

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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18.11.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy week at Towngate Academy, where it has been an absolute pleasure to welcome so many families into our Reception and Year 4 Inspire sessions, Nursery Stay and Play afternoon and EY/KS1 CORE award assembly. The children have been working extremely hard and have really enjoyed showcasing their learning with their families.

Class Dojo

A reminder for parents and carers, following the letter sent out last week, that we will now be using the ClassDojo app as a whole school. The letter details all the features that will be used on ClassDojo. All parents and carers should have had login information sent; if there are any issues logging onto the app please direct questions to your child's class teacher or through the email enquiry system. This app is a brilliant way to open communication with parents / carers and share a personal insight into your child's school life. An information pack for parents, including tips and helpful videos to help navigate the app, will be sent out next week.

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 school running track as they can. Children are also invited to wear Christmas jumpers or tops as this date is also Christmas Jumper Day. Sponsor forms have been sent home today with your child. Please use the following link to add your children's sponsor money or donations to Wakefield Hospice.

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

Christmas Foodbank Collection

Our school Council are collecting vital food items for our local foodbank this Christmas. All donations should be non-perishable foods, such as cans or packets. Donations can be delivered to the school councillor in each classroom. Christmas items would be extremely welcome but we would like to collect as many staple food items as possible to help to prevent anybody going hungry in our community this Christmas. All donations can be delivered into school from Monday 21st November and will be donated to the Resource Foodbank before Christmas.

Children in Need

Today we held a non-uniform day for Children In Need. The children wore spotty clothes and Pudsey bear accessories to raise funds for children less fortunate than us. All donations will go to BBC Children In Need. Thank you for supporting such a great charity.



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.

Scholastic Book Fair

The week beginning 28th November, we will have the Scholastic pop-up book shop in school. At Towngate, we love to promote reading for pleasure and this fabulous Book Fair promises to bring a range of reading books for all school ages and interest. There will be opportunities throughout the week for your children to buy from the Book Fair. Timings will be shared in next week's newsletter.

School Photographs

On 25th November, Tempest will be in school, taking individual and family photographs. Individual photos and photos of siblings within school will be timetabled into the school day. It will not be possible for siblings who do not attend Towngate Primary Academy to take part in photographs on this occasion.



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
22.11.22	Wakefield Hospice assembly	All children
24.11.22	Open Evening for new parents 4pm-5pm	Parents new to school
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	Individual & family photographs with Tempest	All children
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 9.30am & 1.45pm	Year 3 & Year 4
05.12.22	Assessment week across school	All school
06.12.22	Early Years Christmas Production @ 10am & 2pm	Nursery, Reception, Reception/Year 1
07.12.22	Key Stage One Christmas Production @ 9.30am & 2pm	Year 1 (Parents welcome) Year 2
08.12.22	Upper Key Stage Two Christmas Production @ 10am & 5:30pm	Year 5 Year 5/6 Year 6
09.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day and Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run	All classes (school council event)
09.12.22	EOCT Christmas Carol Concert	Yr4/Choir
12.12.22	Christmas Fair after school @ 3.30pm	All families
13.12.22	Early Years Christmas Party 1.30pm	Nursery and Reception
14.12.22	School Christmas dinner	Reception to year 6
14.12.22	KS1 – Christmas Party @ 1.30pm	Year 1 & 2
15.12.22	Open Evening for new parents @ 4pm-5pm	Parents new to school
15.12.22	UKS2 Christmas Party @ 10am	Year 5, Year 5/6 & Year 6
15.12.22	LKS2 Christmas Party @ 2pm	Year 3/4
16.12.22	Christmas Church visit @ 10am	Reception to Yr6
16.12.22	Break up today	Whole school



Pupil Achievements



Attendance

Well done must go to Year 5/6 who achieved a fantastic 94.81%. 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

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who attended our Stay and Play session yesterday, it was a great success, and the children had an amazing time welcoming and showing their grown-ups around. The story we have been focusing on this week was 'Goldilocks goes to Space', the children have been brilliant at retaining new information about space and have been fascinated when learning about the planets. In Maths this week, the children have been sequencing routines, days, numbers, and seasons. The children were brilliant at using and understanding the language- first, then, next, and last. Well done everyone!

Miss Haigh and Mrs Gordon

Reception / Year 1

This week in Reception and Reception/Year 1 we have focused on the story of 'Night Monkey, Day Monkey'. We have really enjoyed looking at nocturnal and diurnal animals both locally and across the world. We have made some amazing small worlds to show different environments where these animals might live, e.g. jungle and woodland. We also used lots of exciting resources like torches and colour paddles to explore light sources and dark. We created our own shadow puppet theatre and used the torches to light our theatre to tell stories with the puppets we had made. In maths we extended our understanding of subitising and focused on the composition of 6, exploring all the different ways we can make 6. On Friday we also had our INSPIRE afternoon! Our parents came to class to play with us and have a go at some activities linked to what we had been learning about. We made diva lamps for Diwali, celebration cards, created small worlds and had lots of fun! Thank you to all the parents who attended! Another brilliant week for Reception and Reception/Year 1.

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Ayling & Mrs Allen

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have continued with our non-fiction text 'My first animal encyclopaedia'. The children have moved onto learning about reptiles and amphibians and have planned and taken part in a written report. They have moved onto learning and using question marks. In Maths, we have continued exploring subtraction using number lines to support our learning. In Science, we have looked at what objects are absorbent and loved being scientists. We loved getting dressed up for Children In Need and we have all had a fantastic week.

Miss Garside

Year 2

Year Two have been learning column method this week in Maths. We have been understanding why it is so important to understand tens and ones and why we must put our numbers in the right places when adding two-digit numbers together. In English this week we have been writing a setting description of Kenya. We were so excited when Mrs Smith brought in some photographs from when she lived in South Africa. We got to see animals, houses and a swimming pool that elephants were drinking from! It really helped us visualise the setting. In PSHE this week, we have been learning about what makes us, us. We have been talking about how unique we are and that being different makes us all special.

Miss Senior



Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have worked hard on our multiplication and division skills in Maths. We are currently focusing on the 3 and 4 times tables. In English, we have written our diary entries, imagining that we are Charlie Merriam from our core text 'The Wild Way Home'. In DT, we have practised our sewing skills and have learnt how to create a running stitch and a cross stitch. In French, we have continued to learn how to ask questions in French and can now hold a simple conversation in French with each other. Well done on another fantastic week Year 3!

Miss Riley

Year 4

This week we kicked off Anti-bullying Week by wearing our odd socks to show that we are all unique and all different. We also had a wonderful Inspire afternoon where we designed our own Roman shield in the classroom and then met our parents in the hall to bring our designs to life. We ended with a march around the hall with our shields. In English this week, we are planning to write a persuasive advert to inspire people to join the 'Circus Maximum', the world-famous home of chariot racing. In Maths, we are multiplying and dividing by 6. In Science, we have been learning about 'Refraction' and how this causes the reflection on a transparent surface to change the direction or look of something. Today, was 'Children In Need Day' and we dressed up to raise money for children less fortunate than ourselves. We have been so busy this week - well done Year 4!

Mrs Schofield

Year 5

What a wonderful week it has been! This week, in English, Year 5 have analysed the features of a poem and started to plan and write their own. We are continuing to use our core text, 'The Island', as the inspiration for this. The class have worked hard to include new grammar skills that we have developed so I can't wait to read these! In Maths, we have learnt how to add and subtract fractions by finding common denominators; everybody has shown amazing resilience towards this. In Science, we have completed a practical experiment to investigate soluble and insoluble solutions. Enjoy your weekend Year 5, you have worked so hard!

Miss Wilson

Year 5/6

This week, in Year 5/6, we have furthered our knowledge of fractions by finding fractions of amounts. We have practised dividing the amount by the denominator and then multiplying our answer by the numerator. We discussed how this doesn't change our answer for a unit fraction as we are multiplying by 1. We have applied our new learning to different contexts by completing some reasoning and problem-solving questions which cause us to think a little deeper and demonstrate our knowledge clearly. In English, we have analysed the features of a free verse poem. We have discussed what makes this different from many other types of poetry, including a haiku and a limerick. In Science, we have looked at what the particle structure of pure substances and mixtures looks like and how they compare. In DT, we have developed our initial ideas by using computer-aided design software (Sketchup) to produce a 3-D model of our pulley system, ready to begin prototyping next week!

Mr Adlington



Year 6

Week 3 of the new half term is complete and once again, Year 6 children have had a fantastic week. We have extended our fractions knowledge in Maths this week by learning how to divide fractions and find fractions of an amount. In English, we explored figurative language by identifying and writing some beautiful sentences using similes, metaphors and personification. We then looked at a poem written from the perspective of one of our characters in our English text 'The Island'. We identified the features of the poem and discussed the feelings that it evoked, ready to write our own. In PE, we learnt skills that would support our team in winning the game of handball. In History, we continued learning about Benin Kingdom, looking at what trade was like. On top of all this wonderful learning, we have also been practising for our Christmas production - it's going to be a good one! Have a lovely weekend Year 6, it is well deserved.

Miss Richardson



Let's help ensure that nobody goes hungry this Christmas.

Donations will be collected by the School Councillor in each class.



CHRISTMAS DONATION LIST

**A BIG THANK YOU!!
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.**

WE ARE COLLECTING ...

DRIED PRODUCE

Boxes Of Biscuits
Biscuits for Cheese
Packet Mash Potato
Multi-Pack Crisps
Mixed Nuts

BREAKFAST PRODUCE

Porridge Oats
Cereals
Jam
Marmalade

CLEANING ITEMS

Washing -up Liquid
Dish Cloths
Sponge Pan Scourers
Washing Powder/Gel
Multi-Surface Cleaner
Soaps

TOILETRIES

Shower Gel
Hair Shampoo
Toothpaste/Brushes
Shave Foam/Razors
Male & Female Toiletry Gift
Packs

TINNED PRODUCE

Tin Potatoes
Tin Vegetables
Mince Beef & Onions
Chicken in White Sauce
Corned Beef
Family Size Tin Ham
Tin Chopped Pork
Hot Dogs
Gravy Granules

DESSERTS

Custard (sachet or tin)
Tin Fruit
Christmas Puddings
Brandy(flavor) Sauce
Mince Pies
Fruit Cake
Yule Logs
Mini-Choc Rolls

BEVERAGES

Tea
Coffee (Large & Small Jars)
Juice (concentrate)
Soft Drinks

CONDIMENTS

Apple Sauce
Cranberry Sauce
Gravy Granules
Sage & Onion Stuffing
Jars of Pickles

THE RESOURCE Food Bank
Christ Church Parish Centre, Vicar Lane, Ossett, Wakefield WF5 0BE
T: 07522 604130 E-mail: theresourcefoodbank@gmail.com

