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24th October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached half term - the autumn term is flying by! It has certainly been a very exciting start to the year with lots of fantastic learning, trips, workshops and events. Thank you for your ongoing support for the school and for your children's learning.

Thank you to Katie and our wonderful PTA volunteers for organising the autumn social which took place on Wednesday and thank you to all who contributed some of the delicious sweet treats which were enjoyed by everyone.

I hope those of you who celebrated Diwali this week had a wonderful time with friends and family. In school, the children enjoyed making their own Diva lamps and creating Rangoli patterns. You can see some of Reception's lovely learning later in the newsletter.

It was so lovely to see the children dressed in clothes which represent their heritage today. I hope you enjoyed our end of day celebration to mark the end of Black History Month. Huge thanks to Ada and Loren for organising the workshops and events which have taken place this month and thank you to all the teaching staff for their work within the curriculum.

When we return from the half term break, we will be gearing up for Anti-Bullying Week which takes place in the week beginning Monday 10th November. We will mark the Monday with Odd Socks Day and celebrate Children in Need on Friday 14th November with a non-uniform day. Look out for further details in our newsletter when we return after half term.

The children (and adults) have worked so hard this half term and we are very proud of them all. I hope you have a lovely break over half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd November.

Best wishes,

Manda George
Headteacher



Allotment Club News



The children have been working really hard during this term to ensure our allotment area still thrives through the colder months.

They have been busy clearing the last of the summer crop, tasting tomatoes and cucumber, sowing Winter lettuce and broad beans, reutilizing old compost for re-use, litter picking, sowing sweet peas and beginning to plant Spring bulbs around the playground.



Allotment club put in so much effort and pride into continuously develop our school environment and are out in ALL weathers!



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	95%		3A	97%		5A	93%	
1N	94%		3G	97%		5C	93%	
1W	95.2%		3S	94%		5V	96%	
2E	95%		4C	95%		6L	97%	
2S	94%		4K	97.1%		6LG	97.3%	
2SW	92%		4S	97%		6R	93%	

Well done to all the classes with over 97% attendance this week

Volunteers Wanted



As you may remember we received a number of logs from the Hither Green Regeneration in the Spring.

We still have some VERY LARGE and HEAVY logs to position around our playground as part of our OPAL PLAY provision.

Kelley is looking for an army of helpers to help roll logs into various positions.



If you are available on Saturday 1st November and can spare an hour @10am please email forestschoo@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

Or let Kelley know on the Reception gate!

We appreciate your continued support!



Spring Bulb Lucky Dip Competition



We are inviting children to buy a £1 Spring bulb from school this Autumn to plant at home in a pot.

Bulbs will be on sale in the main playground afterschool on Wednesday 5th November @3:15pm.

When your flower blooms, take a picture and send it to forestschooll@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk.

All of the beautiful pictures will be displayed so Manda can pick a winning bloom!

All funds raised from the sale of Spring bulbs will go directly towards the continuous development of our Forest School and Allotment areas.



OPAL Parent Play Champions



A huge thank you to everyone who has responded so far! We are thrilled to see such interest in becoming an Opal Play Parent Champion.

There is still time to get involved! The opportunity remains open until the end of half term, so if this is something that you would like to be part of, please send us an email to the admin email address for the attention of Gwen.

admintorridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Rights Respecting Assemblies

This week in our Rights Respecting assemblies, we explored Article 3 - Best Interests of the Child. We learned that adults must always make decisions based on what children need to keep them safe and happy. We also discussed who those adults might, such as; teachers, parents, community leaders and how they always aim to do what is best for the child.



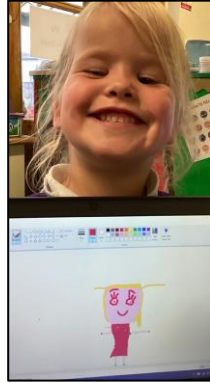
Reception - Diwali

This week Reception children learned about the celebration of Diwali. We had so much fun making our own Diwa lamps, Rangoli patterns and acting out the story of Rama and Sita.



Year 1 – Digital Art

In computing, the Year 1 children have been exploring the Paint app and developing their mouse skills. With growing confidence and creativity, they've created these wonderful self-portraits using digital tools. We're so proud of their progress in computing and art!



Year 2 – History

After learning all about castles in history, today we finally got to build the ones we have designed. We used cardboard to create structures, carefully thinking about the features that would help defend our castles, like tall towers, strong walls, and even drawbridges. It was wonderful to use our creativity and teamwork. We had so much fun turning our ideas into real models and linking our learning across subjects! Take a look at our creations....



Year 3 – Lewisham Legacy

In history our theme has been Lewisham Legacy. Our historical journey took us around Catford and Lewisham. We were able to date the building in chronological order. It was great seeing history come to life!



“I enjoyed this trip because I saw the Clock Tower and the Glass Mill Leisure Centre. The Clock Tower was built to celebrate Queen Victoria!” Christian.



“I loved the Catford Cat. It was built in 1974. I even saw a real cat on the bus that was cute. It looked just like the Catford Cat.” Chance.

Year 3 - Strictly Torridon!

In dance this term, Year 3 have been learning about the London Dance Scene. This week the children danced with their partners in a competition style finale performing the Waltz and Charleston dance styles.

Well done to the first-place winners who were successful in obtaining a dance award trophy.



Resource Base – Attention Autism

This week in Attention Autism, the children have shown fantastic listening skills and growing focus during activities. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and concentration develop as they engage with the sessions. They are becoming more confident in waiting, watching, and taking turns — key skills that support learning in all areas. We're so proud of their progress.



Year 4 - Science

To consolidate our science learning in year 4 this term, we engaged in a hands-on activity to create models of the digestive system. We began by identifying which materials would best represent each part from the mouth to the intestines. Once the items were chosen, we carefully assembled them in the correct order, to understand the journey food takes through the body.

Finally, we tested our models using mashed banana and biscuits. This fun and messy experiment helped bring the digestive process to life. It was a fantastic way to wrap up our unit as young scientists.



Year 5 Black History Month



Today, the children came together to celebrate Black History in a joyful and meaningful way. The classroom was alive with vibrant energy as children proudly wore clothing and accessories representing a rich tapestry of cultures and traditions. Surrounded by educational displays, they engaged in activities that highlighted the importance of Black History and the contributions of Black individuals throughout

time. This celebration fostered a spirit of inclusion, learning, and pride—encouraging students to appreciate the diverse heritage that shapes our community and the world.

Year 5/6 Football Tournament

Last Tuesday, 9 children from years 5 & 6 represented Torridon at the Lewisham Games boys' football tournament at St. Dunstan's Jubilee Ground. In previous years, this event has been the most competitive event on the calendar – and this year was no exception! On the day, 16 schools were placed into 3 groups with the top team in each group proceeding to the semi-finals. Our boys played amazingly well throughout the event and went into their final match unbeaten after winning three matches and drawing one. Each game was incredibly close! One of their wins came through sheer determination; after going 2-1 down early on, they came back to win 3-2.



The final match was against St. Dunstan's - another unbeaten team. Having won all four of their matches, the pressure was at its peak as we knew it was a 'must win' game. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be as St. Dunstan's went on to win 2-0. Although this was Torridon's first loss, it was still a good result considering other schools conceded far more than 2 against this strong, prepared team. Our boys ended up finishing the group in second place, only 2 points shy of a semi-final spot. This was still an amazing achievement for our boys' team as they tried their best throughout and played with honesty and respect. Well done to our boys' team!

Year 6 PE

This week in PE, our year 6 pupils brought together all the skills they've been developing in tag rugby throughout the term. In an exciting and energetic tournament, each class competed with great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship.

We're thrilled to announce that the winners of the tournament were **6R!** A huge well done to them for their fantastic performance, and congratulations to all the children for their enthusiasm and effort throughout the competition.



Year 6 Girls' Football Training



Throughout this half term, 24 girls from year 6 have taken part in a series of football training sessions at St. Dunstan's Jubilee Ground. The sessions were aimed to encourage and inspire girls to feel more confident playing football through targeted support drills and mini football matches.



Organised by our Lewisham School Games Officers - Craig from Bonus Pastor and Harry from Prendergast - the sessions were led by year 9 and 10 girls from their schools who are also aspiring young football players studying P.E at GCSE level. They have worked wonderfully with our children and have acted as positive role models through their passion as a sports leader and their praise and support towards our children.



The girls have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and stated that they wished for more! It has been a joy to see them flourish on the pitch and have so much fun whilst building skill, confidence and self-belief.

Starting Reception 2026



Applying to start primary school 2026–27

Information about admissions arrangements

Apply online:
closing date for
applications 15 January 2026

Is your child due to start primary school in September 2026?

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, you can apply for a Reception place for September 2026.

Before you apply you should:

- Research your local primary schools
- visit schools you want to apply for
- carefully check the admissions criteria for schools you are interested in.

From 1 September 2025, visit our website for everything you need to know about applying for primary school places, including:

- schools that are in the borough and are closest to you
- how to apply for a school place
- how decisions are made
- what happens after you apply
- important dates in the application process.

Deciding which schools to apply for

The first step is to decide which schools you would like to apply for. There are many good and outstanding primary schools in the Lewisham borough. Find out about these schools and see which are nearest to you at www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryschools.

Check if your child is likely to be offered a place at a school

If there are more applicants for a school than places available, we use the admissions criteria to decide who should be offered a place. The criteria vary from school to school. You should use them to find out if your child has a good chance of being offered a place at the schools you prefer.

How to apply

You need to apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk. You can apply for up to six schools, either in Lewisham or outside the borough. You must not put independent schools on your application. You must list the schools you wish to apply for in preference order. You can apply online from 1 September 2025 and must apply by the closing date on 15 January 2026.

When you will find out which school your child has been offered a place at

You will get an email on the evening of national offer day, Thursday 16 April 2026. It will tell you where your child has been offered a place and how to accept the offer.

From 1 September 2025, you can find all the information you need to apply for primary school places at www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions. If you cannot find the information you need, call us on 020 8314 8282 (Monday – Thursday 10–12pm and Monday 2–4pm).

Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

Most children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities can get the support they need at local mainstream schools.

If your child has an education, health and care plan, you need to follow a different process. Find out more at www.lewisham.gov.uk/SENadmissions.

Free email reminders

Sign up to get free emails with reminders, application tips and more at

www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions



Dates for Your Diary

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Saturday 1 st November	10am Log Rolling Volunteers with Kelley
Monday 3 rd November	Year 4 swimming lessons start
Wednesday 5 th November	Spring Bulb Sale for Lucky Dip Competition
Friday 7 th November	Year 5 and 6 girls' football tournament
	Deadline to order Christmas cards
Sunday 9 th November	Wood Carving Workshop
w/b Monday 10 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 10 th November	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 1 boys' football tournament
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
	Non Uniform Day
Monday 17 th November	Individual and class photographs
	Year 5 and 6 basketball tournament (TBC)
Tuesday 18 th November	Year 3 to the Natural History Museum
Friday 21st November	INSET DAY
Monday 24 th November	Reception cinema visit
Thursday 27 th November	Reception to Year 6 height and weight screening
Friday 28 th November	Artisan Craft Market – 3-5pm
w/b 1 st December	Whole school assessment week
Thursday 4 th December	9am Coffee Morning with the Mental Health Schools Team – challenging behaviours
Wednesday 10 th December	Music concert
Thursday 11 th December	PTA School Disco
Friday 12 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 festive assembly performances
Monday 15 th December	Year 5 and Year 6 festive assembly performances
Tuesday 16 th December	Reception nativity performance
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 th December	Year 3 and 4 festive assembly performances
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term
Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Monday 5 th January 2026	First day of spring term



STARS OF THE WEEK



Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Elisa	For being so careful and creative with her art work, and being a good friend, which helps others to feel more confident
Nursery AM	Ethan	For joining in at carpet times and playing imaginatively every day
Nursery PM	Aneesa	For coming to nursery with a smile on her face and a positive attitude every day
Blue Class	Ruben	For being such a kind member of Blue class who is always eager and willing to help others. Well done, Ruben!
Red Class	Otto	For his fantastic reading and writing. He is kind and he is amazing at making paper aeroplanes for his friends! Well done, Otto! 😊
Yellow Class	Iona	For always being so engaged in her phonics learning and applying her knowledge to her writing. Well Done!
1M	Vinnie	For trying his best in our lessons and for his growing independence. Well done and keep it up, Vinnie! 😊
1N	Margot	For her positive attitude to learning and newfound independence. It has been wonderful to see her taking on challenges and enjoying the learning process.
1W	Isra	For showing enthusiasm while learning about Black History throughout this month. She produced a beautiful biography about reggae artist Maxi Priest. Isra always puts her best effort into everything she does at school.
2E	Peter	For becoming more and more confident with his reading. It has been lovely to hear him read more fluently and he should feel very proud of himself.
2S	Edith	For independently extending her learning
2SW	Buddy	For always being kind, caring and ready to lend a helping hand. Buddy's kindness helps make the classroom a lovely place to be! Well done Buddy, keep it up! 😊
3A	Ryan	For consistently staying on task, even when learning is challenging. He also tries to work through problems on his own before asking for help. Well done, Ryan!
3G	Holly	For confidently reading her speech to an audience with hand gestures. Keep it up! 😊
3S	3S	For using their historical knowledge when visiting Lewisham landmarks. Well done for being fantastic ambassadors for our school! ☆
4C	Frankie	For working really hard in his learning and making lots of progress. Well done, Frankie 😊
4K	Chloe	For her excellent inference skills demonstrated during the reading of our core text Street Child, as well as for improving her handwriting and earning her pen licence. Well done!
4S	Mateo	For demonstrating all 5 of Torridon's Core Values. Well done for being so enthusiastic, hardworking, polite and supportive of your peers. 😊
5A	Aadhiran	For being a fantastic role model to his peers and for excellent learning behaviours. Well done.
5C	Malaysia	For writing a lovely introduction to her diary entry in role as Harriet Tubman. Well done!
5V	Zahra	For including great description in her writing. Keep it up!
6L	Mohammad Ibrahim	For progressing well during his time in year 6 and building positive relationships with his peers.
6LG	Nanshika	For making improvements with her writing. She wrote an excellent persuasive pamphlet convincing the people of Paris to join the French Resistance. Well done!
6R	Caleita	For demonstrating superb resilience when editing her persuasive writing to ensure the correct level of formality. Well done.
Resource Base	Isaac	For his amazing focus and learning in music lessons, he has excelled on the glockenspiel achieving the top mark in the class. Well done Isaac!

Spoon Carving Workshop



*From beginners to
experienced carvers.
Use simple
techniques and tools
to make something
beautiful.*

SPOON CARVING WORKSHOP

Torridon School, SE6, Sunday 9th November, 10am – 3pm
£50 per person (18+ only. Discounts available.)



amyas.varcoe@gmail.com



@VarcoeWoodcraft



OCTOBER HALF-TERM EVENTS
AT MOON LANE BOOKS

Join us this half-term for fun-filled workshops and hands-on activities!

[Moon Lane Books October Half Term Activities. Click here to browse and book.](#)

TORRIDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

★ **CHRISTMAS**
ARTISAN CRAFT
MARKET ★

FRIDAY 28TH
NOVEMBER

🕒 **3-5PM**

**VENDORS
WANTED!**

Join us for a festive afternoon and showcase your handmade gifts, crafts, and seasonal treats.

STALL ENQUIRIES:

torridonmarket25@gmail.com

WE WANT YOU



To Join Our Team !

Young Queens FC is looking for
some additional league players:

- Under 14/15 (Year 9/10)
- Under 12 (Year 6/7) - to play in
all Girls team in Fusion league
(for very good players)

Email:

youngqueensfc@gmail.com



Girls' football October Half Term Camp



Book Now:

www.southlondongirlsfootballacademy.co.uk

Monday 27th October - Thursday 30th October
10am-3pm
£25 per day or £80 for all 4 days

Burgess Park Community Pitches,
Cobourg Road,
London,
SE5 0JD