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20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

What a chilly week it has been! The children have had to wrap up really warm for their Forest School sessions. Please remember to make sure all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name – especially hats, scarves and gloves. Thank you.

Lots of you have expressed an interest in adopting a tree in our planned woodland development. We are delighted that so many of you have offered your support. I am also very excited to tell you that we have our first £20.23 donated by Samantha in Reception. Well done and thank you Samantha! There are lots of ways to raise this sponsorship amount. Have a look later in the newsletter or speak to Kelley for some ideas.

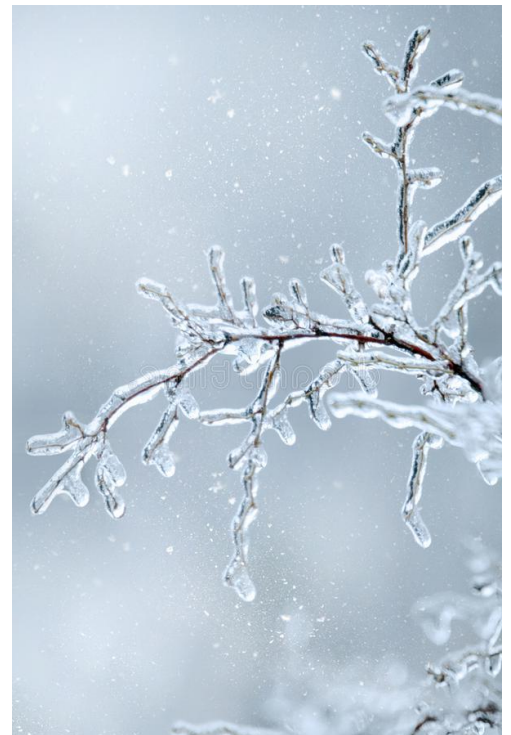
I am sure you will have seen in the press that the National Education Union has announced strike action following their recent ballot. Strikes are proposed to take place in schools across England on the following dates: **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.** At this time, I am unable to let you know if school closure will need to be considered. I will of course, keep you updated as soon as I have any further clarification and certainly by **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January.**

We hope to see lots of year 1 and 2 parents and carers at the maths workshop on Tuesday morning and Resource Base parents at our coffee morning on Friday and don't forget about the PTA sponsored bounce on Thursday. What a busy week!

Have a super weekend.

Best wishes

Manda George  
Headteacher



# PTA - Sponsored Bounce – January 26<sup>th</sup>

**Thursday, 26 January**

Torridon students are bouncing their way into spring, all to raise funds for the school! How many times can your little bouncer bounce in 60 seconds? Every bounce counts as we aim to raise £2000 to fund community events and school improvement projects. Remember, we contribute 10% of all of our net proceeds to the Torridon Food Bank. Help us support our community and make our school a better place for our children to learn and thrive!

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Click here to donate](#)

[Click here to volunteer](#)



## Meeting with Teachers

Please remember that parents and carers should not be in the school buildings in the morning. Children should be dropped off at the gate and will make their own way to the classrooms. If you wish to touch base with your child's teacher, you can do so in the playground at the end of the day. Alternatively, please send an email to [admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk) and we will be happy to pass on a message, arrange a telephone call or meeting with the relevant member of staff.

Many thanks



# Operation Woodland



A huge thank you to all those who have expressed their interest to sponsor a tree in our new woodland, there are still some trees available-

if you would like to sponsor a tree please email [operationwoodland@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:operationwoodland@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk)



Have you accepted our challenge to raise £20.23?

We would love to hear about your fundraising- please send information about your challenges and any pictures to [operationwoodland@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:operationwoodland@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk)

We would love to share your amazing fundraising in upcoming newsletters.

We have had such an amazing response to our exciting new woodland and are extremely grateful for all of your support.



## Punctuality



The school gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. All children should be in their classroom ready to start the day at 9.00am.

Any child arriving after 9.05am will be recorded as late.

## Congratulations Maile!



Maile in year 6 took her grade 1 piano examination and achieved a high merit. Well done Maile!

## Rights Respecting School

43-54



HOW THE  
CONVENTION  
WORKS

### Article 45

'UNICEF can provide expert advice and assistance on children's rights.'

This week we have been exploring the role of UNICEF and what the organisation does globally in order to support those in need.

## Year 4 French

Here are 4V marking King's Day (*la Fête des Rois*). Niromika chose the piece of "galette" that contained the charm and gets to be Queen for the Day.



## Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00am Year 1 and 2 parent and carer maths session
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	PTA Sponsored Bounce
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Resource Base Coffee Morning
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	9.00am Reception parent and carer maths session
	Year 2 to The Science Museum
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Parent and carer workshop – supporting children learning English as an Additional Language
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Resource Base children visiting Athelney Resource Base
	Non Uniform Day
	PTA Pizza Night
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	9.00am Nursery parent and carer maths session (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	SEND partnership – coffee morning for parents and carers
	Year 3 to The British Museum (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	PTA Coffee Morning
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 National Dental Programme
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA uniform sale
Week beginning Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school assessment week
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Torricon and Sandhurst 10K fun run
Week beginning 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Autism Acceptance Week
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent and carer open evenings
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 Easter School
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	<b>ADDITIONAL BANK HOLIDAY FOR THE CORONATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III</b>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs week
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>Last day of the summer term</b>

## Weekly Attendance by Class




Remember we are aiming for at least 97% attendance for all classes.

Please make sure your children attend school on time every day.

Every second of school missed is a learning opportunity missed.



Congratulations to **2SW, 3S & 6L** who were awarded the attendance cup this week.

	Class	Attendance
	1G	94%
	1M	94%
	1N	93%
	2S	93%
	<b>2SW</b>	<b>97%</b>
	2G	95%
	<b>3S</b>	<b>96.32%</b>
	3L	95.64%
	3A	94%
	4W	94%
	4V	94%
	4C	95%
	5L	94% (94.44)
	5R	94% (93.72)
	5S	94% (94.08)
	6A	94% (94.11)
	<b>6L</b>	<b>94.71</b>
	6C	92%

## Catch-up Clinics

The School Health Immunisation team which is based at Downham Health Centre, Bromley, Kent, BR1 5EP 1st floor room 6, is hosting top up's clinics every day after school from 3:30-16:30pm for all school age vaccination or children that attends Lewisham Schools. If your child/children were inadvertently missed in a Lewisham school, you can contact the team to book an appointment or simple walk-up on the dates and time advertise.

Please do not hesitate to contact the team should you have any queries via email at [lg.shsimmunisation@nhs.net](mailto:lg.shsimmunisation@nhs.net) or telephone 02030491897 **between 15:30pm-16:30** during school hours.

Flu -Reception to Year 9 until the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2023.





## Stars of the Week

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery am	Shiloh	For taking great care with her art work and looking at small details. Well done Shiloh!
Nursery pm	Sarnith	For using his confidence and sharing his ideas with his friends. Well done Sarnith!
Red Class	Safa	For working hard on her phonics and reading well done, Safa!
Blue Class	Myles	For growing in confidence and trying new things this week.
Yellow Class	Maeve	For always trying her best and working hard. Well done!
1G	Laura	For always trying her best in all areas of her learning. Laura's contributions to the carpet are always insightful! She is a friendly and cheerful member of 1G.
1M	Jacob	For always trying his best and being a good friend to his classmates.
1N	Sheanna	It has been wonderful to see Sheanna's love for learning and resilience grow and she is making us so proud with her developing independence. Keep up the great work! 😊
2G	Mekai	For his hard work and beautiful presentation. Keep it up! 😊
2S	Otilie	For making such thoughtful contributions during our carpet sessions and for always being a good role model! Well done Otilie!
2SW	Georgina	For trying her very hardest to finish her pieces of learning in every lesson! Well done Georgina!
3A	Natalie	For trying her best in all areas of learning and writing a fantastic diary entry.
3L	Ivanna	For making enormous progress on joining her letter, presenting her learning with pride.
3S	Edie	For always doing her very best. Thank you for making our classroom a positive learning environment.
4C	Arun	For his attitude to learning and for leading lunchtime coding club.
4V	Elisabeth	For producing a well-written, captivating story. Well done.
4W	Evie	For working hard across a diverse range of subjects. I am particularly pleased with her efforts in maths this week. Keep it up!
5L	Farron	For showing great resilience within her learning, and in particular becoming more confident in the fantastic quality of her maths learning. Well done Farron!
5R	Ellie	For demonstrating excellence in all of her learning and consistently producing work of great quality. Well done.
5S	Sangheeth	For working very hard and producing a great biography. Also, for consistently editing your work independently. Well done!
6A	Mason	For being a good friend to all his peers – always tolerant of others and consistently willing to include others in his activities; thereby displaying our core value of 'Diversity'.
6C	Keiran	For always trying your best in all lessons and working independently. Well done!
6L	Nefertitti	For your commitment to learning outside of school and always willing to participate in additional group sessions.
Blue Pathway	Nathan	Well done for attending class independently all week!
Green Pathway	Munasar	Well done for wanting to do such great learning in class this week!

# MAPAC Sale

Uniform

Bags

Sportswear

Leavers

Fundraising

mapac®

JANUARY SALE

# 10% OFF CLOTHING & BAGS

NO SET-UP FEES!

+ BUY NOW PAY LATER!

HURRY ENDS 31.01.23!

The advertisement features a central graphic of a calendar with dates 2, 8, 13, 15, 22, 23, 29, 30, and 31. Overlaid on the calendar are four items: a white polo shirt with a crest, a blue long-sleeved shirt with a logo and the text 'NO SET-UP FEES!', a blue bag with the text '+ BUY NOW PAY LATER!', and a purple zip-up jacket with a logo. The items are arranged around the bag, which is the central focus. The background is a light blue and white grid representing a calendar.

## DOWNLOAD THE ORDER FORM!



Call: **01923 255 525** or Email: **sales@mapac.net**

[www.mapac.com/education](http://www.mapac.com/education)



## Saturday youth dance class

[Trinity Laban's Dance Ability class](#) is now available on Saturday afternoons, starting in January 2023.

A fun and creative weekly class, Dance Ability is specifically designed for young dancers between learning ages 5-12 years with cognitive and/or physical disabilities, or who identify as neurodivergent.

Led by experienced inclusive dance artist, Vicki Busfield, Dance Ability uses props, music and movement to boost confidence, physicality and social interaction skills.



When: **Saturdays, 13:15-14:00**

Spring Term Dates: **7 January - 18 March 2023**

Per session: **£7 | £3.50 concession**

Laban Building,  
Creekside,  
SE8 3DZ

## National Youth Jazz Collective

The participation cost for 5 days is £150 and full and part bursaries are available for those in need financial support. Interested musicians can apply at <https://nationalyouthjazz.co.uk/regional-courses/kings-place>.

The workshop dates are as follows:

**Saturday 18th Feb 2023** 10-6pm with a “sharing” for family & friends a 4.30pm

**Sunday 2nd April 2023** 10-6pm with a “sharing” for family & friends a 4.30pm

**Sunday 7th May 2023** 10-6pm with a “sharing” for family & friends a 4.30pm

**Sunday 11th June 2023** 10-6pm with a “sharing” for family & friends a 4.30pm

**Sunday 16th July 2023** 10-6pm with Public Performance at 4.30pm

At these workshops, participants will have the opportunity to learn an exciting program of tunes by ear, as well as collectively composing new works together. They will also have the chance to meet and connect with other young musicians sharing their interests. All instruments, including singers, are welcome, and no music grades are required. However, a basic ability (similar to grade 3) at entry level is recommended.

# Parent Champions



**Raising children can be tough, but our Parent Champions can help you access the right support**

Parent Champions are ordinary parents who have experience of local services such as schools, youth offending or social care. They can help by:

- Providing the support you need to enable you to understand how youth offending, social care and schools work
- Helping you to keep your child safe and assist you to find activities for your children

If you have a child aged between 5 and 24, get in touch with us to find out more. A Parent Champion will contact you and offer you up to 3 sessions to talk through the information and support that you need.

**For more information, please contact Selene on 07500 487484 or email [SeleneR@familylives.org.uk](mailto:SeleneR@familylives.org.uk)**

**We build better family lives together**

[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)



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# Twitter – Online Safety

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TWITTER

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be 'trending'. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or twasting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.



### INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person's Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

### FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a 'view count' feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven't reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

### TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

### PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account's authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

### CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-escalation of violative content; freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach. No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

### HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter's most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag's meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with 'trending' hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child's tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter's privacy settings so that your child can't be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won't be shared.

### FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they've seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message's possible motive. Emphasise that it's not a good idea to retweet something if they aren't sure it's correct.

### ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child's tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child's again for seven days.

### EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else's tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

### PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It's important that young people think about what they're about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed 'nudges': little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

### BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The 'mute' feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child's timeline. The other user won't know that they've been muted.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Clare Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has advised several UK government departments on digital and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and texting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



### BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the 'blue tick' system, it's essential that young Twitter users understand what this means, in terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they've been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-blue-update](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-blue-update) | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update) | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-be-public-conversation](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-be-public-conversation) | <https://techworksheets.com/education/viewcontent.cfm?article=213&context=red>

# Multisports – Half Term Camp

## MULTISPORTS

### HALF TERM CAMP



**When:** 13/02/23 - 17/02/23

(Please note that your child can attend one or all of the above dates)

**Times:** 9:00AM - 3:30PM

(Please provide your child with a packed lunch)

**Where:** SYDENHAM SCHOOL,  
DARTMOUTH RD,  
LONDON,  
SE26 4RD

**All of our coaches are:**

- ✓ FA Qualified
- ✓ DBS Checked
- ✓ Child Safeguarding Trained

**BOOK NOW TO  
GUARANTEE YOUR SPACE**

### TO BOOK

Book the whole week before the 01/02/2023  
for a 10% discount!

**SEND US AN EMAIL OR GIVE US A CALL**



[info@ballerssportscoaching.com](mailto:info@ballerssportscoaching.com)



**0207 1013 652**



**@ballerssportscoaching**