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Dear parents and carers,

Re: Weekly Update

I hope you are all well and are managing to adjust to your new routines. I am delighted to see lots of you posting updates on the class blogs and Instagram. It is good to see how you are all getting on at home.

Keeping in Touch

The current DfE guidance for parents and carers is that every child who can be safely cared for at home should be, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. I know this has been a challenge for you all but I am very impressed with the ingenious ways you have found to keep yourselves busy and to keep in touch with each other. Some of you are using communication apps which enable you to talk to lots of people at the same time. We have even seen walkie talkies being used by some children in order to keep in touch with their friends.

Easter Holiday Arrangements

Today we would have been breaking up for the Easter holiday. We will be remaining open during this period for families of critical workers and for our vulnerable children. If you are a critical worker or a parent or carer of a vulnerable child and would like to send your child to school, I would be grateful if you could email to let us know so we can arrange appropriate staffing levels during the holiday period.

Easter Holiday Activities

We will be uploading some Easter holiday activities to the website early next week. If you would like a hard copy of any of the home learning or holiday activities, please contact us by phone or e mail and we will be happy to send a pack to you.

Free School Meal Vouchers

We will be sending vouchers to eligible families today. I know that many of you have completed applications this week. Please let us know by email as soon as you receive confirmation of your eligibility so we can send vouchers to you.

If you have not yet completed an online application, please follow the link below. If a decision comes back and you are entitled to free school meals, our school will be able to provide you with supermarket food vouchers during the school closure period.

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-meals-and-extra-support-for-your-child>

If you need any additional support with completing the application, please email
admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

Given the current circumstances, even if you think you don't qualify please try.

Children's Guide to Coronavirus

We know many children will be anxious or worried about the coronavirus outbreak and that many will have questions about everything that is happening at the moment.

The Children's Commissioner has put together a short guide to help explain to children, in language they can understand, some of the issues surrounding coronavirus.

We have uploaded the guide to our website and you can also find it here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/cco-childrens-guide-to-coronavirus.pdf>

Thank you

I am sure you will want to join me in thanking our wonderful staff team here at Torridon who are working so hard to support all our children. I would also like to extend our thanks to all the critical workers who are doing such an amazing job during this very challenging time.

I will keep you updated with any future developments. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do to help.

With very best wishes to you all



Manda George
Headteacher