

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; Miss C Lowell; Mrs R Johnson



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16.06.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful first week back to our final half term of this academic year! The children have returned to school ready to learn and are settling quickly back into routines. The weather has most definitely been on our side this week – thank you to parents and carers for your support in keeping the children safe in the sun!

Absence from school

May we offer a polite 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, where a phone call is not made, school will attempt to contact yourselves via telephone or text message. School has an obligation to follow the attendance policy set by the multi-academy trust, in which home visits are part of policy and procedure. We thank you for your understanding.

Attendance and Behaviour Officer – Miss Jones

We would like to welcome Miss Jones, our new Attendance and Behaviour Officer, to the Towngate Team. Miss Jones will be on hand to work with our children and families to continue to raise attendance and to work with our children during breaktimes and lunchtime. Miss Jones is looking forward to getting to know the children in school.

Year 6 Residential

Please be aware the deadline for final payments for the Year 6 Residential has now passed. Unfortunately, please be advised that any pupils who have not cleared their balance by the final date of **Friday 23rd June** will be unable to attend the trip as school are not in a position to subsidise this. Thank you for your cooperation.

Educational Visits

A reminder that all payments for Educational Visits are required in advance of each trip taking place; class teachers will contact parents where there are outstanding balances.

Book Donation

We would like to send our heartfelt thanks to Mr Boulton and family who have kindly donated several books for our children to enjoy. As always, donations to school are incredibly appreciated and we are very thankful to Mr Boulton for his generosity for our children.

Book Fair

We are excited to share our Book Fair is returning to Towngate from Monday 19th - Thursday 22nd 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), families can enter through the playground door. Children will also visit the fair during the week with their class where they will have the opportunity to complete a wish list. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing the fantastic range of new books on offer!



This weekend, we are hosting an 'Extreme Reader' competition which will run from today until Friday 23rd June. The competition is based around enjoying a book in weird and wonderful places; please post your innovative 'Extreme Reading' photographs to ClassDojo to be in with a chance to win one of our book tokens!

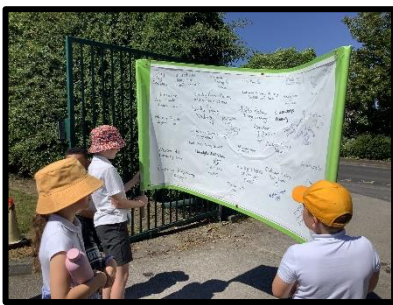
Additional Closure Day

INSET An additional school closure day on Tuesday 5th September has just been approved by the trust. This is a working day for school staff. This means children will start school on **Wednesday 6th September**.

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



Yesterday, our school council, Eco team and Gardening Club took part in the Wakefield Climate Group Walk. This event involved over 50 Wakefield schools passing a baton to each other to show their commitment to every school being zero carbon by 2030. There is still time to sign the petition by clicking the following link:



[Commit to and fund all schools being zero carbon by 2030 - Petitions \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk/petitions/commit-to-and-fund-all-schools-being-zero-carbon-by-2030)

NSPCC Daily Mile

The children took part in the NSPCC Daily Mile today for a donation to the NSPCC. We have been very lucky this year as the NSPCC have continued to support the school with lots of free workshops to enhance our safeguarding curriculum for the children. Thank you for your kind donations towards this very worthy cause!



Key Term Dates

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

| Date | Event | Class |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 19 th June 2023 | Book Fair in school this week | All classes |
| 22 nd June 2023 | PTA non-uniform day (EY/KS1 donations of sweets) KS2 donation of plastic bottles for the summer fair | Whole school |
| 22 nd June 2023 | Year 6 Transition to Ossett Academy | Year 6 pupils attending Ossett Academy. School expects all other Year 6 pupils at Towngate. |
| 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 | | |
| 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 |
| 3 rd July 2023 | Y4 Trip Murton Park | Year 4 |
| 6 th July 2023 | Y3 Trip – Forest school experience | Year 3 |
| 7 th July 2023 | Break the rules day (PTA event) | Whole school |
| 14 th July 2023 | French Day | Y4 to Y6 to wear white -Y3 to Y1 to wear blue – EYFS to wear red |
| 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 |
| 25 th July 2023 | Year 2 Graduation Assembly - 2.30pm | Year 2 parents and carers |
| 26 th July 2023 | Towngate's Got Talent | Whole school |
| 26 th July 2023 | Reception Class Graduation Assembly 2.30pm | Reception parents |
| 27 th July 2023 | Year 6 Leavers' Assembly – 2.00pm | Year 6 parents and carers |





Pupil Achievements



Attendance

Our attendance is 96.03% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 4 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 |
|----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Year 3 | Martin | Ben | Leland | Darcey |
| Year 4 | Eva | Bradley | Isabelle | Raphael |
| Year 5 | David | Kiera | Neve | Maisie |
| Year 5/6 | Clay | Owen | Thomas | Abbie |
| Year 6 | Aaliyah | Amelia | Ben | Milosz |

What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

The children have done amazing during the NSPCC run, they were very resilient and did not give up! This week the children have really enjoyed being outdoors in the shaded areas, they have been exploring the environment looking for mini-beasts and watching the bulbs they planted grow into plants. Our new topic this term is the Seaside, we have been looking at the features what you would find at the seaside and comparing them to where we live. The children have worked really hard during phonics and practicing their letter formation and many of us now are beginning to read words! Well done everyone for working so hard this week and enjoy your weekend!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception / Year 1

This week in Reception and Reception/Year 1 we have looked at the story of 'The Journey' exploring the journey of a little red boat travelling through streams, rivers, estuaries and into the sea! We loved describing the movement of the boat in different waters and how the boat travels and ends up back home. We have created our own boats using the junk modelling, construction and using the large blocks outside. These boats have travelled across seas, streams, rivers and into the mud – just like the little red boat in the story. In maths we have recapped our understanding of doubles and developed our ability to recall our doubling facts. We have loved doing this and have shown a good understanding of what doubling means. We have loved playing outside in the sunshine this week too – building dens and playing with the water play, generally enjoying our outdoor space. The weather has encouraged us to talk about how to stay safe in the sunshine and we have really looked after ourselves and our peers when playing outside. A brilliant start to our final half term in Reception.

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Ayling & Mrs Phillips



Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have started reading a new story for our book led curriculum.

It is called 'The Seeds of Friendship' by Michael Foreman. This is a beautiful book about diversity, differences and friendships. The children have already shown great empathy for the main character Adam, when he had to move from his own country to live in England. For our creative writing we talked about flowers being like people, thinking about similarities and differences. In maths we have focused on finding half of a shape and half of a number of objects. The children know that if 3 is half the whole will be 6 because we double the half to find the whole. In history our new topic is transport. This week we found out about how the wheel was invented and how this has benefited our lives because of this invention. The children have worked really hard this week, especially on improving their handwriting. Well done Year 1, I am very proud of you all.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett

Year 2

We have had a great start to the final half term in Year 2. This week we have been doing some descriptive writing in English, using some fantastic vocabulary. In Maths we have been looking at weighing, measuring in grams and kilograms. In PSHE we looked at when people have given us feedback and how we can give feedback to others, ensuring it is positive and kind. We then took our learning outside to guide each other blindfolded round an obstacle course, providing feedback along the way. We started using ScratchJr in Computing, looking at sequencing and creating our own sequences. We worked together to solve any problems that arose. In History we learnt all about Rosa Parks, who didn't give up her seat on the bus for a white person and lead the year long bus boycott to fight for the rights of black people. We had lots of fun creating our own bus and roleplaying the famous bus scene. We had a brilliant music lesson with Miss Collins from Wakefield Music Services, working together to create samba rhythms on different instruments. We then continued to practice our song - Try everything by Shakira. The school nurse came to talk to us about sun safety. She was impressed with how much we knew about keeping our self-safe so we don't get sun burn or become unwell from too much sun.

What a fantastic first week back Year 2. Well done! Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Wolstenholme

Year 3

In Year 3 this week we have started our new book in English 'Pirates of Poseidon'. We have enjoyed working collaboratively to describe the main character in the first chapter using features such as, expanded noun phrases and figurative language. In Maths we have started to explore turns and angles, focusing mainly on 90-degree angles. In Geography we have started our topic on mountains, earthquakes and volcanos. We have learnt about tectonic plates and the continents of the world. We have had our first session with Forest School this week which we thoroughly enjoyed, we also had our first session with the PE coach, focusing on athletic skills this half-term. In French we showed lots of resilience when translating a paragraph from French to English. In PSHE we have explore talents and why they are unique to each of us. A super first week back Year 3, well done!

Miss Riley



Year 4

Wow! What a very hot and sticky week this week but that hasn't stopped us from working very hard! In English, we started our new book 'Viking Boy' and have been planning a character description for one of our main characters, Bjorn Siggurdsson and in Maths we have been calculating with money and learning to tell the time. In Science, we began our new topic 'Human Anatomy' where we learned about organs and why we need them and in Geography, we have been learning about the world's natural resources. In Dt this week, we have been evaluating different types of bread using our senses and in PSHE, we have been learning about things changing as part of our new topic 'Growing and Changing' - please refer to the PSHE Newsletter that was emailed before half term. Today, we all took part in the NSPCC Childhood Day Mile on the school field and raised some vital funds for the NSPCC. I am so proud of the children this week, coping in such intense heat - Well Done Year 4!

Mrs Schofield

Year 5

What a wonderful first week back we have had in Year 5! In English, we have started reading our new text which is Peter Pan. This week, we have written a job advertisement for a new nursery nurse to help with the new baby that the family are expecting. In Maths, we have been adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals. Everyone has shown super resilience towards this! In Science, we have started our new unit on 'Diet and Lifestyle'. To begin with, we looked at the seven nutrients that we must include in order to have a balanced diet. In PE, we have had our first lesson with our dance coach which was extremely fun; we then went outside to practice our shot-putting skills! In History, we will be learning about the Middle East and have commenced this unit by looking at Mesopotamia. I hope you have a lovely week Year 5, thank you for all of your hard work this week.

Miss Wilson

Year 5/6

This week, in Y5/6, we have settled in well to being back in school, despite the hot weather making things difficult! We have introduced our new history unit - 'The Middle East' - by identifying countries in the Middle East and discussing where Mesopotamia used to be. We learned why this area was named the 'fertile crescent' and located the major river which flowed through the area. In maths, Y5 children have continued their work with Miss Kavanagh on decimals by multiplying by 10, 100 and 1,000. In science, we have begun our diet and lifestyle unit by identifying the nutrient groups we need to live a healthy lifestyle and discussed how the calorific intake might differ for people depending on their activity level. This week was Miss Kavanagh's last on placement at Towngate Primary Academy and we will all really miss her in our class. We wish her all the best for her future endeavours and thank her for her hard work in our class!

Mr Adlington

Year 6

A brilliant first week back, after a well-deserved rest, for Year 6! This week, we have been taking part in Bikeability: children have persevered in the heat, been resilient when they've found it tricky and had lots of fun. Well done! In History, we have started our new Middle East topic, first looking at Mesopotamia. We have also started a project looking at the History of Aviation and creating our own airplanes, competing to make the furthest flying plane. In PSHE, we have started our Growing and Changing unit. The children were very mature and had respectful decisions. A lovely week, Year 6, I'm looking forward to our last term together!

Miss Richardson



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