

# 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



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Dear Parents and Carers,

16.04.2021

## ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to school following the Easter Holidays; we hope that you enjoyed a restful break. The children have once again returned to school with positivity and we look forward to what the next half term brings.

### Reception Places

We are thrilled to welcome our new parents and carers to Reception class from September 2021. If you know of any parents/carers in who have been unable to obtain a school place for September, please do mention that we have places available here at Towngate and would welcome prospective parents to visit the academy to secure a school place.

### Values and Vision: Parent Views

During Polling Day on 6<sup>th</sup> May where school will be closed to all pupils, we will be completing some work on our Academy Vision and Values. We would like to obtain views from parents and carers about the values you wish for your children to learn and embed during their time in this school. To share your views, please complete the Microsoft Forms by following the link within the email.

### Social Media and School Publicity

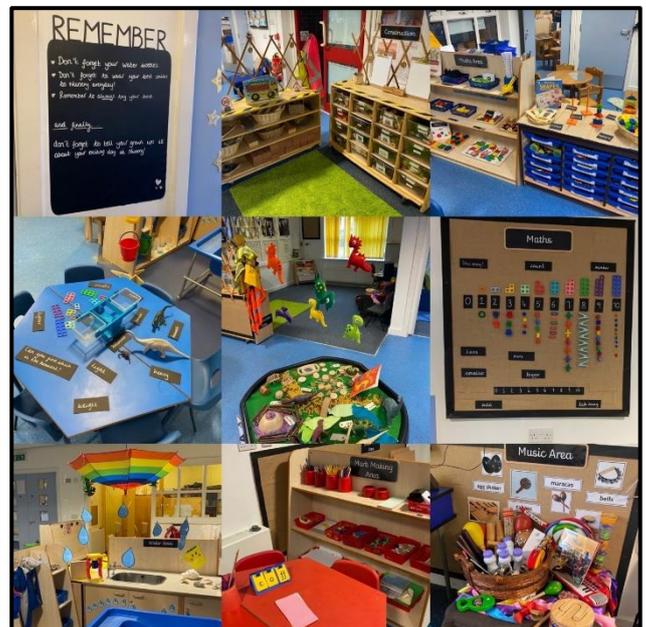
Whilst our Twitter following is growing, we do understand that many of our parents and carers choose other social media applications in favour of Twitter. As a result, we will be starting a school Facebook and Instagram page in addition to our academy Twitter page. A letter of permission will be sent out next week and we ask that these are returned to your child's class teachers this week.

### Nursery

We have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our new Nursery children into our school community this week: our new arrivals have loved exploring the environment and the wonderful provision on offer. Our Nursery has been transformed over the last couple of weeks and our children are thrilled with the outcome: we hope that our pupils will enjoy being able to explore their new surroundings – and their very exciting topic of Dinosaurs this half term. Keep your eyes peeled on our Twitter page for further pictures of our environment!

### Sunflower Seeds: Morrisons

May we ask that if any family members shop at Morrisons that you ask for the free sunflower seeds they are currently offering. We are going to be working hard at improving our area and as such would most definitely appreciate the opportunity to grow flowers around the site!



## Homework

Please note that homework is being posted via SeeSaw as this is a programme that many of our children are competent in using. Homework is focused around the practice and review of core skills and it is important that all children participate in completing the homework set.

## Illnesses / pupil absence

Please can we remind parents/carers to inform school of pupils' absences and reasons for these absences. Should pupils be suffering from the symptoms of the Coronavirus or have been in contact with someone who has symptoms and is awaiting a test result or has a confirmed case of Coronavirus, please notify school to allow us to act swiftly. Thank you.

## Stars of the Week

Well done to our fantastic stars of the week who have been celebrated during our Celebration Assembly in school.

Class	Name
F1 - Nursery	Holly O'D, Archie M, Scarlett M & Ashlee R
F2 - Reception	Taylor S & Peyton J
Year 1	Thea L & Latisha S
Year 2	Miles S & Joshua W
Year 3	Ethan V & Flynn H
Year 3/4	Sam L & Maisie M
Year 4	Kellan L & Amelia J
Year 5	Jessica H & Oktawian G
Year 5/6	Leanne P & Kacey L
Year 6	Lucie N & Toby T

Event	Date	Class
Shelly's Hibernation Day	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	All children are invited to come into school in their pyjamas for a hibernation day for a small donation. During this day we will complete lots of lovely activities and any donations will go towards our Towngate tortoise, Shelly!
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2021	Bank holiday, school is closed to all pupils today.
Polling Day	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	School is being used as a polling day and therefore is closed today to all pupils.
School reopens to children	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	All children return today
Spring Bank Holiday	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2021	School closes for Spring Bank Holiday
School reopens	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021	School opens to all pupils.

## Dates for your Diary

Mrs A Berry and Miss L Eke  
Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher  
Towngate Primary Academy



## What have we been learning about in school this week?

### Nursery

We have come back to nursery this week into a brand new environment and had lots of fun! We have had an amazing week exploring our new dinosaur world! We have enjoyed reading our new book Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. We have also started the exciting journey into shapes and their different forms in our maths lessons. In science we have investigated floating and sinking. Well done everyone in F1 – a super week 😊

Miss Riley, Miss Pamment & Mrs Gordon

### F2 Reception

This week F2 have been thinking about our new topic, dinosaurs. We have enjoyed reading our new story, Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish by Michael Foreman to inspire our writing. The story has also inspired us to make model factories within our provision this week, using our small construction resources and the big bricks in the outdoor area. We have also been learning new words as we have been discussing different dinosaurs and sharing our ideas. In our Maths work we have been recognising teen numbers and using our tens frame to represent the tens and units in each number.

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Middleton & Mrs Allen

### Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have started our new book for this half term called Bob on The Moon by Simon Bartram. In maths we have been learning to count in 10s forwards and backwards.

In science we went on a wild flower hunt and found lots of interesting plants in our school grounds. Well done Year 1 for settling quickly after returning from the Easter holiday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Haigh and Mrs Hanley

### Year 2

In Year 2 we have been learning about contractions in English and we are brilliant now at spotting homophones in a piece of text! Well done Year 2.

In science we went to look at the trees in our school grounds and drew pictures and labelled the main parts. We then used our maths skills to measure the length and width of leaves and the width of the tree trunks using a tape measure. Well done Year 2 for linking your science and maths skills together this week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett & Mrs Thackrah

### Year 3

We have had a wonderful first week back in Year 3. In English we have been learning Similes and finding the features of a poem. In Maths, we have been dividing 2 digits by 1 digit. In RE, we learned the story of Rama and Sita as an introduction to our new topic of Hinduism and in PE we had our first Hockey lesson which was great fun dribbling in and out of cones. We also began our new Geography topic which is 'The Mediterranean' and we enjoyed finding Europe and the Mediterranean countries on a map. Shelly has been visiting our class this week and the children have absolutely loved looking after him 🐶. Well done Year 3!

Mrs Schofield & Miss Kilbride

### Year 3 / 4

It has been a wonderful first week back in Year 3 / 4. We have been so impressed with how enthusiastic the children have been – you are all fabulous! In English, we have been getting creative and looking at poetry. The children wrote some fantastic similes based on our brand-new book Voices in the Park. In maths, we have been learning all about fractions. We had a fantastic, outdoor maths lesson where we learned about unit and non-unit fractions – it was a lot of fun! We started our new topic all about the Mediterranean and we really enjoyed using atlases to find the countries surrounding it. In PE, we loved learning about hockey and using the hockey sticks with accuracy. A super week! Well done everyone.

Miss Marston, Mrs Bailey & Mrs Watson



## Year 4

This week in year 4 we have been focusing on our new Geography topic of the Mediterranean. The children have used world maps and atlases to plan find out more information about the position of the Mediterranean and the countries which border it. The children worked incredibly hard and had to use their prior knowledge of the equator to think about the difference in climate of area surrounding the Mediterranean. In our DT lesson this week the children have begun our textiles topic in which they have begun learning several different stitches. We have begun to learn the back stitch, the basting stitch and the running stitch. The children will continue to practice their sewing skills and hopefully create a small pouch using some different felts. Year 4 have had a wonderful return to school this week and have worked extremely hard in all of their lessons. Well done Year 4!

**Mr Hellam, Mrs Broadbent & Mr Phelan**

## Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have really enjoyed settling back into our daily routine and challenging ourselves in lessons. In maths, we have consolidated our knowledge of fractions and begun to add and subtract fractions, converting our answers between improper fractions and mixed numbers. In English, we have introduced our new book 'Middleworld' which follows the mysterious adventure Max Murphy embarks on when his parents, who are archaeologists, unexpectedly summon him on an important dig in Central America. We have really enjoyed the book so far and are looking forward to finding out how Max gets on in the jungle! The book links really well with our history topic - The Ancient Maya. This week, we have located where the Ancient Maya lived and discussed why this sophisticated civilisation collapsed in the 16th century. Finally, in PE, we have continued our development of athletics by focusing on jumping for distance. We have examined the correct technique for the long jump and had a practise ourselves!

**Mr Adlington & Miss Barnes**

## Year 5 / 6

In year 5/6 this week the children have been busy learning different strategies to develop their jumping skills. We practiced long jumping and used skills such as using our arms for momentum, using our core muscles to keep us balanced and bending our knees to load of weight. In English, we have been reading a novel about the ancient Maya civilisation and a young boy named Max, whose parents were archaeologists. Finally, in art we have had virtual tours around art galleries looking at the structure and architecture of each building

**Miss Atkinson, Mrs Drury & Mrs Harvey**

## Year 6

This week in year 6 we were happy to have Mr Ellis back with us and had a fantastic drumming session. We have started our new History topic Ancient Maya and have created scaled timelines to see when it was and which periods it overlaps with. We were really shocked to find out how advance the Maya was and are looking forward to finding out more. We are really enjoying our new book Middle World and look forward to reading it every day and finding out what is happening! We are now becoming much more confident in maths converting between fractions decimals and percentages and are really proud of our progress with it. Keep it up year 6.

**Mrs Wolstenholme and Mrs Johnson**

