

Torriano Primary School

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A Time to Talk; a Time to Change

Autumn Term 2017 Year 2



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the new academic year at Torriano Primary. We hope that your children are now settled into their new classes and enjoying year 2. This letter is to inform you of the areas of the curriculum your child will be studying during the Autumn term. As a **Rights Respecting School**, we are continuing to learn about the rights and lives of children throughout the world and explore the **whole school Big Question, 'Who do I want to be?'**

		<h1>Who do I want to be?</h1>					
Caring	Respectful	Curious	Honest	Informed	Active	Empathetic	Resilient

This year we will be promoting the **right to be heard** and focusing on developing children's communication and speaking skills. These **oracy** and **global citizenship** skills are placed at the heart of our pedagogy and curriculum. Through our whole school theme - **'A Time to Talk; A Time to Change'** we will continue to learn about the **17 Global Goals**. Our aim is for our children to develop **learner competencies** set out in our new **values framework**, as seen above. This focuses on exploring **who we are**; how **we learn independently**; how **we learn collectively** and encourages **everyone to be a changemaker**. To support this, we have many exciting events planned this term, including our annual **Careers' Week** and the **World's Largest Lesson 2017**.

As part of our **Healthy not Hungry** campaign the children will be selecting a vegetable or fruit as their class name. They will then grow, harvest and cook with their classmates! Our class will be called the Potatoes! Or, more affectionately, 'The Spuds'!



We enjoyed meeting many of you at the Meet the Teacher event, where we discussed the teaching and topics for the year and gave out relevant information. The presentation will soon be available on the school website. **Please also find this term's curriculum leaflet attached with details on our Great Fire of London topic.**



Year 2 team



Jack Holmes, Husna begum, Sorrel Meechan and Trish Small

Rights Respecting Children

In class the children are rewarded for excellent work, participation and following the class charter and whole school values by progressing through the class incentive system. Once they have reached the top their names are entered into the class 'Golden Book' and they return to the start. After three entries their names are recorded in the school 'Golden Book' and a postcard is sent home to inform you of their achievement. Please ask your children if you want to know more about this system.

Attendance and Punctuality



We are continuing our focus on improving attendance and punctuality. Our morning lessons will start **promptly at 9.05 a.m.** Please ensure that your child is at school on time. Potatoes hope to win the attendance award this term!

Homework

<p>Homework</p>	<p>A piece of homework will be sent home each week linked to your child's learning in class. On occasion the children may get a science or a cross-curricular project to complete over the holidays. Homework is sent home on Wednesday and must be brought back to class on Monday morning.</p>
<p>Lucy Literal's Spelling Bee</p> 	<p>We will begin the year with daily phonics sessions where a sound, rule or pattern will be taught. Your child will then be given a list of words that follow that sound, rule or pattern to learn.</p> <p>Over time these sessions will turn into spelling lessons and the spellings will continue to be set weekly with their homework.</p> <p>On a Monday your child will be tested on any words that were included in their homework the previous week. The aim is for the children to apply their understanding of the spelling conventions, helping them to become successful spellers.</p>



<p>PACT reading</p> 	<p>Parental support is hugely important for developing reading skills, confidence and understanding. Even if children are independent readers, we still encourage parents to read with them or listen to them and discuss the books they are reading.</p> <p>In Key Stage 1 children should be reading at home for around 10 minutes a day. To help the teachers understand what and how much children are reading, we request that they complete their reading record at <i>least three times a week</i> with a simple comment such as <i>'I enjoyed this book because...'</i> <i>'It was funny when...'</i> There are suggested sentence starters in the front of the reading records to help the children write these comments, or alternatively the parent can write the comment for them. Reading records and books must be brought in to class every day so that children can change their books. Reading records will be checked regularly by adults, with a detailed teacher comment once a week.</p>
<p>Fluency in maths</p> 	<p>Knowing number facts is an important tool to enable your child to feel confident in maths. Revising number facts, including times tables, is an easy way to support your child's progress in mathematics and we encourage children to revise them regularly.</p> <p>Through their weekly homework, children will be given strategies and activities to support them.</p>
<p>New words</p> <p>Ask me what this means</p> 	<p>Direct vocabulary teaching takes place every day. On a Friday children choose one of their new words to wear on a sticker. We encourage you to speak to your child about their chosen word each week as this will help them to deepen their understanding of the word and to develop their oracy skills!</p>

Only homework, books and reading records should be kept in a Pact folder as these are kept and used every day in class, please send their PE kits in a separate bag. Letters will also be sent home in the PACT folder so please check your child's bag regularly. Newsletters are sent via email every Friday and will appear on the website.



PE

PE will take place every **Tuesday and Thursday afternoon**. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit in a PE bag; a white top with black/navy shorts, joggers or leggings and trainers.

Learn together

Each week we will invite parents and carers to join their class to learn together. The sessions will run for half an hour and are opportunities for you to learn with your children. The sessions will explore areas of new learning that your children are exploring and provide an opportunity for you to acquire new ideas and strategies to support your children at home.

Year 2 will have their stay and learn session on a Wednesday morning from 9.05 am until approximately 9:40am.

Website



We are looking forward to a very successful year. You can keep informed about our learning on the school website: <http://www.torriano.camden.sch.uk/year-groups/year-2/>

We have an open door policy for parents and carers and will be available to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kind regards,

Jack Holmes & Sorrel Meechan

