

Towngate Primary Academy

Headteacher:
Mrs Annabel Berry

Chair of Governors:
Mr Philip Emms

Safeguarding Officers:
Mrs A Berry; Mrs L Poole; Mrs A Bateman;
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04.11.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome our children and families back to school this week. The children have been working extremely hard and have made all staff extremely proud of how they have settled in following the holiday break.

Remembrance

Friday 11th November is Remembrance Day. In school, we are selling poppies for a donation to The Royal British Legion. We also have other Remembrance goods for sale such as, poppy bands £2, poppy wristbands £1, poppy keyrings and zip-pulls for 50p. Our school council will be selling poppies every day until 11th November. Thank you so much to everyone who has bought a poppy so far, your donations are invaluable in this current climate.

Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

On Monday 14th November, we invite children to wear odd socks (the crazier the better!) **with their uniform**, to show our support for 'Odd Socks Day' which kicks off 'Anti-Bullying Week'. On Odd Socks Day, we will celebrate the fact that we are all different and all unique.

Children In Need

Friday 18th November is 'Children in Need Day' and this year's theme is the 'Great Spot-tacular'. We invite children to wear non-uniform (spots if possible but not mandatory) and ask for a donation to BBC Children in Need.

Reindeer Run & Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 9th December, we will – once again - be taking part in the Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run in the school playground. Every child wishing to take part in this fun event, will receive a pair of reindeer antlers and will raise money for Wakefield Hospice by running/jogging/walking as many laps of the running track as they can. Children are also invited to wear Christmas jumpers or tops as this date coincides with Christmas Jumper Day; sponsor forms will be sent out with the children nearer the time.

Baby Poole

We are also absolutely thrilled to announce that Mrs Poole gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Nellie Florence Poole, on 25th October, weighing 7lb 9oz. I'm sure you will all join us in congratulating Mrs Poole and her family on this wonderful news!

School Photographs

Tempest school photographs will take place on Friday 25th November 2022 for both individual & family photographs.

KS1 (class 1 & 2)



Starting on Wednesday 9th November, we will be inviting parents/carers into the classroom on a morning to read with their child. This will be held every Wednesday morning starting at 8:35am and finishing at 8:45am ready for children to begin their everyday learning. We look forward to seeing you all there

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. Please contact the school office for further information.

Key Term Dates

Please see attached dates for your diary for this half term. PTA dates have been added in bold for your attention:

Date	Event	Class
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
14.11.22	Odd Socks Day – which kicks off anti bullying week	All classes
25.11.22	Year 3 INSPIRE event @ 1.30pm	Parents welcome Year 3
25.11.22	Scholastic Book Fair arrives in school	All classes
25.11.22	Tempest school picture – Individual & Family Photographs	All classes
02.12.22	Non-uniform day in exchange for bottles / sweets for the Christmas Fair.	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
09.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day Reindeer Run	All classes (school council event)
12.12.22	Christmas Fair after school	All families





Pupil Achievements



Attendance

A particular well done must go to Year Reception/ Year 1 who achieved a fantastic 99.45%! All classes in school are working towards achieving their 'Perfect Attendance' treat for 100% attendance every day – keep going everyone!

Core Awards

	Compassion	Ownership	Resilience	Excellence
Year 3	Latisha	Lewis	Jude	Ava
Year 4	Benji	Adam	Seth	Will
Year 5	Georgia	Flynn	Niamh	Joshua
Year 5/6	Clay	Jacob	Aeryn	Lydia
Year 6	Ava	Jake	Georgia	Isabelle

Kind regards,

Team Towngate

What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

The children have had such a busy week learning about different celebrations and had lots of fun at the disco! The children have been very interested in finding out why we celebrate bonfire night and who Guy Fawkes was. They have also been learning about the Hindu celebration of Diwali - the Festival of Light. In phonics, the children have been identifying words that start with 'm' and were amazing at identifying words that rhyme. In maths, the children have been subitising numbers to 3, this is where the children just look at an amount and can identify how many there are by sight; to support their subitising skills, can you play a board game with your child using the dice? This will help to support them to say the number by looking at the pattern. Thank you for all your support!

Miss Haigh

Reception / Year 1

This week in Reception and Reception/ Year 1, we have explored the story 'Little Glow' and looked at different celebrations. We applied what we learnt about Diwali last half term and explored how people celebrate Halloween, Bonfire Night and birthdays. In the provision, we have made birthday cards and invitations, created Halloween decorations for our party, made party food using playdough. In maths we



have looked at the composition of five and refined our subitising skills. We have also looked at 2D and 3D shapes, spotting them in our environment and discussing their qualities. What a busy week for our first week back!

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Ayling, Mrs Allen

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have been introduced to our new non-fiction text 'My first animal encyclopaedia'. The children have started by learning about mammals and have written a fact file all about them. They have continued to practice using capital letters and full stops. In Maths, we have been exploring number bonds to ten using part whole models and looking at how many ways we can make ten. In Science, we have predicted which materials are waterproof and have tested materials to expand our knowledge on what is waterproof and what is not. The children have had an amazing start to the half term!

Miss Garside

Year 2

This week Year 2 have been working really hard. We've come back to school with a positive attitude towards learning and are very excited about our new book 'The Day the Crayons came Home'. We have been consolidating expanded noun phrases and adding them into character descriptions. In Maths, we have been adding three one-digit numbers together and adding by making ten. We have been learning how to take the perfect picture in Computing and which devices we can use to take pictures. We've had a great first week back at school and can't wait to continue our learning!

Miss Senior

Year 3

We have had a fantastic week back in Year 3 this week! In English we have started to read our new story of the term, 'The Wild Way Home' and we are now busy planning our writing based on this story. In Maths we have been working hard using our skills of exchanging in addition and subtraction, showing lots of resilience. In Science this week, we have started our unit on forces and in Geography we have learnt about population. I am looking forward to another brilliant half-term with you all Year 3, well done for your hard-work this week!

Miss Riley

Year 4

We've had a wonderful first week back in Year 4. We have been planning a character description for Dido, who is the main character in our new book 'Race to the Death' which tells the story of a Roman heroine who is desperate to race chariots at the 'Circus Maximus'. In Maths, we have been subtracting 4-digit numbers with exchanges, estimating answers and we have also been learning how to work out the area of a 2D shape. In Science, our new topic is light and we have been learning what a light source actually is. In Geography, we are learning about migration, what migration means and what a migrant is. In French, we have been learning how to name body parts. Well done for a very busy week Year 4!

Mrs Schofield

Year 5

This week in English, we have studied newspaper report based on our new book - The Island. We have looked at how to develop an effective description of a mysterious event and have discussed how we can use reported and direct speech within this! In Science, we have learned about the particle



structure within solids, liquids and gases. We will use this knowledge to understand the particle arrangements in pure and impure substances over the next few weeks. In Music, we have had a super first lesson with our drumming instructor; we developed the skill of writing music and began to learn how to play Soho music. Well done for a great first week back Year 5 - I'm very proud of you, as ever.

Miss Wilson

Year 5/6

This week, in year 5/6, we have quickly adjusted to being back in school after the half-term break. We have begun studying our new units of learning; in maths we have looked at fractions, more specifically finding equivalent fractions and adding and subtracting fractions. We then applied our knowledge to a range of contexts by completing some multi-step words problems. In English, we have started reading our new class book 'The Island'. This award-winning picture book details the treatment of a 'strange' man who washes up on the shore of a peculiar, insular island. The inhabitants of the island lock him away, scared that he threatens their way of life, until eventually he is cast back out to sea to the mercy of the ocean. From this story, we have planned our own newspaper report to share the news with the people of the island. We have analysed the features required for a successful newspaper from the class model. In history, we have learned about the Benin Kingdom and discovered how the Benin Empire was formed. In DT, we have looked at pulleys and the different commercial products which use pulleys to support everyday life. We have considered the user, purpose and features of several different products to identify how they function.

Mr Adlington

Year 6

What a great start to a new half term in Year 6 this week! In Maths, we have started our fractions, decimals and percentages unit by looking at equivalent fractions, simplifying and adding and subtracting fractions. In English, we have introduced our new book - The Island - we have started to plan and write a newspaper report about a mysterious man being marooned on shore. This half term, in History, we are learning about the Benin Kingdom. This week, we have discovered when the Benin Kingdom began and who supported the creation of the Empire. In PE, we will be doing handball and this week we have looked at the rules and practised key skills. We also have a coach from Elite joining us who will be teaching dance/gymnastics. This week, we focused on creating different shapes. What a brilliant week Year 6, well done!

Miss Richardson

