



Brindishe  
Manor



# Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025

## What has been happening this week?

In our final week of the term we have enjoyed performances from Years 4, 5 and 6. The children really enjoyed having the opportunity to perform in front of their parents and carers; thank you for coming.

The children have completed their learning topics this week, tying up the themes they have been covering throughout the term. The teachers have met with the leadership team over the past week to discuss progress and attainment across the school and we have been sharing with the children how proud we are of them.

### Goodbye and Good Luck

This week we have been saying goodbye to Mrs Caller, who is leaving us to work in a school in Greenwich as their SENCO. We want to thank her for all of her dedication and commitment that she has offered the staff and children over the last 4 years. Gemma has worked tirelessly to support the children. A huge thank you and good luck!

We would also like to send our thanks to Mrs Yu who is retiring this week. Mrs Yu has worked at Brindishe Manor for the past 18 years and has supported small groups of children and classes throughout her time with us. Mrs Yu has given up her time on countless occasions to accompany children on residential trips and visits, despite only working part-time hours and always stepped up to support teachers and staff when needed. We wish her every happiness for her next chapter and hope that she will be back to visit us often.

### Thank you to our PSFA

As you will be aware, we have an incredibly active and passionate PSFA team at Brindishe Manor, who raise lots of money for the school through the events they so generously organise. This term alone, the PSFA have held an incredible Winter Fair, Christmas tree sale, a coffee morning, cake sale and a clothes sale. The work that goes on behind the scenes is methodical, considered and so incredibly helpful to the school. A huge thank you to the PSFA team for everything that you have already done this term.

**Please note that the end of the Autumn term is  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at the usual time.**

**We look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

## Key dates for the Spring Term



Monday 12th January	Nursery open Day
Thursday 15th January	Early reading & writing workshop
Friday 6th February	Number Day
Monday 9th February	DT week
Monday 9th February	Mental Health week
16th - 20th February	HALF TERM WEEK NO SCHOOL
Tuesday 24th February	Open classroom at 3:30pm
Tuesday 24th February	Open Day for perspective Nursery children 4pm
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
11th - 13th March	Year 4 residential to Juniper Hall
Monday 16th March	Neurodiversity week

We wish you all a wonderful break and are able to enjoy time with friends and family. We are looking forward to seeing all the children and our families back in school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 between 8:35-8:45am.

Kate and the Brindishe Manor Team

Seasonal Greetings to all our families and a Merry Christmas to those who celebrate at Brindishe. We look forward to seeing you all the new year on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026.



Brindishe  
Federation

## Brindishe Federation Newsletter Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025



### Christmas Holiday Vouchers

Vouchers for families entitled to FSM will be issued this week from the Household Grant. The scheme allows £30 per eligible pupils. Brindishe Schools will email the vouchers out to all FSM families before the end of term.

### The Winter Mini Challenge from Libraries and The Reading Agency

The Winter Mini Challenge is a fun online challenge that encourages children to keep up their reading across December – February.

It's free to take part on [wintermini.org.uk](http://wintermini.org.uk), where children can collect rewards for logging and reviewing books. Whatever their interest, it all counts.

The Winter Mini Challenge follows on from the Story Garden theme of the Summer Reading Challenge. Participants unlock special badges and earn a certificate of achievement once they meet their reading goal.



### Christmas and Winter Events in our local area

Looking for something festive and seasonal to do over the holidays. Look no further! Your local area has lots to offer, from Panto and The Nutcracker at local theatre venues, Christmas Carols by candlelight at Blackheath, Festive markets in numerous venues and much more.





# Starting Reception in 2026

## Family and Education

Important dates for the admission process for children starting primary school in September 2026.

The deadline for applying for a primary school place is **Thursday 15 January 2026.**

### Contact

#### Primary School Admissions and Appeals

Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, SE6 4RU

Telephone:  020 8314 8282

Email:  [primaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:primaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk)

## Online Safety Bulletin

### Italian Brainrot

Have you heard of Italian Brainrot? It is a viral trend consisting of AI generated characters featuring in memes and videos. It originally started on TikTok but can now be seen on other platforms such as YouTube and Instagram.

There are also lots of spinoff content including a game on Roblox. Whilst the content is generally nonsensical and children will find some of it funny, some content can include inappropriate/offensive language and content that might not be suitable for your child's age.

For more information about Roblox: [New Technology](#).

### ACT Early and be vigilant when buying new devices for children this Christmas

The Met Police and Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) want to make all parents aware of online safety this Christmas. Please share the following information with your parents and carers where possible: We know many parents and carers will be buying new phones and devices for their children in the run up to Christmas, which is why we're calling on parents to be vigilant about your child's online activity. This follows a 38% increase in referrals of children to the Prevent scheme last year in London, which helps stop people becoming radicalised. It's vital that parents are setting appropriate controls to ensure their children are kept safe on their devices. We'd also urge parents and carers to take an active interest in their children's digital lives to try and ensure they don't become drawn towards extremist content that could lead them down a path to radicalisation.

There is information on the [ACT Early website](#) which has tips on warning signs to look out for, as well as advice on having conversations with your child, and information on what to do and who to contact if you do have any concerns.



### Applying to start primary school 2026-27

Information about admissions arrangements

#### Is your child due to start primary school in September 2026?

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, you can apply for a Reception place for September 2026.

#### Before you apply you should:

- Research your local primary schools
- visit schools you want to apply for
- carefully check the admissions criteria for schools you are interested in.

From 1 September 2025, visit our website for everything you need to know about applying for primary school places, including:

- schools that are in the borough and are closest to you
- how to apply for a school place
- how decisions are made
- what happens after you apply
- important dates in the application process.

#### Deciding which schools to apply for

The first step is to decide which schools you would like to apply for. There are many good and outstanding primary schools in the Lewisham borough. Find out about these schools and see which are nearest to you at [www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryschools](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryschools).

#### Check if your child is likely to be offered a place at a school

If there are more applicants for a school than places available, we use the admissions criteria to decide who should be offered a place. The criteria vary from school to school. You should use them to find out if your child has a good chance of being offered a place at the schools you prefer.

#### How to apply

You need to apply online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://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 can apply online from 1 September 2025 and must apply by the closing date on 15 January 2026.

#### 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, Thursday 16 April 2026. It will tell you where your child has been offered a place and how to accept the offer.

From 1 September 2025, you can find all the information you need to apply for primary school places at [www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions). If you cannot find the information you need, call us on 020 8314 8282 (Monday – Thursday 10-12pm and Monday 2-4pm).

#### Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

Most children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities can get the support they need at local mainstream schools.

If your child has an education, health and care plan, you need to follow a different process. Find out more at [www.lewisham.gov.uk/SENadmissions](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/SENadmissions).

#### Free email reminders

Sign up to get free emails with reminders, application tips and more at [www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

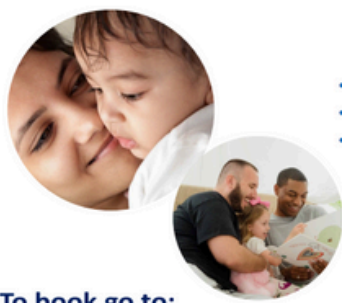


# CHRISTMAS Support 2025

Christmas can be a hard time for everyone and this is recognised by Lewisham and the Family Hubs. To support families over the festive season, they have produced a Christmas Support Factsheet, with opening times of support venues, free Christmas meal venues and other food provided during the season in Lewisham. \_

## Sharing REAL course for Parents

### Sharing REAL with Parents



To book go to:  
[lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/  
events/parenting-course](https://lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/events/parenting-course)  
scan the QR code  
email [family.hub.bookings  
@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:family.hub.bookings@lewisham.gov.uk)  
or call 07720 152902



This fun 4 week course aims to build your confidence in how you can support early literacy within your home and help your children's learning and development in communication and language.

- Meet other parents and carers.
- Share ideas to support your child's early learning.
- Take home FREE resources each week.

Wednesdays 14th January - 4th February 2026  
9.30am - 11.30am  
Corbett Community Library  
103 Torridon Rd, SE6 1RQ

Wednesdays 18th February - 11th March 2026  
1.00pm - 3.00pm  
Evelyn Family Hub  
231 Grove Street, SE8 3PZ

Fridays 6th - 27th March 2026  
1.00pm - 3.00pm  
Bellingham Family Hub  
109 Randlesdown Road, SE6 3HB

[lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk](https://lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk)



## Key Federation Dates

- End of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December 2025
- INSET DAY - school closed to children - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- Start of Spring 1 - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- February Half Term - Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

## 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'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

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). An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carers can join the meeting.

***Our third meeting for 2025/2026 will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026 at Brindishe Manor School - 6pm.***

## 2026-2027 Term Dates

We are currently setting our 2026-2027 term dates. Please, please do not google or search the web 'Brindishe Schools or Lewisham term date's as **copilot (AI companion) will give you inaccurate dates.** Brindishe Schools will inform you in the new year of 2026-2027 term dates and they will be posted on our school website.



# Introducing Nourish - our new catering provider from January

From January, the Brindishe Federation will be moving over to Nourish as our new catering provider Primary - nourish contract catering. Nourish is a family-led company passionate about serving healthy, balanced, and freshly prepared meals every day. We have been working very closely with them to make it a smooth transition and can't wait to begin our new journey as we start 2026.

## What's Staying the Same?

- Meat-Free Mondays and Fish Fridays will continue.
- The same friendly kitchen staff
- All menus and catering details will be updated on the school website for easy access
- Children be able to choose between a packed lunch or hot meal each day

## What's New?

- Children and families will notice new signage around the kitchen.
- We'll introduce fun themed days like Harry Potter Day and Lunar New Year
- Opportunities to meet Mr Nourish



## Allergy Support

If your child has a bespoke allergy menu, Clare Doran will be in touch to ensure a smooth transition. This may include reviewing the new menu and completing a Nourish Risk Assessment.

## Why Choose a Hot School Meal?

- Did you know that opting for a hot school meal can save you time and money?
- On average, families could save £477 per year compared to packed lunches.
- Nourish meals are nutritionally balanced, freshly prepared, and designed to support learning.
- Children enjoy a variety of dishes, a daily salad bar, and freshly baked bread—plus the social experience of eating together.

Thank you for your continued support as we make this positive change for our children.

NOVEMBER TO MARCH 2026 NOURISH WHAT'S ON THE MENU					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	<p>Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Bean Biryani VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Rainbow Pasta 1 Seasonal Vegetables</p> <p>Strawberry Mousse 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Chicken Pie 1 Mushroom &amp; Lentil Stew VG Pesto &amp; Pea Pasta 1,7 V</p> <p>Crushed Potato Cauliflower, Carrots</p> <p>Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG &amp; Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Roast Turkey &amp; Gravy Broccoli Tots 1,7 V Arrabiata Pasta Shells 1 VG</p> <p>Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice Cabbage, Peas</p> <p>Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake 1,7 Loaded Bean Chili Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Green Beans Grated Carrots</p> <p>Parsnip Brownie 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Fish Fingers 1,8 Vegetable Sausage VG Cheese &amp; Tomato Pasta 1,7 V</p> <p>Chips, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans Cucumber Sticks</p> <p>Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG</p>
WEEK TWO	<p>Cheese &amp; Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V Buffalo Cauliflower Wings &amp; Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables</p> <p>Chocolate Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Caribbean Brown Chicken Chick Pea Jambalaya VG Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG</p> <p>Rice, Carrots, Peas</p> <p>Plum Pudding 1VG &amp; Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Roast Chicken &amp; Gravy Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG Cheesy Pasta Twists 1,7 V</p> <p>Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice Broccoli, Carrots</p> <p>Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Beef Stew &amp; Dumpling 1 Falafel Burger &amp; Wedges 1,5 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Cauliflower, Green Beans</p> <p>Apple &amp; Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Salmon Bites 1,8 Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Herby Tomato Pasta Twists 1 V</p> <p>Chips, Peas, Coleslaw 9</p> <p>Marble Cookie 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG</p>
WEEK THREE	<p>Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V Sweet Potato &amp; Chick Pea Curry VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Rice, Green Beans, Mixed Salad</p> <p>Peach Crumble 1 VG &amp; Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Chicken Noodles 1 BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG Pesto &amp; Pea Penne 1,7 V</p> <p>Sweetcorn, Peppers</p> <p>Chocolate Rice Pudding 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Savoury Mince Beef &amp; Yorkshire Pudding 1,7,9 Vegan Sausage Roll 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Rustic Roast Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots</p> <p>Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Beef Cottage Pie Butternut Squash Risotto 7 V Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG</p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables</p> <p>Beetroot Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>	<p>Fish Fingers 1,8 Cheese, Carrot &amp; Tomato Swirl 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9</p> <p>Chips, Peas, Baked Beans, Grated Carrot</p> <p>Caramel Flagjack 1,7,15 V Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG</p>
AVAILABLE DAILY	1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.				
	WE ♥ VEGGIES				

# Being a Parent

Parenting programme for parents of children aged 2-11

Delivered by trained Parent Group Leaders from Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC), part of South London & Maudsley NHS Trust, in partnership with Lewisham



**A FREE 9-week course to help parents learn practical skills for everyday life such as:**

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognising and managing your child's emotions
- Learning positive parenting strategies

**ONLINE**

**Wednesday 9.45-11.45**

**23rd January – 27th March 2026**

(no session 18th Feb – half term)

Feedback from Lewisham Parents

"I absolutely loved this course. I would recommend it to anyone. It has helped me out so much as a parent"

"The leaders were amazing, made me feel so much more confident and feel like people actually do care."

To sign up and find out more click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code:



Or Contact **07860 371868**



EMPOWERING  
PARENTS  
EMPOWERING  
COMMUNITIES

**NHS**  
South London  
and Maudsley  
NHS Foundation Trust



**'Being a Parent' starting January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2026.**

This is a free 9 week group programme offered to parents/carers of children aged from 2 to 11 years old.

The course is designed to give children and families the very best start in life by supporting parents to:

- Understand and manage their own feelings, as well as their child's
- Communicate and interact positively with their child
- Use positive behaviour management strategies
- Reduce and manage parental stress
- Providing practical tools and guidance to help families build stronger, more positive relationships

There will be 2 groups running: one is in person and one is online. Parents and carers can choose which one (online or in person) they would like to attend.

The in person group will be held at Downham Family Hub and an online group

To find out more scan the QR code in the flyer Or Contact 07860 371868

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"The leaders were amazing, made me feel so much more confident and feel like people actually do care."

**Downham Family Hub**

Shrofford Road, BR1 5PD

**Friday 10.00 – 12.00**

**23rd January – 27th March 2026**

(no session 20th Feb – half term)

To sign up and find out more click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code:



Or Contact **07860 371868**



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