

Torriano Primary School

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Our Future Starts HERE



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the new academic year at Torriano Primary. We are looking forward to meeting you at our Meet the Team session next **Monday at 3.30PM**. We hope that your children are now settled into their new classes and enjoying year 1. This letter is to give some important information regarding the year ahead. 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?'**



Our Future Starts HERE; What's your view?

Through our whole school theme, 'Our Future Starts HERE', we continue to focus on **turning learning into action in our community** and beyond. We will consider the **right to an education for all** and the **right to be healthy, focusing on clean air, physical and mental health**. Our science focus this term is everyday materials and we will use this to explore the different materials used for building. We are very fortunate to now have access to our wonderful new Science Lab and will work scientifically to explore the properties of different materials. Our innovative mini- STEAM exhibitions will take place over the course of the year, with the lab and our new state of the art radio room adding a new dimension to the learning at Torriano. Our STEAM project with year 5 will be in the summer term. More information on this will come in due course.

To kick off the new academic year our overall topic will be Our Local Area. Through this we will learn about our local environment, specifically the High Street. As part of this topic we have some fantastic trips in store, including visiting Kentish Town High Street and The London Docklands Museum.



CHANGEMAKER SCHOOLS



Artsmark Gold Award
Awarded by Arts Council England



The Year Team



From Left: Siana Bretherton (IB Class Teacher), Dalal Shehrouf (Teaching Assistant), Rebecca Rensten (IR Class teacher), Greta Usiene (Teaching Assistant)

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 9.00**. Please ensure that your child is at school on time. Year 1 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>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 will have received a Decoder Dog Sound Booklet from last year and will soon receive a new booklet appropriate to the phase of <i>Letters and Sounds</i> 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>Home 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 year 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 now 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>' The parent can write the comment for them if your child finds this challenging.</p> <p>Reading records (monkey books) and reading 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 teacher comment weekly.</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>

New words

Ask me what this means



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!

Only homework, books and reading records should be kept in a book bag as these are kept and used every day in class, please send their PE kits in a separate bag. From now on letters for trips and other correspondence will be issued through Arbor. Newsletters are sent via email every Friday and will also appear on the website.

No Shoe Classroom

As year 1 is a no shoe classroom, we ask children and visiting adults to take their shoes off when they come into the classroom. In year 1, our learning takes place inside and outside, which means children frequently have to take off their shoes. To make this easier we ask that children where shoes they can remove and put on independently.

PE

PE will take place every **Tuesday and Wednesday**. 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 or plimsolls. The children will be changing for each PE lesson so these kits should stay at school at will be sent home every half term.

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-1/>

Learn together

Year 1 have their *Learn Together* session each **Thursday** morning from 9.05 am until approximately 9:40am. All are welcome! We also have an open door policy for parents and carers and will be available to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kinds regards,

Siana and Rebecca



