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24th May 2024

Dear parents and carers,

The summer term is whizzing by – it is hard to believe we are halfway through. Staff and children have been working so hard and their learning this half term has been fantastic!

A very big thank you to Chris and our wonderful team of music teachers who do such a good job supporting our children with their musical development. It was so lovely to hear our talented pianists and guitarists performing this week. Thank you to those who were able to come along and support them. Look out for the dates of the next performances after half term.

Our catering provider Chartwells would like to speak to a group of parents and carers and answer any questions you may have about school lunches. They are inviting two representatives from each year group to attend a meeting at 9am on Thursday 13th June to find out more about what they do and to present any questions which may have been raised. If you would like to attend, please email admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Our year 6 children have had a brilliant time on their residential trip this week as have those who stayed behind. Bowling, cinema trips, discos and campfires are a very well-deserved reward after all their hard work this year.

We hope to see lots of you at the PTA Fun Run at Forster Park on Sunday 9th June. There is still time to sign up if you would like to help out on the day. Please see details later in the newsletter.

We are also pleased to inform you that our plans for the after school club continue to move forwards, and we are currently advertising for the Torridon staff team.

Whatever you are doing next week, I hope you have a lovely half term. We look forward to seeing you back at school on **Monday 3rd June**.

Best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



Torridon Fun Run – Sunday 9th June

For registration and more information
[click here Fun Run 2024](#).

We need lots of volunteers on the day to help make this event a success. If you can spare an hour on the day for registration or marshalling, please [sign up to volunteer here](#).



All Years – Relationship and Health Education

Next half term, all children from reception to year 6 will be learning about Relationship and Health Education (RHE). RHE guides children and young people in lifelong learning about relationship, emotions, and human biology. In our school, these lessons are taught in an age-appropriate way and are underpinned by our school ethos and values. There will be a parent information afternoon at 2:45pm on Thursday 6th June 2024.

Well Done Tyler-Rae!



We are so proud of Tyler-Rae for performing in the 'Beauty and the Beast' panto!

Keep up the good work!

Nursery – Butterflies

This week, Nursery visited Horniman's butterfly house. The children enjoyed seeing the different coloured butterflies flying around them. We also learnt that butterflies taste with their feet!



Year 1 – Toy Museum

Breaking News! Last week, the Jumping Jack clown mysteriously reappeared in Year 1's toy museum! We scratched our heads, wondering how it was returned and by whom... until we received a letter from Queen Victoria. She had mistaken our Jumping Jack for her own! We presented a news report to tell everyone about the return of the very special artefact.



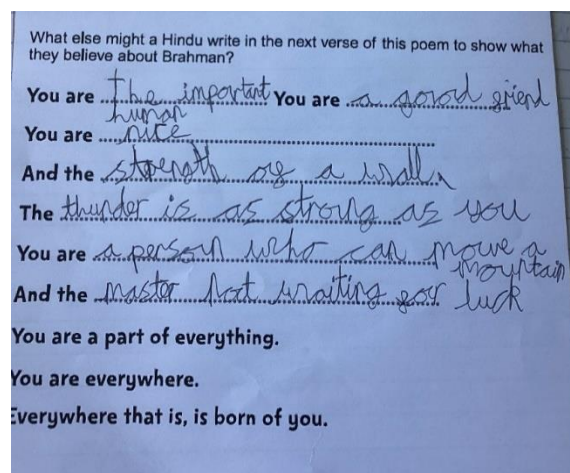
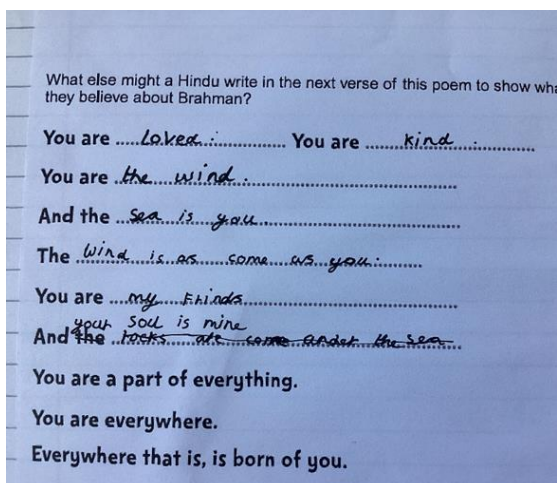
Year 2 – Becoming Bakers

Today, year 2 children were busy following the bread-making instructions which were given to us by Professor Eric. We were very excited to become bakers and had lots of fun exploring the features of the instructions. We realised whilst following them that a good set of instructions includes imperative verbs which are bossy and tell us what to do. After carefully following the recipe, we ended up with the most delicious bread rolls ever! Take a look...



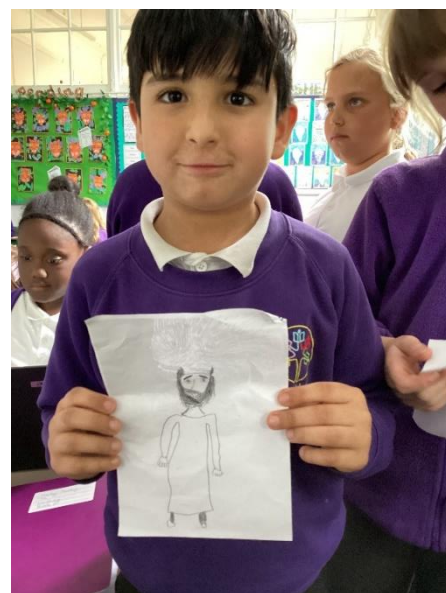
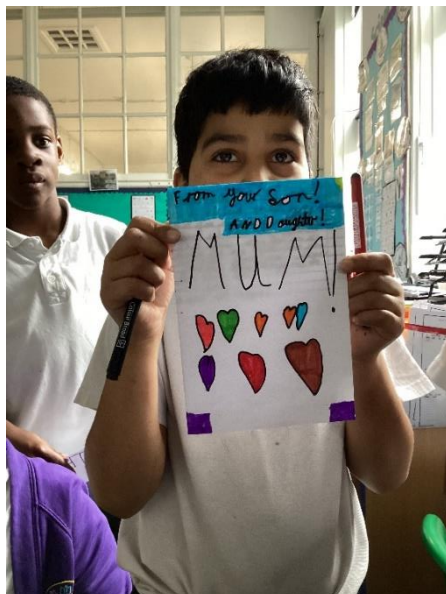
Year 3 – RE

This week, we expressed our understanding of Brahman through writing our own verses of poetry. Our poems were inspired by an ancient poem from the Upanishads about Brahman. We then performed our poems to the class as if we were at a spoken word event and snapped our fingers to show appreciation!



Year 4 – PSHE

We made cards and drew pictures for people who we appreciate as part of our 'relationships' topic. We have been learning how to cope with loss, strategies for falling out with others and about different relationships we have with different people.



Year 5 – The British Museum

This week, year 5 embarked on an exciting trip to The British Museum to enhance our study of the Ancient Greeks. We were all captivated by the numerous Greek artefacts on display. We examined vases and depictions of women working in Ancient Greece, farming, gods and goddesses, shipbuilding, and woodworking.



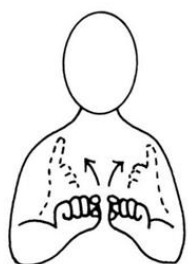
Resource Base



This week, all of the children have been really trying to be independent during their maths learning. We have had some children completing addition and subtraction calculations and some looking at groups of



numbers. They have worked really hard to use different resources when they find learning tricky.



Index fingers move apart with upward twist

Makaton sign for 'change'

Children in Blue Pathway have been learning about how to cope with change, e.g. when their timetables are different. There have been lots of school trips and timetable changes this week and the children have been using lots of calming strategies to manage this. Well done!

Year 6 – Home Journey

On Wednesday, we went on a trip to the Vue cinema in Bromley where we watched the film 'IF.' While we watched the film, we were able to recline the seats and tables were provided to place our food and drinks. Overall, we enjoyed the experience in the cinema. We also visited the park that was nearby and had an enjoyable time playing on the slides, swings and turn-tables.

On Thursday, we went to Forster Park. We all enjoyed a wonderful time there, and on Friday we

went to
Lewisham Lanes
Bowling Alley.
We had plenty of
fun!

Srrutis 6L



Year 6 – PGL

Our first day activities, trapeze and orienteering, went really well. The weather didn't hold out, and it was very wet, but the children showed great resilience and participated fully in the activities. The next day, we had a great morning of climbing and going on the zip wire. The children built rafts and had a lovely afternoon sailing across the lake in the sunshine. We all had a great time! Then we took part in a sensory trail and had a delicious dinner. Our evening activity was a camp fire with songs and marshmallows!



Allotment News

What a difference a couple of terms make! Our allotment has grown so much in just a few months.

We are growing strawberries, raspberries, tomatoes, cucumber, lettuce, spring onion, courgettes, pumpkin, broad beans, potatoes, carrots, redcurrants, blackcurrants and peppers.



We have started our herb wall with mint, coriander and thyme.

Our marigolds and snapdragons are starting to flower in the greenhouse and will soon be ready to add to our planters.

The children are so proud of our new space and are taking such great care of our allotment. We have tasted our lettuce and look forward to our first harvest of potatoes in a couple of weeks.



Eco Leaders Climate Meeting

On Wednesday, six eco leaders from years 3 and 4 attended a Pupils Climate Meeting at St Mary's CE Primary School. During this meeting, we met with other eco council members from other schools in Lewisham to find out what they are doing to improve the environment and save the planet.

Then, we went on a tour of the school and spent some time in their outdoor classroom in their wonderful forest school area. We have lots of ideas for things that we can try in our school to make it greener and cleaner, so watch this space!



Wow – Art, Dance and Music

Top WoWs for week beginning Monday 20th May 2024

Wow
WORLDWIDE WONDERS

Year 1



Summer



Heroes



Heroes



Heroes



Heroes

Year 2



Recorder - repertoire gathering



Recorder - repertoire gathering



Recorder - repertoire gathering



Recorder - repertoire gathering

Year 3



Playing the Blues



Playing the Blues



Playing the Blues



Playing the Blues



Playing the Blues

Year 4



Heitor Villa-Lobos – Bachianas brasileiras No. 2



Summer



Heitor Villa-Lobos – Bachianas brasileiras No. 2



Heitor Villa-Lobos – Bachianas brasileiras No. 2



Heitor Villa-Lobos – Bachianas brasileiras No. 2

Year 5



Practice makes Perfect



Summer



Summer



Practice makes Perfect



Practice makes Perfect

Torridon Summer Fair – Sunday 14th July

Help plan the Summer Fair

Friends of Torridon PTA is thrilled to announce that we're planning a Summer Fair for Sunday, 14th July! The event can only go ahead with a team of volunteers to plan and run it. Can you help make it happen? Join the Summer Fair Planning Committee WhatsApp group or email friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com to get involved.



[You can find out more about the programme here.](#)

Summer Fun

A poster for 'Downham Celebrates Summer Festival 2024' held on Saturday 15th June from 11-4pm at Durham Hill BR1 5EP. The poster features a large cake with 'FREE Birthday Cake For The Kings Birthday!' written on it, a Union Jack flag, and a colorful fireworks-like graphic. It lists various activities including live acts (David White's Punch & Judy, Lauren Fearn, Neal Askel, Teamflex Radio), children's rides, games, a climbing wall, professional health advice, hot food, refreshments, cream teas, market stalls, and a raffle. It also mentions a 'Fancy Dress Prize!' with a theme of 'RED WHITE & BLUE'. Logos for sponsors like Sevenfields, APX Properties, and others are shown at the bottom. Social media handles for Downham Celebrates are also provided.



SUMMER TIME




A poster for 'CAMPOUT 2024' held on 29th - 30th June. The background shows a grassy field with several tents and picnic tables under a cloudy sky. The text 'CAMPOUT' is in large green letters, with '2024' in pink script below it. At the bottom, it says 'Dinner & Breakfast served | Evening & morning activities' and 'Book your pitch at www.abbotshallhc.org.uk/campout'.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Wednesday 5 th June	Year 5 and 6 tennis tournament
Sunday 9 th June	FAMILY FUN RUN – Forster Park
Wednesday 19 th June	9am – secondary transfer coffee morning for Year 5 parents who have children with an EHCP
Thursday 20 th June	5pm – Year 5 secondary transfer meeting
Friday 21 st June	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
Tuesday 2 nd July	Create Day with the Royal Opera House
Wednesday 3 rd July	9am Year 5 Steel Pans performance
Thursday 4 th July	9am – Year 3 Ukulele performance
Friday 5 th July	Drum Fun performance
Monday 8 th July	Welcome meeting for new reception parents and carers
Week beginning Monday 8 th July	Whole school assessment week
Sunday 14 th July	Summer Fair
Monday 15 th July	Nursery and Reception sports day
Wednesday 17 th July	Summer music concert
Thursday 18 th July	Year 1 and 2 sports day
Friday 19 th July	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 sports day
Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd July	Year 6 production
Thursday 25 th July	Last day of term – 2pm finish



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	90%		3A	97.8%		5C	94%	
1N	94%		3G	93%		5L	95%	
1W	96%		3S	98%		5S	99%	
2S	97%		4A	97%		6A	96%	
2SW	94%		4L	95%		6C	97%	
2V	89%		4S	89%		6L	96%	

Well done to all the classes who have won the attendance cup this week. Keep up the good work!



SKIPZ PRODUCTION CIC PRESENTS

MAY HALF TERM

holiday activities and food programme

PIRATES AND MERMAID THEME

✦ DRAMA ✦ DANCE ✦ SINGING ✦ ARTS AND CRAFTS ✦ CLAY
MODELLING ACTIVITIES AND SO MUCH MORE!!!



Tuesday 28th May to Friday 31st May 2024

10am to 2 pm

**Torridon Primary School,
Hazelbank Road, SE6 1TG**



FREE FOR BENEFIT RELATED FREE
SCHOOL MEALS CHILDREN

Lunch provided | Siblings welcome
Paying children welcome

For more information and to register please visit
<https://www.skipzproductions.org/skipzhaflewisham>

In partnership with **Lewisham Council**





STARS OF THE WEEK



Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	All of Nursery	For being amazing during our trip to the butterfly house. Well done everyone! 😊
Nursery AM	All of Nursery	For being amazing during our trip to the butterfly house. Well done everyone! 😊
Nursery PM	All of Nursery	For being amazing during our trip to the butterfly house. Well done everyone! 😊
Blue Class	Francesca	For always putting so much effort into her writing and maths, and for sharing her amazing double facts with the class. Well done, Frankie! 😊
Red Class	Rushik	For working so hard in phonics. Well done!
Yellow Class	Thaarani	For always having such a positive attitude to learning and for always being kind and friendly to everyone. Well done!
1M	Nathan	For being so polite and kind and caring towards others. Well done, Nathan! 😊
1N	Daisy	For her outstanding attitude to learning. She is making us so proud with the progress she is making across the curriculum but especially in phonics. Keep up the great work! 😊
1W	Oghene	For working extremely hard at school and at home on her phonics this term. Well done, Oghene! 😊
2S	Joy	For her increased contributions during carpet sessions! It has been wonderful to have you share your thoughts and ideas about our learning so confidently. Well done Joy! 😊
2SW	Victoria	For the resilience and independence that she has shown this week. Well done Vicky, keep it up! 😊
2V	Caspar	For going above and beyond in his writing lessons by catching up with missed learning and including additional information to help his reader. Well done Caspar 😊
3A	Christian	For showing a real determination to improve your writing, particularly whilst editing! Great job Christian 😊
3G	Mason	For always being kind to his peers and showing respect.
3S	Libby	Always striving to do the very best in all of your learning. Well done! 😊
4A	Rashid	For making an excellent effort in all of your learning and showing kindness and respect to others. Well done, Rashid!
4L	Vega	For demonstrating excellence in all her learning as well as her attitude to school and towards others. Such a helpful member of 4L. Well done Vega!
4S	Jeraiah	For his excellent effort and dedication to learning all of his times tables and getting 100% in his test. Well done Jeraiah!
5C	Whole of 5C	For being sensible and respectful to commuters on the trains on our class trip to The British Museum to further their learning on ancient Greeks. Well done!
5L	Isla	For her outstanding behaviour on our school trip to the British Museum. You are extremely responsible. Well done!
5S	Whole of 5S	For showing exemplary behaviour during their trip to explore ancient Greek history at the British Museum. Their enthusiasm for learning and respectful manner is commendable! Well done to all of you!
6A	Anayah	For her fantastic attitude during home school journey this week. Keep it up!
6C	Marwa	For being an excellent role model during this week's activities. Well done, Marwa!
6L	Srrutis	For his brilliant behaviour whilst on home school journey. Very proud.
RB Blue	Nathan	Well done for being so calm during unexpected changes and challenges.
RB Green	Victory	Well done for persevering during reading and writing this week

Girls and Anxiety Drop-In

Girls and Anxiety Drop-in

Girls and Anxiety
Drop-in



A drop-in support group to give parents and carers an opportunity to talk about the mental health needs of young women and girls who present with social communication differences.

When: Thursday 23rd May 2024

Time: 6pm to 7.30pm

Where: This session will be a webinar

For more information please call

**020 3143 1431 or email Sonia at
s.gannon@drumbeat.lewisham.sch.uk**



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships look like and how to navigate them.

3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

7 TEACH EMPATHY

'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect.' Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship, to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people; sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College