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5th May 2023

Dear parents and carers,

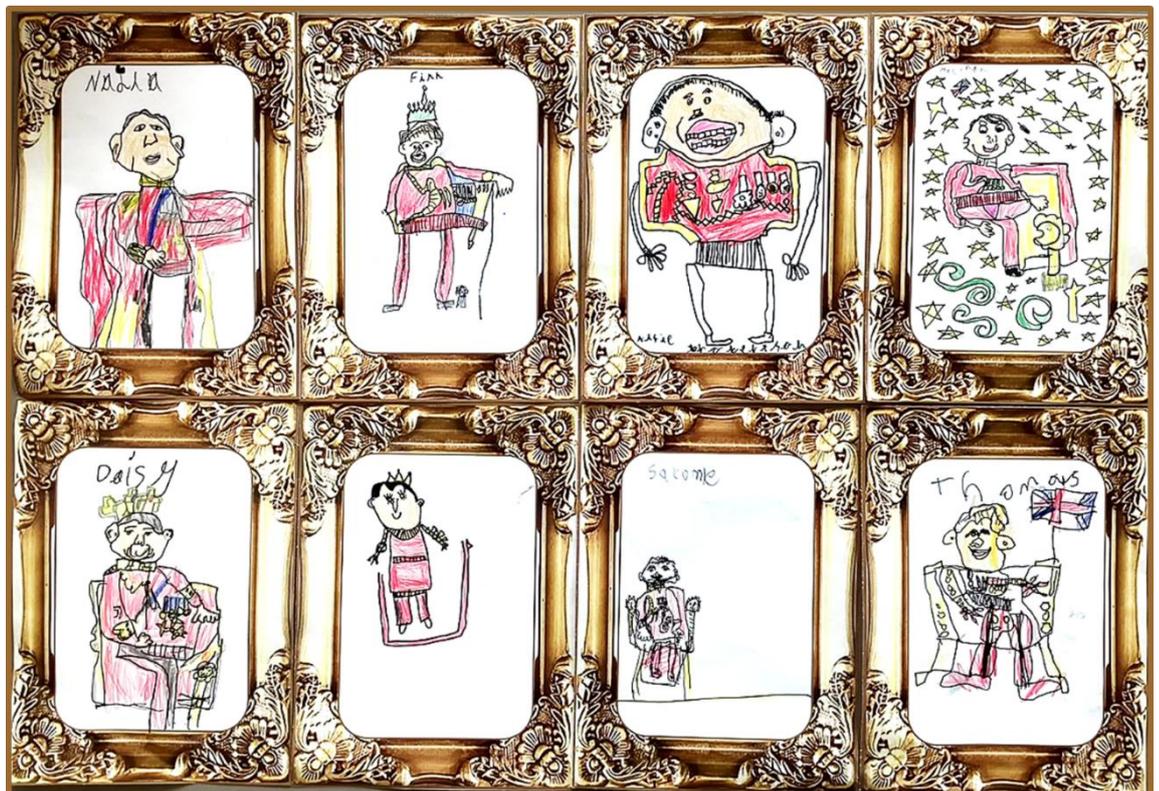
We have certainly managed to pack a huge amount into a short week and we finished with a wonderful coronation celebration today. Nursery held their own coronation processions with banners and flags they had made, Reception had great fun designing and creating their own crowns. Year 1 had a competition to see who could keep a straight face whilst wearing busby hats like the King's guard! Year 2 designed their own coats of arms, whilst year 3 had a tea dance. Children in years 4, 5 and 6 created fact files about King Charles III, considered the qualities of a good leader, designed their own versions of the sceptre and orb and created portrait silhouettes like those on Royal Mail stamps. It was a very regal day, all topped off with a fantastic tea party this afternoon. I think the children (and staff) are definitely going to need a three day weekend to recover from all the fun they had.

Thank you to those who came along to our PTA coffee morning today and for sharing your ideas about our upcoming events. If you would like to get involved and offer your support with future events, please get in touch by email: friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com

Next week is Year 6 SATs week. The children have been working really hard in preparation for their end of year tests. We are all sending warm wishes to them. We know they are going to be brilliant!

I hope you enjoy your Bank Holiday weekend and for those of you participating in the coronation celebrations, have a wonderful time.

Best wishes
Manda George
Headteacher



Year 1 portraits of King Charles III

Irie Dance Theatre

At the start of this term we were thrilled to commence our school partnership with the specialist African and Caribbean dance company - Irie Dance Theatre. This is the start of an incredibly exciting partnership which will enable our dance curriculum to continue to grow from strength to strength.



Children from Year 3, 4 and 5 attend weekly sessions, building skills and knowledge in both traditional and contemporary African and Caribbean dance forms. The partnership is the beginning of Torridon's Artsmark journey inspiring excellence in all areas of the creative arts curriculum.



Rights Respecting School

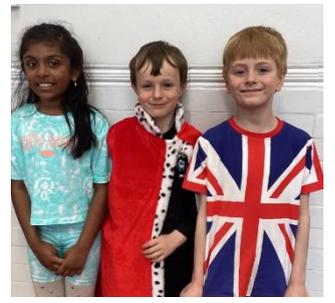
'Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.'

This week in our Rights Respecting Assemblies we discussed the upcoming World Day for Cultural Diversity which takes place on 21st May. World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is a global event that everyone can get involved in. It's all about recognising and understanding each other's differences, but also celebrating these and promoting peace and harmony between everyone around the world. We are all looking forward to celebrating the day when it arrives.



CORONATION CELEBRATION





National Skipping Tournament

School	Area	Total Jumps	Jumps per Pupil
1 Histon and Impington Brook Primary	Cambridgeshire	1,427,401	3,123
2 Ainslie Wood Primary School	Greater London	1,355,346	3,663
3 St.Oswald's Primary School	Cheshire	1,169,854	8,601
4 Alford Primary School	Lincolnshire	1,091,599	3,210
5 Torridon Primary School	Greater London	1,017,691	1,339

Throughout last week the children from our Nursery right through to Year 6 were actively involved in a national skipping tournament. Over 130 schools across the country were recording skips, bounces, and jumps from their pupils each day, and through the commitment of every child in our school - we finished in **5th place** with an overwhelming score surpassing one million jumps! A deserved result for the hard work that every class put in during the week. Congratulations team Torridon! Thank you to everyone who got involved, emailed scores, left scores on desks for us and exceeded expectations of daily jumps. We will let you all know the final standings next week. If the final results were based purely on teamwork and effort, then for sure we finished #1.

Weekly Attendance by Class

	Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance
	1G	90%		3A	98%		5L	95%
	1M	100%		3L	96%		5R	100%
	1N	97%		3S	97%		5S	99%
	2G	96%		4C	99%		6A	97%
	2S	91%		4V	98%		6C	96%
	2SW	98%		4W	95%		6L	96%

Congratulations to 1M and 5R who had the highest attendance of 100% this week! Well done to 4C who were not far behind!

Saturday Football League

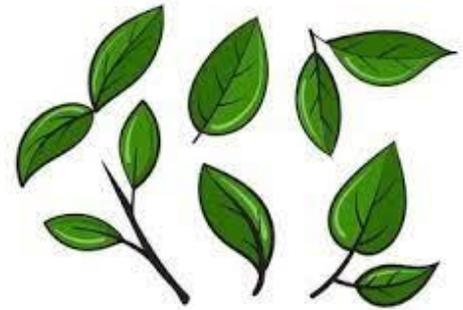
Last Saturday marked the final day of the boys' Saturday League football season as they competed in the Mary Bennett cup tournament. With only 8 children available on the day, they worked incredibly hard and defied all odds to reach the semi-finals. On the day, they played amazingly well as a team and although they didn't quite reach the final this year, each child should be incredibly proud of the successes they have accumulated along the way. It has been a fantastic season for them. Well done to the boys, and good luck to our girls' team who will be taking part in their cup tournament next weekend!



Gardening Session – Saturday 13th May – 1-4pm

Spring has sprung! Grab your gardening gloves - and a friend / neighbour / child / partner - and join the Torridon Green Team on Saturday 13th May to tidy up the garden beds around the school grounds and help to keep the green areas thriving, as we support the fantastic work Kelley and her staff team are doing.

It's an open session from 1-4pm - any time you can offer is much appreciated. It's a lovely way to enjoy some time outside with fellow Torridon parents whilst making a real difference to the outdoor environment at the school. If you have them, **please bring**: a water bottle, gardening gloves, bucket, trowel or spade, secateurs or any other gardening equipment you think might be useful.



Please RSVP to friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com - and spread the word!

Giggling Guards

Did you know that the King's guards are not allowed to laugh or smile? In 1N, we took turns in role as a very serious guard and tried to make each other crack a smile...



Dates For Your Diary

Monday 8th May 2023	ADDITIONAL BANK HOLIDAY FOR THE CORONATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III
Tuesday 9 th May – Friday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Saturday 13 th May	PTA Spring Gardening Session
Tuesday 9 th May	Resource Base Blue pathway to Tate Modern Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop
Week beginning Monday 15 th May	Walk to School Week
	Woodlands Dress Up Day
	Year 2 SATs week
Monday 15 th May	Year 5 to the British Museum - change of date
Wednesday 17 th May	NSPCC Workshops for Year 5 and Year 6 Reception to Forster Park 3A and 3L visiting Hindu Temple
Thursday 18 th May	Resource Base to Bellingham Soft Play 3S visiting Hindu Temple
Monday 22 nd May	Year 6 Unity Competition at Crystal Palace
Wednesday 24 th – Friday 26 th May	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Sunday 11 th June	Children's Fun Run in Forster Park
Week beginning 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Thursday 22 nd June	6pm – Year 5 secondary transfer meeting
Friday 23rd June	INSET DAY
Tuesday 27 th June	Year 5/6 boys' cricket tournament
Thursday 29 th June	Reception vision and hearing screening (TBC) Resource Base to Bellingham Soft Play
Week beginning 3 rd July	Assessment week for Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 3, 4 and 5
Monday 3 rd July	Year 6 First Aid workshop
Friday 7 th July	Year 5 and 6 swimming gala
Saturday 8th July	Summer Fair 12-4pm
Monday 10 th July	Nursery and Reception Sports Day
Tuesday 11 th July	9.15 Year 6 production
Wednesday 12 th July	Year 1 and 2 Sports Day
	6pm Year 6 production
Thursday 13 th July	Year 3,4,5 and 6 Sports Day
Monday 17 th July	Year 6 BEAM transition workshop
Tuesday 18 th July	5pm – summer music concert
Friday 21 st July	Last day of the summer term – 2pm finish 9.30 – Year 6 leavers' assembly





Stars of the Week



Class	Name	Reason
Nursery pm	Chimaraobim	Participating well in carpet sessions and showing good listening
Nursery Full Time	Rizwan	Engagement in lots of activities and developing friendships with his classmates
Red Class	Margot	For amazing reading and writing this week. It has been lovely to see your confidence grow. Well done, Margot!
Blue Class	Penny	For how much she has improved her blending skills so that she can read CVC words independently! Well done Penny.
Yellow Class	Kevin	For working hard in phonics lessons and always having a smile on his face. Well done!
1G	Joy	For her new and improved attitude to learning. Joy has been focusing well in Maths and English and working well independently. Well done!
1M	Kruz	For his positive attitude towards his learning and for always showing respect and being polite to everyone. Well done Kruz!
1N	Manasseh	For his amazing progress in reading and for always learning his spellings and using them in his writing. Great work! 😊
2G	Matilda	For her fantastic ideas and for always contributing on the carpet. Keep up the good work!
2S	Matthew	For taking his time to complete his work and making sure it is his best! Keep up the super work Matthew 😊
2SW	Owais	For his fantastic listening skills and always trying his best with his learning. Well done Owais! 😊
3A	Stephanie	For always trying your best and improving your writing. Well done!
3S	Yathurshan	For achieving his goal for the week and being determined to continue making progress in writing.
3L	Junior	Working hard to develop every aspect of his learning. Thank you for having a positive attitude.
4C	Anissa	For showing acts of kindness throughout the week and for being a good friend to others. Well done!
4V	Rad	For being a kind and helpful friend to her peers.
4W	Stephen	For always trying in his learning. In particular, he has been improving in maths and making good progress. Keep it up Stephen!
5L	Noble	For being committed and focused in all areas of learning. He exhibits all of the Torridon values consistently and is a lovely member of 5L!
5R	Shahrazad	For always demonstrating determination in her learning. Well done.
5S	Eunice	For settling into the class very well and having a positive attitude towards her learning. Well done!
6A	Hisham	For showing commitment in his revision lessons this week, which enabled him to make excellent progress in his learning.
6C	Renae	For working extremely hard this week. You have been determined and focused in all lessons. Well done!
6L	Norah	For your effort in writing an explanation about the heart. You thought carefully about the writing skills that needed to be included –well done!
Blue Pathway	Merrit	Well done for being so warm and welcoming to new students and visitors.
Green Pathway	Amarachukwu	Well done for always being such a fantastic learner. You have been so focused on all of your learning.

Bellingham Festival



Bellingham Community Project Charity

'Helping build healthy, happy, lives'

Bellingham Festival



SAVE THE DATE



Saturday, 24th June 2023 12 -4pm

Celebrating 100 years of Bellingham

on Bellingham Green SE6 3JB



Free kids' activities

Performances, Arts and Crafts, Music, Fun Workshops, Community Stalls and much more!

**Do you want to get involved and help on the day?
Would you like a stall? or to perform?**

Please get in touch bcp@bcp.uk.net

0208461 2213/07549 433963

Based at Bellingham Leisure & Lifestyle Centre
0208 461 2213 07549 433963 (call or text)

Registered in England and Wales, Registration No. 2773345. Registered Charity No. 1036667

www.bellinghamcommunityproject.org.uk



[bellinghamcommunityproject](https://www.instagram.com/bellinghamcommunityproject)

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's SchoolTime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-busting panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police; location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 4 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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