

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,

23.04.2021

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Baby News

We are delighted to share the exciting news that Miss Riley (Nursery Teacher) has welcomed her beautiful baby boy into the world! Henry Luca Tordoff was born on 18th April – a little earlier than expected – and weighed 9lbs! Congratulations to Miss Riley and her partner on their new addition to the family.

Recycled Uni-form Shop

Here at Towngate Primary, we want to do something for our school community and help the environment all at the same time and as such we would like to open up a uniform recycling shop. If you have any jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts, skirts or trousers etc. that your child has grown out of please send them into school. They can be handed to our staff on each cloakroom door where we are then able to 'quarantine' the items first before sorting the donated uniform before being opened up to sale. We ask that clothing donated is in wearable condition for another child and we will charge £1 for any items that are wanted and ask for payments to be made in a bucket alongside the clothing on the school veranda.

As well as helping the environment by recycling, this could be an ideal way for you to get through the summer term if your child has grown recently, or even to get ready for September!

Uni-form Expectations

Please can we remind parents and carers of the expectations of uniform here at school. We have seen a number of pupils coming to school with incorrect uniform and PE kits which does not follow our school uniform policy. We ask that children wear school trousers / skirts or knee-length shorts with a white polo or shirt/blouse and a navy-blue school jumper or cardigan and black school shoes.

Children are still welcome to come into school on PE days wearing their PE kits however, again, the expectation is that pupils wear the correct PE kit including **no logos or colours that do not reflect our school colours**. Uniform is in place to instil a sense of pride and community into all of our children and subsequently it is an expectation that pupils wear the correct uniform to school. The Recycled Uniform shop we hope to be open in the upcoming weeks to support any families in obtaining uniform.

After School Club

As many parents/carers are aware, we were unable to reopen our After School Club provision after Easter as a result of the low uptake of pupils which means the club would not be possible to sustain being open. It is a priority for us in school to offer this provision as soon as we are able to and we apologise to the parents/carers who require this provision and who have maintained contact with the school office that we have been unable to reopen at this stage. Thank you for the patience shown by many parents/carers, the club is a priority for us to restart and as such, **please can you email Miss Moore or telephone school to inform her whether you intend to use this provision**. If we can obtain numbers high enough to make the club viable to be able to staff and resource, we will aim to reopen and will communicate with parents in due course. Thank you for your understanding.

Reception Places

We still have Early Years places available for families looking for a school place for a September start: should 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 6th 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 attached to the email. Thank you to the parents and carers who have already shared their views and submitted the form to school.

Social Media and School Publicity

A letter has been sent out this week to ask for parental permissions for pupils' photographs to be taken and used on social media to further meet the needs of our audiences. We appreciate many parents and carers choose to use certain social media apps in favour of Twitter and therefore will be expanding our social media audience to Facebook and Instagram. May we ask that permission forms are completed and given to the class teacher to ensure school records are up to date with parents' decisions. Thank you.

Music Lessons

We have limited spaces available for music lessons in the following areas; Percussion (Drums), Guitar and Cello. Lessons take place during school hours. Please contact the school office for further information.

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	Scarlet L & Joseph C
F2 - Reception	Freddie H & Alonso W-R
Year 1	Macey D-H & Isla B
Year 2	Kenny H & Eva H
Year 3	Isla S & Ava B
Year 3/4	Abbie N & Ben M
Year 4	Marcus L & Niall H
Year 5	James N & Alfie D
Year 5/6	Phoebe W & Poppy B
Year 6	Dalton G & Grace C

Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Class
Shelly's Hibernation Day	Friday 30 th 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 rd May, 2021	Bank holiday, school is closed to all pupils today.
Polling Day	Thursday 6 th May, 2021	School is being used as a polling station and therefore is closed today to all pupils.
School reopens to children	Friday 7 th May, 2021	All children return today
Spring Bank Holiday	Friday 21 st May, 2021	All classes
School reopens	Monday 7 th June, 2021	School opens to all pupils.



What have we been learning about in school this week?

Foundation Stage F1 (Nursery) and F2 (Reception)

We have had a busy week in Early Years this week. We are all enjoying our topic focusing on dinosaurs. F1 have been sharing stories and learning lots of words to help them talk about dinosaurs and F2 have been thinking about drawing our dinosaurs carefully and learning facts about them. F1 have been busy exploring weight through the outdoor environment, developing our understanding of the words heavier and lighter. F2 have been thinking about numbers from 11 to 20 and using our ten frame to talk about tens and units. We have also been playing number games using dice and a number track. F1 have been thinking about their special places and F2 have enjoyed exploring magnets and watching them move.

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Allen, Mrs Middleton, Miss Riley, Miss Pamment and Mrs Gordon

Year 1

In PE this week we have been pretending to be animals from the Jungle Book we made a sequence of shapes and movements and danced to the jungle book theme tune. In English we have been extending our sentences using conjunctions and, because, so and or. In maths we have been amazing at multiplication in 2's, 5's and 10's.

Miss Haigh and Miss Hanley

Year 2

In Year 2 this week in History we have been learning about significant people and how they have influenced modern Britain. This week we have learnt about Rosa Parks who refused to give up her seat for a white person. We discussed how this was unfair because even though we look different we are all the same. We learnt the words segregation, equality and inequality. I wonder who we will be learning about next week? In maths we have been learning about fractions and finding a half, quarter and a third of numbers. Some of us can now link this to our times tables. In PE this week we practised learning about how we transfer the power from one leg to the other when we change directions. We enjoyed playing the games to help us practise this skill.

Well done Year 2, another super week with amazing learning. Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett & Mrs Thackrah

Year 3

We've had a lovely time this week looking after Shelly. In English, we have been writing our own rhyming couplet poem from our new book 'Voices in the Park' and in Maths, we have really enjoyed learning our fractions. In RE, we acted out the story of Rama and Sita as part of our Hinduism topic and in ICT we began to research a Mediterranean country that we will feature in our Vlog in a few week's time. In DT, we are learning how to sew! Watch this space!

Well done Year 3 for another great week.

Mrs Schofield & Miss Kilbride

Year 3 / 4

It has been an incredible week of learning in year 3/4. In English, we wrote a fabulous poem full of rhyming words! In maths, we have been looking at equivalent fractions and we even created our own fraction wall. We started our textiles learning and we practiced our stitches - it was a very relaxing lesson and the children worked so hard! In French, we sang a beautiful song about a windmill - it was fabulous. We visited the pond, and we found a frog. Well done everyone, keep up the amazing work!

Miss Marston, Mrs Bailey & Mrs Watson

Year 4

This week we have been learning about the digestive system and the purpose of the organs within the digestive process. We have also been learning more hockey skills in our PE lesson. At the end of the week we started to design our very own sunglasses case and practiced our new sewing skills. We will be making them in the next two weeks! We have also loved the sunny weather!

Mr Hellam & Mrs Broadbent



Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have read more of our new class book - Middleworld. We have used the book as inspiration to write a biography for the main character, Max Murphy. In maths, we have continued our work on fractions and have moved on to subtracting more than one mixed number! Our science work has focussed on how flowering plants reproduce. We have learned the difference between self-pollination and cross pollination and have discussed the benefits of each method. In computing, we have started our new unit 'We are architects' by taking virtual tours of museums all over the world and observing the way museums and art galleries are arranged. We have taken a first look at the software we need to use in order to complete the unit and have familiarised ourselves with how it works. Finally, in PE we have continued our athletics unit by developing our shot-put technique.

Mr Adlington & Miss Barnes

Year 5 / 6

We have had a brilliant week in Class 5/6. We began our week by exploring the period of time surrounding the ancient Maya civilisation and focusing on which events were happening in other areas of the world at the same time. During our English learning, we were excited to receive some ancient Maya artefacts, which helped to inspire our biography writing!

In Science, the children have continued learning about reproduction in different types of plants and have applied this understanding in art, where they have made models to demonstrate their understanding of key vocabulary and functions. As part of our PSHE learning, we have explored the difference between confidentiality and secrets and how we can ensure we keep our personal details private.

Miss Atkinson & Mrs Drury

Year 6

This week year 6, we have been learning all about houses during the Maya civilization, we compared the ancient house with modern Maya houses and were shocked to find out they haven't changed at all! We had another fantastic drumming session this week and some children have started to take on solos! We have developed our observation skills in science and have produced some fantastic detailed diagrams of parts of a flower. We really enjoyed our PE session this week practising long jump and measuring how far we can go.

Mrs Wolstenholme & Mrs Johnson

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs A Berry and Miss L Eke

Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher
Towngate Primary Academy

