



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

Headteacher: Manda George

Telephone: 0208 697 2762

E mail: admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

3rd July 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Headteacher Update

It is hard to believe that we are in July already! It has certainly been a very strange summer term for all of us.

Full opening of school in September

Yesterday, the government made the announcement that the plan for September is that **all pupils in all year groups will return to school full time at the beginning of the autumn term**. We are certainly looking forward to welcoming the children back next term and I know many of you will feel reassured by the fact that we will all be back at Torridon in September. We have already started to review our current risk assessment as there is a lot of work to do in order to prepare for full opening for all children. I will continue to keep you updated as additional government guidance is released.

Personal Belongings

Over the summer holidays, we will be having a thorough deep clean of the school. If your child has a named coat or PE kit which you would like to collect, please contact the school office admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk. At the end of term, any items which have been left at school will be recycled or donated to charity.

Video Calls

This week you have been sent an email outlining the arrangements for your children's Microsoft Team meetings with their teacher and some of their classmates. Thank you for your patience with this new system. We are trying to iron out any glitches as quickly as we can. Hopefully all will run very smoothly next week. Staff are very excited to have some face to face contact with the children in their classes and I know that children are looking forward to seeing their friends again.

COVID Summer Food Fund

Thanks to the tireless efforts of charities and campaigners such as Marcus Rashford, we will be able to support families with a **£90.00 voucher** to help with food costs cover the 6 week holiday period. In order to be eligible for this funding, children will need to be registered for Free School Meals before 10th July 2020. If your children are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, they receive Universal Infant Free School Meals when they are at school. However, in order to qualify for

supermarket vouchers over the summer holiday, you will need to **apply for support** and demonstrate that you meet the eligibility criteria. The government has temporarily extended free school meals eligibility to include some groups who have no recourse to public funds. If you are not sure whether you would qualify for free school meals or would like some help to complete your application, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please see attached additional information about free school meal voucher eligibility and use.

Music Lessons – Expressions of Interest

Thank you to those who have already returned your forms to register your interest in music lessons in the autumn term. There is still time for you to apply for piano, ukulele, guitar, violin or percussion lessons for your child. I have reattached the application form in case you missed it last week. The closing date for initial expressions of interest is **Friday 10th July**. We look forward to hearing from you.

Staffing for September

Some of you have been in contact to enquire about staffing arrangements for next term. We are currently finalising the staffing structure and I will be writing to you next week to inform you who your child's class teacher will be. In order to maintain some stability for the children, we will not be mixing the class groups. Children can be reassured that they will be starting their new school year with the same friends who were in their class this year.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes



Manda George
Headteacher