

Towngate Primary Academy

Headteacher:
Mrs Annabel Berry



Chair of Governors:
Mr Philip Emms

Safeguarding Officers:
Mrs A Berry; Mrs L Poole; Mrs A Bateman;
Miss S Lockett; Mrs M Coyle, Mrs K Gawthorp

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been our first full week back in school and what a brilliant week it has been! As always, it's remarkable to see the children settle so quickly back into daily school life, working hard and it has been lovely to see lots of parents and carers again after the holidays.

Monday 19th September

After the sad news of the Queen's passing last week, a reminder that school is **closed** on Monday 19th September for the National bank holiday in aid of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral. Subsequently, clubs due to take place this Monday will be starting the following week.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 20th September.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to those parents and carers who joined us for the Meet the Teacher events. Slides will be available to all children to bring home with all information shared, however if you were unable to join us but wish to meet your child's class teacher, please liaise the office to organise a mutually convenient time.

Library

We have been working incredibly hard in school to relaunch our 'Wonderland' themed school library with a vast array of new and exciting books ready to be taken. The library will be used as our 'lending library' where texts to take home and share at home will be found.

DSL Team

A reminder of our DSL team in school. DSLs are Designated Safeguarding Officers who have had extensive training to support children, parents and families. If you have any concerns about any child within our school community, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team as a matter of urgency:

Our DSL team is: Mrs Berry, Mrs Poole, Mrs Bateman, Mrs Coyle, Miss Lockett & Mrs Gawthorp.

Homework

Some parents during Meet the Teacher sessions expressed difficulties operating SeeSaw as our homework interface; in KS2, homework will be sent in paper form until we can rectify any user errors. This process is in line with our other Trust schools and children will be supported with how to login with their login details and we will work hard to consider the accessibility of the homework provided.

Balance-ability

Year 2 started their balance-ability today and are completing this next week. It has been a great start to the children's time in Year 2 and we are sure they will continue to enjoy this opportunity!

Social Media

A reminder that we have our own Twitter account, @IPMATTowngate. Please do follow the school account to see all we have been busy getting up to!



ICON Week

ICON week is due to take place between 26th September and 30th September. ICON is all about helping people who care for babies to cope with crying.

ICON stands for

- I Infant crying is normal
- C Comforting methods can help
- O It's OK to walk away
- N Never, ever shake a baby

School have been asked to pass on the following website which can prove useful, in addition to seeking support such as your family, friends, midwife, GP or health visitor. More information and a wealth of resources are available on the ICON Cope website – www.iconcope.org

Music Lessons

In school we offer fantastic musical opportunities for children to learn to play the drums, cello or guitar. These lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers who specialise in these instruments. We currently have spaces in all classes for these lessons, with a chargeable fee of £70.00 per term.

Term Dates

Please see attached dates for your diary for this half term:

Date	Event	Class
19.09.22	Year 2 Balance-ability	Year 2
19.09.22	Clubs start this week	All classes
23.09.22	Jeans for Genes Day Non-uniform day – a monetary contribution would be appreciated	All classes
27.09.22	Phonics and Reading meeting for parents/carers	Early Years Key Stage One
30.09.22	MacMillan coffee Morning	All classes Parents / carers welcome to attend
06/10/22 at the following times: 9.15am 3.30pm 5.00pm	Parent/Carer Safeguarding information meeting	All parents/carers welcome to attend
14.10.22	Year 1 INSPIRE event @ 2pm	Parents welcome Year 1
17.10.22 (3.30pm – 5.00pm)	Parents' Consultation Evening A letter will be sent to all parents/carers to book an appointment closer to the time.	All classes
19.10.22	Year 2 INSPIRE event @ 2pm	Parents welcome Year 2
20.10.22 (3.30pm – 6.00pm)	Parents' Consultation Evening A letter will be sent to all parents/carers to book an appointment closer to the time.	All classes
09.11.22	INSPIRE event UKS2 @ 1.30pm	Parents welcome Year 5 Year 5/6 Year 6
15.11.22	Year 4 INSPIRE event @ 1.30pm	Parents welcome Year 4



17.11.22	Nursery Stay and Play	Nursery
		Parents
18.11.22	Reception and Reception/Year 1 INSPIRE event @ 2pm	Parents welcome Year 1
25.11.22	Year 3 INSPIRE event @ 1.30pm	Parents welcome Year 3
25.11.22	Scholastic Book Fair arrives in school	All classes
05.12.22	Lower Key Stage Two Christmas Production	Year 3 & Year 4
06.12.22	Early Years Christmas Production	Nursery, Reception, Reception/Year 1
07.12.22	Key Stage One Christmas Production	Year 1 Year 2
08.12.22	Upper Key Stage Two Christmas Production	Year 5 Year 5/6 Year 6

PTA dates to follow.

★ ★ Pupil Achievements ★ ★

Our attendance is **96.9%** this week; well done everyone. Let's work hard to continue to achieve and even surpass our 97% attendance target!

	C compassion	O ownership	R resilience	E excellence
Nursery	Tristan P	Grace C	Joseph N	Isabella P
Reception	Isla H	Izrael L	Hudson L	Cora M
Reception / Year 1	Phoebe W	Holly O	William O	Jorgie P
Year 1	Mahdi M	Theo O	Evie S	Rashid B
Year 2	Esme C	Freddie H	Kody L	Isabel C

We look forward to working in collaboration with you this year and hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Team Towngate



What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

Nursery have had a very busy week and have settled into their new routine and met lots of new friends, we have had a lot of tired children today! This week we have focussed on the story 'The Owl Babies' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have enjoyed using the props to roleplay the stories, they particularly liked joining in with Bill saying, "I want my mummy!" In maths, we have been looking at numerals 1-3 and matching the numeral to the amount. Thank you to the children who have brought in their family photos so soon! The children have been amazing at talking too their peers about their family members, which is helping the children to communicate freely.

A date for your diaries: you are invited to our Nursery Stay and Play session will be held on Thursday 17th November from 2-3pm. Thank you for you continued support and enjoy your weekend!

Miss Haigh

Reception

The children have settled into Reception so unbelievably well this week. We are so proud of all the resilience, compassion and confidence they have shown throughout our first full week at school. This week we have been reading the story 'All are Welcome', by Alexandra Penfold. We have been getting to know our new class mates and talking about our similarities and differences. In our maths we have been subitising to 5 and singing our favourite number songs. Everyone has enjoyed using provision in creative and exciting ways whilst making new friends. We are so proud of you all for how amazing you have been. Well done!

Miss Ayling, Mrs Middleton

Reception / Year 1

We have had a wonderful week and we are all very proud of how the children are settling into their new setting. This week we have been reading the story, 'All Are Welcome', by Alexandra Penfold. We have enjoyed talking about how we have similarities and differences and also thinking about all the things we like to do at school. In our maths work we have been concentrating on subitising numbers to 5. We have also been thinking about where we live through our topic work. All the children have enjoyed using their provision and working together as we make new friends.

Well done everyone.

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Allen

Year 1

What a super week in Year 1! The children have absolutely blown us away with their maths and writing skills. This week, we have been reading 'Tadpole's Promise' and have been writing a character description about the caterpillar, thinking carefully about our full stops and capital letters. In Maths, we have been counting forwards and backwards and calculating one more and one less. In Geography, we have been learning about how we can use maps and thinking about compass points, we have learnt 'Naughty Elephants Squirt Water' to help us remember. In art, we have been busy changing the tone of paints by adding black and white. Well done everyone! A super week in Year 1.

Mrs Bateman

Year 2

We have had a great week in Year 2. In writing, we have been looking at imperative verbs and how we can use them to persuade our family members to come on a hot air balloon around Ossett. We have also been focusing on our basic sentence structure ensuring that we all use capital letters, full stops and fingers spaces. In Maths we have been using part whole model to partition numbers. We have also been learning how to write numbers 1-100. During our Geography lessons this week we have been learning about the seven continents. The children in Year 2 were shocked to find out that Antarctica is almost all covered in ice!

Today we have started our bike ability classes, the children have already said how excited they are to come back to school and continue their lessons with their instructor, Phil.

Miss Senior

Year 3

We have had a lovely first full week in Year 3 this week. The children are displaying excellent resilience and ownership in their learning already. In English we are enjoying reading the story 'Hidden Figures' about four black women and their race to space. We have taken on the role of one of the characters this week and wrote a diary entry from her perspective. In Maths, we have been working on place value and partitioning numbers



to 100. We have thoroughly enjoyed our first French lesson and can now say at least two French greetings. Our history topic this half-term is 'Prehistoric Britain' and this week we have learnt all about evolution and the role of a palaeontologist. Well done on an absolutely fantastic start to Year 3 everyone, I am extremely proud of you all!

Miss Riley

Year 4

What a wonderful first week we've had in Year 4. In Maths, we have been recognising numbers to 10,000 and partitioning numbers to 1,000 as part of our place value topic and in English we have been planning a setting description of Mount Everest to accompany our new book 'Everest'. We have been learning about Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa Tenzing Norgay who accompanied him on his expedition. In Science, we are learning about the three phases of matter and in History we are learning about the Romans and how they became so powerful. In PE this week, we were lucky enough to have the Elite coach to teach us some dance moves and Mr. Adlington took us for some outdoor PE skills. Well done Year 4 for a super week!

Mrs Schofield

Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have worked extremely hard! We have continued with our new unit of learning in maths which is place value. We started by looking at numbers up to 1,000,000 and over the last few days we have been rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. In English, we have analysed a diary entry, written from the perspective of Bamse, the key character in our text. We have planned, written and re-drafted our own examples. I have been more than impressed with the writing produced in our class! In Art, we have been learning how to incorporate perspective into our pieces; some wonderful art was produced.

Well done for a fabulous week Year 5, I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Wilson

Year 5/6

This week, in year 5/6, we have really immersed ourselves in our learning after having a few days to settle in, last week. We have discussed what it means to live sustainably and discovered some innovative ways that people around the world can reduce, reuse and recycle. We have also looked at some examples closer to home, such as reusing water bottles and buying clothes from charity shops. In maths, we have practised our ability to use formal written methods to calculate the answer to addition and subtraction word problems. In English, we have written our own diary entry to provide an account of the day the German's arrived in Denmark, 1940. The book 'Hitler's Canary' has been our inspiration for our writing, we have focused on the main character, Bamse. In art, we have use 'Hitler's Canary' as a basis for creating some perspective drawings. We have practised creating foreground and background to give the impression of depth in our drawings. In French, we have continued to practise our ability to translate and pronounce classroom routines - including 'please sit', 'please stand' and 'please listen'.

Mr Adlington

Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have worked really hard to settle back into the classroom and embed ourselves into daily school routine. This week, we have been working hard to identify the features and plan our diary entries based on our class text, 'Hitler's Canary', which we are excited to draft, edit and improve next week. In Maths we have been consolidating our understanding of number place value and in Geography we have launched our new learning based on exploring the world's population. We analysed the data from population density maps and population growth charts and unpicked what may be the cause of the incline in the population over recent years.

Well done, everyone. We are looking forward to another positive week next week!

Miss Richardson & Mrs Poole

