

Torriano Primary School

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A Time to Talk; a Time to Change Spring Term 2018 Year 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

We are looking forward to another exciting term. We will continue to explore our **whole school theme 'Time to Talk; Time to Change'**. The children will plan and curate the annual **Torriano STEAM exhibition in March**, where they will share their learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. This year, we will be exploring the idea of **'World Articulation'** and the science of communication. Year 1 will be focusing on sound, linked to how music and dance can impact social change. We hope that you join us in our learning.

The children will continue to develop their oracy skills, sharing their passion for books on **World Book Day** and collaborating on **UNICEF's Day for Change**.

Our topic this term is the High Street with a focus on the children becoming self-directed learners who are active and independent in all lessons. We will also be focusing on talking about emotions, relationships and team work, again linking to oracy. We have some very exciting trips and visits as part of this topic.

Trips and Events

Following our trip to the Kentish Town High Street we will be creating our own Torriano High Street. The children will become shopkeepers of their own shops, where they will sell items they have made, under banners they have created with a very special artist who is coming to visit us on Tuesday 16th January (Sshhhhh! She is a secret.....). You are all very welcome to attend our High Street Extravaganza, giving the children an opportunity to practice their oracy skills, at 9.15am on **Wednesday, January 31st**. We may also visit other local shops this term, but will, of course, let you know dates.

As part of our STEAM projects the children have some exciting workshops approaching:

- Making junk musical instruments with The Beat Goes On (we will need your rubbish!) on 21st February.
- Playing instruments made from fruit and vegetables to create songs with social messages with The School of Noise on 26th February.
- A science workshop with The Crick.



Behaviour

In class the children are rewarded for excellent work, participation and following the class charter by progressing through the class incentive system, their names are then recorded in the school 'Golden Book' which the children relish becoming part of!

Attendance and Punctuality

We will continue to focus on improving attendance and punctuality. Please ensure that your child is on school at time. We will continue with the soft start in Year 1, with classroom doors opening from **9am**, but please ensure children arrive at school on time by **9.05am**.



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>Phonics- Decoder Dog's Sound Book</p> 	<p>Phonics lessons take place daily in Year 1 and form the foundations for learning to read and write. Your child has received a Decoder Dog Sound Booklet appropriate to the phase of Letters and Sounds they are learning. The books are an opportunity for parents and carers to practise reading with their child and they are also a useful communication tool between school and home, helping you to understand what your child is working on now and what their next steps will be.</p> <p>We recommend that you use the book for around 5 minutes per day. It can be helpful to set a timer or a target, such as a number of pages, for your child so that they have an achievable goal. When you feel that your child confidently knows all of the sounds and tricky words in the book, please return to the class teacher. They will then award your child's certificate and assign the next phase booklet.</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>Reading daily at home with an adult is crucial to helping your child make progress. 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 counting in twos, fives and tens, 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><i>Ask me what this means</i></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, reading 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 on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday afternoons**. On Wednesday we have Sarah the dance teacher working with the children on their STEAM project. 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. This PE kit should stay in school.

Learn together

Year 1 will now have their stay and learn session on a **Thursday** morning from 9.05 am until approximately 9:40am. All are welcome!

Medications

If your child has any medication, e.g. asthma pump, which has to be taken during the school day, please remember to ask the school office for a **medical form** which you need to fill and sign.

Website

You can keep informed about our learning on the school website:



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.

We look forward to an exciting and busy Spring Term!

Kind Regards,

Miss Bretherton and Miss Churchill

