

Executive Headteacher: Helen Bruckdorfer BA

Monday, 06 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the 2021-22 academic year at Torriano. We hope that you all had a wonderful summer break, with the chance to spend time with family and friends. It has been fantastic to welcome the children back to school today, ready for learning and full of enthusiasm. Equally, it feels good to come back together as a school community for, what we hope, will be a return to a normal school term. We started the day with a whole school name game as we transfer to the use of first names for all staff to ensure consistency and familiarity. It may take a bit of getting used to for all of us! We are all looking forward to settling in our new Nursery and Reception children over the coming weeks and we are excited to welcome new families. Being in school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing; all children are expected to attend school every day unless they are unwell.

It has been a hive of activity during the summer holidays with summer school attended and enjoyed by Torriano and Brecknock children. We would like to thank all the families and staff who were involved, as well as Bloomsbury Football Club. We are thrilled with the new upgrades to the Early Years turf and climbing frame, ready for our new children. The infant building has a much needed new roof and the parquet in the KS2 building halls have had a 'floor lift'. The school is looking very smart and ready for the new academic year.



We will continue our close working relationship with Brecknock School, sharing practice, curriculum and expertise to benefit the quality of education across the two schools. We have already learnt so much from each other and are excited about the opportunities ahead. As you know, we come back to a slightly different leadership structure, with Helen as Executive Headteacher of Torriano and Brecknock, and Holly in her new post as Head of School. We continue to have an incredible staff at Torriano, with a strong and experienced senior leadership team. Michelle will work across both schools as Director of Inclusion, but be mainly based at Torriano. Matthew Western and Jack Holmes are also excited to start their new roles as Leaders of Learning.

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Jack, who became a father over the summer holidays. He will be on paternity leave for the first two weeks of this term, with Rose O'Brien taking the class full time in his absence. He will return to school on Thursday 16th September. We are also excited that Victoria Brown and Natalie Reilly are both expecting their first children in the coming months and we will provide details of their planned cover in due course.



It has been a pleasure to welcome new members of staff. Please make our new teachers and support staff welcome; they are keen to get to know you and the community.

This letter contains important information regarding arrangements for the start of term, including the school's key themes and priorities, as well as key dates. I hope this information helps to ensure a successful and safe start to the year for all.

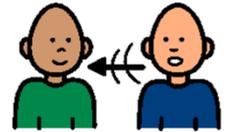
COVID – 19

You will have received a letter on Friday 27th August, communicating the arrangements for Covid-19 precautions this term. Please ensure you have read this carefully as it contains important information. The new risk assessment will be uploaded to the website and the link will be shared with you all. We are carefully watching the infection rates in the local area. Schools are working with the Local Authority and Camden and Islington Public Health to ensure that we respond appropriately to any changes.

We will continue to implement and review the following measures of control:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The Art of Explanation



Our whole school theme for this year is The Art of Explanation. We will further develop our oracy and STEAM curriculum in our ambition to offer a horizon broadening, inclusive and creative curriculum. This links in with our continued commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and places the school at the centre of important local, national and global challenges and innovation.



The fruits of last term's 'Dig a Little Deeper' STEAM project can be viewed online through a specially created website. This shares the creative and collaborative knowledge and skills of our children as true changemakers.

<https://sites.google.com/apps.torriano.camden.sch.uk/digalittledeeper/home>



We have some exciting projects in the pipeline, allowing children to apply their critical thinking skills, articulate their learning and justify their methods and choices. This term's school events will include; The World's Largest Lesson Global Goals Week, Black History Season, Ada Lovelace Day, National Poetry Day and building up towards COP 26, the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow. We are excited to enrich the children's learning with trips and access to London's vibrant



cultural offer. We are also very much looking forward to bringing the children together in phases (EYFS, Y1&2, Y3&4, Y5&6) for assemblies and events to bring this theme to life.

School Priorities 2020-21

We continue to set high expectations in learning for all our pupils and have identified school priorities for 2021 - 22. The school improvement plan sets out our actions to meet these priorities. Progress towards these are regularly evaluated and scrutinised by senior leaders, governors and Camden Learning.

Our key priorities for 2020/21 include:

- Maintaining a sharp focus on the teaching of early reading and the culture of reading is purposeful.
- Developing children’s number sense and fluency in calculation.
- Making the school fully accessible for learners with additional needs.
- Ensuring challenge and high expectations to extend more able learners.
- Further developing and evaluating a curriculum that is horizon broadening, inclusive, creative and relevant.
- Developing children’s skills in playing, learning and regulating their social and emotional experiences.
- Explicitly teaching anti-racism and reviewing representation in the wider curriculum.
- Supporting the physical and mental well-being of our children, staff and families.



Please keep updated on our activities and progress by reading the newsletter, which will now be issued on a Thursday.



School Community

We aim to continue our close partnership with parents. You will have the opportunity to see the senior leadership team daily at the beginning and end of the school day and at SLT coffee mornings this term. If the weather is fine we will be able to have these events in the playground in person, if not we will move them online. The first SLT coffee morning will take place on Friday 17th September @ 9:30am and will be for Year 1 - 6 parents. On Tuesday 28th September @ 9:30am an SLT coffee morning will take place for Reception and Nursery parents.

The PTA will soon be planning their autumn activities, events and fundraising. Further information will be sent to you in the coming weeks.



Meet the Team Online Meetings

Your child’s teacher will be inviting you to a ‘Meet the Team’ online meeting to discuss the curriculum and year group expectations. This is a great opportunity for you to meet the whole year group team, ask questions and find out about all aspects of school life. Meetings take place on the following days at 4pm and 4.30pm on Zoom (links to follow):

Monday 6th September:	Year 1 @4pm	Year 2 @4:30pm
Tuesday 7th September:	Year 3 @4pm	Year 4 @4:30pm
Wednesday 8th September:	Year 5 @4pm	Year 6 @4:30pm
Wednesday 15th September	Reception @4pm	
Wednesday 22nd September:	Nursery @ 4pm	



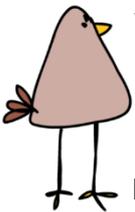
Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

Breakfast Club has started today, with children attending in both buildings. If you would like your child to attend the breakfast club from 8am, please contact the school office via email admin@torriano.camden.sch.uk EYFS wraparound care will start from Monday 13th September and children will be able to attend once they are in school for a full day to allow them time to settle.

We will be offering a wide range of after school clubs for children in Year 1 - 6. This replaces the after school club provision we were running under Covid restrictions, reverting to a more varied offer in line with pre-Covid provision. Information regarding this provision will be shared with families tomorrow. Look out for a Google form to complete, sent via Arbor.

Local play centre provision will be available at Camden Square and NW5. Please contact Paula on camdensquare@paceforall.com or Sharley on sharley@nw5project.com for more details.

Attendance



We look forward to building on our 90% first day back attendance. Our target is 97%. Thank you for keeping the office informed of any absence and for letting us know if you are quarantining following summer holiday travels.

Please be reminded that school attendance is mandatory and the usual rules continue to apply, including:

- a parent's duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- schools and local authorities may issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.



Ted and Earl will be on the lookout for good attendance and prompt school arrival this term. We will continue to celebrate good attendance and time-keeping behaviour in our weekly assemblies. We encourage you to monitor your child's attendance using Arbor to ensure their attendance remains excellent.

If you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature, please find overleaf information about our Designated Safeguarding Leads and their contact information.

We look forward to working together with you this term. Look out for key dates in next week's newsletter. Please also see the attached information regarding school payments and Arbor.

Yours sincerely,

Helen and Holly

Designated Senior Leads for Safeguarding



Designated Safeguarding Lead
Michelle Rae - Director of Inclusion
Contacts: 02074240202



Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Helen Bruckdorfer - Executive Head Teacher
Contacts: 02074240202



Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Catriona Hale - Pastoral Care Leader
Contacts: 02074240202



Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Natalie Reilly - Assistant SENCO
Contacts: 02074240202

Nominated governor for safeguarding:

Name: Chris Taylor
Contact details: 020 7424 0202

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO):

Name: Sophie Kershaw
Deputy LADO: John Lawrence-Jones
Contact details: 020 7974 4556