



Brindishe  
Manor



Neurodiversity  
Celebration  
Week

# Newsletter

Friday 14th March 2025

## What has been happening this week?

This week our Year 4 children attended a 2 night residential to Juniper Hall in Surrey. The trip is a fun packed field study trip where children have taken part in pond dipping, land art, orienteering and humane mammal trapping. They have all had an absolute blast, despite experiencing 4 seasons in a day yesterday! I am sure the children will all need a bath and a good night sleep this evening!

A huge thank you to the teachers and teaching assistants that offer their time, for free, to run these experiences for the children. I know that year 4 parents will join me in thanking Charlotte Dougan, Paul Jones, Lauren Blackie, Elaine Ayeni and Ailsa Shepard for supporting the children over the past three days.

## Next week ...

Next week is Neurodiversity Celebration Week (17-23 March) and this was introduced by Mrs Caller, our Inclusion Lead, in assemblies this week.



Neurodiversity is based on the idea that every brain is unique and that we each have our own way of thinking and experiencing the world. Children discussed a balanced view of strengths and challenges, and that some thinking styles are grouped together under neurodivergent conditions such as Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, ADHD, Autism and Tourette syndrome.

The concepts of celebration, acceptance, support, and kindness around difference were highlighted, and children were told that throughout next week, they will speak about neurodiversity in their classes linked to videos, books and activities that their teachers will share with them.

More information and resources can be found on the NCW website:

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/introduction>

Parents  
Evening

## Parents Evening Spring 2025

**Booking will open at 6pm on Sunday 9th March**

Our parents evening will take place on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th March 2025 between 3:30-6:30pm.

This is an opportunity to hear about your child's progress and to see their learning since September. If you have not already booked your appointment, please do so by Friday 21st March. If you need support in booking an appointment then please contact Lisa in the office. If your child is in Yousafzai class you will have had separate communication about your days.



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, Brindishe Manor is participating in the **Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)** programme, a national initiative which aims to further enhance inclusivity within schools.

We have been holding half-termly meetings for parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The PINS sessions for this half term will be **online evening meetings** led by Sonia Gannon, Head of Drumbeat Outreach Service, and Sophie Hodson, the PINS Co-ordinator for Brindishe Manor.

The first session is **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March**, 6.00-7.00pm, and is entitled '**Talking to children and families about neurodivergence**'.

The second is **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**, 6.00-7.00pm, and is entitled '**Neurodivergence and Emotionally-Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA)**' .

All are welcome.

We hope the opportunity to join an online evening meeting will suit the needs of parents and carers who may not have been able to attend during the school day.

Please see here for links to information on how to join the meetings.

[PINS Parent meeting March 20th 2025.docx](#)

[PINS Parent meeting April 2nd 2025.docx](#)



If you have any further questions, please contact Gemma Caller via the school office or email.

A safe place for you to:

- Discuss well-being concerns and the needs of your child
- Learn about strategies to improve well-being
- Share and listen to experiences
- Connect with others and discuss ideas
- Learn about options for support



## A few messages from our school office...

**Medication** - We can not give antibiotics to children unless the doctor has clearly stated that it needs to be given 4 times each day. The same applies for any other medication. If you still require us to give your child antibiotics then you will need to complete our medications paperwork, which is held in the school office. Please administer all medications at home if they are non-prescribed.



**Absence** - Can we please request that if you are taking your child out of school for a reason other than a medical appointment, that you complete the request for absence form which can be found on our website.



**Family Navigator  
Thursday 20th March  
at Brindishe Manor 2.30pm**

**What can a family navigator do for you?**

Kashmir Thethi can provide information, Signpost you to local services, provide practical advice, help complete forms and lots lots more. Please email into the office if you would like to attend a Tea, Coffee and biscuits will be provided Info-  
bm@brindisheschools.org



Overall school attendance this week:	<b>95.%</b>	
Top 5 classes with attendance over 95%:	Thunberg	99%
	Escher	98%
	Jeffers	98%
A huge well done to Thunberg class who had 99% attendance this week	Asher-Smith	96%
	Kusama	95%
Top classes with all children in on time	Jeffers, Kusama, Yousafzai Huge well done to them all 😊	



**Attendance Matters**



### Key Dates

- Monday 17-21st March** - Mock SATs week for year 6 children
- Thursday 20th March 6.00 – 7.00pm** Talking to Children and Families about Neurodivergence -
- Monday 24th March** - Yousafzai class parent's evening only
- Tuesday 25th March** - Parent's evening
- Thursday 27th March** - Parents evening
- Friday 28th March** - Scooter workshop for years 1 and 2
- Wednesday 2nd April 6.00 – 7.00pm** - Neurodivergence and Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA)
- Friday 4th April** - Last day of term
- Friday 25th April** - Year 1 Unicorn Theatre visit

Dates for the Diary:



## Brindishe Federation Newsletter Friday 14th March 2025

# FREE SEN Support Engagement Events for Parents and Carers - 25th April to 1st May 2025

- Fri 25th April 2025, 9:30 – 11:30
- Sat 26th April 2025, 13:00 – 15:00
- Mon 28th, Tues 29th, Wed 30th April, Thurs 1st May 2025, 9:30 – 11:30 AND 17:00 – 19:00

Within the context of Lewisham's Delivering Better Value (DBV) Programme there will be a number of FREE bookable parent/ carer SEN Support engagement workshops covering themes that are of relevance to a large group of parents/ carers of children and young people at SEN Support level.

The workshops will be delivered by a range of partners including SEND Advisors, School Staff, Educational Psychologists, CAMHS, OT and Speech and Language Therapists.

There will be three thematic workshops which have two areas of focus in each:

- Ordinarily Available Provision and Effective Use of Teaching Assistants
- Emotionally Based School Non- Attendance (EBSNA) and Relational Approaches
- Language, Communication and Thinking Skills

There is a promotional 'Save the dates' flyer attached to this newsletter.

Events will be held in a number of venues across Lewisham borough.

Further details including booking information will be available soon.



## Easter Holiday Vouchers

Holiday Activities and Food vouchers will automatically be sent to all eligible families so you can participate in activities during the Easter Term break. Your vouchers were sent on 3rd March via the email address we have on our system. Please check your email inbox.

## Lewisham School Health Service Showcase Event!!

Lewisham are inviting all professionals, parents/carers and children to a showcase event on Thursday 27th March. This is hosted by Lewisham School Health Service Team and is online from 3pm - 6pm. If you would like to attend, follow the link here for free booking - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lewisham-school-health-service-showcase-event-tickets-1277812003099?aff=oddtcreator>



# Online Safety Bulletin

## Should children have mobile phones?

The Children's Society explore this important question in their recent blog titled "Should children have mobile phones?" The article discusses concerns such as excessive screentime being linked with mental health issues as well as the benefits of a child friendly phone rather than a smart phone.

You can read the full article here:

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/should-children-have-mobile-phones>



The  
Children's  
Society

## Rights Respecting - Article of the week

*World Water Day*

### March 22nd is World Water Day.

We all know that water is vital for everyone in their daily lives across the world, and back in 2015 the world committed to working together to make sure that everyone has access to safe, clean water and good sanitation. This was Sustainable Development Goal 6.

But there is still much work to be done with over 2 billion people drinking unsafe water. An important aim of World Water Day is to inspire everyone to take action and make the necessary changes so that the right to clean water can be achieved by 2030 for everyone.

**Article 24 (health and health services)** - Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

**Article 27 (adequate standard of living)** - Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

Each year World Water Day identifies a theme. Take a look at the [World Water Day website](#) to find out what this year's theme is. Make a poster with your child to promote it and decide on one action that you will take.



## 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](mailto:rawaite@brindisheschools.org). **Our fourth meeting for 2024/2025 will be held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 at Brindishe Manor School - 6pm.**

## Key Federation Dates

- End of Spring Term 2 - Friday 4th April
- Easter Holidays - Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025
- Children return to school - Tuesday 22nd April
- BANK HOLIDAY - Monday 5th May
- Year 6 SATS week - Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May