



Brindishe  
Manor

## Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we celebrated Fair Trade Fortnight in our Key Stage assemblies, discussing why it is important that farmers around the world are paid a fair price for their produce. We explored how this can differ depending on where in the world farmers live, what gender they are and other factors. We talked about the kinds of food that we have seen with Fair Trade stickers on in supermarkets and where they might be from and why it is so important that we pay a fair price for the food we buy and eat.

I have asked the children to see what they can identify the next time they are in a shop with their adults! Look out for the Fair Trade stickers and logo.

If you want to explore these themes more with your child/ren then you can visit

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>



### NEU Teachers Strike Action Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 2023, NOTIFICATION OF CLASS CLOSURES

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, we wrote to you regarding the upcoming strikes that have been arranged by the National Education Union, in protest of teachers' pay and conditions, and school funding. The vast majority of the teachers at Brindishe Manor are members of the NEU, and therefore, **the majority of classes will be closed** on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Some teachers are part of other unions that, at this time, are not striking.

I am sure that you will understand that our dedicated and hardworking teachers have not taken this decision lightly. The NEU explain: *"This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. Teachers have lost 23% in real-terms since 2010, and support staff 27% over the same period. The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation."*

Some classes will be **OPEN** on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and children may come into school:

DONALDSON	Nursery
RASHFORD	Y2
LATIMER	Y5
TURING	Y6

**ALL other classes** will be closed.

If any changes occur, we will inform parents/carers as soon as we are able to do so.

## Parent/ teacher meetings

Parent and teacher meetings for Spring term will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March between 3:30-6:30pm

The bookings will be open from 4pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March and will close on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

## Neurodiversity week

Next week is National Neurodiversity week and schools all over the country will be using this opportunity, like us at Brindishe Manor, to share our unique strengths and differences. Mrs Caller will be leading our week with the children. See the message below for more information. You can find out more about the themes covered over the week by having a look here:

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/parent-resources>



## Zones of Regulation Workshops



In order for the Zones to be accessible to all parents and carers, we are sharing the presentation and the Parent Pack via Weduc.

The Parent Pack can be printed at home if you would like to use the resources. If you do not have access to a printer, we can print these for you in school in exchange for a small donation that can be left in the office.

If you would like to discuss the presentation or the Parent Pack further, please send a mail to [info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk) and this will be passed onto us.

To help us plan future sessions, it would be very helpful if you would spend a few minutes completing the survey which has been uploaded to Weduc.

There is the possibility that we may repeat the introductory session next term, so if you were not able to make it in January, please let us know via email if you are interested in attending.

## Comic Relief

The Rights Respecting Team are inviting all children to wear something red on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March in support of Comic Relief. The team will be on the gates in the morning and at the end of the day to collect any donations families would like to make.



## Volunteers

Thank to parents and carers who have come forward to offer their time in school. We will be in touch before the end of the term.

We are still looking for volunteers to work in school throughout the week. This could be to hear children read, carry out some gardening (without children), help support children with practical learning etc.

If you can offer the school an hour or two a week, or 30 minutes daily, then please get in touch with us for an application pack- you can email [info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk) we would love to hear from you.

Fingers crossed for improved weather for the week ahead!

The Brindishe Manor Team

## Neurodiversity at Brindishe Manor.

We celebrate diversity at Brindishe Manor and I wanted to share two opportunities to highlight **neurodiversity** that are coming up in the calendar.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 13-19<sup>th</sup> March 2023



Neurodiversity Week is a worldwide initiative that began in 2018. It challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences, and aims to transform how neurodivergent individuals are perceived and supported by providing opportunities to recognise the many talents and advantages of being neurodivergent.

KS1 and KS2 assemblies will mark the beginning of **Neurodiversity Celebration Week** on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Children will be encouraged to consider the fact no two people are the same, and will learn that the term 'neurodiversity' is about recognising those people who think differently. They will speak about individuals who are neurodivergent, and consider their strengths and achievements, and find out about areas that are challenging for them.

If you would like to learn more, please visit the Neurodiversity Celebration Week website.

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

Gemma Caller



Simone Biles has ADHD?



Did you know...



Greta Thunberg is autistic?



James Dyson is dyslexic?



Brindishe  
Federation

## Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### *Vacancies at Brindishe Schools*

We currently have a number of vacancies across the federation for office posts, including Federation Housekeeper and HR and Payroll Manager. Please visit our school website for further information, job descriptions and application forms.

[Brindishe Federation - Vacancies \(brindisheschools.org\)](https://brindisheschools.org)

### *Rights Respecting at Brindishe Schools – Article of the week*

#### Article 17 – access to information from the media

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

Why do you think it is important to think about whether the information you receive is reliable (can be trusted)?

- So that we know whether to trust the information to be true.
- To help us learn accurate information.
- To be able to confidently discuss information with others.
- To learn about bias and 'fake news'.
- To know that it's okay to ask more questions if something doesn't seem right.
- To learn the difference between a fact and an opinion.
- So that we can have healthy discussions based on facts.
- To feel confident to say, 'I'm not sure if that's true'.
- To know that some people deliberately put false information online.



We always like to keep our children up to date with current affairs around the world. Some classes watch [Newsround](#) and discuss the information after. In Brindishe Schools we also teach our children to be mindful of fake news. Try this [fun BBC quiz](#) at home with your child to see if you can spot the fake news headlines.





Brindishe  
Federation

## ***Governor Vacancies***

Do you know someone who would be interested in becoming a Governor? A friend, a colleague, a relative?

We currently have a number of vacancies on the Brindishe Federation Governing Body, particularly for people who would widen the diversity of our current members and/or be able to offer key skills we require including knowledge around finance, education, recruitment. We have recently recruited for our Parent Governor vacancies, so anyone interested could not be a parent/carer of a pupil within the Federation.

If you know someone who would be interested, please ask them to get in touch with either Rachel Waite, Executive Head [rwaite@brindisheschools.org](mailto:rwaite@brindisheschools.org) or Liz Murphy, Chair of Governors [lmurphy@brindisheschools.org](mailto:lmurphy@brindisheschools.org)

For more information about becoming a Governor, please click on the link below:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/Governance-Recruitment/Be-a-school-governor-or-trustee.aspx>

## ***Brindishe Weekly Online Safety Bulletin***

### ***Is your child playing Gacha Life?***

Gacha Life is rated as 9+ on the App Store and for 'Everyone' on the Google Play Store.

Players can dress up characters and add props (including weapons) and create scenes with their characters as well as play games. The app does allow in-app purchases ranging from £1.70 to £17.99 and does include adverts.

This article from Internet Matters provides further information and discusses in detail what you need to be aware of:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-gacha-life-what-parents-need-to-know/>

*Further information:*

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/app-reviews/gacha-life/user-reviews/adult>





Brindishe  
Federation

### ***Key Federation Dates***

- Easter Holidays – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Children return to school for Summer Term
- **Primary offer day** – Monday 17 April 2023 (you will get an email in the evening telling you where your child has been offered a place)

### ***Further Strike Days – possible school closures will be communicated closer to the strike days***

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### ***Governing Body Dates***

If you would like to attend a Brindishe Federation Governing Body meeting as an observer, please email our Chair, Liz Murphy - [lizcmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:lizcmurphy@gmail.com)

Spring 2	Brindishe Green	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023, 6pm
Summer 1	Brindishe Manor	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2023, 6pm
Summer 2	Brindishe Lee	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2023, 6pm

### ***Brindishe Term Dates 2023/2024***

We have now published our 2023/2024 school term dates, please visit our website. You will find dates in the 'Virtual Office' Section of each school website.

[Brindishe Federation - Home \(brindisheschools.org\)](http://brindisheschools.org)

**BRINDISHE MANOR PSFA**

# **CALLING ALL BAKERS**



**SAVE THE DATE  
END OF TERM CAKE SALE  
FRIDAY 31st MARCH**

The PSFA will be holding an end of term cake sale after school and we need your cakes! There will be other goodies on sale, Easter themed craft tables and activity sheets.

**WATCH THIS SPACE FOR  
MORE DETAILS!**

[brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com](mailto:brindishemanorpsfa@gmail.com)

Reg Charity number 1117178