

Torriano Primary School

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Wednesday, 01 May 2019

Our Future Starts HERE

Summer Term 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

#Mind in Motion

Our whole-school project will focus on the **quintcentennial of Leonardo da Vinci's death, which took place on 15th April 2019**. A pioneer in many fields, Leonardo da Vinci is a great lens through which to view our STEAM education focus. The children will learn about his life and works, which will also inspire the **Year 1 and Year 5 STEAM project this term**; The Future is Solar! **The Year 1 STEAM exhibition will take place on Friday June 21st**. All STEAM curriculum projects will culminate in the **Camden STEAM Hub exhibition on the 10th July at Central St Martins School of Art and Design**.

Please find this term's curriculum leaflet attached with details on our topic this term which will focus on our STEAM learning. We also have some very exciting trips and events planned for this term, including a trip to Kew Gardens.

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**.

Phonics Screen

All children in Year 1 will take a phonics screen reading check in June. Please attend the second **parent workshop** on Thursday 3rd April at 9.15am, if you have not already, to find out more. This will take the place of Stay and Learn next week.

Homework

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.



Phonics-

Decoder Dog's Sound Book



Phonics lessons continue to 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. These are very helpful when supporting your child with preparation for the phonics screen check.

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.

PACT reading



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.

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 now begin to complete their reading record themselves** once a week with a simple comment such as '*I enjoyed this book because...*' '*It was funny when...*' The parent can write the comment for them if your child finds this challenging and please do continue to let us know how they are getting on with the reading.

Reading records and books must be brought in to class every day so that children can change their books, something they will do with increasing independence. Reading records will be checked regularly by adults, with a teacher comment.

Fluency in maths



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.

Through their weekly homework, children will be given strategies and activities to support them.

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 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 Wednesday and Thursday **throughout the first half term**. 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. Wearing a football kit to school is not appropriate PE kit, it should be a **change of clothes**.

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.

Kinds regards,

Holly Churchill and Alicia Clayton

