

# Towngate Primary Academy

## Headteacher:

Mrs Annabel Berry

## Chair of Governors:

Mrs Joanne Crook

## Safeguarding Officers:

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



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Dear Parents and Carers

05/11/2021

## ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to another fun-filled, action packed half term here at Towngate! We have got lots of things to pack in so we'll get started and tell you all about it!

### Ossett Cenotaph

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November the whole school will walk up and visit the Cenotaph in Ossett to pay our respects to the fallen. This will be done in each key stage and we are really sorry but we ask that parents do not attend to keep numbers to a minimum.

### Children in Need

Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need day, children are welcome to come to school in non-uniform and/or any Pudsey related clothing or accessories. We would ask that children bring in a donation for this very worthy cause.

### Scholastic Book Fair

We will be holding our annual Scholastic Book Fair commencing Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November. There will be books for the children to see within school, but unfortunately, we won't be able to allow parents in to look with their child. Order forms and brochures will be sent out to parents and then payments can be made online or using a QR code that will be provided. Further details will follow under separate cover.

### Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run in a Christmas Jumper – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

The Reindeer Run is an organised event arranged by the School Council to raise funds for Wakefield Hospice. The children are encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper, dress, any item of Christmas themed clothing or accessories. Every child will be provided with a pair of reindeer antlers and will take part in a short sponsored run within the school day. Sponsor forms will be sent home with your child nearer the time.

### Christmas Concerts & Parties

We are planning to hold Christmas Carol Concerts within each key stage in the lower key stage playground around our Christmas Tree that parents will be invited to attend. We will ask that parents attending wear face masks and adhere to social distancing guidelines. These dates will be subject to change if the weather is very severe or Covid guidelines change significantly.

Early Years – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 9.15am to 9.45am

Key Stage 1 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 9.00am to 9.30am

Lower Key Stage 2 – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 2.30pm to 3.00pm

Upper Key Stage 2 – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 2.30pm to 3.00pm

### Extra- Curricular Activities – Netball & Football

Please note that the last sessions for the Netball Club will be Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November and the Football Club is Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November for the Winter, restarting after February half term.

### Outdoor Clothing

Please can you ensure that your child comes to school with an appropriate coat and outdoor shoes suitable for the inclement weather. We do still spend time outdoors as much as we can.



### Parking at School

Please can you be mindful of where you are parking when you are collecting or dropping off your children. We have had concerns raised by the residents on Whitley Spring Road and Longlands Road regarding dangerous and inconsiderate parking.

### Social Media

Remember to check out our Facebook page and Twitter account for updates on our school day and an insight into the activities your children are taking part in.

### Poppy Appeal

The School Council are still coming around the school selling poppies on behalf of The Royal British Legion, although we have sold out of the snap bands!

### Uniform Shop

We have collected lots of pre-loved school uniform and this will be available to buy for a small donation towards school funds for the children on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021** outside the nursery main door. Any further donations you may have, please bring them to the office.

### Glasses for Malawi - Africa



Do you have any old glasses at home? Maybe you have a new prescription and don't need them anymore. There are many children and adults across Africa who would be extremely grateful for your old glasses – they could make a huge difference to their lives. If you have any to donate please send them with your child to school and they will be collected by our School Council and sent off to Malawi n Africa.

### Rock Steady Music School

Would your child like to play in their very own rock band? Rocksteady in-school band lessons are the perfect opportunity for your child to learn new skills, develop friendships and have the time of their life. Watch this short video to see what learning in a band could do for your child's well-being: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/watch-video/>. If you are interested in signing your child up for this fun opportunity – head over to our website to sign them up! Thank you.

### Wakefield Music Services

We do have spaces in our music lessons available from Year 3 upwards, children can learn how to play the Cello, Drums or Guitar. Contact Miss Moore in the office if you're interested.

### Note from the Head Boy & Head Girl

It's Parliament Week this week and we have been having discussions about Parliament. We have talked about the House of Lords and the House of Commons. From what we know about Parliament, the House of Commons brings together all the MP's from England to talk about the community's opinions, elections or laws. You can tell the difference between the House of Lords and the House of Commons as the House of Commons is lined with green chairs and ornaments, such as the Golden Mace. However, the House of Lords is lined with red chairs and Judges who help make the decisions.



## Key Dates

Whole School Visit to Ossett Cenotaph	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
F2 Reception: Height, Weight & Hearing Check	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Children in Need	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Flu Vaccinations	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Scholastic Book Fair Starts	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run in a Christmas Jumper	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Lower Key Stage 2 Christmas Show	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Early Years Foundation Stage Concert	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Early Years Foundation Stage Party	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Lower Key Stage 2 Party	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Upper Key Stage 2 Concert	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Key Stage 1 Concert	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Key Stage 1 Party	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Upper Key Stage 2 Party	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Christmas Church Service	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
School Closes for Christmas Holidays	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
School Reopens for Spring Term 1	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Stars of the Week

Well done to our fantastic stars of the week who have been celebrated during our Celebration Assembly in school. Your hard work and determination this week has been noticed by your teachers – we are very proud of you!

Class	Name
F1 - Nursery	Emily R & William O
F2 – Reception	Kennedy B & Fabian Y
Year 1	Verity R & Esme C
Year 2	Lucas B & Lexie C
Year 3	Isabelle A & Max D
Year 4a	Flynn H & Oakley G
Year 4b	Amber N & Ethan V
Year 5	Georgia H & Sam L
Year 5/6	George R-J & William B
Year 6	Lewis G & Matthew W

## Attendance:

This week's whole school attendance is 98.07%. Our attendance target 97%,

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and look

Mrs A Berry and Mrs L Poole

Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher  
Towngate Primary Academy



## What's been going on in school this week?

### Early Years – Foundation 1 (Nursery)

It has been great to welcome all the children back after half term, they have all been really settled and happy. This week in maths the children have been learning about 2D shapes and their properties. Our story this half term is The 3 Billy Goats Gruff, the children have already been acting out the story in our tuff tray and outdoors. We have been discussing why we celebrate Bonfire Night and how to keep safe. Have a wonderful weekend and stay safe.

**Miss Haigh & Mrs Gordon**

### Early Years – Foundation 2 (Reception)

We have had a super start to our new term this week. F2 have been thinking about different celebrations this week. We have enjoyed learning about Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night and we have also been learning about Diwali. We have enjoyed creating rangoli patterns and we have made firework pictures using cotton buds and paint. We have also enjoyed talking about our pets and sharing our pictures.

**Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Allen & Mrs Middleton**

### Key Stage 1 – Year 1

In Year 1 this week we have turned our dolls house into the Houses of Parliament. We have been learning about Guy Fawkes and Robert Catesby and how they wanted to kill King James I in the Gunpowder Plot. The children have loved taking on the role of historical figures in this event. They have gained lots of knowledge through this. In Maths, we have been learning number bonds within 10 and recording systematically how to make 6, 7, 8 and 9. In Geography, Mr Hellam came with some amazing UK maps where we located the seas around the UK, we really enjoyed this activity. We are really excited about bonfire night! Stay safe and have a wonderful weekend.

**Miss Lockett & Miss Kilbride**

### Key Stage 1 – Year 2

Firstly, a huge welcome back to all our Year 2 children and what a fantastic first week back we have had! This week, we have learnt the number line method in Maths, which we can use to support us when adding and subtracting. This week is Parliament Week and the children have taken a virtual tour around parliament and had their very own debate. We have reflected on the small changes we can make and how important it is to speak out, share our opinions and not be afraid to do so. In Geography, we compared our local town Ossett to the McMurdo Base in Antarctica, we identified the human and physical features. Well done Year 2!

**Mrs Davies & Mrs Thackrah**

### Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have started our new Geography topic all about villages, towns and cities. The children have been looking at the key vocabulary population, densely populated and sparsely populated. We looked at various maps and charts of the world which showed us how population changes and how its density changes in different countries. During our RE lesson we look at Muslim beliefs about Allah and discussed the meaning behind some names that he is given such as, 'The forgiver' 'The creator'. During our DT lesson the children were given a design brief to make a glasses case which is safe, easy to use and suitable for a child. So, during our lesson we annotated different products to see which features we wanted to include in our own designs next week. Finally, we enjoyed our first forest schools session in which we foraged to make our very own fireworks! What a super week in Year 3.

**Mr Hellam & Mrs Hanley**

### Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 4A

We have had a great first week back in Year 4a, we have really enjoyed starting our new Geography topic by locating the longest and biggest rivers in the world. In Science this week we produced some fantastic detailed diagrams of rocks and were able to identify them from their properties. We are really enjoying our new class book Peter Pan and are reading it every afternoon to find out what happens next! Keep up the hard work 4a well done!

**Mrs Wolstenholme & Miss Pamment**



### *Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 4B*

This week is Parliament Week and in Year 4b we have been learning all about The House of Commons, the House of Lords and what Parliament actually does. We have also been learning about COP26 which is happening in Glasgow this week and we have been thinking about climate change and carbon emissions. In Maths, we have been learning Roman Numerals and in English we have been finding the features of a Character Description ready to write our own next week about Peter Pan. In Science, we have been learning about different textures and properties of rocks and in PE we have been recapping our netball skills and learning Dance with Liquidance. We've had a super busy week - well done 4b!

*Mrs Schofield & Mrs Adamson*

### *Upper Key Stage 2 – Year 5*

This week, in year 5, we have settled in well after the half term. We have begun looking at multiplication and division in maths - specifically multiples, factors and primes. We have identified common factors and highest common factors by using cubes to create arrays. In English, we are now reading our new class book 'Windrush Child' which details the life of a boy who is brought from Maroon Town (Jamaica) to England in search of a better life. We are looking at writing a narrative from the perspective of Leonard (the main character). In science, we have started looking at how to classify organisms and carried out a practical test to see how we could classify sweets. In DT, we introduced our new project which is to design, make and evaluate a food product - gingerbread house - in time to sell over Christmas.

*Mr Adlington, Mrs Bailey & Mrs Watson*

### *Upper Key Stage 2 – Year 5 /6*

This week in Year 5/6 as part of our work on Parliament week, we enjoyed a workshop from UK Parliament which taught us about how rules are made and what takes place in parliament whilst rules and laws are being passed. In our History topic this week, we have launched our learning on Civil Rights. The children have learnt about how the civil rights of British Citizens are protected and looked at the history of developing civil rights. In PE this week, the children have enjoyed working with Elite sports coaches to start their unit on Football - well done everyone!

*Mrs Bateman & Mrs Johnson*

### *Upper Key Stage 2 – Year 6*

We have had a fantastic week in Year 6: we have been working hard on our knowledge of fractions to simplify, find equivalencies, compare and order. In English, we are embarking on writing our narratives based upon our Windrush Child novel: we completed some role play outdoors - using just open space and our imagination - to consider the feelings of each character as per the sequence of the narrative. In History, we began our learning on Civil Rights, considering the discrimination different groups of people have experienced across the world over a sustained period of time and considered the moral impact of this discrimination. Well done Year 6 - let's keep working hard and achieve well as a team this half term!

*Mrs Poole, Mrs Drury & Mrs Harvey*





8th-14th November  
**Should we do more to  
protect elephants?**

