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6th October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We have had the best week this week. We launched Black History Month with assemblies celebrating Black, British women pioneers. Children have been learning about the likes of Margaret Busby, Olive Morris, Nicola Adams and Dawn Butler and and discovering how standing up for justice and making our voices heard is an important life skill, which is part of our school vision:

We want every child to leave Torridon wanting and determined to make a difference to the world, and having the skills to do so. In order to do this, we believe that we have to enable the children to be emotionally intelligent, resilient and brave, and provide them with the academic foundation to enable them to be outstanding individuals in all aspects of their lives.

The children have really enjoyed the start of their history learning and are looking forward to finding out more next week.

Thank you to those of you who attended our maths workshop this week with Lucinda. I hope you found it helpful. We are planning our next set of workshops around reading. These will take place in the spring term and dates will be available nearer the time.

We hope to have lots of ymmy treats available for sale after school next Friday. Thank you in advance for any donations of sweet treats for the PTA bake sale.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to open evenings next week. It will be a chance for you to meet your child's class teacher and see some of the lovely learning that has been taking place this term.

Have a nice weekend.

Best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



School Photographs

Vancols Photographers will be in school on <u>Thursday 12th October</u> to take class and individual photographs of the children. There will an opportunity for sibling photos from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. If you would like your children to have a photograph with their siblings, please collect them from their classes at the end of the day and take them to the photographers who will be based in the Y5 and Y3/4 halls.



Please make sure all children are in school uniform **even if it is the day they usually have PE**. Thank you.

Headlice





We have had a number of reported cases of headlice this week. Please be vigilant when combing or washing children's hair and please treat at the first sign of lice or eggs. Please see NHS guidance for how to treat head lice here:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/

Autumn Bake Sale – Friday 13th October

The PTA will be holding a bake sale in the playground on Friday 13th October.

Donations can go to the office the day before (Thursday 12th Oct), and can be brought to the teacher, who will arrange to get the bakes to the school office.

Shop bought donations are welcome

All donations must be nut free

There will be a 'Free From' table

Any homemade donations need to be clearly labelled with any allergens and names on boxes

Volunteers to help with the sale to be available from 2pm on Friday 13th



If you can help, please contact PTA on Instagram @friendsoftorridon, Whatsapp or email: friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com

Operation Woodland



As you know we have been developing our new woodland area this year. We need your help to keep our woodland growing so are inviting you to donate any small change you may have.

Look out for the small change buckets on the gate during the week commencing 16th October 2023.

All funds raised will be used to develop and maintain our new outdoor learning space. Thank you for your continued support.



AUTUMN GARDENING

Calling all enthusiastic outdoor volunteers, green-fingered or not! Grab some gardening gloves - and a friend, neighbour, child or partner - and join the Torridon Green Team on Saturday 4th November. 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 while making a real difference to the outdoor environment at the school.

We'll be planting bulbs, trimming branches, weeding and tidying up the garden beds around the school grounds, as we help to keep the green areas thriving and support the school's Woodland Team. We'll also be doing a bit of work in the nursery's mud kitchen!



If you have them, please bring: water bottle, gardening gloves, bucket, trowel or spade, fork, secateurs or any other gardening equipment you think might be useful.

Refreshments provided!

Please RSVP to <u>friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com</u>- and spread the word!

Rights Respecting School



Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

This week we explored Article 24, we had a discussion about the importance of protecting the environment. We thought about how we can make small changes in our lives to positively impact the world such as recycling.

Lewisham Foodbank





lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

Ukulele Lessons



Reception Learning

Reception have had another brilliant week! Whilst continuing our topic 'All About Me' we have drawn and talked about who is in our family, what we're good at and we even made ourselves! We've had lots of fun exploring both inde and outside.











Year 1 Learning

Mysterious things have been happening at Torridon, this week.

The Year 1 children went on a nature walk to look for some signs of Autumn but just as they were about to return to their classrooms, they spotted a glass bottle floating in the pond. They fished it out and inside, was a message from Piglet, asking for HELP!



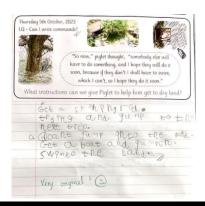


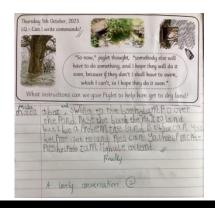




After further investigation, they realised that he had been trapped by a flood in his tree house and he was still stuck, so they wrote instructions to help him get back to dry land.

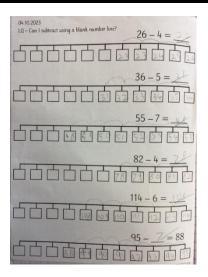


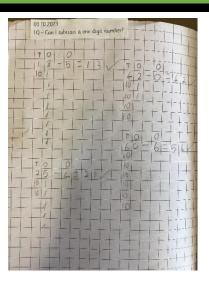




Year 2 Maths







In year 2 maths lessons, we have practiced subtracting one digit numbers. We used our knowledge of partitioning to help us 'smash and bash' the first number, then we took away the ones. We used practical resources to support our learning.

Year 3 Lewisham Trip

In year 3, we have been finding out about our local area as part of our learning based on our Lewisham Legacy theme. We spent the morning visiting various historical landmarks in the borough and then used this as a stimulus for our creative writing. Next week we will use our knowledge to write a guidebook about Lewisham.













Year 4 History

As part of Black History Month, Year 4 researched a famous woman who lived in the Victorian era. Her name was Mary Seacole. We learnt what Mary achieved and the struggles that she faced. We then used charcoals to create some art work to reflect her journey by picking out key words to represent her achievements and challenges.



Year 5 Writing



In writing, Year 5 children embarked on a creative journey to enhance their writing skills. Students worked in groups to act out scenarios that served as the foundation for their transcripts based on a chapter from the London Eye Mystery.

Resource Base - Blue Pathway



Chips visited the base today and both pathways joined together to greet, play and interact with her.



Year 6 Writing

In English, we have been planning narratives based on significant black British women that have inspired children of today. My story is about Letitia Wright's path to success and how she never gave up! I am excited to write this and share it with KS1. I am looking forward to reading my story to them, entertaining them and showing them the importance of different cultures. — Sadie



This week in English, we created short comic strips based on a



Black British role model of our choice. To celebrate Black History Month, we will finish by writing and sharing our stories. I choose Letitia Michelle Wright, as she is such a positive role model to young girls. My story will remind young girls every day that they are kind, amazing and unique — Tobi

Irie Dance Theatre





We are very proud to be an Irie Dance Theatre Partner School.

Zozo and Nii Boye from Irie Dance are back in full force with the African and Caribbean dance after school club every Tuesday 3.30 - 4.30. Children in Yr3 - 6 have been learning "Kpanlogo" from Ghana. The origins of the dance are the foundations of modern day afrobeats.

Each week the children will learn dances accompanied by live drumming and percussion which demonstrate rituals, heritage and traditions in dance of the African Diaspora

Forest School News

It has been a busy couple of weeks at after school club.

The children have made a swing and a see-saw!

We have also been busy planting our winter vegetables. This week we planted broccoli, cabbage, rhubarb and spinach!







Allergies

Please remember we are a 'nut free' school.

Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens.

We cannot have nuts in school in any form. So please can we ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.

For example:

Peanut butter or chocolate spread sandwiches

Cereal and some granola bars

Biscuits, cookies or cakes that contain nuts

Sauces that contain nuts

This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Thank you for your support.

The Big Ambition

<u>The Big Ambition</u> is a new campaign to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country about what they need to make their lives better. We are keen to build momentum on this and encouraging everyone at Torridon to take part.



As we approach the General Election, now is a crucial moment to take children and young people's voices to policymakers, Government, and decision makers, to make sure they are heard. That is why I want to hear from every child and young person in England about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. I will also be asking what they want for their future, their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

This survey is for all children and young people aged 6-18 and for parents/carers who can complete the survey on behalf of children aged 0-5. This will ensure we hear from early years settings. Adults can also assist children who are unable to complete the survey independently.

The survey can be completed here: https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/



Stars of the Week



Class	Name	Reason				
Nursery FT	Cairo	For being very helpful during tidy up time and for being kind and sharing				
		with your friends. Well done, Cairo 🚭				
Nursery AM	Othniel	For good listening on the carpet and for trying different activities within				
		the Nursery. Well done, Othniel 🕹				
Nursery PM	Rasha	For settling so well into Nursery during your first week and being very				
		helpful during tidy up time. Well done, Rasha 😉				
Blue Class	Valentina	For settling so well into Reception and making so many new friends in Blue Class. Well done! :)				
Red Class	Beaudi	For always helping others, showing kindness and his fantastic efforts at tidy-up time! Well done 🕄				
Yellow Class	Emma	For coming into school with a smile on her face and fantastic phonic				
1M	Hetty	learning. Well done! For her beautiful writing and for her love for learning. Well done for				
1171	Tretty	always doing the right thing! 😉				
1N	Ayat	For her growing confidence and making us very proud by writing independently. ③				
1W	Hector	For growing in confidence and making an effort to work independently.				
		He is steadily learning that he can do amazing things when he tries. 🔞				
2S	Lotta	For her amazing contributions to carpet sessions and her fantastic ideas				
		in her writing. Well done! 🔞				
2SW	Hazel	For trying her very best in her learning and having such a positive				
		attitude. Well done Hazel! 🚱				
2V	Manasseh	For showing excellence in his writing lesson by writing in detail. Well				
		done and keep it up. 🚱				
3A	Lotanna	For demonstrating an excellent attitude towards his learning.				
3G	Ottilie	For consistently taking pride in her presentation. Keep it up!				
3S	Kasvin	Well done for using and applying your mathematical knowledge to solve addition problems using the column method.				
4A	Maxwell	For showing respect and kindness to all members of our diverse				
4L	Ashton	for always being kind to others and his outstanding behaviour for				
		for always being kind to others and his outstanding behaviour for learning.				
4S	Madison	For always showing such a delightful enthusiasm for learning by				
		answering and asking questions during discussion time.				
5C	Tavarie	For being on task throughout his learning and making some excellent contributions in his learning. Well done!				
5L	Akshika	For her high-quality piece of writing. She wrote an excellent persuasive leaflet. Well done!				
5S	Chisom	For her expectational attentiveness and eagerness to learn. Her willingness to assist and be helpful towards everyone is commendable and sets a wonderful example for her peers. Well done!				
6A	Osei	For consistently displaying our core values in all areas of her learning, and always including others in her activities, thereby respecting and celebrating our diversity.				
6C	Adam	For his fantastic effort during Maths this week. You have been listening very carefully and developing your arithmetic skills — well done.				
6L	Eunice	For her excellent reading skills. Eunice always volunteers to read and does so with great pronunciation and vigour. Well done!				
RB Blue	Kenny	Well done for great learning in Year 4 this week!				
RB Green	Amarachukwu	Well done for always having such a great attitude to learning!				

Dates For Your Diary								
	Mental Health Awareness Day							
T	Year 4 visit to Museum of London Docklands							
Tuesday 10 th October	Parent and carer open evening							
	All day - Y5/6 Boys and Girls Football Tournament							
Wednesday 11th October	Parent and carer open evening							
Thursday 12 th October	Individual, sibling and class photographs							
	2:15pm - Resource Base sensory afternoon							
Friday 13 th October	3.15pm — PTA Autumn Bake Sale							
Monday 23 rd — Friday 27 th October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY							
Wednesday 1st November	Flu Immunisation (Year 1 to Year 6)							
Saturday 4 th November	Gardening afternoon — 1pm — 4pm (PTA event)							
Week Beginning 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week							
Tuesday 14th November	Korky Paul — illustrator visit							
Wednesday 15 th November	Resource Base to Panathlon Sports Festival							
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need							
Week beginning20th November	Road Safety Week							
Tuesday 21st November	Year 2 trip to London Zoo							
Friday 24 th November	INSET DAY							
Week beginning 4 th December	Whole school assessment week							
Tuesday 5 th December	Resource Base trip — Bowling Festival							
Thursday 7 th December	School Disco (PTA event)							
Monday 11 th Decemeber	Whole school art exhibition							
	Y3/4 Athletics Tournament							
Tuesday 12 th December	Whole school art exhibition							
	Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance							
Wednesday 13 th December	Y5/6 Athletics Tournament							
Thursday 14 th December	9.00 Year 1 Christmas assembly							
	2.45 Year 2 Christmas assembly							
Friday 15 th December	9.00 Year 3 Christmas assembly							
	2.45 Year 4 Christmas assembly							
Monday 18 th December	9.00 Year 5 Christmas assembly							
	2.45 Year 6 Christmas assembly							
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas jumper day							
-	Christmas Lunch							
Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of term — 2pm finish							
Thursday 21st December to Friday 5th	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY							
January								
Monday 8 th January	First day of spring term							
<u> </u>								



Weekly Attendance by Class

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	97%	3A	98%		5C	96%	
1N	97%	3G	94%		5L	96%	
1W	96%	3S	99%	13333 VIII	5S	97%	2
25	99%	4A	98%		6A	96%	
2SW	98%	4L	94%		6C	94%	
2V	98%	4S	95%		6L	94%	

Well done to all the classes who achieved close to 100% attendance this week!

National Sleep Helpline

National sleep helpline are sending information about this wonderful free resource that can help parents and children to learn more about their sleep and develop better bedtime routines. Sleep is essential to brain function, by helping children to sleep better, we can help them to succeed in school.





Lewisham Support



LEWISHAM AUTISM SUPPORT

Support for families of children with a diagnosis of autism living in Lewisham

What we offer:

- 1-hour clinic appointment with experienced Family Support Coordinators who provide support for parents/carers in:
 - Understanding more about autism.
 - Information about accessing local services and benefits.
- · For families resident in Lewisham, access to ongoing support (Comeback Service).
- · A drop-in service at Kaleidoscope on the first Monday of each month (term-time only) 10.00 - 12.00.

How to access our service:

- Paediatricians and other Kaleidoscope diagnosing teams can automatically refer families after diagnosis. This includes families diagnosed at Kaleidoscope but living in other boroughs. These families will receive an initial 1-hour clinic only.
- · We accept referrals from other professionals working with diagnosed children living in the borough.
- · Families of diagnosed children can also self-refer.

- Tel: 020 8699 3066
- Email: lewisham.familysupport@nas.org.uk



About Supporting Families

- The Supporting Families Programme is a cross-departmental initiative between The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Local Authority, which helps families sustain employment. DWP Jobcentre advisers work closely with families to provide employment/training and benefit support.



If you would like support into employment/training or benefits advice, please speak to a Lewisham Family Hub Navigator, Social Worker, Family Practitioner or School to be referred to a Supporting Families Employment Adviser!



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family time activities, where everyone can get active together while creating lasting memories. Join us for a fun-filled journey to a healthier, happier family!

EXCITING ACTIVITIES!

- 10am Kids Multi Sports
- 11am Kids Football Yoga Class for parents/adults

 Fitness Class for parents/ adults



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INVEST IN THE YOUTH



Online Safety



AMONGUS

A multiplayer 'social deduction' game set in outer space, Among Us enjoyed a surge in popularity in 2020, and has since maintained a dedicated fan-base (globally, around 60 million regular players each month) thanks to its unique nature, simple premise and ease of access across numerous platforms. The game's on-screen action revolves around danger, disguise and deception – and there are certain parallels to be drawn with some of the real-life risks that parents and carers of young Among Us players need to be aware of.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SENSITIVE PREMISE

In Among Us, up to three players are secretly assigned to be alien imposters, tasked with murdering their colleagues while the survivars try to unmask them. While the concept's not far removed from traditional games like Wink Murder or TV shows zuch as The Traitors, some porents may feel uncomfortable about their child playing a video game in which deception and killing are prioritized.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

The on-screen death of characters may be fundamental to the gameplay of Among Ue, but the majority of the animations depicting this are deliberately cartonnish and only appear very briefly. However, It is worth bearing in mind that the game has a PEGI age rating of 7 – meaning that certain elements (however heavily styliced they may be) could still user's same vurger plays.

CHAT BETWEEN

With up to 16 people participating in each game enline, a large part of Armong Dr. appeal is speculating with fellow players who the imposters might be and making accusations. This dialogue through the in-game text chat can accessorally become heated – and could, of course, involve your child being put into contact with people (including adults) who they

GOING OFF PLATFORM

While Among Us provides basic ways to communicate, many garners prefer to use external services such as Discord: a popular app which offers voice and video chat functions. These underinably make cooperation easier, but also create a potential route for children to hear inappropriate language — or for strangers to message them privately in an environment which isn't regulated by the come itself.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

Among Us is free to download on mobile devices, and coests less than £5 to obtain an console and PC. A related longer-term pitfall, though, is that the game also includes options to pay for upgrades such as removing add on the mobile version or adding against touches to characters (such as different costumes). It's certainly possible that a child could spend a significant sum without recitions it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER SOFTER ALTERNATIVES

Although Among Us is hugely popular with young garners, it's possible that some children might find the murder themes unsettling, it so, plenty of similar social deduction games are evallable (in bott digital and traditional board game formats) which downplay the potentially gristler elements: some centre around undercover spies, for instance, and there's even a Marvel superfiner themed variant.

CHAT ABOUT CHATTING

You might feel it's prudent to talk to your child about the risks associated with value chat while gaming, explaining in particular that strongers online aren't always who they claim to be. Seeping the conversation released will reinfecce your child's confidence that they can always come to you with any online concerns - not just about Among Us, but any patential future issues as well.

DISCUSS DISCORD

In general, Discord is an excellent app for keeping online communities together because of its use of dedicated individual servers, which allow comprehensive control over who can join – and who can't. Once you're familiar with the pictorm, you could set up a secure server for your child and their friends to communicate during games of Amang Us, with no access for beach they don't know.

AMONG US, AMONG FRIENDS

When your child and their friends get together, they can enjoy a private game of Amang Us by choosing a "local" lobby - that is, only people connected to the same WiFi (your home network, for example) can enter. This prevents any random online users - who may be total strangers - from joining and removes the need for voice chat, as the players are all physically in the same location.

STOP SURPRISE SPENDING

I you're concerned about the possibility of your child tacking up an unexpected bill on Among Us' microtransactions, you could consider using a prepaid card with a set limit, likewise, you sould specify in the game's aptions that adult authorisation is required for every purchase – or you could make sure that no payment methods are enabled on the device that your child plays the game on.

Meet Our Expert

Unyd Coombes is sittler in Charl of garring and reports also between one not washed in the parting moder to around har page. It regular violated the days there only not more back, for sittle a power site or understands in situate of critics earlier, withing modely, about two and threes, not professe.













