.

To support people to recognise and challenge discrimination.

Enjoy story time by choosing some books to share by some new Black British authors such as My Hair by Hannah Lee which was nominated for the 2020 BookTrust Storytime Prize.

Brindishe Schools Governing Body

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - rawaite@brindisheschools.org. **Our first meeting for 2024/2025 is Tuesday 10th December at Brindishe Green School - 6pm.**

Key Federation Dates

- **October Half Term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November**
- **Secondary School Application Deadline - Thursday 31st October**
- **INSET DAY - Friday 29th November**
- **Christmas Holidays - Monday 23rd December to Friday 3rd January**
- **INSET Day - Monday 6th January - Children back to school Tuesday 7th January**