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7th March 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It has been lovely to see some spring sunshine this week. Some of our spring bulbs are starting to flower and it has really brightened the playground.

Thank you to those who were able to come and join us for our SEND Mealtimes workshop with Ciara on Wednesday. I hope you found it helpful. Look out for some more upcoming sessions which we hope you will enjoy.

World Book Day was a huge success. There were some fantastic costumes and the children loved getting the chance to read to some of their friends in other classes during our paired reading sessions. I hope you got the chance to visit the Book Fair to buy some of the fantastic books on offer.

Our wonderful Year 5 and 6 dancers did Torridon proud this week when they performed at the Catford Broadway Theatre. Thank you to Deme for all her hard work in choreographing, rehearsing and polishing the performances in the lead up to the show and thank you for coming along to support your children.

We are opening the ballot for our parent governor elections today. Please see details for how to vote later in the newsletter.

Next week is National Science Week. We have lots of amazing things planned to support the children with their scientific understanding. We hope to see some of you at the Community Science Show on Monday.

Have a great weekend.

Warm wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



Rights Respecting School

This week in our Rights Respecting Assemblies, we have been discussing the importance of World Book Day! Did you know that spending just 10 minutes a day reading and sharing stories can make a big

difference to a child's future success? Reading can help us learn new things about the world, spark our imagination, and even inspire us to try new things! This week our discussions were based around articles 17, 29 and 31 which helped us to realize the vital role that reading, education, and creative activities play in shaping our future and supporting our right to access knowledge, learn, and grow.



World Book Day



Catford Broadway Theatre – Live Dance

Live Dance is a celebration of dance that champions and celebrates dance in schools within Lewisham at The Catford Broadway Theatre each year.

Torridon dancers in Year 5 and Yr 6 have created and rehearsed their choreography in preparation for the showcase and performed over two evenings. The Year 5 piece "Twisted" used props and the stimulus of stories and fables from around the world. Year 6 explored lifts and high energy travelling phrases in their piece "Connected". This event produced by Trinity Laban gives children a creative performance experience in a professional theatre setting and celebrates the talent of young people.



Spring Bulb Competition Update

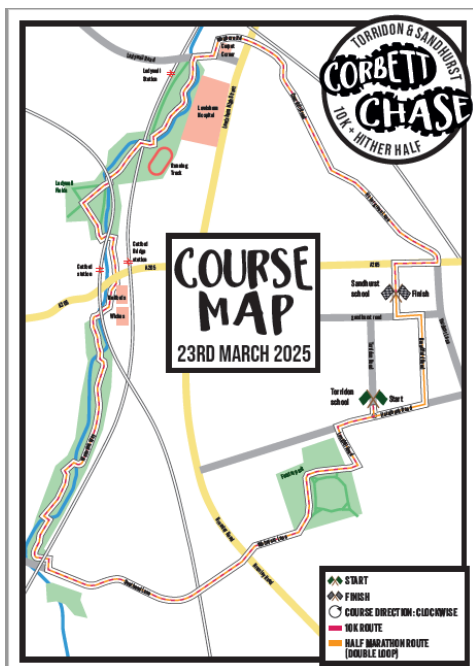
We are beginning to notice some of our bulbs around school are starting to flower. If you purchased a Spring bulb from us in the Autumn term remember to bring your pot into school once it has fully flowered.

Show your pot to Kelley and we will take a photo of you and your flower before displaying the flower around school. Later in the Spring term Manda will judge the flowers and choose one winner from each year group. We can not wait to see your beautiful flowers and brighten up our outdoor spaces.



CORBETT CHASE - SUNDAY 23rd MARCH!

[Sign-up](#) is well underway for this year's [5th Annual Corbett Chase](#). Join the 40+ parents and friends from Torridon, Sandhurst and Rushey Green already involved - or come out and enjoy the Community Play Street on Minard Road from 10am-12noon. Please indicate your interest in participating - either running, walking, cake-baking or volunteering - here: [SIGN-UP FORM](#).



Any questions? [Check out our info website](#) or email: friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

We have three candidates for our parent governor vacancy. You can find their election statements and the online form for voting by clicking on the link below:

[Parent Governor Election Online Voting](#)

Voting will close on Friday 21st March 2025

Reception - Reading



We have loved celebrating world book day in reception! Thank you Year 3 for being our reading buddies!



EYFS – School Spare Clothes

As we have been changing the children over the course of the year, our stocks of spare clothes have been depleted. We are currently left with a few pairs of shorts! If your child has been sent home in school spare clothes, can they kindly be brought back. If you have any spare clothes that no longer fit (including tights, pants and socks) we will happily accept donations!

Year 1 – Reading with Year 4



We had a lovely time sharing our favourite books with a partner from another class as part of World Book Day.



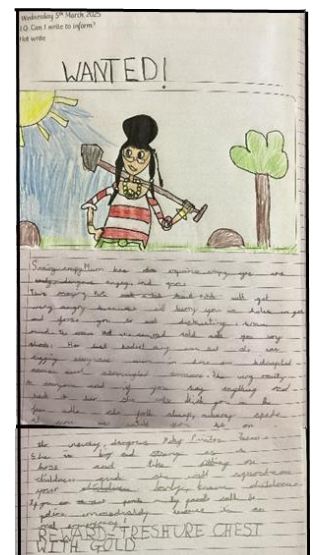
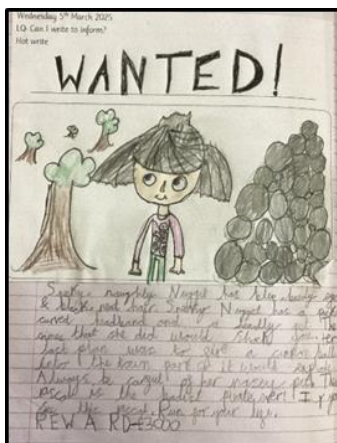
Resource Base – Learning About Autism

In Blue Pathway, we have been learning about Autism: what Autism is, things we may find challenging and our Autistic superpowers! We invited an Autistic adult into the Resource Base to interview him. The children thought of some fantastic questions about how to manage challenges, how Autism can change overtime and how to manage secondary school. It was great to see the children discover similarities about themselves and others, and of how proud and accepting of themselves they were!



Year 2 – WANTED

This week, Year 2 have been busy creating WANTED posters! After discovering mysterious clues on the shores of Dull on Sea, we narrowed down our suspects to the Jolly Rogers family. We made sure to include all the essential details like the pirate's features and of course, a tempting reward for anyone brave enough to help capture these pesky pirates! If you happen to spot any of the suspects, please contact Year 2 right away...



Year 3 – Independent Reading

On World Book Day, year 3 enjoyed basking in the the glorious spring sunshine, whilst reading their favourite books. Some of the children were even dressed up as characters from the books they were reading! It was a very relaxing way to end a brilliant day.



Year 3 Workshop - Clowns without Borders

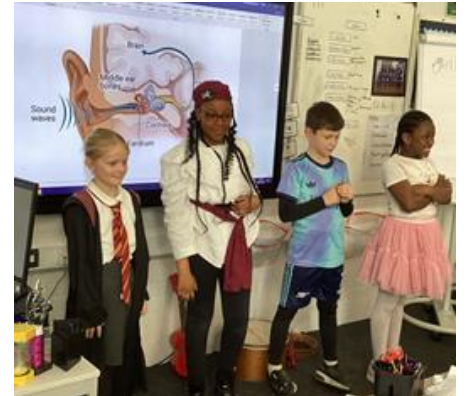
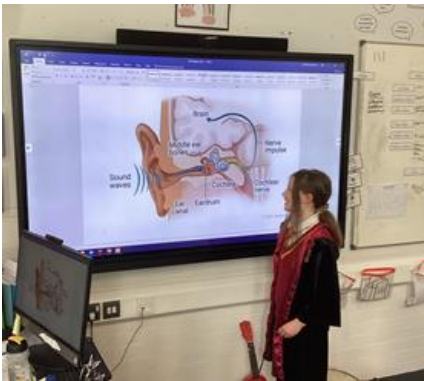
We are delighted to let you know that our school is taking part in Primary Arts – a new creative, cultural programme for London primary schools from A New Direction. We have booked a touring session, and Clowns without Borders will be visiting us in school to provide an experience and workshop for children in Year 3 on Friday 14th March.

Children will take part in a performance of Piranhas and Bananas – a joyful interactive show that was developed with Rohingya children in Bangladesh in 2019. It's filled with playful storytelling, physical comedy, silly walks, and even sillier noises. Flip Flop is working at Flannagan's Fish Sanctuary. She has great ideas for the vegetarian piranhas, but no one listens. Flip Flop enlists the help of her friends in the audience, proving that even unexpected heroes can make a big difference!

Flip Flop is inspired by the imaginative ideas of children. They really help her out of some tight spots! She believes the world would be better if children were listened to more. The lively workshop immerses children in playful storytelling and physical comedy, encouraging them to recreate moments from Flip Flop's adventure. It explores who gets to make decisions, what it feels like to be listened to, and how we can listen to one another to help all voices be heard. We'll finish by showcasing the children's ideas on how their voices can be better included in school.

Year 4 Science – Sound

This week, in year 4, we learnt about how sound travels through a medium and into the ear. We learnt about soundwaves and looked in detail at a diagram of the ear. We then pretended to present an educational TV show in which we used the information we had learnt.



Year 5 – PSHE

This week, in year 5, as part of our 'Healthy Me' topic in PSHE, the students learnt an important life-saving skill—the recovery position. As part of their learning, the class explored why and how to safely help someone who is unconscious but breathing.



The lesson focused on ensuring that all students understand the steps involved in placing someone in the recovery position, allowing them to maintain an open airway and reduce the risk of choking. Through practical demonstrations and hands-on practice, year 5 worked together to confidently learn and apply these skills, ensuring they feel prepared and empowered to act calmly and responsibly in an emergency situation.

Year 6 – Buddy Reading

During World Book Day, Year 6 joined the Resource Base and both Nursery classes for some collaborative buddy reading. They enjoyed bonding with the children, reading to them as well as listening to them read. This was a great opportunity for the oldest in the school to demonstrate responsibility and the core value of community – they did this successfully and the younger children were also fantastic!



Lewisham Food Bank

It means the world to our visitors to receive treats from time to time on top of the tinned meat, baked beans and UHT milk.

Our aim is to ensure that everyone receives an Easter treat.

EASTER 2025

Make Easter Sweeter!

Help us spread joy this year by donating Easter eggs and chocolate treats for our visitors. A small treat can bring a big smile! 🍫🐣

Thank you!

Deliver by 4 April to:
Lewisham Foodbank Warehouse
353 Bromley Road SE6 2RP
(entrance via Beachborough Road)

www.lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

 **Lewisham Foodbank**
Together with Trussell

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025

INSET DAYS	Monday 1 st and Tuesday 2 nd September 2025
First Day of Autumn Term	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October 2025
INSET DAY	Friday 21 st November 2025
Last Day of Autumn Term	Friday 19 th December 2025
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	Monday 22 nd December 2025 – Friday 2 nd January 2026

SPRING TERM 2026

First Day of Spring Term	Monday 5 th January 2026
INSET DAY	Friday 16 th January 2026
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026
Last Day of Spring Term	Friday 27 th March 2026
EASTER HOLIDAY	Monday 30 th March - Friday 10 th April 2026

SUMMER TERM 2026

First Day of Summer Term	Monday 13 th April 2026
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 4 th May 2026
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026
INSET DAY	Monday 20 th July 2026
Last Day of Summer Term	Friday 17 th July 2026




Children do not come to school on INSET Days

Dates for Your Diary

w/b Monday 10 th March	National Science Week
Monday 10 th March	3.30pm Family Science Show
Tuesday 11 th March	Year 2 to the Cutty Sark Museum
	Year 5 to the Science Museum
Friday 14 th March	Year 3 theatre workshop
	Year 5/6 swimming gala
w/b Monday 17 th March	Whole school assessment week
	Year 4 to the Natural History Museum
Tuesday 18 th March	Yellow class to Mudchute Farm (please note change of date)
Thursday 20 th March	5pm Year 6 SATs meeting
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day
	Red and Blue class to Mudchute Farm (please note change of date)
Sunday 23 rd March	Corbett Chase
Tuesday 25 th and Thursday 27 th March	Parent and Carer open evenings
Thursday 27 th March	EYFS Parent and Carer workshop
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 5 and 6 tag rugby festival
Friday 4 th April	Woodland Dress Up Day Last day of the spring term (2pm finish)
Monday 7th – Monday 21st April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 14 th – Thursday 17 th April	Year 6 Easter School
Wednesday 23 rd April	Reception Hearing and vision screening
Tuesday 29 th April	Resource Bae to Pizza Express
Monday 12 th May	Nursery to Horniman butterfly house
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 16 th May	Year 2 football tournament
Tuesday 20 th May	Year 5 and 6 boys' cricket tournament
Thursday 22 nd May	Year 5 and 6 girls' cricket tournament
Friday 23 rd June	PTA fundraiser – non uniform day
Sunday 8 th June	Family Fun Run (Forster Park)



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance_		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	99%		3A	86%		5V	97%	
1N	97%		3G	95%		5L	96%	
1W	92%		3S	93%		5C	95%	
2S	94%		4K	98%		6R	96%	
2SW	95%		4L	90%		6A	94%	
2E	97%		4S	96%		6L	90%	

Well done to 1M who has won the Attendance Cup twice in a row!
I wonder which class will be next?

Touch-Typing School



TYPING'S COOL
TOUCH TYPING SCHOOL

Touch-typing courses for 7 – 16s



Easter touch typing courses for 7 – 16s

Dulwich College, London SE21 7LD

Monday 7 – Thursday 10 April 2025

Monday 14 – Thursday 17 April 2025

Sessions run 10:00 – 12:15 pm daily*

**Full day care/ sports camp available*



Learn how to touch type 40+ words per minute with 95% accuracy. Using correct fingers and posture, touch typing is far more productive for school work and exams.

Beginners, improvers and advanced typists are warmly welcome. We mix formal technique with the latest app games to make learning to type fast, fun and effective.

Flip crazy skate ramps, zap aliens and collect super hero movie outfits while learning an amazing skill. Typing proficiency will significantly boost your child's academic attainment in today's digital world.

Prior to setting up *Typing's Cool*, Sarah Holt worked as a teacher at Weston Green School and Nick Holt was a secondary school Head of English.

Cost: £176.00 per place

OFSTED registered - childcare vouchers accepted

10% discount for siblings/ bring a friend

Duke of Edinburgh skills assessor

Apply at Typingscool.co.uk or contact sarah.holt@typingscool.co.uk



For places see www.typingscool.co.uk

Duke of Edinburgh Award - Registered skills assessor

Company registered number: 7097313 OFSTED child care registered number: EY473171



STARS OF THE WEEK

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Esa	For being confident and speaking to the adults in Nursery and for being brave when climbing onto the big slide. Well done, Esa! 😊
Nursery AM	Cody	For playing nicely with your friends and for being confident when speaking to your peers and the adults. Well done, Cody! 😊
Nursery PM	Kima	For being helpful during tidy up time and for being confident to speak to your friends and the adults. Well done, Kima! 😊
Blue Class	Carlo	For his enthusiasm for learning and confidence to share his unique ideas with others. Well done, Carlo! 😊
Red Class	Dishan	For always showing kindness and consideration to his peers and adults! Dishan also has such a positive attitude to his learning. Well done, Dishan!
Yellow Class	Milan	For always trying her best and sharing lots of fantastic ideas in paired or group learning. Well done!
1M	Noah	For his new and improved positive attitude towards his learning. Noah is trying his best to stay focused in all lessons and is making progress. Keep it up, Noah! 😊
1N	Josiah	For always being a good role-model and doing the right thing. Well done Josiah!
1W	Grace	For her thoughtfulness and effort in maths. She is growing in confidence in lessons; this week she used the number line really well to solve subtraction number sentences. Well done Grace!
2E	Ada	For always trying her hardest with her learning. She always gives thorough support to her peers and is happy to lend a helping hand. Well done Ada, keep it up! 😊
2S	Josh	For his outstanding effort in all areas of his learning! It has been so wonderful to see you tackle new challenges with a smile on your face 😊 Keep up the brilliant learning Josh!
2SW	Thanushika	For trying her very best to improve the presentation of her learning. Her handwriting looks beautiful! Well done Thanushika, keep it up! 😊
3A	Muhammad	For demonstrating excellent retrieval and vocabulary skills during our reading lessons this week. You have worked really hard. Well done Muhammad 😊
3G	Arif	For his amazing ideas in his writing. For reading through his learning to uplevel his narrative 😊
3S	Jacob	For learning his spellings every week and using this knowledge in his writing. Well done, keep it up 😊
4K	Mariah	For showing a fantastic effort and progress in her learning. Mariah worked independently in Maths and should be proud of herself. Keep up the amazing work! 😊
4L	Luca	He showed real maturity on World Book Day with his reading buddy from Year 1. Luca consistently shows good behaviour and attitude towards our learning. Well done 😊
4S	Jaxon	For showing amazing qualities like determination, perseverance and a positive attitude in swimming and maths lessons. Well done Jaxon, we are proud of you! 😊
5C	Alex	For excellent effort in all of his learning this week, especially in his persuasive letter to King Charles. Well done!
5L	Levi	For writing an excellent letter of persuasion to the King. He used persuasive devices as well as incorporating many year 5 writing skills. Well done!
5V	Beni	For working incredibly hard to improve the quality of his writing. Keep up the good work Beni.
6A	Zephaniah	For his consistent focus and approach towards his learning. He has worked exceptionally in Maths this week. Really proud!
6L	Alyssia	For being very thoughtful and focused with her approach to writing a diary entry this week. Well done!
6R	Joseph	For demonstrating superb inferences, supported by evidence and reasoning. Well done. Keep it up.
RB Blue	Elliot	Well done for having a great attitude to your learning this week!
RB Green	Macey	Well done for playing so nicely with other children.

Online Safety

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this: filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover Wi-Fi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpleasant aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College