



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

Headteacher: Manda George

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5th December 2025

Dear parents and carers,

The weather has certainly taken a wintry turn this week. Please make sure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather and that their name is clearly visible in items such as coats, hats, scarves and gloves.

Our children enjoyed visiting the Christmas Tree Festival last week. Our year 5s decorated the Hopes and Dreams tree that we exhibited. If you visited, we hope you enjoyed the festival too.

Our festive performances start next week with years 1 and 2 on Friday. We hope you will be able to join us.

Friday 12th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 1 2.45 Year 2
Monday 15th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 5 2.45 Year 6
Tuesday 16th December	9.00 or 2.30 Reception nativity performance
Wednesday 17th December	9.00 Nursery – festive songs Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 3 2.45 Year 4

Whatever you are up to this weekend, I hope you have a lovely time.

Very best wishes,

Manda George
Headteacher



Rights Respecting assemblies

This week in our rights respecting assemblies, we looked at articles 2 and 23 as part of the International Day of People with Disabilities on December 3rd. This day is about promoting equality



and celebrating the achievements of people with disabilities. It's been marked every year since 1981 and reminds us of the challenges faced by over a billion people worldwide. It's also a chance to think about how we, as communities, can help break down barriers and make sure everyone feels included.



School Disco!



Calling all Torridon pupils - grab your glad rags and gear up to cut loose on the dance floor. You're officially on the guest list for CLUB TORRIDON! Entry includes a packet of crisps for each child and unlimited squash and water. Children in Years 3-6 can purchase additional treats from the KS2 Tuck Shop.

Children must be dropped at the doors – families cannot stay with the children. Families can spend time in the parents' café if they wish to stay on site.

Entry £3 - [pay online](#) or by cash or card on the gate

Learn more about the disco and how you can get involved at <https://www.friendsoftorridon.org/disco-2025>.

	4:00 - 5:00	5:30 - 6:30
Early Years Hall	Nursery & Reception	Years 1 & 2
Year 5 Hall	Years 3 & 4	Years 5 & 6
Year 3/4 Hall	Parents' Café	

Festive Lunch Menu



Christmas lunch is taking place on **17th of December**. If you usually have packed lunch but would like to sample the festive lunch menu, please email admin@torridonprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

Newspaper and Magazine Donations

If you have any unwanted newspapers or magazines this week, we would very much welcome your donations for art therapy. Donations can either be brought to the inclusion office or the school office.

Many thanks,

Sai



OPAL donations



If your child has asked Santa to deliver a new bike, scooter or skateboard this Christmas we would happily make use of any old bikes, scooters or skateboards that your child may have outgrown!!



Our wheels zone is a very popular zone of our OPAL PLAY provision, so we are always looking to replenish our stock!

THANK YOU!

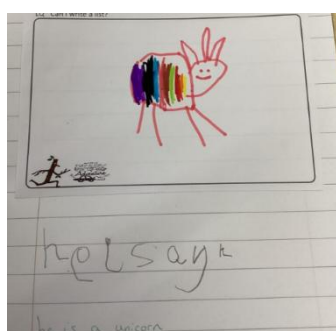
Nursery – Trip to the library

This week, nursery went on a trip to the library, where we listened to stories and sang songs. We have been reading 'The Snowflake' by Benji Davies and we learnt that snowflakes are all unique - just like us! There was a toy emergency on Monday and we had to smash the ice to rescue the animals from the frozen water... it was frustrating at first, but we saved them all in the end.



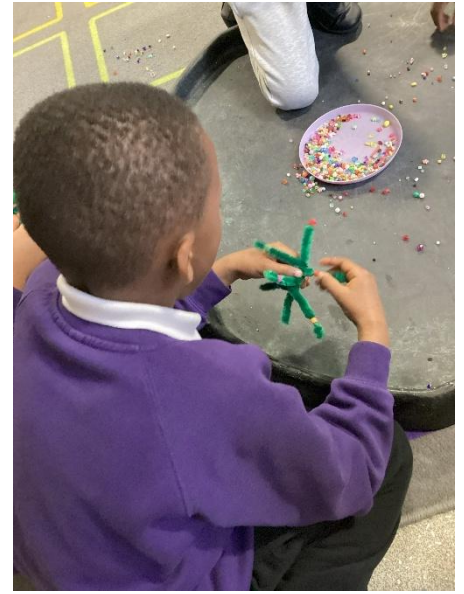
Reception

It is Christmas! The children enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree and riding Santa's sleigh. This week we continued learning about the Stickman story. They used their imagination to think of different ways that we could use him.



Resource Base

This week in the Resource Base, we strengthened our fine motor skills by decorating pipe-cleaner Christmas trees. We carefully pinched, threaded, and placed beads to create unique festive designs. The activity encouraged coordination, creativity, and focus, and everyone was proud of their beautifully decorated trees.



Year 1 – Trip to the Horniman Museum

This week, we had an amazing adventure at the Horniman Museum, exploring the wonders of the deep blue sea in their fascinating aquarium. As part of our “Under the Sea” theme, we were thrilled to see many of the sea creatures we’ve been learning about, up close!

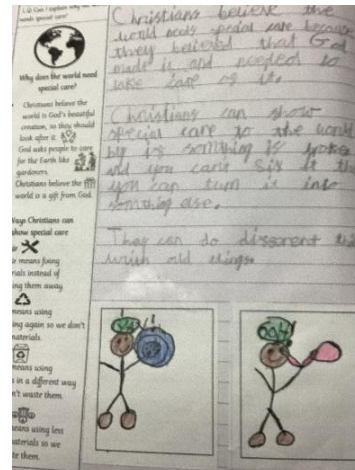
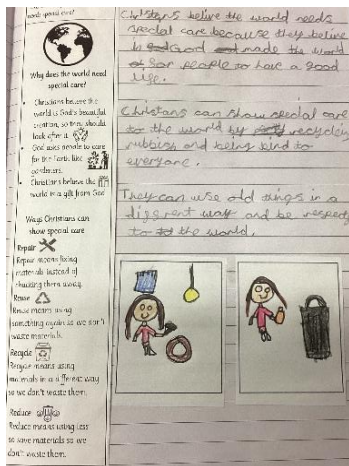
We spotted clownfish hiding in the anemone, graceful blue tangs gliding by, and jellyfish drifting like tiny umbrellas. There was also an enormous starfish clinging to its rocky bed and seagrass swaying gently, just like in our ‘Little Turtle’ story.

After our underwater adventure, we headed to the museum gardens, where we made music on the outdoor instruments. It was so much fun creating rhythms and melodies together in the fresh air.



Year 2 - RE

This week in RE, we explored why Christians believe the world needs special care. We learned about important teachings in Christianity that encourage people to look after the Earth and everything in it. We talked about practical ways Christians can show care, such as following the Four R's – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Repair. We came up with lots of great ideas about how these actions can help keep our planet safe and clean. Take a look at what we have been doing...



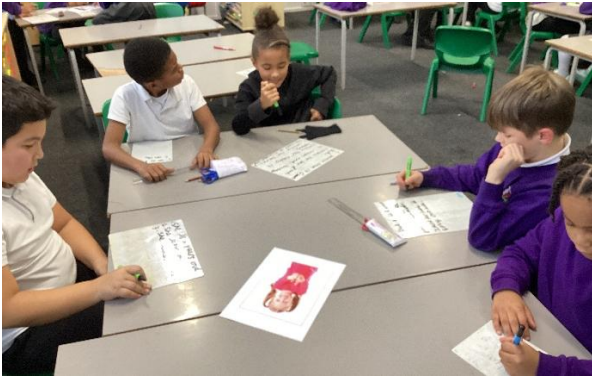
Year 3 – DT

As part of our DT learning in year 3, the children have been thinking about how to make a strong box out of fabric. To help us chose our fabric stiffener, we carried out an investigation using different solutions to find out which was the most effective. We found that using PVA glue worked the most effectively. The children applied the glue to their chosen fabric. Now all we have to do is wait for it to dry and we can start constructing. Watch this space to see the results!



Year 4 - PSHE

In PSHE lessons, we have been thinking about the assumptions we make based on people's appearances. In this activity, we looked at some photos of people and answered some questions about them. We had to decide on the answers based on how the person looked. Afterwards, we found out the real answers. We reflected on what we wrote and whether any of the real answers surprised us. We reflected that we should not make assumptions based only on someone's appearance.



Year 5

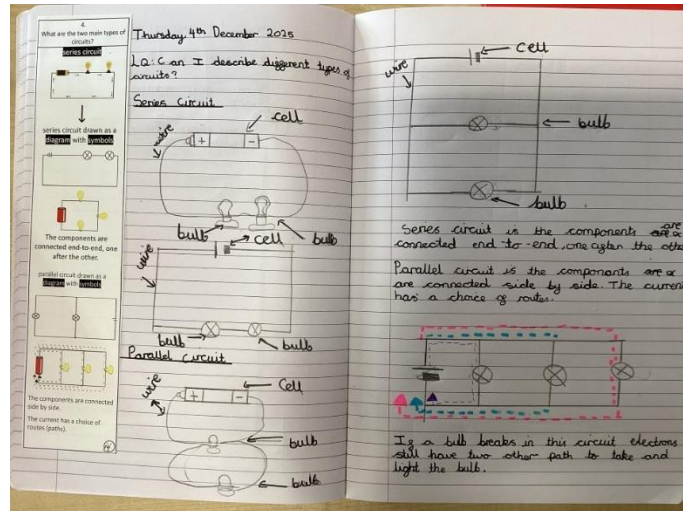
Year 5 took part in a dance workshop this week with Irie Dance Theatre. The workshop was led by choreographer Keha Seebi and linked to the recent live performance they went to see at Catford Broadway earlier in the term.

The children learnt a Ghanaian dance which they had viewed in the show.



Year 6 – Science

This week in Science, year 6 explored **series and parallel circuits**. The children learned how electricity flows differently in each type of circuit and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both. They worked hard to draw clear diagrams representing series and parallel circuits, adding detailed explanations to show their understanding. It was fantastic to see their curiosity and problem-solving skills in action!



Sitting Volleyball tournament

On Monday, 8 children from years 5 and 6 represented Torridon at the Lewisham Games sitting volleyball tournament at Bonus Pastor. Sitting volleyball is an inclusive team game where children need to hit the ball over the net whilst remaining seated. Our team had the opportunity to play nine 6-a-side matches against other schools in Lewisham and enjoyed winning as well as learning from defeats.

It was a challenging morning as most of the team hadn't played the sport before. Over the course of the morning, they became more confident with their serves, rotations and returning volleys and it was wonderful to see such passion and determination from our children. They worked incredibly well as a team and should be really proud of their efforts on the day. Well done to our sitting volleyball team!



Forest School News

This week the children have been busy creating seasonal decorations.

Nursery hung bird feeders at Forest School to help the birds and squirrels through the cold Winter days.






Reception made journey sticks with bells that Reindeers can hear!



Year 1 and 3 created natural wreaths using vine from around our woodland.



Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
1M	92%		3A	96%		5A	99%	
1N	95%		3G	92%		5C	92%	
1W	90%		3S	89%		5V	97%	
2E	96%		4C	94%		6L	93%	
2S	94%		4K	98%		6LG	94%	
2SW	95%		4S	98.2%		6R	95%	

Well done to those classes achieving our school target of 97% or more!

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 9 th December	PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE Music concert
Thursday 11 th December	PTA School Disco
Friday 12 th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 1 2.45 Year 2
Monday 15 th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 5 2.45 Year 6
Tuesday 16 th December	9.00 or 2.30 Reception nativity performance
Wednesday 17 th December	9.00 Nursery – festive songs Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 th December	Festive assembly performances 9.00 Year 3 2.45 Year 4
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term (2pm finish)
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	Zayn	For his enthusiasm and perseverance while learning to write his name
Nursery PT	Bella	For demonstrating good listening skills and always following carpet time rules
Blue Class	Alanah-Marie	For the amazing effort she has put into singing practice for our nativity performance! Well done, Alanah!
Red Class	Ayat	For speaking during the group activities. She is fantastic at drawing, and she is kind and shares with everyone. Well done, Ayat! 😊
Yellow Class	Otis	For working hard in his phonics learning. Well done!
1M	The Whole Class	For being superstars on our trip to the Horniman! To make the trip even more special, they sang beautiful Christmas songs on the bus, and everyone loved it! Well done! 😊
1N	The Whole Class	For being so sensible on our trip to the Horniman. They were mindful of others on the buses and walked nicely across the roads. Well done! 😊
1W	The Whole Class	For being so enthusiastic on our trip to the Horniman. Everybody had such a great time. Well done! 😊
2E	Tom	For excellent effort in his writing this week. Well done for listening carefully to feedback and taking pride in your learning! Keep it up Tom! 😊
2S	Ellie	For her excellent effort in all areas of her learning! Well done for always trying your best and for being an excellent role model! Keep it up Ellie 😊
2SW	Taliya	For being so helpful, kind and caring towards her peers. She is always ready to lend a helping hand! Well done Taliya, keep it up! 😊
3A	Darcey	For demonstrating excellent problem-solving skills.
3G	Chance	For trying his best in every piece of learning this week. Keep it up! 😊
3S	Milo	For always trying his very best in all aspects of his learning. Well done Milo, you are a superstar 😊
4C	Paul	For his amazing dedication and for always trying his best in the swimming lessons even when he found it challenging. Well done 😊
4K	Muhammad	For showing an improvement in his stamina for writing. Well done for also trying your best with your handwriting. Keep up the good work 😊
4S	Malakhi	For being calmly focused in lessons and for trying his best in his learning. Well done, Malakhi, keep it up! 😊
5A	Whole Class	For demonstrating commitment and resilience this week during whole school assessments. Well done 5A!
5C	Fatima	For displaying the core values of excellence this week, especially during the assessments. Keep it up!
5V	Oniefa	For putting in a lot of effort in her reading lessons and making very good progress.
6L	Mohammed	For your hard work and efforts in the presentation of your learning. Your handwriting has improved, and you should feel very proud! Well done!
6LG	Sajithya	For being a kind and caring friend. You have helped and supported someone who has an injury for two weeks. Thank you and well done! 😊
6R	Aathesh	For demonstrating improved focus when collaborating with others and showing increased commitment in lessons to prepare for assessments. Well done.
Resource Base	Royalty	For her amazing creativity and for always trying her best. Keep it up Royalty.

Great British Bake Off

Have YOU got what it takes to be the next Star Baker?

Love Productions are looking for a new batch of bakers for the next series of The Great British Bake Off and they want to hear from you!

If you or someone you know is a talented home baker, then apply

now at www.applyforbakeoff.co.uk or email on

applyforbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk or call 0117 456 8530 for an application form.

Closing date for applications is 1pm on Monday 15th December 2025.





FOOTBALL DOMINATION



FD HOLIDAY CAMP

FD Holiday Christmas Camp

To Book

www.football-domination.class4kids.co.uk

Location:

Bellingham Leisure Centre
SE6 3BT

CONTACT US



Contact Us
07960480542



Email Us
info@footballdomination.com

Website Us
www.footballdomination.com



OUR ACTIVITIES





Drawing Competition

Task: Draw your favourite Christmas or winter scene!

Examples: You could draw Father Christmas, a snowman, a snowy landscape, the nativity scene, a snowflake, a reindeer, a robin or even a polar bear (anything Christmas/winter/snow related - see ideas overleaf). Students of all ages welcome to take part.

Prizes: We will award the following prizes to winning students to purchase learning resources for their classroom:

1st prize: £500 Amazon voucher

2nd prize: £250 Amazon voucher

3rd prize: Five * £50 Amazon vouchers



Instructions: Competition entries are to be submitted digitally via our website: www.hansonbox.org (click the "Competitions" link at the top and follow submission instructions). Or scan the QR code above.

The competition **closes** on December 18th, 2025.

Winners will be **announced** on December 23rd, 2025.

We hope that your students enjoy this competition.



Good Luck!



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Father Christmas and the Runaway Reindeer

Under 3s
FREE

Shows last approx 40 mins.
Suitable for all ages

Written by **DARREN BIRD**
and **JONATHAN KAUFMAN**
Choreographer and Assistant director
ETTA ERMINI
Costume designer
JACKIE POULETT

**UPSTAIRS AT THE
SYDENHAM CENTRE**

**44a Sydenham Rd,
London SE26 5QX**

**Can you help
Santa find his
missing reindeer?**

TWO WEEKENDS ONLY

Three performances each Sat & Sun at 2pm, 3.15pm & 4.30pm
SAT 13/SUN 14 DECEMBER & SAT 20/SUN 21 DECEMBER 2025

BOOK ONLINE spontaneousproductions.co.uk/reindeer

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SYDENHAM SOCIETY

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Supporters





Winter Special Baby Nature Makers



A nature themed sensory session where babies explore, texture, colour, scent and sound. Unstructured, free play.

Wednesdays at Little Fixers, 40 Lordship Lane
For age 6m-2.5 and their adult. 9.30am



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 6th December

1 – 4pm

Festive Wreath Making |
Food | Market Stalls |
Grotto | Craft Activities
+ Performances

**FREE
ENTRY**

**Goldsmiths Community Centre
Castillon Rd, SE6 1QD**