



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

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4th September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Welcome Back

It has been wonderful to see the children back at school this week. The staff team were delighted to open the gates and see so many smiling faces eager to get back to learning.

Start and End of the Day

Thank you for all your support with drop off and pick up. You have been extremely patient as we ironed out some of the initial kinks and today ran very smoothly indeed. As I mentioned in my previous email, please continue to support us by adhering to the following:

- Please stick to your allocated times. If you arrive early for collection you may be asked to wait on the other side of the road away from the school gates.

Year Group	Drop Off	Pick up
Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Resource Base	8.45am – 9.00am	3.05pm – 3.20pm
Year 2, Year 4, Year 6	9.00am – 9.15am	3.20pm – 3.35pm

- Please could we have **one adult** to accompany children for drop off and pick up.
- Please leave bikes and scooters at home.
- Please walk to school if you can.
- If you have to drive to school, please park considerately.
- Please leave the school gates quickly to minimise congestion

We are currently in conversation with the Local Authority to look at the possibility of installing temporary barriers in order to widen the pavement. I will keep you updated with any progress on this.

School Bags

Lots of you have been asking about bringing things in from home. To clarify, children can bring essential items; water bottle, reading book, lunch box, in a school bag. Children are not allowed to bring toys, pencil cases or other personal items into school.

Medicines in School

Lots of you collected medication at the end of last term in order to check prescriptions and ensure that all medicines were in date. Please make sure we have up to date medication your child needs whilst in school (asthma pump, epi-pen etc).

Risk Assessment

As I mentioned in my email earlier this week, our Risk Assessment is available for your information on the school website:

<https://www.torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Torridon-Primary-School-Risk-Assessment-for-Full-Opening-September-2020.pdf>

If you have any questions regarding the Risk Assessment or would like any more information, please get in touch via email.

Curriculum

This week we launched our whole school learning focus: *'Looking After Ourselves and Each Other'*. The children have really engaged with our core text; *'Here We Are'* by Oliver Jeffers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkcjKbbF9JA>

There have been lots of opportunities for us to talk about how we are feeling about; coronavirus, being back at school, being together with friends again and how we keep ourselves safe and healthy.

Next week we will issue our usual termly curriculum leaflet which will give you some more information about your children's learning this term. We will also be letting you know which days your child has PE lessons. On their PE day, we will be asking children to come to school in their PE kit so we eliminate any issues around storing PE kits and children getting changed.

We will also be providing an outline of the home learning for this term, including Mathletics, SPAG.com, spelling lists, number of the week and creative projects.

Reading Books

At Torridon, we want all of our children to develop a love of reading. It is very important for children to read at home regularly. As such, your children will bring reading books home each week. Please do comment in your children's reading record when you have read with them. As you are aware, we are aiming to minimise the number of items brought in to school each day. Because of this, we are asking you to send your child's reading record and reading book once a week. This term, please send these in every **Monday**. Staff members will check your child's reading record and help your child to choose a new book.

Wildcat Wilderness

We would like to offer huge thanks to Maria Devereux and the group of volunteers who gave up their time to help us by clearing and tidying our wildlife garden and pond area. They have done a truly amazing job and have transformed the space ready for the children to explore and develop this year.

They run lots of exciting events for families and welcome volunteers who would like to get involved with their projects. Please visit their website for more information:

<https://wildcatwilderness.org/who-are-we/>

Donation Station

Thanks to the generosity of the Torridon community and the dedication and hard work of staff members, we were able to provide food parcels and wellbeing bundles to lots of vulnerable families. Thanks to amazing support from Lewisham Foodbank, were able to continue to provide food and toiletries to families in need throughout the summer holiday. We will be continuing to support families in need and have reinstated our donation station outside the main office. If you are able to spare any items such as tins, packets, jars, long life items or toiletries, we would be most grateful. Please drop them off at the donation station at any point during the day.

Thank you for all your support in the first few days back. We are keen to maintain our open door policy and whilst we may not be able to meet with you face to face, we are always happy to talk to you over the phone, answer emails and arrange virtual meetings with you if you prefer. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions for us.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes



Manda George
Headteacher