

Towngate Primary Academy

Headteacher:

Mrs Annabel Berry

Chair of Governors:

Mrs Joanne Crook

Safeguarding Officers:

Mrs A Berry; Miss L Eke; Miss A Atkinson; Mrs E Johnson; Miss S Lockett



Whitley Spring Road

Ossett

West Yorkshire

WF5 0QA

Tel. 01924 302865

Website: www.towngateacademy.co.uk

Email: TGA-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

12.02.2021

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

As this half term draws to a close, we wish to send a heartfelt 'Thank You!' to all pupils, parents and carers for the fantastic job you are doing at home in your remote learning. We truly have been overwhelmed by the dedication, commitment and positive attitude shown by the children and grown-ups at home. The children have just been outstanding and the care and support they have received at home has been amazing. Both the children and their grown ups have most definitely earned a rest and relax over the half term holidays!

Term Dates

As a result of the additional INSET day at the start of this term to prepare for partial school reopening, we will no longer be holding our planned INSET day on February 22nd 2021. **School will be open as normal on this day** to the children of key workers and vulnerable pupils and remote learning will go ahead as normal. This has been updated on our new school website.

Phone calls home

As per the school's safeguarding policies during COVID19, it is school's duty to make daily contact with pupils/families if pupils are absent from remote learning, just as if pupils were ill from school – this is to check on the children's welfare and to support with access / technology issues. Staff calling home are fulfilling their duties in school therefore, as always, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding with this.

Thank you

- We wish to extend a huge thank you to Advanced Electrical Solutions, Ossett for their incredibly generous donation which allowed school to purchase our new picnic table on the Key Stage Two playground – we know the children will absolutely love socialising together at playtime.
- Thank you to Nostell Priory for the donated wooden logs and tree trunks – we are working hard to develop our outdoor spaces so we look forward to using these natural materials to enhance our outdoor areas!
- Thank you to Nathan at John's Sheds for the offer of a beautiful outdoor storage facility for use on our lower playground; we will be further developing opportunities for role play and oracy outdoors so thank you so much for your kindness and generosity!
- Thank you to Mrs Thackrah's very handy husband for creating a brand new home for our Towngate Tortoise, Shelly! We are sure you will agree that he looks very cosy in his new home. Over the half term holidays, children are welcome to draw pictures and share these on SeeSaw or Twitter so we can decorate the outside of his home with some extra special artwork!



Times Table Rockstars

Well done to Year 5/6 for being the winners of the Times Table Rockstars competition. Although it was a very close race, the three winning pupils with the highest scores are Jessica (Y5), Lois (Y5/6) and Amy (Y5/6). Well done for a super competition – don't forget, keep practising to ensure you are in with a chance in our next competition!



World Book Day

A letter was sent out yesterday to inform parents/carers of our plans for our World Book Week. We look forward to sharing this time and seeing the creativity from our pupils working both remotely and in school.

Amended timings for remote learning

Following Mental Health Week, we are aware that during lockdown the children's opportunities to socialise have been reduced. With this in mind, we are going to extend our remote learning registers **every Monday** from 22nd February, 2021 for children in Year 1 to Year 6. We hope that offering additional time in this way will allow the children – both in school and working remotely – to connect as a class. The timings of the sessions have been altered in the hope we can accommodate most siblings across school. From Tuesday – Friday, the times for live registration will remain the same as they have done throughout lockdown. Teachers will send out their calendar invitations for Teams to reflect these timings. There will be **no obligation** for the children to stay on the live registration for the full half an hour session as we appreciate how busy working from home can be for parents/carers as well as the children. **We ask that all children attend their class register which will take place at the beginning of the live registration session.**

| Class | Registration | | Learning Clinic |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Year 6 | Mon: 9.00 – 9.30 | Tues – Fri: 9.00 – 9.10 | 13.15 – 13.30 |
| Year 5/6 | Mon: 10.30 – 11.00 | Tues – Fri: 9.15 – 9.25 | 13.35 – 13.50 |
| Year 5 | Mon: 10.00 – 10.30 | Tues – Fri: 9.30 – 9.40 | 13.55 – 14.10 |
| Year 4 | Mon: 10.00 – 10.30 | Tues – Fri: 9.45 – 9.55 | 14.15 – 14.30 |
| Year 3/4 | Mon: 9.30 – 10.00 | Tues – Fri: 10.00 – 10.10 | 14.35 – 14.50 |
| Year 3 | Mon: 9.00 – 9.30 | Tues – Fri: 10.15 – 10.25 | 14.55 – 15.10 |
| Year 2 | Mon: 9.30 – 10.00 | Tues – Fri: 10.30 – 10.40 | 15.15 – 15.30 |
| Year 1 | Mon: 10.00 – 10.30 | Tues – Fri: 10.45 – 10.55 | 15.35 – 15.50 |
| F2 Reception | Mon – Fri: 11.00 – 11.10 | | 15.55 – 16.10 |
| F1 Nursery | Mon – Fri: 11.15 – 11.25 | | 16.15 – 16.30 |

Celebration Assembly

Celebration assembly has again been pre-recorded and saved onto both Teams and SeeSaw for the children to watch at home. Thank you to the parents/carers who have shared a 'Special Mention' for their children. For any future special mentions, we ask that you use the Microsoft Forms which was previously sent out by Miss Moore in the school office. We will be downloading the entries every Wednesday ready for the pre-recording on Thursday.

Stars of the Week

| Class | Name |
|----------------|------------|
| F1 - Nursery | Freddie |
| F2 – Reception | Evie H |
| Year 1 | Oliver B |
| Year 2 | Eva H |
| Year 3 | Eva A |
| Year 3/4 | Billie-Rae |
| Year 4 | Harry T |
| Year 5 | Louie |
| Year 5/6 | Olivia M |
| Year 6 | Dalton |

Have a fantastic half term break and thank you for your ongoing support.

Miss L Eke

Acting Headteacher
Towngate Primary Academy

