

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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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful week in school, helped with some glorious days of sunshine! As we approach the final half term of the academic year, we look forward to some exciting events and enhancements to our curriculum. We hope you all have a safe, restful and enjoyable half term, ready to return to school on Monday 12th June.

Congratulations

We wish to send our congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Perkins who got married last Saturday. Mrs Perkins (formally Miss Pamment), everybody here at Towngate are so happy for you and your new husband and wish you a lifetime of happiness together.

Year 6 Bikeability

Please be aware that Y6 Bikeability sessions start next week; **permission forms should have been completed and returned to the office** to ensure the correct equipment is brought along by instructors. Please ensure you telephone the office to arrange this as any forms not submitted will result in your child being unable to participate.

Absence from school

May we offer a reminder that a phone call **must** be made to school on the morning of absence if your child is unwell and therefore is not attending school. Please may we remind parents that term time holidays are not permitted and will be unauthorised.

Car parking

Can we please ask parents to be respectful of the local residents on the surrounding areas when picking up and dropping off at school. Thank you for the support with this matter.

Progress Check Points

Class teachers will be sending home progress check points again to parents and carers. These are informal updates on how your child is progressing through the academic year to ensure you are kept informed of your child's progress. As always, formal end of year reports will be sent home at the end of this academic year.

Warmer Weather

With the warmer weather (hopefully!) fast approaching, may we ask that children come to school with a hat and with sun cream applied already in the morning. Should parents wish to send children into school with sun cream, please ensure this is labelled and be mindful that children will be encouraged to apply this independently and this sun cream may only be used on themselves due to risk of allergy for others.



Book Fair

We are excited to share our Book Fair is returning to Towngate WC 12th June. The fair will be open before and after school to pupils and families and will be located in the Computer Room (old Y3 classroom). Children will also visit the fair during the week in class. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing the fantastic range of new books on offer!

Time to Reflect Space at Kingsway

Miss Lockett has kindly organised our 'Time to Reflect' space at Kings Way church – see the end of the newsletter for key dates. We have a fantastic relationship with the volunteers at Kings Way who have – once again – invited all children to visit in their classes and participate in mindful activities and enjoy time to reflect on their achievements this year. Children will walk up to the Kings Way and further detail on the day of visit for each class will be confirmed in due course.

Wakefield Climate Group Zero Carbon Petition Walk

On 15th July our school council, Eco team and Gardening Club will take part in the Wakefield Climate Group Walk which involves over 50 Wakefield schools passing a baton to each other to show their commitment to every school being zero carbon by 2030. We need your help! Please could you take 2 minutes of your time to sign the petition to help us reach 10,000 signatures. <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/636081>.

Bereavement Group

We will be offering a bereavement group on a fortnightly basis after the holidays, this will be a drop in session if your child feels they need support. If you feel your child would benefit from this let class teacher know and we can encourage your child to join the session.

NSPCC Childhood Day Mile

On **Friday 16th June**, we will be holding an 'NSPCC Childhood Day Mile' where children are invited to wear PE Kit and trainers and bring a donation for the NSPCC. Each class in turn, will run, jog or walk 1 mile around the Key Stage 2 running track and raise funds for the NSPCC whilst also helping their own mental health and wellbeing.



Key Term Dates

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

Date	Event	Class
12 th June 2023	Children return to school after Half Term	All classes
12 th June 2023	Year 6 Bikeability all week	Year 6
12 th June 2023	Book Fair in school this week	All classes
19 th June 2023	Year 2 Trip – Askham Bryan College	Year 2
20 th June 2023	Moving on session at Kings Way Church – transition session	Year 6
22 nd June 2023	New Parents' Meeting – Reception class	New parents to reception for September 2023
23 rd June 2023	Y1 Trip – Askham Bryan College	Year 1
28 th June 2023	Time to Think @ Kingsway Church workshops	Further information and classes allocated to each session to be shared in due course.
29 th June 2023		
30 th June 2023		
3 rd July 2023	Y4 Trip Murton Park	Year 4
17 th July 2023	Y6 residential Ingleborough Hall	Year 6
20 th July 2023	Y5 Camping Trip	Year 5
21 st July 2023	Y6 Leavers' Party – organised by the PTA	Year 6
24 th July 2023	9.15am – 10.15am - EYFS Sports Day 10.30am – 11.30am – KS1 Sports Day 2.00pm – 3.15pm – KS2 Sports Day	All classes
26 th July 2023	Towngate's Got Talent	Whole school



Pupil Achievements



Attendance

Our attendance is 90.95% this week; this is considerably lower than our school target. A particular well done must go to Nursery who achieved the highest attendance this week. 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
Nursery	Nora	Amber	Stephie	Grace
F2	Hudson	Ava	George	Oscar
F2/YR1	Eva	Ellie	Millie	William
Year 1	Charlie	Lucia	Bradley	Rashid
Year 2	All YR2	All YR2	All YR2	All YR2



What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

This week the children have said goodbye to our chicks and tadpoles as they go to their new home, the children had such a great experience watching and caring for them while observing the changes. This week in maths the children have been looking at number recall and in phonics the children have worked so hard to practice writing their letters correctly! Please keep practicing them at home making sure that they are forming them the correct way. We hope you have a great time in the holidays and look forward to seeing some photos that we can share, thank you for your continued support!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception / Year 1

This week in Reception and Reception/Year 1 we have explored poetry linked to Summer and our classroom chicks. We started the week with a lovely summer walk, using our senses to talk about what we could see, feel, hear and smell that showed us it is summer. We used what we collected on our walk to write a summer poem. We got to hold the chicks too this week so we wrote chick poems based on what we had seen the chicks do, what they felt like and how they sound. In Maths we consolidated all the knowledge we had collected this year and recapped subitising to 10, making and identifying teen numbers. We have loved the warm weather this week too and spent a lot of time outside, dancing and singing in the sunshine, building spectacular buildings and obstacle courses and creating muddy meals in the Mud Kitchen. What a superb way to end the half term! Have a lovely holiday everyone!

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Ayling & Mrs Phillips

Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been learning about making doubles, making equal groups and sharing into equal groups. This is the start of learning about the concepts of multiplication and division. Some of us could recognize that if we have 5 groups of 4 to make 20, we could switch this and say we could also have 4 groups of 5. This is called commutative.

In science we have been reflecting on how well our broad bean seeds have grown. The photos on dojos from home have been absolutely amazing and the children have really taken on board looking after their plants and helping them to grow and stay strong. In English we have been writing about Jack and the Beanstalk and trying really hard to add adjectives. We know we have to read back our writing to check we have used capital letters, finger spaces, full stops and that our writing makes sense. In our spellings this week we have been learning common exception words and have been practising putting these words into a sentence. We are also trying hard to improve our handwriting taking care with letter formation and to take care in our presentation.

Well done Year 1. You have all worked very hard all week.

Have a lovely weekend and a lovely spring bank holiday with your families.

Miss Lockett



Year 2

In Maths this week we took our learning outside. We continued to look at measuring and used trundle wheels to measure large areas. We completed our class book, Sulwe, in English and wrote our own account of Sulwe's journey to love herself, no matter what colour her skin is. We enjoyed our final Forest School session where we had several activities to choose from. We worked together to build dens, painted pictures using sticks and used our balancing skills to walk across a low rope. In PE we really impressed Mrs Thackrah with our teamwork, working together and communicating with each other during our dodgeball and bench ball games as well as showing off our throwing and catching skills. In PSHE we continued to look at how our body works and played a game to name the organs. We were very excited to go and see the chicks again and could not believe how much they have grown. We were fascinated, watching them trying to fly now that the feathers on their wings have grown.

Well done Year 2 for another very busy half term. You have all worked incredibly hard and we are so proud of you! Enjoy the holidays and spending time with your family and friends.

Mrs Wolstenholme

Year 3

In Year 3 this week we have completed our Science topic on plants by looking at how plants adapt to different conditions. Did you know a cactus' roots are widely spread in order to absorb as much water as possible? We have also completed our history unit on Ancient Greece. We have thoroughly enjoyed this unit so in English this week we have learnt about Theseus and the Minotaur and written our own versions of the end of the story. Make sure you quiz us on Alexander the Great, we have learnt lots about him this week! In French we have used our learning about food and opinions to translate a small extract. In Maths we have learnt about time, particularly focusing on duration. In PE we enjoyed a game of rounders and in Art we have completed our portraits of King Charles that we started last week. We have had a gorgeous week in Year 3 this week, what a lovely way to end the half-term! I hope you all have a lovely 2 weeks off, take care and have lots of fun in the sun! Well done!

Miss Riley

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, we have been very busy writing our own Kindness poems that we planned last week for Mental Health Awareness Week and we created a performance poetry video - check out our Twitter feed. In Maths, we have been learning how to convert pounds and pence into decimals and in Science, we learned about how animals adapt their characteristics to be able to survive in the deep sea. In History, we discussed how King Crut stopped the tide from coming in and in PSHE, we learned some basic first aid skills and when to administer first aid. In RE, this week we learned about how Christians pray and in PE we practiced our dance moves. Have a super holiday Year 4! See you after the break!

Mrs Schofield

Year 5

What a wonderful week we have had in Year 5. In English we have written some beautiful setting descriptions about Binley House, which is the building in our core text 'Overheard in a Tower Block.' In Maths, we have finished our unit on translation and direction and have moved on to decimals. We started off by looking at complements to 1 and then progressed to adding and subtracting decimals. In PSHE, we had a super lesson looking at First Aid and how we respond to different situations including burns, bleeding and broken bones. In Geography we developed our own conclusions about what our fieldwork data shows as we have come to the end of our fieldwork. Today, we have enjoyed a film Friday afternoon as we won the Dojos: well done everyone for winning this treat! I hope you have a lovely break Year 5, you certainly deserve it. I can't wait to see you all for our last half-term.

Miss Wilson



Year 6

The children truly deserve the next two weeks holiday; they have worked extremely hard at developing their Writing Portfolios this week. We have thought carefully about how to develop characterisation through our character description - The Assassin - and have written an emotive piece - Piano. They should now enjoy a well-earned rest in the sun!

Miss Richardson/Mr Adlington



NSPCC

Join us for the childhood day

mile

What: NSPCC Run/Jog/Walk a Mile for Childhood Day

When: Friday 16th June 2023

Time:

Where: KS2 Playground - Running Track

Suggested

donation: Any

**This Childhood Day, there'll be miles of smiles
up and down the UK. Join us and move a mile,
while raising money to help keep children safe.**



EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

NSPCC is a registered charity for the purposes of the Children Act 2004. Registered office: 40 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3EE. Tel: 020 7625 6222

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10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying: most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday