Brindishe Federation

Brindishe Federation Newsletter Friday 20th November 2026

Celebrating Diversity Week at Brindishe Schools

At Brindishe Schools, we are proud to be a community that truly celebrates and respects diversity. Our children, families and staff come from a rich variety of backgrounds, identities, experiences and points of view – and we believe that everyone should feel valued, celebrated and empowered to be themselves. This week, across all three Brindishe Schools we have been celebrating our diversity.

Our vision are clear: we respect and celebrate our community, encourage others to feel energised, valued, confident and empowered, and nurture a culture of mutual respect, positivity and inquisitiveness. We all contribute to the diverse world around us and want to make a positive difference.

At Brindishe, we learn about diversity through our curriculum, special events, assemblies, national events, visits and visitors, displays, our Rights Respecting School work, and our annual Celebrating Diversity Week.

Our curriculum introduces children to inspiring figures from diverse backgrounds, including Mae Jemison (astronaut), Greta Thunberg (activist), and Frida Kahlo (artist). We also mark important dates like International Day of Disabled Persons.

Throughout the year, we celebrate important events that help our children understand and appreciate diversity:

- Holocaust Memorial Day (27th January) – helping children understand the importance of standing against prejudice and discrimination
- Lunar New Year – celebrating this major holiday observed across East and Southeast Asia
- Give Racism the Red Card Day – taking a stand against racism
- Black History Month – honouring contributions and celebrating Black history

Our annual Celebrating Diversity Week is a highlight of the school year, featuring themed days including Odd Socks Day (breaking stereotypes), Many Faiths One Community (during Lewisham Inter-Faith Week), World Kindness Day, and Children in Need. Children work together across classrooms to create anti-bullying superheroes, kindness pledges, community chains and celebration mosaics.

This year during Black History Month, we learned about local Black hidden heroes who have made a difference in our community, including family members of our own Brindishe children – from RAF servicemen and bus drivers who were part of the Windrush Generation, to activists like Olive Morris, talented actors, professional footballers, and community carers who have touched countless lives with their kindness and dedication.

At Brindishe Schools, equality and diversity aren't just topics we teach – they're values we live every day. Through our curriculum, our celebrations, and our commitment to respect and inclusion, we're helping our children become compassionate, confident citizens who will make a positive difference in the world.

Lee Green Open Studios

Once again, Brindishe schools are hosting the Lee Green Open Studios! Come join families and artists at this very popular local walking trail, taking place at Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Green Schools on 14-15th & 21-22nd November 2026, from 11am-5pm.

A lovely pre-festive arts event, there are more than 50 artists taking part at 13 venues. Each venue is free and most are accessible as well. A huge range of art will be available to see and buy, ranging from Christmas cards to paintings, books to metalwork, ceramics to crochet, jewellery to perfume, photography, pyrography, and more!

There also will be workshops for children at Brindishe Green on Saturday 21st November. Please pick up a leaflet at the school office or go online for details: https://www.leegreenopenstudios.com/

Hope to see you there!

Drop-off and Pick-Up by Car around our schools

We are writing to remind everyone about some important rules around drop-off and pick-up times, following concerns raised by our local residents and witnessed by our own staff. Avoid entering the School Street zone very early as arriving early and waiting in your car with the engine on (idling) causes disruption to our neighbours and contributes to poor air quality.



Please be considerate and park only in designated areas - please do not block driveways. Please switch off your engine if you're waiting in your car.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding in advance.

Online Safety Bulletin

Discussing distressing news

As we know, children often hear about distressing information in the news which can have detrimental effects on their wellbeing and mental health. Following on from the recent awful events in Southport, INEQUE Safeguarding Group have published an article to help you when discussing distressing news with your child.



The article also includes a downloadable resource that children can read when news becomes overwhelming for them.

Find out more here: Discussing Distressing News Events With Children - Ineqe Safeguarding Group

Rights Respecting - Anti Bullying

Anti-bullying Week is held each year in November and is a time for all of us to think about how we can develop positive relationships in school based on dignity and respect, take a proactive approach to preventing bullying and also support people who have faced or are facing bullying.

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 12 (respect for the views of the child) - Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.
Article 13 (freedom of expression) - Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.
Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect) - Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

What does bullying mean to you?
What different kinds of bullying can you think of?

It is repeated behaviour that treats another person badly over time.
Behaviour that makes you feel unsafe and/or puts you down as a person.
Physical – aggressive or violent, being pushed, hit, kicked, intimidated.
Verbal – name-calling, threatening, being laughed at, teasing, being shouted at.
Social – being purposefully excluded from plans with your 'friends'.
Cyber bullying (online, on social media or gaming forums) – unkind comments, sharing photos with negative comments.
Discrimination - against race, nationality, sexuality, faith or another protected characteristic.
Sexual bullying – unwanted sexual comments or contact, spreading of sex rumours.
Emotional or psychological – when someone gets what they want by making others feel angry/sad (manipulation) or being told they are not good enough.

Article 2 says no-one should be discriminated against in any way but sometimes people are bullied because of the way they look and/or their identity. Read **'We Are All Wonders'** and talk as a family at home about how everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.

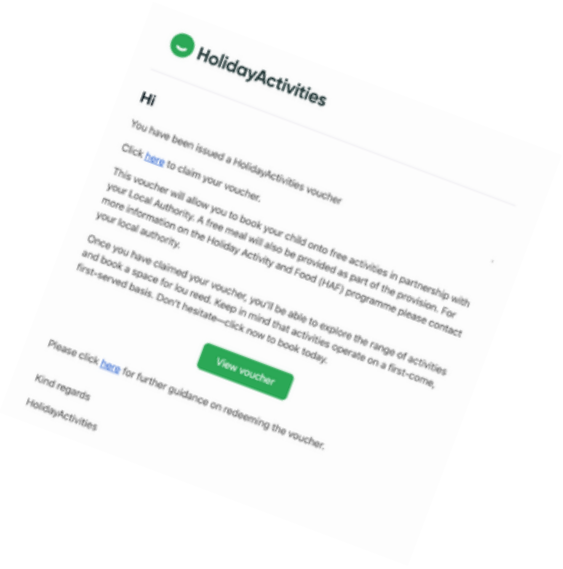




Holiday Vouchers

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) vouchers will automatically be sent to all eligible families (Targeted FSM) so you can participate in activities during the term break.

Your vouchers will be sent on 16th November via email or text. For help and support, please visit the HolidayActivities Site where you can find guidance on which activities are suitable for your child, how to manage bookings and how to book multiple sessions.







Key Federation Dates

- **INSET DAY - Friday 27th November 2026**
- **End of Autumn Term 2 - Friday 18th December**
- **Spring Term Begins - Children return to school - Tuesday 5th January**

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

Our third meeting for 2026/2027 will be held on Tuesday 2nd February at Brindishe Manor School - 6pm.

Illustrate & Animate!

New! 'The Snowman' Inspired, Animation Workshops for Children.

With Local Artist, Nancy Ellis, at Le Délice, Hither Green Branch.



Get Ready for some Fun, Exciting & Magical Workshops... Let's Fly your Snowpeople to the North Pole!

KS1 Sessions, Ages 5-7
4:15 pm – 5:45 pm

Tuesday 24th November
Tuesday 1st December
Tuesday 8th December

£22 per ticket inc booking fee.
Accompanying adult to remain at Le Délice for the duration of KS1 sessions.

KS2 Sessions, Ages 8-11
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Thursday 26th November
Thursday 3rd December
Thursday 10th December

£25 per ticket inc booking fee.
Drop off and pick up optional for KS2 sessions, with consent form completed.

Don't miss out on a wonderful, festive experience, reserve your tickets now!

Full details, dates & times on Eventbrite:
Scan the QR code to the right, or visit:
nancyellis_co_uk.eventbrite.com

Instagram @NancyEllis.co.uk
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