



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

Headteacher: Manda George

Telephone: 0208 697 2762

Email: admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

9th May 2025

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you enjoyed the bank holiday last weekend. It has been lovely to see some sunshine over the last couple of weeks.

We were so pleased to have such a fantastic turnout at our SEND Coffee Morning this week with the speech and language therapists. Thank you to those who attended. I hope you found the session very useful. Look out for future sessions later in the term.

Some of you may be aware that there was an incident involving a careless driver at drop off earlier this week. Thankfully everybody was safe, and no-one was hurt. I must remind you that, although we do have the school street, there are still vehicles (including buses) driving on both Torridon and Hazelbank Roads at pick up and drop off times. It is important to remain vigilant when crossing roads and make sure children are riding safely if they are on bikes or scooters.

We celebrated VE day with special assemblies this week. Children learnt about the importance of upholding the legacy of our war veterans and considering why peace is so important for our communities.

Next week our fabulous Year 6 children will be completing their SATs tests. They have worked so hard throughout the year, and we wish them all the very best for their assessments.

We look forward to welcoming some of you to our Family Film Night on Thursday next week. There are still some tickets available if you would like to join us.

Have a great weekend.

Very best wishes

Manda George

Headteacher



Rights Respecting School



In this week's assemblies, we had lots of interesting conversations all about article 24 and 33. We talked about how to stay healthy, why clean water and safe environments are important and how to make positive choices. Everyone shared great ideas about how we can support one another to stay safe and make sure our community is a kind and healthy place for everyone.



PTA Dates

Save the date for these exciting PTA events coming up this term!

Sunday, 8th June – Kids' Fun Run in Forster Memorial Park

Friday, 20th June – INSET Day at LEGOLAND: learn more [here](#) - ticket sales close on 4 June!

Sunday, 6th July – Summer Fair: join the planning committee's WhatsApp group [here](#), and check out the 2024 Summer Fair Review [here](#)

Questions? Want to get involved? Email us at friendsoftorridonpta@gmail.com.

CARDBOARD CITY

We need boxes!!

The children are using so many boxes during their play that we need more.

The bigger the box the better!!

If you have any to donate please drop them off straight into our 'CARDBOARD CITY' in the main playground at the beginning or end of the school day.

Please do not flatten the boxes as the children are using their imagination to build houses, spaceships, forts, robots... The list goes on!



Oracy Events – Film Nights and OPAL Playdate

As part of the wellbeing strand of our oracy project, we are organising events for parents, carers and children. These events will enable you to share an enjoyable activity with your child so that we can create wonderful memories and spark engaging conversations.

Family Film Nights

Come and enjoy a film with your family.

Although we will not be charging for this event, we would appreciate any cash donations which will be collected on the door before the event.

Tickets were released on **Eventbrite** at **6pm** on **Tuesday 6th May**. 100 tickets will be available for each event.

Please note children must attend with their parents and carers. Due to space, only 4 tickets will be available per family. Please ensure you have an account with Eventbrite in order to acquire tickets.



Despicable Me 4 Thursday 15th May, 5pm – Doors 4.45pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oracy-family-film-night-tickets-1347816729119?aff=oddtcreator>

Dog Man Tuesday 20th May, 5pm - Doors 4.45pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oracy-family-film-night-tickets-1347839065929?aff=oddtcreator>



OPAL Playdate – Wednesday 25th June, 3.30-4.30

Do you want to attend the biggest playdate ever?

The school will be opening the playground so that children can play with each other and experience OPAL play with their parents and carers.

This will be a great opportunity for you to see what the children have been raving about this term.

Please note that adults must supervise their own children.

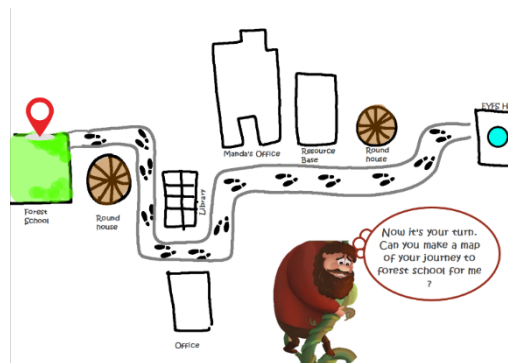
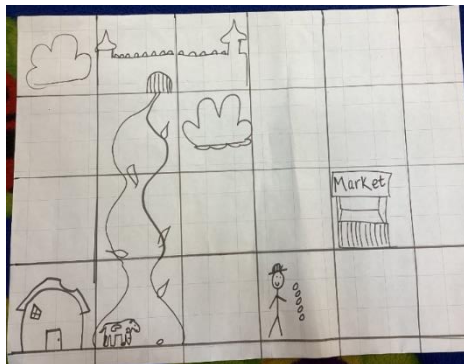
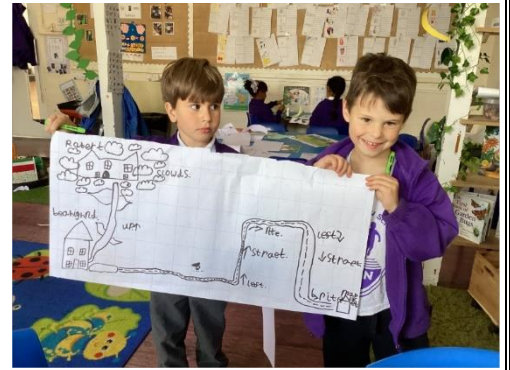
Refreshments will be provided, and there will be a bake sale if you fancy a tasty treat.



Reception – Maps

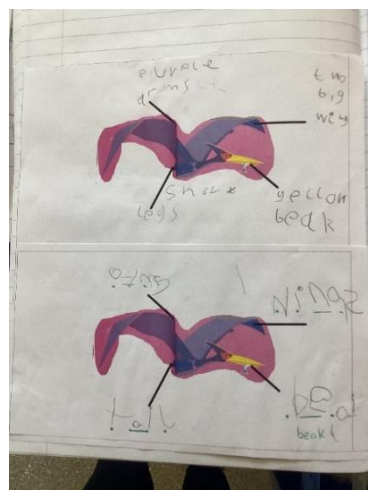
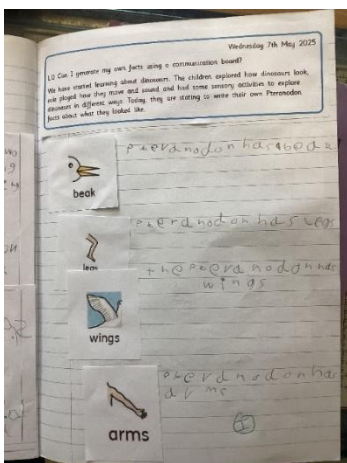


This week, Reception children have had fun using positional language, creating maps and navigating around our school. We created maps of 'Jack's world' from Jack and the Beanstalk and used Bee Bots to find different key locations from our story. We also created maps to help the giant find forest school at Torridon.



Resource Base – Dinosaurs

This week we have continued to learn about the terrible lizards who used to walk on our land. We have written fact files about T. rex and Plesiosaurus. We have been fascinated to discover what these dinosaurs ate, how they lived and what they looked like. It is really fun to journey back in time to explore these prehistoric creatures, and we think the learning that the children are producing is pretty amazing. Check them out.



Year 1 – History

Year 1 have been busy exploring the differences between the past and present. Using a timeline, we investigated how toys have changed over time. We also became history detectives, using magnifying glasses to study old and new photos of our local area. We even acted in role as shoppers from the past, discovering just how different shopping used to be!



Year 2 – Treasure

After arriving in our classroom, year 2 received a letter and a map from our old pirate friend Jim. As well as giving us an update on his life whilst sailing the seven seas, he also reported that there were rumours of buried treasure at Torridon Primary School. As a result, we followed the map and uncovered some peculiar items such as stinky cheese, wine, coins, a diary and a book all about the Great Fire of London.

When we came back to our classrooms, we were all full of questions about our discoveries and this so called 'treasure'. We thought of lots of questions we wanted answered in order to find out whose strange 'treasure' we had unearthed.



Year 3 – Writing

Year 3 have worked really hard to write exciting adaptations of the Roman myth 'Romulus and Remus'. In the original myth, Remus suffers a grisly end with a fateful blow to the head... In our new and improved versions, Romulus and Remus settle the dispute over where to build their future city and what to name it through rock paper scissor contests, penalty shoot outs and even a boulder weight lifting competition! We hope you enjoy reading our stories as much as we enjoyed writing them.

Romulus and Remus

A scary terrifying she-wolf found two young babies and she opened her mouth like they were going to get eaten by her. But no she picked up the babies were the babies were in and took Romulus and Remus to her scary terrifying lair. The cute little boys were put down and she she-wolf fed them like her own children. When the children two brothers boys were out a shepard found them and took them into his home in the dark forest.

Five days later, they had an argument. And Romulus scored "You are like a small slow and weak!" Then Remus scored "You look like a raw human potato!" They started making two cities Rome and Rome. Then Remus said "Watch Romulus!" and then jumped over it twice. Then the wall fell and Romulus was angry. "Let's have a penalty shoot out!"

It was 7-6 to Romulus if Romulus missed Remus would win. And he... missed!

Remus decided to work together and with Romulus and called the city Romulus. Then Remus whispered "Great job on building the city with me and thank you!" Then Romulus told Remus "You are welcome and we can see you work together more often!" shouted Romulus.

The boys who disarmed Romulus.

The basket was put on the side of the bubbling river Tiber. Suddenly a she-wolf found Romulus and Remus. So she opened her mouth and picked up the crying boys with her yellow sticky teeth. She took Romulus and Remus to her terrifying scary lair and raised Romulus and Remus. Her Cubs were above brothers and sister. One day a shepard was hunting and found two young boys crying in a wolf den. Since his and his wife did not have children of their own they took Romulus and Remus. He raised them as strong, carefree boys.

One year later Romulus and Remus wanted to build a city. They were arguing about what the city should be called. "The city will be called Rome and it will be better than yours!" yelled Remus. "No my city will be called Rome and it will be better than yours!" shouted Romulus.

Five minutes later Remus had an idea that if he was stronger he will make it better and bigger on the city. "Replied Remus. "Oh yeah that is a brilliant idea!" told Romulus.

They built and built until they made a amazing big city. Remus spoke "See Romulus we made a amazing big city by working together!" "We can move move the city Romulus!" Replied Romulus.

Year 3 – Dance



This week in dance, year 3 explored war elephants, catapults, and the Roman invasion of Britain through body shapes, slow motion and freeze frames.



They are creating a whole class dance linking this term's history topic "The Rotten Romans".



Year 4 – Reading



We are enjoying reading our core text, 'Odd and the Frost Giants.' This is what did in a recent inference lesson.



We worked together in groups of three to infer what was said between the bear, the fox and the eagle when they were standing over Odd in the cabin. We found clues in the text to help us, such as: looking at how the animals spoke, what they said and their manner towards each other. This helped us to imagine how the conversation continued. At the end of the lesson, we enjoyed performing our discussions to the class.

Year 5 – Ancient Greece Workshop

This week, year 5 enjoyed their Ancient Greece workshop where they were greeted by the trainee time traveller who took them on an unforgettable journey, through space and time, to Ancient Greece. The trainee time traveller was on a mission and needed the children's help: it was their last chance to graduate from the Time Travel School and become a fully qualified time traveller. The children learned about Greek discoveries: Gods; Olympic Games; life in Sparta; the great legend of Theseus and the Minotaur and the battle of Troy.



Year 6 – Lee Fire Station

This week, year 6 visited Lee Fire Station where members of the local police and fire station delivered topics to support them with their transition from Primary to Secondary. Hopefully, making it easier and providing tools for them to become a good citizen. The topics covered were:

- Fire Safety – London Fire Brigade
- Personal Safety – Met Police (Safer Schools Team)
- Internet Safety – Met Police (Youth Engagement Team)
- Road Safety – Lewisham Council
- Bus/Tube Safety – Transport for London
- Exploitation – Met Police (Safer Schools Team)



Herbie: “I learnt about not trusting strangers, behaviour on public transport (saying ‘thank you’ to bus drivers) and what exploitation is. Overall I learnt how to keep safe.”

Thiksga: “I learnt about not following or speaking to strangers. I also learnt about what to do in a fire. You should get low, shout for help, check the door handle with the back of your palm to see if it’s hot and safely move out of the room if you can.”

St. Dunstons Open Morning



OPEN MORNINGS
Thursday 15 / Friday 16 May 2025

**YEAR 5
EXPERIENCE DAY**
Saturday 7 June 2025

BOOK HERE
www.stdunstons.org.uk



In the Summer of 2024, St Dunstan's became one of the first schools in the country to be awarded two significant strengths by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. It also received the best GCSE and A Level results in its 136 year history. St Dunstan's won Independent Senior School of the Year at the Tes Schools Awards 2022, which are known as the Oscars of education. St Dunstan's was also named Most Progressive Independent School in south-east England at the Private Education Awards in 2024, and most recently, the Senior School was also nominated for Senior School of the Year at the Tes Schools Awards 2025.



WHOLE COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Saturday 20 September 2025

Booking for whole college open day will open in early June

Find out more on our website www.stdunstons.org.uk

Forest School News

It has been another busy week at Forest School!

Nursery have built a new wormery.



The children squeezed the soil, added the rotten fruit, placed in the worms and are now going to wait for the worms to build a home in the wormery which will create compost from the fruit waste.

Year 2 have been busy decorating houses on kindling wood for next week's 'Great Fire of London' scene.



The children in year 4 have linked their time at Forest School to their Viking topic by using a bow saw this week to cut mini shields. The children then decorated their shields to reflect the designs used by the Vikings.



Reception are continuing their learning from 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. This week, the children used hammers to create a leaf pattern.






Dates for Your Diary

Monday 12 th May	Nursery to Horniman butterfly house
	Year 2 to Tower Bridge
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Tuesday 13 th May	Year 2 football tournament
Thursday 15 th May	Family Film Night
Monday 19 th May	9am Woodwind performance for parents and carers
Tuesday 20 th May	Year 5 and 6 boys' cricket tournament
	Family Film Night
Wednesday 21 st May	Reception Bug Man visit
	Year 6 PGL Trip – Departure 11:50am
Thursday 22 nd May	Year 5 and 6 girls' cricket tournament
	Nursery Plant Sale
Friday 23 rd May	PTA fundraiser – non uniform day
	Year 6 PGL Trip – Arrival 3:30pm
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Sunday 8 th June	Family Fun Run (Forster Park)
Tuesday 10 th June	Year 5 and year 6 hockey tournament
Friday 20th June	INSET Day
	PTA Trip to Legoland
Wednesday 25 th June	OPAL playdate 3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday 1 st July	Year 6 secondary transition day
Sunday 6 th July	PTA - Summer Fair
Week beginning Monday 7 th July	Whole School Assessment Week
Tuesday 8 th July	Summer Music Concert
	Year 6 Royal Opera House Project (DATE CHANGE)
Friday 11 th July	Nursery Teddy bear's picnic
Monday 14 th July	Nursery and Reception Sports Day
Tuesday 15 th July	Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day
Wednesday 16 th July	5.00pm Year 6 prformance
Thursday 17 th July	9.00am Year 6 performance
Friday 18 th July	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day
Tuesday 22nd July	Last Day of Summer Term (2pm finish)



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance_		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	87%		3A	99%		5C	97%	
1N	95%		3G	91%		5L	94%	
1W	91%		3S	99%		5V	99%	
2S	92%		4K	98%		6A	95%	
2SW	93%		4L	100%		6L	84%	
2E	89%		4S	94%		6R	96%	

Well done to all the winning classes this week! A special shout out to 4L who gave it 100% this week. Keep up the good work!

Saturday Football Training



FOR AGES 7 - 11



**SATURDAY
FOOTBALL
TRAINING
FOR ALL
ABILITIES!**

Scan the QR code to register
Interest!

- . FA Qualified Coaches (DBS checked)
- . Fun Interactive Sessions!
- . GK Training
- . One to One Sessions



Firhill Road Sports Ground - SE6 3SQ
LSCgiantscoaching@outlook.com

STARS OF THE WEEK

STARS OF THE WEEK		
Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Razzaq	For always helping to tidy up in Nursery even when he has not made the mess himself. Well done, Razzaq! 😊
Nursery AM	Thanusikan	For playing nicely with his friends and for being very helpful during tidy up time. Well done, Thanusikan! 😊
Nursery PM	Sufiyan	For always trying his best. He is kind to his friends and is helpful during tidy up time. Well done, Sufiyan! 😊
Blue Class	Nellie	For settling so well into Blue class and making us all smile. Welcome, Nellie!
Red Class	Emmett	For being a kind member of Red Class, he shares his creations with his peers and adults! Well done Emmett! 😊
Yellow Class	Devarni	For working hard and using his phonic knowledge when writing independently. Well done!
1M	Laurence	For his enthusiasm towards our learning during writing lessons and for always contributing during our class discussions. Keep up the great work Laurie! 😊
1N	Liam	For developing his self-motivation! This week, he has impressed us by completing his writing independently. He also has great ideas during class discussions. Keep up the great work! 😊
1W	Vettri	For working really hard and staying focused on tasks. We have been so impressed by his effort to listen to instructions, think through the task and try his best to complete them. Well Done!
2E	Zico	For always being so focused and determined with his learning. Zico is an excellent role model in 2E and has an amazing attitude to learning. Well done. Keep it up! 😊
2S	Leo	For his wonderful attitude to learning. Well done for trying your best in all of your learning. Keep it up! 😊
2SW	Theja	For his hard work and determination. He always tries his very best to improve his learning. Well done Theja. Keep it up! 😊
3A	Navpreet	For demonstrating lots of enthusiasm in maths this week. You have been amazing at telling the time to the hour and minute! Well done Navpreet 😊
3G	Mario	For always trying his best in his learning and for his kindness towards his peers. Keep it up! 😊
3S	Logan H	For making a fantastic start in our school. Keep up the amazing work! 😊
4K	Chizaram	For showing great independence in maths this week and for trying her best when partitioning decimal numbers. Keep up the good work! 😊
4L	Eda	For having an amazing attitude and commitment to her learning this week particularly reading
4S	Zoe	For being a mathematics superstar at home and school! Through her hard work and effort, she has made amazing progress in her timestables test score. Keep going Zoe! 😊
5C	Khalleah	She has settled well into 5C, always shows respectful behaviour and remains focused during lessons.
5L	Levi	For showing an exceptional attitude towards his learning. He has been incredibly focused, consistently staying on task and giving his best effort in everything he does. Keep it up, Levi – your hard work and determination are truly impressive!
5V	Ashton	For making good behavioural choices and regaining his focus during lessons. Well done Ashton. Keep it up.
6A	Muhammad	For working hard in maths this week when converting between units of time. He was able to use his multiplication and division to convert between minutes and seconds. Well done!
6L	Saatvika	For having a positive attitude to learning. You demonstrate the core value of excellence daily by being reflective of your learning. Well done!
6R	Jaron	For demonstrating focus and determination when editing his writing and showing maturity when collaborating with others. Well done, Jaron, and keep it up.
RB Blue	Gabriel	Really focused and engaged with his learning this week, especially with his maths. Well done, Gabriel
RB Green	Gregory	Gregory remembered his finger spaces and full stops when writing his dinosaur fact file. Well done, Gregory! keep it up.

St Dunstons Art Competition

ART COMPETITION

Year 5 students are invited to participate in our Art Competition for a chance to have your artwork displayed at the St Dunstan's Arts Festival! Winners and runners-up will also be invited to the private view on opening night!

Theme:
Under the Big
Top!

Step right up and create an artwork inspired by the magic of the circus—whether it's acrobats, clowns, animals, or the vibrant big top. Let your creativity bring the circus to life!

Submission Details

You parent/guardian must email a clear photograph of your work to artsfestival/competition@stdunstans.org.uk along with your name, school, age and the materials you have used. *You must be able to drop your artwork at St Dunstan's in order to have your work exhibited.

Please submit your entry by:

02/06/2025



St Dunstan's
College



Dunstons
EDUCATION
GROUP

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than stigmatised. This acceptance empowers children to confidently express their identities and feel genuinely included, fostering a robust sense of belonging within both school and home settings.

2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Regularly communicate and actively listen to children, showing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences. Creating open communication channels helps young people feel heard and valued. This approach not only builds trust but also reinforces children's perception of themselves as a vital part of their family, school and community.

3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in classrooms, at home, or in community activities. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Including them in decisions and responsibilities enhances their self-worth, promoting a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.

4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, educators, and families. Strong, healthy relationships significantly impact a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of loneliness. Facilitate social interactions through group activities, teamwork, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.

5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES

Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming for everyone. Inclusive spaces where all children see themselves represented can dramatically improve their feelings of safety and acceptance. Consider classroom displays, books, and resources that celebrate various cultures, abilities, and backgrounds to visibly reinforce inclusivity and belonging.

6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, empathetic, and respectful behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviour, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.

7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to articulate their feelings and empathise with others. An emotionally intelligent environment cultivates mutual respect and compassion, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and interpersonal connection within groups.

8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP

Encourage peer mentorship or buddy systems within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of connectedness and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they naturally build community bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and friendship thrive.

9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY

Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's understanding that their presence and efforts are important. Celebrating individual and collective successes helps cultivate a positive environment where children feel acknowledged, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.

10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY

Quickly address any incidents of bullying. Promptly intervening demonstrates a clear commitment to an inclusive and safe environment. Creating a culture where incidents are swiftly and effectively addressed reinforces trust, security, and a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Halcyon Education Ltd and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in systemic mental health in schools, she supports educational leaders across the UK to develop inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging