

# 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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15.09.2023

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

## **What are we reading?**

Mrs Schofield is reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Rauf. This book explores the experience of a young refugee as he joins a new school; the book explores how his peers support him in feeling a sense of belonging. An excellent book for young readers in KS2!

## **Wellbeing activities in school:**

### **21<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

Worry Warriors

Next week the children in KS2 (Year 3 - Year 6) will take part in a workshop led by Future in Mind. Becky Alder, CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) practitioner works closely with school to support children's mental wellbeing. The workshop is called Worry Warriors and will explore with the children emotions they can feel and strategies to help process the feelings. The children will be able to explore ways to help regulate when they are feeling like this.

### **Sleep workshop**

#### **27<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

On this day we are having a whole school approach to talking about the importance of sleep with the children. The children will work in their classrooms with Becky Alder from Future In Mind and will be looking at how sleep can help us and impact on how we are feeling on a daily basis.

This will involve classes F2 to Year 6. The children can come to school dressed in their pyjamas to get into the spirit of thinking about sleep. Slippers can be worn inside school but they will also need outdoor footwear for breaktimes.

**Slippers are optional on this day.**

After school we will host a parents' workshop (informal) for any parents who would like to talk about sleep in more detail. The aim of the workshop will be to look at the importance and benefits of getting a good night's sleep. To understand the connection between better sleep, resilience and mental health.

If you would like to come along to the workshop after school, we will be sending a Microsoft form out to gather numbers of how many adults will be attending. There will be a child care cover in school if needed so you can attend.

**The workshop time is from 3.20pm to 4.20pm.**

We hope the children will enjoy taking part in these two workshops and gain strategies to help them.



### **Pupil Leadership Team**

We are pleased to announce our newly appointed Pupil Leadership Team:

Head boy – Daniel H

Head girl – Libby B

Deputy head boy – Benji C

Deputy head girl – Krystal B

Throughout the academic year, these pupils will support the Senior Leadership Team alongside the Academy Prefects, taking ownership of leading new initiatives in school, supporting teachers and pupils and being exceptional role models across the academy.

### **Jeans for Genes Day**

On **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023**, we will be hosting Jeans for Genes Day, inviting all pupils to come to school in their Jeans. This is an important event to raise money to make a difference for children affected by genetic conditions.

### **Kind Donations**

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Howarth for your kind donation of books for our KS2 reading sheds!

### **Road Safety Sessions**

This week, children across school have taken part in Road Safety sessions with Wakefield Council. This has given children an opportunity to explore risks and understand how to keep themselves safe. The children have behaved incredibly well for our visitors and we are so proud of them!

### **Bereavement Support**

As mentioned previously on the newsletter, we will be starting our bereavement group for pupils in school. Sessions will be led by Miss Lowell and will be an opportunity for children to be supported and to discuss feelings and emotions. Should you feel you would like your child to be part of this, please speak to your Childs class teacher. Please see separate email for a breakdown of the session.

### **Music Lessons**

A reminded that year we are again offering group music tuition, facilitated by Wakefield Music Services. The cost for these lessons are £73 per term and children can specialise in a range of instruments. Please contact the school office for further information.

### **Key Term Dates**

Please find attached event dates for each term on our newsletter. We have endeavoured to plan events for the whole academic year and we ask for your understanding if any dates need changing. For the Year 6 residential this year, we will provide parents and carers with some different options and costings for consultation due to increasing prices for residential trips. Thank you for your understanding.





## Pupil Achievements



### Attendance

Our attendance is 97.28% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 4, who achieved 99.70% 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	Evie	Esme	Oscar	Kyrena
Year 4	Ben	Taniya	James	Lucas
Year 5	Isabelle	Toby	Esma	Benjamin
Year 5/6	Daniel	Eva	Niamh	Ethan S
Year 6	Maisie	Dylan	Joshua	Georgia

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

### **Nursery**

It has been a busy week in Nursery, many of the children are becoming more settled in their new environment which is wonderful to see. This week we have been looking at a story called 'Same, same but Different', we discussed how all have families, hobbies and houses and explored how they are different but the same. In maths this week we have been focussing on counting amounts to 5 and linking this to the corresponding numeral. In phonics we have been learning about words that rhyme, the children have enjoyed exploring words that rhyme with their names. As mentioned in the class newsletter please can you bring in a family photo for our family display? Thank you for your support!

**Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon**

### **Reception**

In F2 this week we have had a very busy week. In Maths we have looked at matching and comparing objects and images as well as practicing our counting and number recognition. In Literacy we have been looking at the book 'All Are Welcome' and thinking about how we can make each other feel welcome in our new classroom. In provision we have been thinking about our families and trying to make our own family trees, we have also worked really hard on creating our own dot artwork based on our book from last week. We are trying really hard to remember our classroom routines and are becoming very settled. We have also started our Read; Write Inc lessons this week and we are thoroughly enjoying learning to read and write our new sounds. A fantastic week F2 – well done to you all!

**Mrs Kimbley, Miss Riley & Mrs Phillips**



## Year 1

This week we have started our book led curriculum. The book is called *Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o. The children have enjoyed the beginning of the story and have already been writing about how *Sulwe* feels in the story. In maths we have been representing numbers on a ten frame, counting objects carefully and writing numbers the correct way round. In history we have been thinking about rich and poor homes in the Victorian times. We looked at pictures and watched a video to help us understand what it would have been like all those years ago. In DT we are thinking about mechanisms, sliders and levers. This week we made a slider which we can add a picture to, to make it a moving picture. We know sliders can move up, down, forwards and backwards. In science we investigated which materials can float by doing an experiment. We made predictions then recorded the results.

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

Have a lovely weekend.

**Miss Lockett**

## Year 1/2

Another busy week in Class 1/2! We have started our class text, *Sulwe* and written some lovely diary entries talking all about her feelings. We've been trying really hard to remember our capital letters and full stops. In Maths, Year 1 have been sorting objects, counting objects and representing numbers. I've been super impressed with their number skills. Year 2 have been learning how to count up to 100 and representing two-digit numbers in different ways. We conducted and investigated in Science this week, testing our predictions about which materials will sink and float. Our phonics and guided reading lessons started this week and the children have blown us away with their super speedy reading! Well done Class 1/2 :)

**Mrs Davies**

## Year 2

What a super second week back we have had in Year 2! In English, we have started reading our new core text '*Sulwe*'. We have written a diary from our main character's point of view, which have been simply wonderful to read. In Maths, we have been working hard to recognise the tens and ones in numbers up to 100! Everyone has shown super effort with this, as well as being extremely resilient with reasoning and problem-solving questions. We have also worked scientifically to experiment which materials float and sink! Firstly, we made a prediction and then wrote our results up. This week we have also started our new handwriting scheme, which is Kinetic Letters! We have mastered how to sit perfectly at the table, how to hold our pencil and ways to increase our writing stamina. In History, we have used sources to compare the similarities and differences between Victorian and Modern homes - we certainly had some super historians! I hope you all have a wonderful weekend Year 2 with a well-deserved rest.

**Miss Wilson**

## Year 3

In Year 3 this week, we have been very busy planning and beginning to write our diary entry as Dorothy Vaughn who was a black woman and also a human computer. She worked for NACA (National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics) which was very unusual in the 1940's and In Maths, we have progressed from understanding tens and ones and now we are learning to understand and represent hundreds. In Computing, we were looking at digital devices and in RE, we were looking at how Christians show their faith at home. In Science, we have been learning how igneous rock is formed as part of our topic of 'Rocks' and in History, we have been looking at which animals were alive in the Ice Age as part of our 'Pre-Historic Britain' topic. On Thursday, we had a visit from the Wakefield Council Road Safety Team to talk to us about road safety and how to keep ourselves safe near the roads. Well done Year 3 for a super busy week!

**Mrs Schofield**

## Year 4

Another brilliant week for year 4. This week we have started our science topic of living things in our environment, as well as planning our first independent write of the year focusing on a setting description. This week we have also, had a road safety talk and elected our school councillor. To finish the week, we will be completing our times table and arithmetic assessments to check our week's progress. Thank you for another lovely week year 4, I am excited for next week already.

**Mr Hitch**



### **Year 5**

This week, in Y5, we have moved on in maths to look at numbers to 1,000; 10,000 and 100,000. We have recapped the place value of each column and discussed what happens when we have more than 9 counters in a column. We have worked practically demonstrate making exchanges. We have also completed some reasoning and problem-solving questions to ensure that we can confidently communicate our thoughts and justify our answers. In English, we have started writing a setting description. We have discussed using the five senses to describe a setting and worked together to create some example sentences. In DT, we have completed our annotation for our Anderson Shelter to identify what makes a successful product. We have discussed what makes a product innovative and considered our initial designs.

**Mr Adlington**

### **Year 5/6**

An excellent week in Class 5/6. In Science, we have explored mixtures and solutes by recording our observations of what happens when different substances are mixed with water. In English, we have been busy writing a setting description based on our core text, Tyger. Exploring our use of ambitious vocabulary and figurative language to bring our writing to life! In History, we have explored the key events which led to the start of the First World War. In DT, we have been evaluating existing products when looking at Anderson Shelters and the purpose of each material involved. You have worked so hard this week, a big well done everyone!

**Mrs Bateman**

### **Year 6**

In Year 6 this week we have had a wonderful week. In English, we started to identify the features of a setting description based on our core text, Tyger - exploring multiple models to help us gain a good understanding of the purpose of the genre. In Maths, we are working hard to become fluent in our rounding of numbers up to ten million - a very tricky concept. Our whole class reading text this half term is Eren - a text of mystery and atmosphere which we are very excited to continue reading!

In Science, we considered the suitability of different materials for a variety of purposes and in History, we began to develop our chronological understanding of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Conflict.

Well done Year 6 - you have been a pleasure to teach again this week!

**Mrs Poole**



Please see below dates for the next academic year, dates highlighted in yellow are open to parents and carers. **If any dates change, we endeavour to give as much notice as possible.**

### Autumn Term

Date	Event	Class
21.9.23	Worry Warriors Workshop	Key Stage Two
22.9.23	Jeans for Genes fundraising day	Whole School
27.9.23	Sleep Workshop (children to come in PJS - slipper can be worn inside)	Whole School
27.9.23	Sleep Workshop for Parents 3:20pm - 4:30pm	Whole School
29.9.23	Macmillan Coffee Morning 10:00am	Whole School
2.10.23	Black History Month	Whole School
5.10.23	World Poetry Day	Whole School
12.10.23	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm - 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
16.10.23	Trip to Eden Camp	All Year 6
17.10.23	Trip to Eden Camp	All Year 5
18.10.23	Y4 Inspire Afternoon 2:00pm	Year 4
19.10.23	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
20.10.23	Harvest Festival	Whole School
20.10.23	Show Racism the Red Card Day (wear red)	Whole School
23.10.23	Parents Evening 3:30pm - 6:00pm	Whole School
24.10.23	Cannon Hall House Trip	Year 1
25.10.23	Cannon Hall House Trip	Year 1
25.10.23	PTA Halloween Disco	Whole School
26.10.23	Cannon Hall House Trip	All Year 2
26.10.23	Parents Evening 3:30pm - 5:00pm	Whole School
27.10.23	Break Up Today	Whole School
6.11.23	Back to School	Whole School
6.11.23	Parliament Week	Whole School
10.11.23	World Science Day	Whole School
13.11.23	Remembrance Day Assembly	Whole School
13.11.23	Anti-bullying Week	Whole School
15.11.23	Managing Big Worries - Parent Workshop - 2:00pm - 3:00pm	Whole School
16.11.23	Trip to Stump Cross	Year 3
17.11.23	Children In Need	Whole School
21.11.23	F2 Class Assembly 2:00pm	Reception
22.11.23	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm - 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
23.11.23	School Photo Day	Whole School

23.11.23	Safeguarding Parent Meeting 4:00pm	Whole School
29.11.23	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm - 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
01.12.23	PTA Non-Uniform Day	Whole School
6.12.23	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm - 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
8.12.23	Christmas Jumper Day and Wakefield Hospice Reindeer Run	Whole School



11.12.23	Christmas Fair	Whole School
12.12.23	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
13.12.23	Early Years Christmas Show 2:00pm	EYFS
14.12.23	LKS2 Christmas Show 10:00am	Year 3 Year 4
19.12.23	KS1 Christmas Show 10:00am	Year 1 Year 2
20.12.23	UKS2 Christmas Show 5:00pm	Year 5 Year 6
21.12.23	Christmas family quiz	Whole school
22.12.23	Break Up Today	Whole School

### Spring Term

Date	Event	Class
8.1.24	Back to School	Whole School
11.1.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
16.1.24	Y3 Class Assembly 2:00pm	Year 3
17.1.24	Multiplication Check Parent Meeting 3:30pm	Year 4
24.1.24	F2 Inspire Afternoon 2:00pm	Reception
2.2.24	NSPCC Number Day	Whole School
5.2.24	Safer Internet Week	Whole School
5.2.24	Nursery Class Assembly	Nursery Parents
7.2.24	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
8.2.24	Chinese New Year	Whole School
8.2.24	Young Voices	TBC
8.2.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
9.2.24	Break Up Today	Whole School
19.2.24	INSET Day	Whole School
20.2.24	Back To School	Whole School
26.2.24	Year 5 Inspire 2:00pm	All Year 5
27.2.24	Year 6 Inspire 2:00pm	All Year 6
28.2.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
29.2.24	Y4 Class Assembly 2:00pm	Whole School
1.3.24	Zero Discrimination Day	Whole School
4.3.24	Careers Week	Whole School
6.3.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents

6.3.24	Safeguarding Meeting for Parents 4:00pm	Whole School
7.3.24	World Book Day	Whole School
7.3.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
12.3.24	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
13.3.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents



14.3.24	Y2 Class Assembly 2:00pm	All Year 2 Parents
15.3.24	Red Nose Day	Whole School
18.3.24	Parents Evening 3:30pm – 6:00pm	Whole School
19.3.24	Y1 Class Assembly 2:00pm	All Year 1 Parents
21.3.24	Parents Evening 3:30pm – 5:00pm	Whole School
22.3.24	Easter Egg Competition	Whole School
22.3.24	Break Up Today	Whole School

### Summer Term

Date	Event	Class
8.4.24	Back to School	Whole School
11.4.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
2.5.24	INSET Day	Whole School
9.5.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
13.5.24	KS2 SATs Assessments this week	Year 6
21.5.24	Y3 INSPIRE Afternoon 2:00pm	Year 3
22.5.24	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
23.5.24	Trip to Yorkshire Muddings	Nursery
24.5.24	Break Up Today	Whole School
3.6.24	Pride Month	Whole School
10.6.24	Back To School Today	Whole School
10.6.24	Year 6 Bikability this week	Year 6
13.6.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
14.6.24	Scholastic Book Fair all week	Whole School
17.6.24	Refugee Week	Whole School
19.6.24	Y4 Trip to Murton Park	Year 4
20.6.24	Year 6 Class Assembly 2:00pm	All Year 6
24.6.24	Year 5 Class Assembly 2:00pm	All Year 5
01.07.24	Year 5 Camping Trip	All Year 5
3.7.24	Transition Morning	Whole School
3.7.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
8.7.24	Transition Morning	Whole School
10.7.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
11.7.24	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
11.7.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents

11.7.24	Transition Morning	Whole School
12.7.24	French Day	Whole School
15.7.24	EY Trip to the Watering Hole	F2
17.7.24	Nursery Stay and Play 2:00pm – 3:00pm	New Nursery Parents
18.7.24	KS1 Inspire Afternoon 2:00pm	Year 1





		Year 2
22.7.24	Sports Day	Whole School
	EY: 9:00am KS1: 10:30am LKS2: 1:00pm UKS2: 2:00pm	
23.7.24	Y2 Graduation 2:00pm	Year 2
24.7.24	Towngate's Got Talent	Whole School
24.7.24	EY Graduation 2:00pm	Foundation
25.7.24	Y6 Leaver's Assembly 2:00pm	Year 6
25.7.24	Break Up Today	Whole School

