

Executive Headteacher: Helen Bruckdorfer BA

Friday, 16 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another brilliant start to the new academic year at Torriano, with children settling quickly into their new classes, returning to good learning habits and being incredibly active learners. We look forward to seeing Reception and Nursery parents at their Meet the Team meetings.

This letter gives further important and detailed information regarding the year ahead and this term's learning. Please keep an eye out for parent workshops which will be running throughout the year. Our weekly newsletter, sent on a Thursday, will keep you updated of all that is happening in the school. Please also follow us on @TorrianoJuniorS .

Together, The Future Starts Here

This year, Torriano and Brecknock schools will be exploring the whole school and federation theme Together, The Future Starts Here. We are excited to embark on a deeper partnership, with each other, with our children, parents and community, increasing opportunities for everyone to learn together.



We will enrich our learning and curriculum with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) quality education, reduced inequalities, affordable and clean energy. In the Autumn Term we will mark key events; Global Goals Week, Ada Lovelace Day, Black History Season and Anti-bullying Week.

Please see the rest of the letter below and curriculum leaflet, detailing the core and wider curriculum for children. This information will also be available shortly on our new website.

Rights Respecting Children

As a Gold Rights Respecting School, we consistently focus on the rights of the child and how these help us to develop an understanding of respect and empathy for others. At the start of this term, every class has created their class charter, underpinned by the Torriano school values.



In class, the children are praised for excellent work, participation and following the class charter and whole school values. Our behaviour system is called '1,2,3 Magic', which we believe complements our ethos. Children are rewarded with stickers linked to the school value they have demonstrated. These values are celebrated during our weekly special achievement assemblies.

Learning in Nursery

The attached curriculum leaflet gives you an overview of the learning that will be taking place this term in your child's year group. Through our 'Kentish Town Community and the Heroes Who Help Us' topic the children will be learning about what makes each of us unique; based on what we like, who our families are, and where we live. We will start our learning by meeting and finding out about ourselves and our families. We will then look at the roles of different people in our school. The children will then explore the wider community, meeting local heroes who help us.

All classes will use Torriano Timelines and Knowledge Quarters to support children to learn, remember and recall key facts about our local community and the heroes who help us.

Trips

We are delighted to be able to plan and take children on a range of educational trips once again. All trips will be risk assessed and following current guidelines. Once the children have settled, we are going to be exploring the Torriano school grounds and later in the term we will visit our local area. We will inform parents before each trip.

Clothing

We are encouraging all the children in Nursery to become independent by looking after their own clothing. We ask all parents to please label all of their child's clothing (including coats and shoes). Please also send in a bag of named spare clothing for your child (this will be kept on their coat peg).

Children don't need to wear shoes inside our Nursery learning environment so please send your child to school in shoes they can easily take off and put on themselves as they will be moving between the inside and outside areas freely. Your child may also bring in a pair of slippers to wear in school.



Attendance and Punctuality



Ted and Earl will be on the lookout for good attendance and prompt school arrival this term, in order to establish good habits for Reception and throughout the school. We will be celebrating good attendance and time-keeping behaviour weekly in class. We encourage you to monitor your child's attendance using Arbor to ensure their attendance and punctuality remains excellent. Please ensure you download the Arbor App to access your child's profile and complete payments.

Home Learning

<p>Home Reading</p> 	<p>Once the children have settled into the Nursery, each child will get a book bag to take home, which will contain a reading record book, two reading books and a poem. These will be changed each week. We would appreciate it if you could share these books with your child and enjoy learning new poems and rhymes together.</p> <p>Parental support is hugely important for developing reading skills, confidence and understanding. Reading daily at home and talking about the book, pictures and characters is crucial to helping your child make progress. To help the teachers understand what and how much children are reading, we request that parents/carers complete their reading record once a week with a simple comment. Reading records ('Monkey Book') must be brought in to class every day. Reading records will be checked regularly by adults, with a teacher comment once a week. More information to follow.</p>
<p>Fluency in maths</p> 	<p>Understanding number is an important tool to enable your child to feel confident in maths. In Nursery, we will focus on building children's confidence in their counting and representing number in different ways. Through giving a variety of opportunities, children will build and apply their understanding of numbers 1-5, such as singing number rhymes. Encourage your child to spot amounts and numbers in everyday life and use positional language (e.g. over, under, behind, next to) to develop their understanding of shape and space.</p>
<p>New words</p> <p><i>Ask me what this means...</i></p> 	<p>Direct vocabulary teaching of new words linked to the learning takes place every day. On a Friday, children choose one of their new words to wear on a sticker and discuss its meaning with their friends and the adults they meet. We encourage you to speak to your child about their chosen word each week, which will be displayed in the entry hall to Nursery. This will help them to deepen their understanding of the new vocabulary and to develop their oracy skills.</p>
<p>Tapestry</p> 	<p>In EYFS, we use an online learning journal called 'Tapestry'. Staff use this to share examples of your child's learning through photos and videos of what they have been doing in school. You can download the Tapestry application onto your tablet or phone to view these and can also use the app to share news and learning which has taken place at home. If you need any assistance with accessing Tapestry, please speak to one of the Nursery Team.</p>

Reading books and reading records should be kept in a book bag as these are used/referred to regularly in class.



PE

PE will take place every Friday. Children will not be changing for PE so please ensure they wear appropriate clothes for physical activity on these days, including trainers with velcro. Please note, the children are very active every day, so it is important that they always wear appropriate footwear.

We look forward to an exciting year and are available at pickup to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kind regards,

Stana and Jess

The Nursery Team

