

“And so this is Christmas ...” Torriano has been a place that has captured the true spirit of Christmas over the past two weeks.

In KS2, the children raised the roof with fantastic song and cheer, whilst communicating a poignant message. This Torriano tale of the Little Match Girl was destined to help make change for others! Meanwhile in KS1, the children’s singing and outstanding performances told the story of Babushka and her journey to happiness at Christmas. Finally, EYFS told us a lovely wintry tale of friendship and how it is so important to all children. Across the school children sang and performed with such confidence and enjoyment - **every child in the school** took part together. As part of the **Team London Challenge** the children chose **homelessness** as something they want to actively change in their community. This was conveyed in our performances and Christmas video ‘Only You’, which helped raise an astounding **£851.10** for the **Shelter charity**. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

It has been a fantastic term in which the children and staff have worked extremely hard. We are delighted to be **ranked 5th in the Camden League tables and to also receive a judgment of Outstanding for Overall Effectiveness by Camden Local Authority** in recent monitoring. Please read the governor’s report in this newsletter. We are very proud of our achievements at Torriano and we look back with pleasure and pride at the exciting whole school events that have taken place as part of our school theme – **Making Connections, Making Changes**. A huge thank you to all of the parents and cultural organisations who have enriched the children’s learning this term.

We end the term with 95% attendance. We are aiming to reach **our target of 96%** for next term. Well done to the children who achieved 100% attendance this term.

Jingle bells chimed through class parties today with the arrival of a **very ,very jolly Father Christmas**. I would like to take the opportunity to **thank the incredible Torriano staff** who have made this term so special for the children.

Finally, a huge thank you to the newly-formed PTA for all their support and commitment to the school in their first term. **The Christmas Fair** and the tree sale were both resounding successes, with the funds enabling Nursery, KS1 and KS2 to attend Pantomime performances, whilst Reception visited the Christmas animals at the zoo.



The whole school community should be very proud of our shared achievements at Torriano Primary School this term. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2017!

Helen Bruckdorfer
Headteacher



Ted & Earl's Attendance Results

Our Target: 96%

Overall KS1 Attendance: 94.22%

Overall KS2 Attendance: 95.52%

67 children had 100% attendance for the whole of the autumn term. Well done!



Car Park Notice

Please note the school car park is for staff only, parents and carers must not park in the car park when dropping off or collecting children.

After School Clubs

After school clubs return on the 16th January, except for film club which starts on Thursday 26th January. Breakfast club will begin on the first day back after the school holidays on Wednesday 4th January.

EYFS Performance

A polar bear, seven foot icicle and a deconstructed Christmas tree helped to set the scene for this week's wonderful EYFS winter show.

The story of 'A Flower in the Snow' was told by the children in Nursery and Reception through singing, acting and dancing. To set the scene, Reception provided percussion with a wintry song as The Pigeons class took centre stage. Once the Luna's ventured out into the snow to showcase their dance they were joined by the Bears to help perform their friendship dance. The Robins then followed brilliantly with their dance that represented the bear's hunt for a sunshine flower.

Nursery children acted as sunshine flowers that sprung up in the middle of the stage ready to be picked by the bear for Luna. The show finished with all of Nursery performing a wonderful dance as bears in the beautifully set meadow of sunshine flowers. The final song 'What Makes a Good Friend' concluded the performance perfectly.

Well done to everyone for all their hard work and thank you to all the parents and carers for coming to watch, we hope you enjoyed the show as much as the children did!



Brilliant Babushka

After weeks of hard work and preparation, year 1 and 2 performed Babushka last Thursday. Babushka's story begins in her small, but perfectly clean house in a small Russian village. Babushka cleans all day long but she is still not happy as she has an empty place in her heart. After she is visited by angels, who tell her the wonderful news that a new baby king has arrived, she sets off on a journey that will change her life forever.



The year 2 children worked incredibly hard on projecting their voices, remembering and delivering all their lines at the correct time and with great humour. On top of that they sang their hearts out and used Makaton to sign all of the lyrics. Year 1 joined the children to sing some of the key songs with their own handmade costumes; helping to bring the whole show to life!

Torriano's Little Match Girl

Christmas 2016 started with the strike of a match last Wednesday as Torriano's latest Christmas piece, The Little Match Girl, lit up the lives of all parents and staff that were there to witness. The tale was based on the Hans Christian Andersen story involving a poor little match girl who is cast aside by her cruel neighbours on a cold Christmas Eve...obviously with a Torriano twist.



Torriano's version was set on Kentish Town High street as we followed the little match girl's journey towards changing poverty, education and the discovery of renewable energy. When she finally finds happiness and lights up the sky with stars, through the love of her grandma, satisfied sighs echoed around the audience.



A funny, emotive and effortlessly moving cast, performed and sung along with the whole school, all accompanied by Mr C and his outstanding school band. The performance helped to deliver a heartwarming message about homelessness at Christmas time.

Please watch and share our [Christmas video](#) and help us raise awareness.

Key Term Dates Spring 2017

Date	Event
Tuesday 3rd January 2017	School closed - INSET day
Wednesday 4th January 2017	Children return to school
Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February 2017	HALF TERM
Monday 20th February 2017	Children return to school
Friday 31st March 2017	Last day of term (2.30pm close)
Monday 3rd April 2017 - Friday 14th April 2017	Easter holidays
Tuesday 18th April 2017	Children return to school

Governors Walk Report

This week the School Governors spent the morning at the school which we all greatly enjoyed. This was an opportunity to spend time talking to the senior leadership team, and visit classrooms to watch and observe teaching and talk to some of the children about what they were learning.

We took away a great sense of the school leadership and teachers all pulling together in the same direction with the best interests of the children as the focus.

In particular each classroom felt like a thoughtful and considered environment for the children, with great effort to create connections between each year group and a visible path of learning between them (cursive/ joined up writing everywhere!) with a consistent approach in the class room's look and feel - and which even extended to the playground.

We also got a really good insight in to how teachers are supporting children based on their abilities – stretching those that need more challenge and supporting those that need more confidence and focus in their learning.

Overall we felt that there was a huge sense of pride and ambition in the school - even towards the end of a busy term with Christmas holidays just around the corner! **From the Torriano Primary Governing Body**