

# Towngate Primary Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers

27.11.2020

## ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

The countdown to Christmas begins! 4 weeks today and it will be here! We are looking forward to next week and welcoming our Early Years back to school, just in time to get our Christmas decorations up! We are expecting a special delivery next week in the playground. It's never too early...

### Notices for Parents

- **Reception & Nursery** - After a thorough and deep clean, we are delighted to be able to welcome our Early Years classes - Reception and Nursery - back to school on Tuesday 1st December. Thank you to the parents/carers for your engagement in remote learning via Microsoft Teams and SeeSaw and thank you to the staff for doing a wonderful job of teaching the children whilst working remotely.
- **Twitter** - You will be receiving a Microsoft Forms questionnaire today to request permission for your child to appear on our school Twitter feed. Our account is going to be made public to mirror the other schools in the Multi-Academy Trust and local schools within our community. Please may we ask that you complete this as a priority to enable staff to tweet photographs of activities undertaken in school. Thank you.
- **Celebration Assembly** - We have been holding our Celebration Assembly virtually on a Friday afternoon. It has been wonderful to celebrate our stars of the week, attendance winners and our winning Dojo class. Mr Adlington and Miss Pyrah have been working hard to relaunch our Dojo's to enable the class to work together to achieve the winning points! It has been lovely to see everybody again - albeit virtually - and bring some much needed community spirit to the children and staff here in school.
- **Remote Learning** - All children in school have now been shown how to log on to Microsoft Teams using their username/passwords. The children have been shown how to navigate and use the system to ensure they are as prepared as possible in the event of a bubble closure.
- **Homework** - Homework is now available on SeeSaw for the children to complete; homework should be completed as per the arrangements in each class. If your child requires support to access their homework, please liaise with the class teacher via telephone call or email. Thank you.
- **Supervision on site** - Can we remind all parents/carers of the need to supervise children **at all times** whilst on school site. Again, we thank you for your cooperation in adhering to the staggered start and end times of the day and leaving site promptly after drop off/collection.



- **Christmas** - Over the years, we have appreciated your kindness and generosity at Christmas time; unfortunately, this year we are unable to accept cards or gifts into school as we aim to limit items coming into school from home, which in turn also means that the children will be asked not to bring in cards for their friends as we will be unable to facilitate the Christmas Letterbox safely this year. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support with the decisions school are making at this time.
- **Anti-Bullying Ambassadors** - After our anti-bullying week in school, we have explored the work of the Diana Award and are pleased to share that we are going to be appointing some Anti-Bullying ambassadors in school. Miss Pyrah has shared lots of information about these roles with the children during our virtual Celebration Assembly and we are very excited to receive the letters of application. Good luck everybody!

### Foundation Stage – F1 Nursery

This week in Nursery we have worked incredibly hard at our own homes! We are so proud of the dedication you have shown towards your learning. We have focused on number work this week and practised lots of counting and we have learnt lots of new sounds in our phonics. We have also enjoyed continuing our learning about Stickman and sharing the story with our grown-ups. We can't wait to see you all next week! Well done everybody,

Miss Riley and Mrs Gordon

### F2 Reception

F2 have been working very hard this week and we are very proud of all the super work they have produced and how they have engaged in their learning. This week we have been reading The Smartest Giant in Town and thinking about how kind George is and how he has helped all the animals in the story. We have tried hard to think of ways we can be kind to other people, especially in our families. We have also been working very hard to develop our writing through our phonics activities and our literacy work. In our maths work we have been thinking about using money and we have been practising adding and using coins to pay for the clothes in the giant's clothes shop. We have also enjoyed drawing the giant and thinking about how we can show how tall he is by adding detail into our pictures. Well done everyone.

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Allen and Mrs Middleton

### Year 1

Year one this week have produced some amazing instructions of how to storm a castle, they used time connectives, imperatives and put the instructions in order by using numbers. I think by the end of the term they will be experts of castles with all the information they have been learning! In PE this term we have been practicing our ball skills from rolling to bouncing and this week catching, some of the children even challenged themselves further by using smaller balls! Enjoy your week end Year 1, I am very proud of how hard you all work every day!

Miss Haigh and Mrs Watters

### Year 2

In Year this week we have been thinking about the value of the month - optimism. We know this means to be hopeful and confident about the future. We have also continued our work on castles looking at the people who would have lived in castles a long time ago. Well done Year 2, you have worked very, very hard this week.

Miss Lockett and Mrs Thackrah



### Year 3

We have been super busy again this week in year 3. We have been newspaper reporters in our English Lesson using our 5 W's and fronted adverbials. In Maths, we have been busy understanding subtraction from 2 digit and 3 digit numbers. In Science, we have been investigating gases, we saw a magic trick using a paper towel inside a plastic cup, dipped into water and the paper stayed dry?? Then we watched dancing raisins! In our History lesson this week, we travelled back in time to create our own round houses for an Iron Age hillfort we also created cave paintings outside, in our art lesson using mud and water. Well done Year 3 for another fantastic week!

Mrs Schofield and Miss Kilbride

### Year 3 / 4

It has been a wonderful week in class 3/4. As always, we have been so proud of all the fabulous learning and perseverance - well done! In English, we have a mammoth roaming around the school grounds! You might have seen him! To help class 3/4 have decided to write some instructions on how to capture this pesky mammoth. In maths, both year three and four have been using the inverse to check their calculations - we worked really hard to solve some tricky challenges. We had a fabulous time in French with year four learning all about zoo animals and year three enjoyed learning the French for the months of the year. In PE, we continued with our circuit work and beating our best scores! History was super exciting this week as we compared the Iron, Bronze and Stone Age by being history detectives!

Miss Marston, Mrs Bailey & Miss Hanley

### Year 4

This week year 4 have enjoyed their ART lesson where we have been examining Stone Age cave drawings. We have looked at a variety of artwork and annotated them with what we think the messages might be. Most of the paintings had animals which we believe is a way for the Stone Age people to remember a hunt or visualise finding an animal before a hunting expedition. After annotating these works, we attempted to recreate key sections of the cave paintings using ART pencils. We really focused on shading to create the same look as the original artwork. Next week we will be scavenging outdoors for material with which we can attempt to create some Stone Age inspired artwork using materials similar to the ones prehistoric people themselves might have used.

Mr Hellam and Mrs Broadbent

### Year 5

In year 5 this week, we have looked at perimeter and area, in maths, and have investigated how to calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes. We have used our knowledge of bar models and part whole models to demonstrate how we can find missing sides to help us solve more difficult problems. In English, we have studied non-chronological reports and begun to plan our own writing which will focus on the plight of refugees and the dangers they face when they are forced to leave their homeland. In art, we have continued to develop our observational drawing skills through looking at how to create realistic reflections to really emphasise the E-D effect! Our history has focused on the colonies and dominions of the British Empire and their contributions to victory for the allied forces in WW II. We have made our own judgements for which countries contributed most and justified our opinions.

Mr Adlington and Miss Pamment

### Year 5/6

This week in Year 5/6, we have developed our creative writing skills by writing a setting description using inspiration from our class novel *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan. This visual narrative follows the journey of a migrant who was seeking a safer life in a new land. In history we have interpreted various sources for evacuees during World War II. We have explored the impact the experience had on young evacuees and the new families they moved to stay with. Miss Atkinson and Mrs Drury would like to say a huge well done to all the class for their hard work and perseverance with their fraction work this week.

Miss Atkinson & Mrs Drury



## Year 6

This week in year 6 we have created some different textures in art and compared different media to see what different effects we could create. In PSHE and as part of our wellbeing work we have been looking at taking responsibility for our own actions and choices. We have looked at what peer pressure is, when we might feel peer pressure and how to deal with it. In history we have been comparing different sources about evacuation during the war and deciding which was the most trustworthy. We compared the British Evacuation to Canada to see who ran it better.

Mrs Wolstenholme and Mrs Johnson

### Stars of the Week

#### Class

F2 – Reception  
Year 1  
Year 2  
Year 3  
Year 3/4  
Year 4  
Year 5  
Year 5/6  
Year 6

#### Name

Freddie H  
Ruby J  
Evan S  
Eva H  
Maisy M  
Kellan L  
Mason A  
Lois L  
Lucie N

#### Name

Joshua R  
Isla Rose B  
Eva H  
Billy K-B  
Joel H  
William B  
Nile W  
Kacey L  
Emily B



## Key Dates

Please see the upcoming dates for your diary:

Date	Class	Event
03/12/2020	Reception-Year 6	Flu Immunisations
11/12/2020	All classes	PTA Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper, Christmas colours or their own clothes for a donation to our PTA.
18/12/2020	All classes	<b>Break up today.</b> Children will be enjoying Christmas Parties held in their classrooms, with the afternoon dedicated to watching a virtual Pantomime to get us all into the festive spirit!  <i>We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas from all at Towngate Primary Academy.</i>
04/01/2021	All classes	Children return to school.



Will your child be 4+ by 31 August 2021?



# Will your child be **4** by 31 August 2021?

If the answer is **YES** and you're a Wakefield resident you must apply for a full-time school place **NOW**, as your child will not automatically be given a place.

## **APPLY ONLINE, APPLY ON TIME**

Complete your online application form at  
[www.wakefield.gov.uk/admit](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/admit)

**and submit it by the closing date of 15 January 2021**

This service is easy to use and you can log on to get your offer of a place on 16 April 2021.



**wakefieldcouncil**  
working for you



## Picture News

Please find attached this week's Picture News poster. Picture News is a resource used in school to promote discussion around current issues in the world. We would encourage you to talk about this at home with the children. There are no right or wrong answers, it is a forum for discussion.

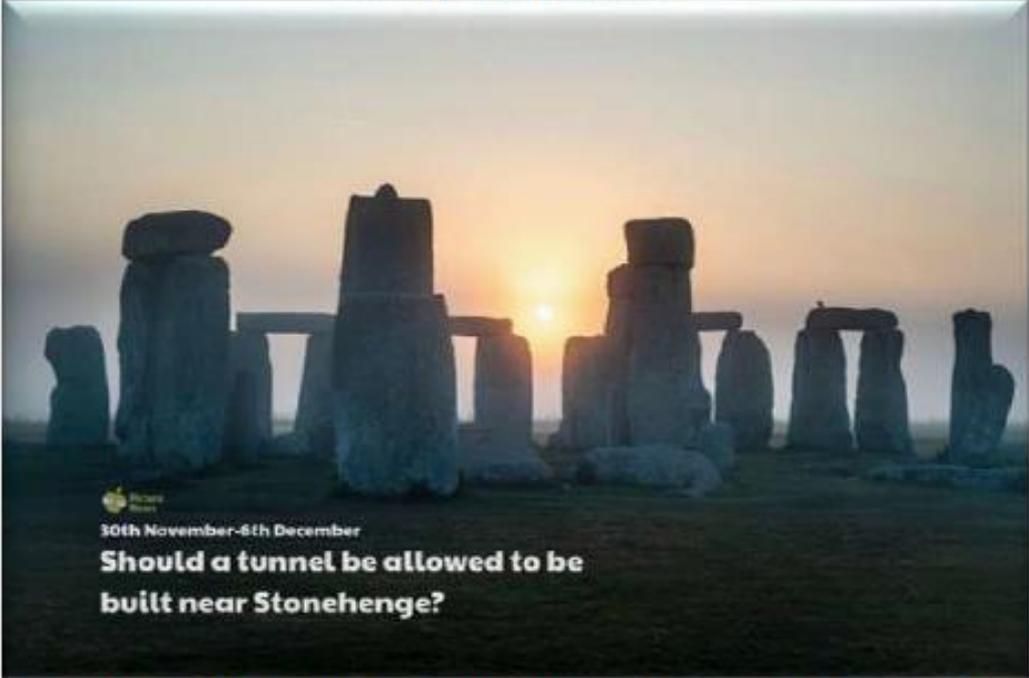


# Picture News

at Home

**30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**What's going on this week?**



30th November-6th December

**Should a tunnel be allowed to be built near Stonehenge?**

Plans to dig a road tunnel, near the ancient monument site of Stonehenge in Salisbury, have been approved by the Transport Secretary, Grant Shapps. A two-mile tunnel out of sight of the monument will be built even though it went against the recommendations of planning officials. It is estimated that the tunnel will cost £1.7 billion to create.

*Things to talk about at home...*

-  Look at the poster showing Stonehenge. What do you think of the World Heritage Site? Would you like to visit? If you have been, what was it like?
-  Do you think the underground tunnel to replace the road sounds like a good idea?
-  Are there any ancient monuments near to where you live? Have you visited them before?

*Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...*


*Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others on our discussion board: [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)*

