



Brindishe
Manor



Newsletter

Friday 10th January 2025

Happy New Year to all of our children, families and staff!

We hope that you had a restful Christmas break with your families. It has been lovely to welcome the children back this week and see them getting started with all of their new learning themes and topics.

Today we welcomed Janet Daby MP (Lewisham MP and Minister for young people and families) to school.

Janet had a tour of the school, visiting our Nursery and Reception, which she thought was a wonderful space full of children engaged in play and learning. She then visited all of our classrooms. Janet spoke to our year 5 & 6 children in assembly about her role as an MP and what her job involves. She discussed some of the issues in our local area and the children then had an opportunity to ask questions. *"What are you doing about local crime?"* and *"What are you doing to stop people leaving litter in the local area?"* were just a few.



Janet said that she thought the school was fabulous and that the questions in assembly were some of the most thoughtful she has ever been asked.

Year 4

This week our year 4 children started their 2 weeks of swimming lessons at Glass Mill Leisure Centre. Ms Coupe and Ms Tothova have reported that the children have already developed their swimming skills and are really enjoying the sessions. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their time to walk with the children to the pool each day, we couldn't manage without you! Year 4 have also continued with their Platform Cricket coaching sessions this week, which will run throughout the Spring term.

We have welcomed back our student teachers from UCL for their final 4 weeks of teaching.

What is happening next week?

Next week our year 6 children are visiting The Imperial War Museum as part of their History and RE learning. Our year 4 children will complete their final week of swimming. Please remember to pack gloves and hats for the children to wear on their walk home, as the cold weather is continuing into next week!

We will also be holding assemblies about Chinese New Year next week, which takes place later in the month!

Teaching Assistant changes

Katie Ashman, our Year 5 TA, has moved into the position of HLTA for the Spring and Summer term. This means she will be teaching and supporting a number of classes across the school throughout the week. We have a new TA joining the year 5 team next week and another across years 2 & 3.

Our aim at the start of any academic year is to have TAs across year groups who then remain with the children throughout the year, however this is not always possible. An example of when TAs need to change classes is when we need them to support staff absence, to support children with additional needs, or to accompany classes on trips and visits.



Brindishe
Federation

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Welcome Back and Happy New Year to all our Brindishe Families

Reception 2025 Application Deadline

The deadline is fast approaching for parents/carers to apply for a Reception place for September 2025 - **15th January 2025**.

How to apply

You need to apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk. You can apply for up to six schools, either in Lewisham or outside the borough. You must not put independent schools on your application. You must list the schools you wish to apply for in preference order. You must apply by the closing date on **15 January 2025**. When you will find out which school your child has been offered a place at You will get an email on the evening of national offer day, **Wednesday 16 April 2025**. It will tell you where your child has been offered a place and how to accept the offer.

Website to apply on:

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



New Cross Fire Anniversary

Over the past five years, annually, The Phoenix Federation gather to honour the memory of the 14 young lives lost in the tragic New Cross Fire on January 18, 1981. This devastating event shook the New Cross community and became a catalyst for action, reflection, and unity in the face of injustice.

This year marks the 44th anniversary of the fire. While the date falls on a Saturday, The Phoenix Federation will come together to commemorate this solemn occasion on **Friday, January 17**, alongside schools, survivors, and supporters. They will start at 9:30am.

Collaborating for Remembrance

The Phoenix Federation will join hands with survivors of the New Cross Fire and representatives from local schools including: Addey and Stanhope, St. James Hatcham, Twin Oaks, Childeric and St. Joseph's. Together, they will visit 439 New Cross Road, the site of the fire, to remember and reflect. From there, they will proceed to the New Cross Fire Memorial in Fordham Park, a space dedicated to preserving the memory of those we lost.

A Tribute Through Art and Reflection

At Fordham Park, they will honour the lives lost through: Poetry: Sharing words of grief, remembrance, and hope; Music: Listening to songs that bring solace and unity and Paying Respects: A moment of silence and reflection to remember those who perished on that fateful day. This anniversary serves as a reminder of the strength of community and the importance of continuing the legacy of those lost. It is a time to reflect on their lives, on the impact of the fire, and on the unity it inspired among us all.

Online Safety Bulletin

Family Quiz for Online Wellbeing Tips

The NSPCC have created a quiz that can be completed as a family to help you have discussions together and find out about the NSPCC's top tips for positive online wellbeing.

The NSPCC want families across the UK to go online feeling informed, confident and happy – to be Positively online. So get the family together and take their quiz to discover our top tips for positive online wellbeing. Before you answer each question, have a discussion, then choose your answer together. Click on the image below.



Rights Respecting - Article of the Week

Making Rights Happen: Articles 1, 4 and 41

The Convention on the Rights of the Child brings together a range of rights that all children aged under 18 are entitled to, no matter who they are or where they are born. These rights ensure that all children are given the support they need to develop and reach their potential and are protected from harm. Governments across the world have signed up to the CRC and have promised to make the rights within the CRC a reality for children in their country and a number of articles specifically mention what governments must do to make rights happen.

Article 1 makes clear that everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

Article 4 states that governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights.

Article 41 states that if a country has laws and standards that go further than the present Convention, then the country must keep these laws.

How do children get to enjoy their rights in the UK? What does Government do to make this happen?

Every child must be registered with a name at birth.

There are parks and play areas provided.

We have education and health care systems.

Some people's job is to protect children.

The school curriculum includes learning about the CRC (in some parts of the UK).

Children are given protection when they need it.

Most schools have ways of listening to children's views and opinions.

There are Children's Commissioners whose job it is to make sure children are listened to.

Social care services and the police work to keep all children protected.



All children are special and important, and governments have to do all they can to make sure that each child enjoys their rights. Read the book **Every Child a Song** by Nicola Davies and Marc Martin and discuss what makes each child in your family special. .



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 third meeting for 2024/2025 will be held on Thursday 6th February 2025 at Brindishe Manor School - 6pm.***

Key Federation Dates

- End of Spring Term 1 - Friday 14th February
- SHINE starts at Blackheath for selected Year 5 children - Saturday 1st February
- Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
- Children return to school - Monday 24th February