



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

Headteacher: Manda George

Telephone: 0208 697 2762

Email: admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

8th December 2023

Dear parents and carers,

The children had a fantastic time at the disco last night. They had so much fun with their friends and their dance moves were amazing as you will see from the photos later in the newsletter. Thank you so much to Emma and our wonderful PTA for organising such a fabulous event.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our art exhibition this week. The children were so proud to show off their learning and we had lots of positive feedback from you. Thank you to Flora and Emily for organising the event and to you for taking the time to come and support the children.

We were also very impressed with the number of you who came and joined in with our African Dance performance with Irie Dance Theatre on Tuesday. We certainly have some very talented families at Torridon!

We are looking forward to the Early Years 'Noisy Nativity' which takes place next week. I am sure you have already booked your spot for the performance. If you have not, please contact the admin office who will be happy to help.

Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 are also looking forward to performing at their assemblies next week. There is no need to book a place, we would love to see as many of you there as possible.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher

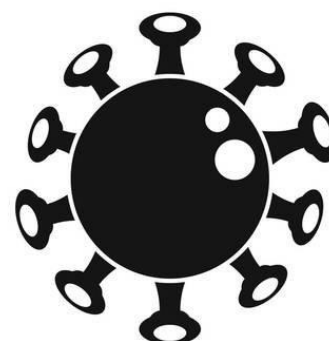


Chickenpox

We have had a number of chicken pox cases reported this term.

The symptoms include blister-type spots which appear over three to five days particularly on covered rather than exposed areas.

Please see your GP as soon as possible if you think your child is suffering from these symptoms.



School Disco Fun



Christmas Lunch Menu

Tuesday 19th December 2023

We will be having Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 19th December. If your child usually has a packed lunch but would like a school Christmas dinner, please email admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk.



Christmas Events



There are lots of festive fun times ahead before the end of term. Please put the dates in your diary.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any questions.



Reception and Nursery Nativity

Wednesday 13th December

9.15am

OR

2.34pm

Christmas Assemblies

Year 1	Thursday 14 th December	9.00am
Year 2	Thursday 14 th December	2.45pm
Year 3	Friday 15 th December	9.00am
Year 4	Friday 15 th December	2.45pm
Year 5	Monday 18 th December	9.00am
Year 6	Monday 18 th December	2.45pm
Resource Base	Tuesday 19 th December	2.00pm

On Tuesday 19th December 2023, we are inviting children to come to school in non-uniform and wear festive dress up if they choose to.

Festive Dress Up Day

Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 19th December

Last Day of Term

2pm Wednesday 20th December



Challenge Greenhouse



Thank you to all who have donated their empty 2 litre plastic bottles this week-so far, we have collected 626!

Only 874 to go!!



Foodbank Donations



At Christmas we like to treat everyone.

Here are some suggestions of what we put in our "hampers":



Thank you!

We are open 9 am - 5 pm Mondays - Thursdays to accept donations
OR you could arrange a supermarket delivery

New Hope Centre, 353H Bromley Road SE6 2RP
www.lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

You can donate directly to the foodbank or bring your donations into the school office and we will arrange to deliver them.

Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

Reception – Festive Fun!



This week the Nursery children have enjoyed the Santa's Grotto. They have decorated the Christmas trees. They have made Christmas wreaths, stars, paper chains and Christmas lists for Santa. We are excited for Christmas!



Resource Base Cooking



In the resource base we got festive with our cooking making mince pies. Both pathways come together to socialise, cook and taste new foods. We rolled and cut the pastry ourselves and filled it with delicious mincemeat. It is safe to say that, from all the smiles, they were very tasty.



Year 1 - Geography



Year 1 have been learning all about the UK and what makes each part of it special and diverse. This week we used maps to name and locate the four countries that make up the United Kingdom, including the oceans that surround it. We had a go at spotting the capital cities of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland using the symbols on our maps to help us. We are becoming experts at naming the 7 continents of the world with a song. If you ask us, we might sing it to you at home!



Year 2 - Computing

This week year 2 have been enjoying creating their own digital winter posters. We explored a variety of different tools and effects whilst on '2Simple' which resulted in our amazing masterpieces! Take a look...



We have also been practising our songs for our Christmas performance next week and we can't wait to share them with you!

Year 3 - Dance



This term in dance, Year 3 have taken part in "Create and Dance" an education programme by the Royal Opera House. The programme uses professional works as starting points for creative arts curriculum school productions. The children have been using the narrative, classical Ballet and building upon choreographic tools to develop their own version of Alice in Wonderland based on the ballet during their dance lessons.

In DT the children created a head band to wear as part of their costume and performed via a Live Stream with other schools to share each others work. In the afternoon the children watched the full ballet and celebrated with a Tea Party theme.








Irie Dance Theatre Performance

A massive well done to our Key Stage Two dancers who performed to parents and carers this week in a showcase of African Dance. The audience consisted of parents, carers, siblings and grandparents who also had a chance to join in with an interactive performance to show their talents. The after school club runs every week with Ni Boye and Zozo from Irie Dance Theatre.



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	97%		3A	99%		5C	97%	
1N	93%		3G	90%		5L	90%	
1W	94%		3S	96%		5S	98%	
2S	97%		4A	99%		6A	91%	
2SW	95%		4L	98%		6C	98%	
2V	95%		4S	90%		6L	100%	

A big congratulations to 6L for achieving 100% attendance this week!
Well Done to all classes who achieved close to 100% attendance!

Year 5 – Writing

In 5C this week, we have been editing and improving our writing of The Buried Moon.

The writing below shows editing skills and improved handwriting. Well done Orlando!

The children are very proud of their writing and so are we.

As soon as the Sun exited the sky, ~~one~~^{some} life threatening Sunday the daring Moon thought she should ~~scare away~~^{scare some} terrifying, non stop nightmare Creatures away. Later that night, she disguised herself with a really dark black cloak. Suddenly, she heard a man scream "HELP". She took off her cloak and shone brighter than sunrise and all of the Creatures ran into the shadows. The man ran and thanked the moon she had felt like a superhero her light had stopped and the Creatures came right back out. She had slipped! She quickly grabbed onto a branch the was glowing wooden fingers. The branch fingers held as tight as they could and she tugged and tugged but nothing worked. She stopped suddenly, the Creatures of the night approached her and threatened to bury her.

As soon as the Sun exited the sky, ~~one~~^{some} life threatening Sunday the daring Moon thought she should ~~scare away~~^{scare some} terrifying, non stop nightmare Creatures away. Later that night, she disguised herself with a really dark black cloak. Suddenly, she heard a man scream "HELP". She took off her cloak and shone brighter than sunrise and all of the Creatures ran into the shadows. The man ran and thanked the moon she had felt like a superhero her light had stopped and the Creatures came right back out. She had slipped! She quickly grabbed onto a tree branch the branch started glowing wooden fingers the branch fingers held as tight as they could and she tugged and tugged but nothing worked. She stopped suddenly, the Creatures of the night approached her and they threatened to bury her.

Year 6 – Computing

In computing, we used a software called TinkerCad to understand more about 3D models and how they are printed.

We have been using our knowledge of 3D shapes as well as our imagination to come up with practice models.



Forest School News

What an amazing term it has been! To think in February, our woodland space was a concrete car park and now over 240 children visit Forest School every week!!

In addition to the saplings that were planted by the children, the woodland now homes 4 established trees, courtesy of Street Trees for living. The children have also planted 300 Spring bulbs this term to add some colour to the woodland.

We have enjoyed a variety of activities this term, including; minibeast hunts, becoming leaf thieves, chopping wood, building fires and cooking popcorn.



I would like to thank all of the children for their excitement about Forest School each week, the staff for braving the elements and our parents and carers for ensuring all of the children come to school 'Forest school ready'!

Forest School will be back to full timetable from the week commencing 8th January 2024 and we look forward to Year 1 joining Forest School!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Avery	He is very helpful at tidy up time. Well done, Avery 😊
Nursery AM	Thivani	She is playing nicely with her friends at Nursery. Well done, Thivani 😊
Nursery PM	Liseta	She has settled well into Nursery and she is very helpful at tidy up time. 😊
Blue Class	Owen	For trying new things and settling into blue class so well this term. Well done, Owen!
Red Class	Erin F	For her brilliant writing! Erin always tries her best in everything she does 😊
Yellow Class	Leo	For working hard in phonics and applying his phonics knowledge to his reading. Well done!
1M	Rhia	For her positive attitude towards her learning and for her lovely poem writing. Keep up the lovely learning Rhia! 😊
1N	Kyrie	For always taking care with his presentation and always doing his best. We are so impressed with the progress you have made! 😊
1W	Oghenen	For being a positive and cheerful member of the class. She is a friend to everyone and she is always willing to help others. Well done! 😊
2S	Rowan	For her brilliant effort in all of our tricky quizzes this week and for her positive attitude in all that she does! You are a wonderful role model to others Rowan-Well done! 😊
2SW	All of 2SW	For trying their very best when completing the tricky quizzes! Well done everyone! 😊
2V	Vivien, Najla and Bobby	For being amazing and creative dance teachers who came up with a routine for our class Christmas performance and taught it to the class. Well done.
3A	Zoe	For being enthusiastic about our Christmas songs and giving it you're all with your singing! Good job 😊
3G	Arlo	For trying his best in the tricky quizzes. Well done 😊
3S	Malachi	For reflecting on his own learning and making improvements to always do his best.
4A	Michael	For settling in really well and trying his best in all of his learning.
4L	Yathurshan	for being such a kind and considerate member of 4L. He is very caring towards other members of the class and has fantastic behaviour.
4S	Isara	For having such a positive attitude to swimming, singing and her assessments this week
5C	Aksa	For being confident in class this week by contributing her ideas to the class discussion. This has been a first for Aksa. Well done!
5L	Moliesa	For always being so polite and respectful. You always have a positive attitude – well done!
5S	Imogen	For your outstanding narrative piece in writing. Your proactive approach to learning and your commitment to improvements shows in your learning. Keep up the excellent work and your enthusiasm towards learning. Well done!
6A	Farron	For displaying our core value of 'Aspiration' this week in her assessments. Keep it up!
6C	Amari	For demonstrating an excellent attitude towards your learning during assessment week. You should be proud of your efforts - well done!
6L	Ibrahim	He has demonstrated hard work and determination during assessment week. Well done and keep up the good work!
RB Blue	Izzy	Well done for always being so kind to others.
RB Green	Munasar	Well done for trying your best with writing this week!

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 9 th December	9.00 Boys' Football Match- CANCELLED
Monday 11 th December	Year 3/4 Athletics Tournament
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 4 to National Maritime Museum
Wednesday 13 th December	9.15am or 2.15pm Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance Year 5/6 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 2.00 Resource Base Christmas assembly
Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of term – 2pm finish
Thursday 21 st December to Friday 5 th January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Monday 8 th January	First day of spring term
Tuesday 16 th January	NCMP height and weight screening 9.00 Year 1 and 2 reading workshop for parents and carers
Friday 19 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 23 rd January	9.00 Year 3 and 4 reading workshop for parents and carers
Tuesday 30 th January	9.00 Year 5 and 6 reading workshop for parents and carers
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	HALF TERM
Thursday 7 th March	WORLD BOOK DAY
Friday 8 th March	International Womens' Day
Week beginning 11 th March	Whole school assessment week
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 19 th and Thursday 21 st March	Open evenings for parents and carers
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term – 2pm finish
Friday 29 th March – Friday 12 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 8 th – Thursday 11 th April	Year 6 Easter school
Monday 15 th April	First day of the summer term



The Big Ambition

'The Big Ambition' provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election.

It only takes 5-10 minutes and children and parents can complete the survey here:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/

Let's make sure that the children and young people of Lewisham are represented in the results.



Parent and Carer Workshops

We are pleased to share the dates of further upcoming parent and carer meetings and workshops. Next half term, you are invited to attend reading workshops to learn more about how we teach reading at Torridon.

Spring 1	
9.00 on Tuesday 16 th January	Y1 and Y2 Reading
9.00 on Tuesday 23 rd January	Y3 and Y4 Reading
9.00 on Tuesday 30 th January	Y5 and Y6 Reading



Montage Theatre Arts

[Montage Theatre Arts](#) runs after school and Saturday classes for ages 3-18 year which include Musical Theatre, Street Dance, Drama, Ballet, Contemporary Dance and much more.

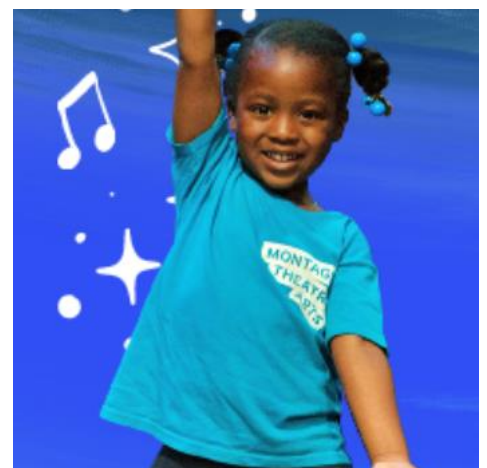
Our Holiday courses run weekdays 9.30-4.30 for ages 5-12 years and students learn to act, sing and dance with a performance to friends and family on the last day.

- We are OFSTED registered with enhanced DBS checked, safeguarding, first aid and mental health first aid trained staff.
- Location: Montage Theatre Arts, Prendergast Hilly Fields College, SE4 1LE.

FREE PLACES - To register interest contact admin@montagetheatre.com or 0208 692 700 or apply at:

<https://www.montagetheatre.com/bursaries/>

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to get in touch.



Community Events

FORSTER MEMORIAL PARK Christmas MARKET

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2023
9:00am till 2:30pm

A CHRISTMAS EVENT TO HELP SUPPORT
SMALL BUSINESSES & BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Mulled wine, hot food & drinks, handmade items, clothing & last
minute gift ideas

FREE ENTRY

Whitefoot Lane, Bromley, BR1 5SD

THIS EVENT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY



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.

Contact details:

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

Christmas show

Saturday 16th December

10.45am **THE BOB HOPE THEATRE**
Wythfield Rd, London SE9 5TG

Tickets £10 per seat
Under 1's free on laps

Book through this link:
www.boppinbunnies.co.uk/shows

Festive outfits welcome so dust off those Christmas jumpers!

@boppinbunnies
 @boppinbunnies
 @boppinbunnies

Bellingham Community Project
Your local charity promoting health & wellbeing

Christmas Fun Play Party for Children with Special Educational Needs

Aged 8 and under

Thursday, 14th December 2023
9.30 am - 11.30 am

**At the Bellingham Leisure and
Lifestyle Centre**
5 Randlesdown Road
Bellingham
SE6 3BT

This is a dedicated session, and the fun play area will be closed to the public. To book a place or for more information please email bcp@bcp.uk.net or call/text 02084612213/07549433963. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please note that the accompanying adult will be expected to stay and will be responsible for their child throughout the session.

A partnership project from:

bcp@bcp.uk.net
 07549 433963
 0208 461 2213
[bellinghamcommunityproject](https://www.instagram.com/bellinghamcommunityproject)

Virtual Workshop - 12th December – 6.30pm to 8pm

LEWISHAM PARENT AND CARER'S FORUM WORKSHOP

This workshop is aimed at parents and carers of young people aged 14+ and will provide information on the benefits they may be entitled to from age 16. This will include the process of changing from Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payments when your child is 16.



Join for an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and experiences on the important services that you receive for your children. Please do help get the right services for your children and young people by taking part. This is an informal session.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84262301565?pwd=3pWQxP0mNocYP8KeH2o9H4aZLgu4jH.1>

Passcode: 868777

Meeting ID: 842 6230 1565

Website link: <https://mailchi.mp/lewishamparentcarer/lpcf-virtual-workshop-post-16-benefits-12th-december-2023>

Talking Teens

TALKING TEENS



Family Thrive Early Help Co-ordinators are running a free course for parents or carers of teenagers and pre-teens who are looking to better understand and communicate with them – It offers an opportunity to understand what's going on in the adolescent brain and how to understand their feelings and behaviours using an authoritative parenting style. Sessions will focus on relationships within the family, communication, negotiation, decision-making and strategies to reduce conflict.

The group aims to develop:

- relationships between teenagers and parents/carers
- a calmer home life
- confidence when talking about difficult issues
- an understanding of teenage needs and development

Who would be eligible to attend this course?

- Parents and carers of pre-teens and teenagers who are currently in years 6 & 7 but there may be availability for years 5 & 8
- There is no physical or extremely challenging behaviour present in or outside of the family home. This course focuses on the importance of empathy and positive discipline
- Family must reside in Lewisham borough or child must attend a Lewisham school

How long is the course?

- Each group is 4 sessions over the course of 4 weeks
- 2 hours per session (10.00am-12.00pm on Thursdays)

For more information or to register your interest, please email our duty box:
EHCFamilyThrive@lewisham.gov.uk



Christmas in Lewisham



Good Food Lewisham and Community Connections Lewisham have put together this Christmas provision list of useful services, free Christmas meals and food provision:

<https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/post/christmas-in-lewisham-2023-useful-services-free-meals-and-free-food>

Thanks to those of you who are offering free Christmas meals and other Christmas food services – it's very much appreciated.

Online Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISNEY+

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+, combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT
While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings' below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING
With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make watching screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

PHISHING EMAILS
Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

ENCROACHING ADVERTS
Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES
If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Go! Pin it!' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS
When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 8 and is therefore family limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a profile for them, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 8+, 12+ or 14+.

ADD PIN PROTECTION
Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are for more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY
When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will like. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

ENJOY AS A FAMILY
When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's appropriate. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Meet Our Expert
Dr. Claire Sutherland is a cyber safety consultant, educator and researcher who has researched and presented at a range of major safety forums for schools. She has written various academic papers and articles on research for the UK and international governments and is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars across the UK, USA and Australia.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety **/NationalOnlineSafety** **@nationalonline_safety** **@national_online_safety**

Years of this guide do as at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.06.2021