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7th January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! It was lovely to welcome all the children back this week. I hope you had a lovely break and were able to spend some time with your loved ones.

We have had a great start to the new term with lots of exciting learning taking place. Your child's curriculum leaflet and home learning challenges have been uploaded to your child's MS Teams page sent to you and are also available on the school website so you can find out more about the learning which will be taking place this term.

This half term we are going to be working with the children to deepen their understanding of our core values. Each week we will be looking at one of the core values in our assembly times and PSHE lessons. Teachers will be looking out for children who are demonstrating the value of the week and will be putting them forward as stars of the week. Our core value for next week will be **Aspiration**.

We are very excited to announce that this term our Year 6 girls will be taking part in a six-week programme run by the charity 'Bel Eve UK'. Bel Eve UK provide a safe and open space for girls to explore their thoughts and feelings about starting secondary school and the changes they will experience. They will be running empowerment sessions, which are fun interactive workshops that inspire and motivate girls to develop self-esteem and be confident about the next steps in their education.

Please keep an eye on the dates for your diary to find out about all the exciting things that will be taking place this term.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes

Manda George
Headteacher



Keeping In Touch

Please remember to let us know if you or a member of your household receives a positive test result for COVID-19. We have a dedicated phone number for you to call if you need to inform us of a confirmed case within your household– **07376 358065**.

We also have a dedicated email address for any communication related to COVID-19. You can contact us at the following email address: covid@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk



Starting School in September 2022



You have until **Saturday 15th January** to apply for a Reception place for your child to start school in September 2022. You need to complete an application, **even if your child is currently attending Torridon Nursery.**

Please contact the school office if you have any queries or you would like support to complete your form.

Year 2 learning



The children in year 2 came into school and discovered a very strange looking invention in their classroom. Tools and instructions had been left behind. The children had so many questions about this very unusual discovery!



The invention turned out to be a 'heli-o-cheese-copter' which had been designed and made by Rosie Revere the engineer!

I wonder what other inventions Rosie will share?



Nursery Codes

If your child is eligible for 30 hours Nursery provision, please remember to renew your code every 3 months.

You can check your eligibility and find out more information by following the link below:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-to-apply-for-30-hours-free-childcare/>

Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 12 th January	Year 4 Cricket Sessions Launch
	Year 6 BEAM Workshops Launch
Tuesday 18 th January	KS2 Girls' Football Tournament
Friday 28 th January	Lewisham Borough of Culture Launch
w/b 7 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 8 th February	Internet Safety Day
Friday 11 th February	INSET Day
Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th February	HALF TERM
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Tuesday 8 th March	International Women's Day
w/b 14 th March	Science Week
Friday 18 th March	Red Nose Day
w/b 21 st March	PTA Sponsored bounce (TBC)
w/b 28 th March	Autism Awareness Week
Wednesday 30 th and Thursday 31 st March	Parent and Carer Open Evenings
Friday 1 st April	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 4 th April – Monday 18 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Tuesday 19 th April	Back to School – First Day of Summer Term

Sewing Machine for Creative Arts Team

Last term was filled with outstanding art work and as our children grow artistically and become more confident, we would like to offer them more opportunities to be exposed to different artistic mediums. The children have loved experimenting with a variety of textiles techniques and we would like to give them the chance to explore this further, through clubs and lunchtime activities. The creative arts team would like to get a sewing machine to use for these activities, but before we purchase one, we thought we would check if anyone has an old machine that they are no longer using, lurking in a cupboard or garage and would be happy to donate to us.



Thank you

Stars of the week



Congratulations to these superstars for some amazing learning this week!

Nursery	Divine	Resource Base	Jesse Romel
RF	Mohana	3S	Elliot-James
RL	Josiah	4CH	Ali
RP	Dexter	4CW	Ashanti
1BC	Jeremiah	4V	Ellie
1N	Dee-Dee	5CR	Mark
1G	Miya	5CY	Joshua B
2G	Eunice	5W	Felicia
2L	Abisan	6A	Marley
2S	George	6C	Cerys
3A	Malik	6P	Uzair
3L	Ethan		

Year 6 History Learning

Year 6 have launched their new topic this half term, The Ancient Benin Kingdom. They began by exploring artefacts and asking a range of questions about them. After that, they used evidence provided to research and answer some of their questions before creating a wall of information.



Healthy Packed Lunches

I am sure that lots of you will be thinking about a new healthy eating regime for the New Year. Please think about including your child's packed lunch.

Things we do want to see in lunchboxes	Things we do not want to see in lunchboxes
	
	
	
	
	
	

Alternatively, why not try our school lunches. Please check the website for the latest menus and contact the school office if you would like to give school lunches a try.

<https://www.torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk/parents/school-menu/>

Engine Idling

We have noticed lots of cars idling outside school when you are dropping your children off. This is not only harmful to children's breathing, it is also ILLEGAL! Please see below for more information. Let's work together to make our school a healthy environment for our children.

What is Engine Idling?

Engine idling is any time your car engine is running but you're not moving, usually for more than 10-20 seconds.
e.g. waiting outside school, at a red light, roadworks, etc.



Why should we stop Engine Idling?

Running a car without going anywhere just doesn't make any sense!

Here are four reasons why:

Environment: When an engine is running, it emits carbon dioxide (CO₂), the main greenhouse gas responsible for climate change. By switching off your engine when stopped, you stop these emissions too!

Health: Idling makes for worse air quality, which is bad for human health. Young people are at greater risk of the health impacts of air pollution because their lungs are still developing.

Money: Idling wastes fuel that you're paying for - that just burns a hole in your pocket!

Safety: When cars and buses are idling outside a school, it is harder for students to hear cars that are actually moving, which might be hidden behind the idling cars.

While electric cars don't idle, and many modern cars have stop-start technology (a feature that switches off the engine when the car isn't moving), there are still many vehicles that are guilty of needless idling outside our schools!

You might have seen a lot of idling at your own school: buses idle when loading passengers, parents idle when waiting for their children, and your friends may idle to "warm up" their engine!



Remote learning

We find ourselves in challenging times with many children unable to attend school due to the pandemic. We are committed to providing children with every opportunity to fulfil their academic potential and aim to ensure that no child is disadvantaged as a result of the current situation. It is vital therefore that we ensure our remote learning offer is as closely aligned to the face to face teaching we provide for children when they are in school. In light of this, we will be offering a mixture of self-directed learning, video and interactive sessions. Click on the link to read our remote learning policy. [Remote Education Provision](#)

If your child is self isolating:

If your child is isolating but is feeling well enough to complete some learning, please use the learning links below.

[The Oak National Academy](#)

[BBC Primary Bitesize](#)

Click on your child's year group, the subject and the session s/he would like to complete. Your child can then watch the video explanation and complete the activity online.

Tennis Lessons



TUESDAY

4.00-5.00pm - Red 7 & under
5.00-6.00pm - Orange 8-9 years
6.00-7.00pm - Adult Beginner
7.00-8.00pm - Adult Intermediate
8.00-9.00pm - Adult Advanced (8 players)

THURSDAY

4.00-5.00pm - Orange 8-9 years
5.00-6.00pm - Green/yellow 10 years +
7.00-8.00pm - Tennis Xpress

Starts W/C January 10th 2022.

Book Online - <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BasslineTennis>
Info@basslinetennis.co.uk | 07415 820988

Learning in Art Lessons This Week

The children have been busy in the art room this week, experimenting with various different tools to represent fur like textures. All the children at Torridon are learning about Local Lewisham Wildlife. Ask them about the furry creatures that share the Borough with us.

