



Brindishe
Manor



Newsletter

Friday 8th October 2026

What has been happening this week...

This month is Black History Month...

Throughout this month, children have been exploring Black history through a wonderful range of stories, books, music, art and creative activities. Our assemblies will be providing opportunities to learn about inspiring individuals and important moments in history.

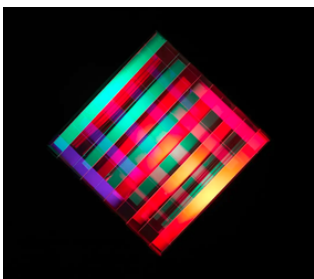
Next week we will focus on the Windrush generation, learning about the journeys of the people who travelled from the Caribbean to Britain, the challenges they faced, and the lasting impact they have had on British society and culture. We will be sharing Dame Floella Benjamin's book 'Coming to England' with the children.



Tate Modern

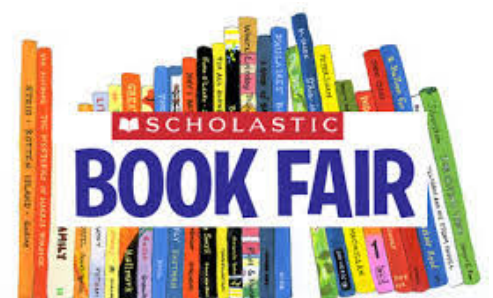
This week year 2 visited Tate Modern to explore the Julio Le Parc exhibition; 'Light. Colour. Action'. Le Parc is best known for his pioneering kinetic sculptures, which use light, movement and mirrored surfaces to surprise and draw in the viewer. He wanted to make viewers feel active, with their acts of looking and experiencing bringing each artwork to life; to make more democratic art that everyone can easily enjoy.

During the course of the next few weeks, all classes from years 2-6 will visit the exhibition, which will support the children's art exhibition, that will take place in the Spring term.



What is happening next week?

Book Fair - The Scholastic book fair has arrived and will be open today, Monday-Wednesday next week between 3:10-3:45pm. Please visit it under the canopy in our playground. Two of our support staff will be taking your payments.



Parents Evening

Parents Evening

Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October 2026

3:30-6:30pm

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our parents evenings on Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October 2026. The only exception is that parents and carers of children in Yousafzai class will have parents evening on Tuesday 20th October and Wednesday 21st October 2026.

During your 10 minute appointment, teachers will be able to share how your child has settled into their new year group and answer any questions you may have. You will also be able to look at their learning so far.

This is a reminder from 19th August 2024 the Government has introduced the following national threshold:

- There will now be one single national threshold for attendance. - Children who amount 10 sessions (a session is a morning or an afternoon) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks will automatically qualify for a fixed penalty notice. - - Fines are £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, or £160 per parent, per child if paid after 21 days.
- For example, a 5-day holiday in term time (term time leave) or 5 days of unauthorised absence due to irregular school attendance, would meet the national threshold.
- Please be aware that the 10-school week period can span different terms or school years and school holidays e.g July and September absences.

Attendance Matters

Overall school attendance this week:	95.%	
Top 5 classes with attendance over 95%:	Kusama	99%
	Jeffers	99%
	Adeola	98%
	Cutie	98%
	Latimer	98%
A huge well done to Kusama and Jeffers 99% attendance this week		
Top classes with all children in on time	Jeffers, Kusama, Latimer Huge well done to them all 😊	

Lewisham Foodbank Harvest Collection

On Monday our school council representatives from each class will be sharing details of our harvest collection with all children in our assemblies.

We would like to ask families who would like to contribute to our collection to bring in (and place in the boxes in the playground) any of the items listed below between

Wednesday 14th October - Wednesday 21st October.

BE A HARVEST HERO

Every class can make a difference

Bring in your Harvest donations and help provide food, kindness and hope to local families in crisis.



Together we can achieve something amazing.

Lewisham Foodbank
353H Bromley Road SE6 2RP
volunteers@lewisham.foodbank.org.uk
lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

 **Lewisham
Foodbank**
Together with Trussell

Attendance Newsletter

Across the Brindishe Federation, we firmly believe that regular school attendance is essential for the educational progress and overall wellbeing of all our pupils. It is about working in partnership with our children, parents, carers and the Local Authority to ensure we set high expectations. We hope that this letter helps you to keep in mind the key aspects of our attendance policy.

Why does regular attendance matter?

Keeping attendance above 96%, allows your child to:

- Fully engage in learning and make academic progress
- maintain friendships and develop new ones
- Grow in confidence in a supportive and nurturing school environment
- Build a sense of routine and responsibility, essential for future success

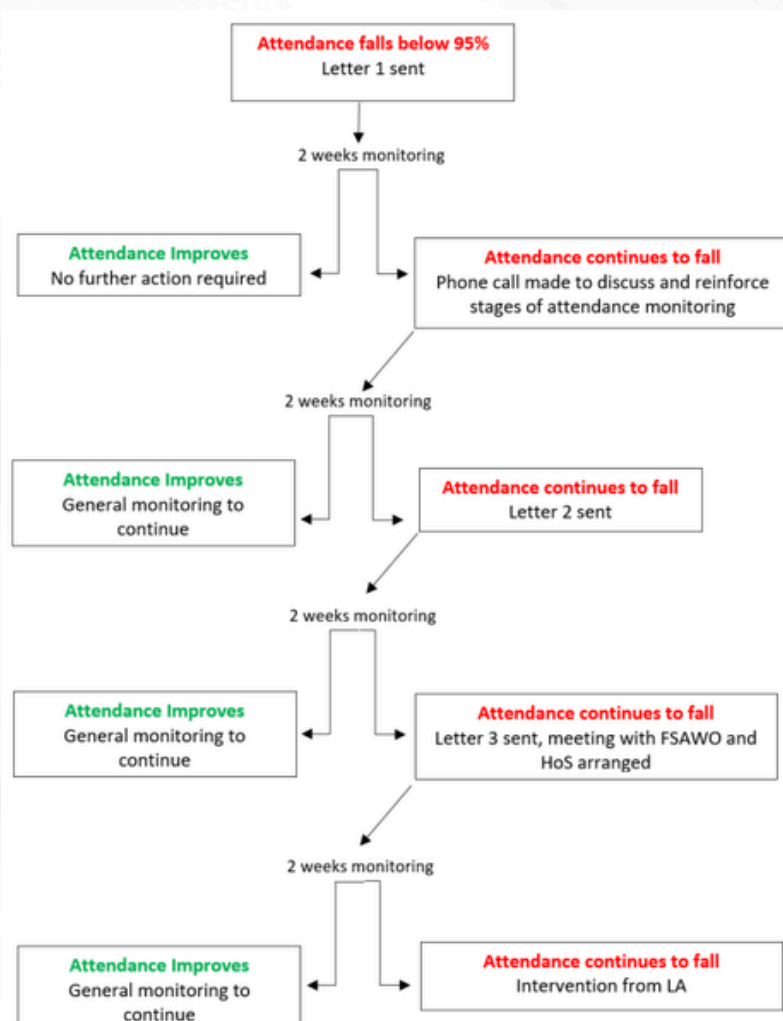


How do we monitor attendance?

Every fortnight, staff at the school monitor their attendance.

If your child's attendance:

- falls below 95%, you will be sent a letter to remind you of the importance of attendance in school
- continues to fall, a member of staff will call you to discuss your child's attendance
- continues to fall further, you will be sent a letter regarding the loss of learning time
- continues to fall further, you will be invited in for a meeting with the HoS and FASWO
- does not improve, you will be sent a letter from the LA informing you of potential legal procedures including a court warning



What does a percentage look like in days?

Below shows how your child's attendance can be affected if they are off. We aim for all children to be around 96%.

- 95% (2 weeks) 9 days off in a school year
- 90% (4 weeks) 19 days off in a school year
- 85% (6 weeks) 29 days off in a school year

What absence will we authorise?

We recognise that there are circumstances where a pupil's absence can't be avoided.

Acceptable reasons for being absent from school include:

- Illness
- Medical appointments: if your child has a medical appointment that CANNOT be scheduled outside school hours, please notify us in advance and provide relevant documentation (e.g. an appointment card)
- Religious observance
- Exceptional circumstances

Don't forget about Punctuality!

The school registers close, straight after the gate shuts, so being in school on time is very important. Missing the start of a lesson means your child is missing their learning and can be very disruptive and unsettling. Minutes late can also affect your attendance, so make sure your child is in school on time.



How should you report an 'unplanned' absence?

In the event of an unplanned absence, we request you follow these steps:

- Contact the school: on the day of the absence, please call the school office before 8.30am and leave a message to inform us about your child's absence.
- Provide a reason for absence: please provide a brief explanation for the absence, such as illness or family emergency, to help us maintain accurate records.

Can I go on holiday during term-time?

Term-time holidays are generally not permitted during the school year. Absences due to term-time holidays are disruptive to learning and lead to missed opportunities in the classroom.

However, we recognise that there may be exceptional circumstances that require a term-time holiday. In such rare cases, please submit a formal request to the head of school well in advance. The head of school will carefully consider each request and, if deemed appropriate and in the best interest of the child, may grant permission for the term-time holiday.

We emphasise that such instances will only be considered on a discretionary basis, and the decision will be made with the pupil's educational welfare as the utmost priority. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding regarding our approach to term-time holidays.

Fines for unauthorised absence

The Local Authority/head of school may issue a fine (known as a fixed-penalty notice) for unauthorised absence. If issued with one, you'll need to pay this directly to the local authority – £80 within 21 days, or £160 within 28 days.

The decision whether to issue a fine may take into account factors such as the number of unauthorised within a rolling academic year and one-off instances of irregular attendance.



What support can we offer?

We understand that some pupils may face challenges that impact on their attendance. Our school's attendance team is here to provide support and guidance to pupils and families in such situations. If you encounter any difficulties related to attendance, please get on touch with either your child's class teacher, a member of the schools SLT team or Clare Doran (FSWAO).

If you are worried about your child/children's attendance the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with the school directly. Please feel free to contact Clare on 07943 041970

A big thank you to for working with us to make sure our children attend school regularly!