

# 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



Whitley Spring Road  
Ossett  
West Yorkshire  
WF5 0QA  
Tel. 01924 302865

Website: [www.towngateacademy.co.uk](http://www.towngateacademy.co.uk)  
Email: [TGA-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:TGA-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk)

16.12.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic, festive final week we have had at Towngate Academy! The whole of the Towngate team would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Towngate family a very Merry Christmas and we hope you have a wonderful time with your loved ones. Thank you all for your fantastic support this term and we look forward to welcoming you back into school in 2023.

## **Wakefield Hospice: Reindeer Run**

We are absolutely delighted to announce that we have raised an amazing £978.41 so far for our Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run. Thank you so much for your kind donations.

<https://wakefieldhospice.enthuse.com/pf/towngate-primary-academy-towngate-primary-academy>

## **Food Bank**

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Resource Foodbank Christmas Collection. We are overwhelmed by your kindness. Marie and Peter from the Foodbank were blown away by the generosity from children/parents and will really put the food to good use to help families who are struggling this Christmas.

## **Lunch Club**

Lots of our children are enjoying having access to our "Lunch Club" and we would like to make a plea for donations of any unwanted jigsaws, games or crafts that you may be able to provide, which would be suitable for children of 5-11 years. The children would gratefully appreciate any donations of these items.

## **Mrs Middleton**

Mrs Middleton would like to thank all staff, children & parents for the wonderful send-off she received as she retired from Towngate Academy this week. We will be sad to see Mrs Middleton leave our Towngate family but wish her all the best in her retirement & thank her for all of her hard work & dedication to the School over the last 19 years.

## **Special Visitor**

On Monday we were very excited to have a visit from a very special guest - Santa! He arrived on his sleigh and rode around the playground to say Merry Christmas to all the children. A big thank you to the Rotary Club for organising this.



## 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
<b>All classes</b>		
16.12.22	Break up today	Whole school
03.01.23	Return to school	Whole school
10.02.23	Young voices	Choir
10.02.23	Break up for half term	Whole school
02.05.23	Class pictures	Whole school



## Pupil Achievements



### **Attendance**

Our attendance is 92.27% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 1 who achieved a fantastic 95.19%. All classes in school are working towards achieving their 'Perfect Attendance' treat for 100% attendance every day – keep going everyone!

## What have we been getting up to this week?

### **Nursery**

Nursery have had such a fun week! On Monday, Santa came to visit us on his sleigh - it was a really exciting and magical moment for our children. The children have been taking part in lots of Christmas activities and have thoroughly enjoyed roleplay experiences, where they took on the role of Santa and the reindeers. The Christmas party was a huge success. The children played in lots of different party games and enjoyed some party treats. Some of our children have unfortunately been feeling unwell over the last week and we wish them a speedy recovery. Have a very special Christmas with your loved ones. Merry Christmas everyone!

**Miss Haigh and Mrs Gordon**

### **Reception / Year 1**

What a busy last week of term we have had in Reception and Reception/Year 1! This week we have learnt about how we celebrate Christmas and how people celebrate Christmas around the world. We looked at how Christmas is celebrated in Jamaica, Romania, China and Hungary. This week was our Christmas party too – we played party games like pass the parcel, musical statues and got to show our best dance moves too! On Friday, we went to church to do some Christmas singing and our teachers were so proud of how brilliantly we sang in church. In Maths, we have looked at length, measuring items around the classroom, and we have been thinking about using money in our own Christmas shop! We have worked so hard this half term learning so many exciting things! From the teachers in Reception and Reception/Year 1, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Mrs Kimbley, Miss Ayling & Mrs Allen**



## Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic final week! At the start of the week, we had a special visit from Santa himself! In English, we have been focusing on 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. This is because we have been very lucky to be able to watch Jack and the Beanstalk in the classroom, thanks to the lovely PTA. The children have been learning to use the word 'and' in their writing to connect two pieces of information. They have also retold the Jack and the Beanstalk story in their own writing. We have had a lovely Christmas party, made lots of lovely surprises for our families and of course had lots of fabulous fun in our final week before Christmas.

**Miss Garside**

## Year 2

Year 2 have had an exciting last week in school. We have done lots of Art this week and made some wonderful crafts to bring home. On Wednesday we had our Christmas party; we played Christmas corners, pass the parcel and lots of other party games - we had a fantastic time! This week we have finished off our addition and subtraction work. We used our new skills to help us create a picture by adding together. In PSHE this week we have spoken about the dangers of frozen water and how to stay safe around it. The children know what to do if they see someone in trouble and how to spot the dangers in snow and ice. Thank you for a wonderful few months, Year Two, I have had so much fun being your teacher - have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Miss Senior**

## Year 3

What a fantastic week we have had in Year 3 this week! In RE, we have learnt about the resurrection of Jesus and how Christians felt when this happened. We have also learnt about differences in friendships in PSHE. Today we have enjoyed a lovely walk to the church for our Christmas service. The children have also enjoyed watching a lovely pantomime courtesy of the PTA and have enjoyed our Christmas party on Thursday to round our week off. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

**Miss Riley**

## Year 4

Wow! I can't believe we are at the end of our first term already! We have been so busy this week with the Christmas Fair on Monday, then a Rock Steady Concert on Tuesday, Christmas Dinner on Wednesday and then our Christmas Pantomime and Christmas Party on Thursday. Today, we had a lovely visit to Kingsway Church to sing Christmas Carols as a whole school, which was wonderful. This afternoon, we watched a Christmas movie as a final treat for the hard work this term. On top of all this, we have also managed to squeeze in some letter writing to Gareth Southgate and the England team to tell them how proud we are of their achievements and we have been learning about migration in our Geography lessons. Year 4, have a fantastic Christmas and a very well-earned break! See you in 2023!

**Mrs Schofield**

## Year 5

What a wonderful, festive week we've had! We started the week off with a special visitor - Santa came for a surprise visit, which we loved. We then had a ball at our Christmas party. In Maths, we have been learning how to divide 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, both with and without remainders. We mastered this as fluency and then applied our knowledge to some reasoning and problem-solving questions. Everybody showed amazing resilience in mastering this skill. In RE, we have carried out a research project on Christian charities and understood the amazing work that they do. I hope you and your families have a wonderful Christmas, Year 5. Remember to spend time with the people you love and do things that make you happy! Enjoy your well-earned rest. I can't wait to see you all in the new year to see what we accomplish together.

**Miss Wilson**



## Year 5/6

This week, in Y5/6, we have completed some independent creative writing focusing on a setting description from a narrative. We chose a sinister atmosphere to allow us to develop our use of figurative language to paint a vivid picture for the reader. In Maths, we have learned how to convert fractions to percentages. We have watched the performance produced by Rock Steady, which included some of our talented musicians, who have worked extremely hard over the course of the year. We have also enjoyed some festive activities to celebrate the last week in school before the Christmas break. We hope you all enjoy a restful break and look forward to continuing our hard work in January 2023!

**Mr Adlington**

## Year 6

Our final week before Christmas has once again been jam-packed with learning and fun! In Maths, we have been learning to find percentages of amounts and whilst using this new knowledge to reason and problem solve, we were interrupted by a surprise visit from Santa. In English, we have been writing independently and have written some brilliant emotive narratives that have included some wonderful vocabulary and descriptive writing skills. The Rock Steady performance was absolutely fantastic; everyone was so proud of how hard you worked! We also enjoyed our Year 6 Christmas party, where we danced until we couldn't dance anymore. Last week, Year 6 worked so hard and won the Class Dojo points which meant that we could end our week with Film Friday. We watched 'Holes' as we have worked together in Guided Reading to read this book this half term. Enjoy your well-deserved rest, see you in the new year.

**Miss Richardson**

## PE Days

<b>F2</b>		
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dance/PE</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dance/PE</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Sports/PE</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Forest School/PE *</b>
<b>Year 5/6</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>PE</b>
<b>Year6</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>PE</b>

### **\*Forest school YR 5 Monday**

Children will need to come to school in PE kits & bring outdoor clothing & footwear.

## **School residential**

Following the positive response from parents and carers regarding the Y6 residential, we have now set up the initial deposit payment of £15 through SCOPAY. For those children who wish to attend residential, this payment is required as soon as possible to secure a place. The total amount payable is £200 and will be required in instalments between now and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. We will signpost parents and carers to the dates for instalment payments through ClassDojo and the weekly newsletter.

