

Towngate Primary Academy

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Mrs Annabel Berry

Chair of Governors:
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Mrs A Berry; Miss L Eke; Miss A Atkinson; Mrs E
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Dear Parents and Carers,

22.01.2021

Academy Newsletter

It has been another busy week both for our children in school and working remotely. We have continued to receive feedback for remote learning and we are grateful, as always, to parents and carers and pupils for your commitment to continuing learning whilst working at home. The children are doing so well adapting to learning under these circumstances – staff are incredibly proud and love to see some of the fantastic work being produced. Just a reminder that we ask the children to do what they can each day; we understand that some pupils may find it difficult to complete all tasks set as per the Government's expectations so we encourage all children to do what they can, as long as they are trying their very best.

Learning Challenges

We will be launching a writing challenge every month for learners both in school and working remotely. Each month, a challenge will be set based around a different topic or theme; pupils can choose to enter by writing an entry which will then be published in a journal and shared on our website and Twitter feed each month. We hope this gives pupils the incentive to write, develop their written skills and have their hard work published for the rest of the school to read. Keep an eye out for the first challenge!

Celebration Assembly and Special Mentions

As of next Friday 29th January, we will be pre-recording our weekly celebration assembly to allow children in school and home to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our stars of the week and the winning Dojo class each week. We will be introducing a 'Special Mentions' element of our assembly, whereby we will encourage parents/carers to share a special mention about their child whilst working remotely. These will then be shared in our assembly for all our children to hear! Miss Moore has sent out a Microsoft Forms for a special mention nomination; we ask that if you wish to share a special mention, you use this form each time, adding the date of your nomination and submit these by the end of the afternoon on Wednesday. Miss Moore will run each week's mentions on a Thursday morning and we will record the celebration assembly in advance and share this on Microsoft Teams. We hope this will allow all children – both in and out of school – to watch the assembly at their own leisure and feel once again the sense of community we share here at Towngate.

Some exciting news

This week we have been excited by some different news shared by parents and carers:

- It appears that we have a future football star in our school: we are so incredibly proud of Carter-George in Year 4 for his fantastic achievement of being signed to play for Bradford City Football Club! We know that Carter has a real passion for sport – football in particular – and everyone at Towngate wish to share their congratulations: Carter, we are so proud of your achievement – we can't wait to hear all about your new adventure!



- Evalyn in Year 2 has shown what a compassionate and brave young lady she is by having 14 inches cut from her hair and donating this to the Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust takes donations of natural hair from 7 inches in length to make real hair wigs for young people up to the age of 24 who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment or other hair loss conditions. We are certain you will agree that Evalyn's act of kindness is a remarkable one. Well done – we are so proud of you!
- Thank you to Mr Martin for your kind donation of sweet treats to the school for the children and staff. Mr Martin spent time over the Christmas period, dressed as Santa Claus, delivering treats around the community to spread some joy around the festive period. As Mr Martin had some of his stock left over, he has gifted this to Towngate – which we are incredibly grateful for. We appreciate your kindness and generosity. Thank you!

Income- related free school meals

Applications for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding are available from the school office and also on our website under the results tab, then Pupil Premium. If your joint family income is £16,190 or under and you receive any of the following benefits: Income Support, Income based Job Seeker's Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit without Working Tax Credit and an annual household income of less than £16,190, Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit), Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit, Universal Credit, provided you have an annual earned income of no more than £7,400, your child may be entitled to free school milk and school meals.

Places in school

Can we remind you that if parents/carers accessing provision as a critical worker, where you work from home or have part time hours that you keep your children at home with you to allow safe working conditions with reduced numbers in each bubble. Please contact the academy office if you are able to reduce days in school as per your working patterns or revoke a place for your child if you can accommodate them at home. School may begin to request evidence of critical worker status and contractual hours should places continue to be sought in school. Thank you, as always, for your understanding.

Have a wonderful, restful weekend.

Miss L Eke

Acting Headteacher
Towngate Primary Academy

