

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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17.11.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been another positive and enjoyable one in school, with Year 3 taking their educational visit to Stump Cross. The children were exemplary in their behaviour and we are incredibly proud of the way in which they conducted themselves. Well done everybody!

Towngate Pantry

In response to our changing community and the continued cost of living crisis, we have established our 'Towngate Pantry' which is located in 'the hive' next to our pastoral room in school. Parents and carers are welcome to come and use the free pantry which houses a range of tinned and dried foods, toiletries and baby essentials. We are in the process of organising clothing which will also form part of this pantry.

If parents / carers would prefer not to come into the school but would appreciate this support, we urge you to speak to a member of staff whom you feel most comfortable to and we can arrange collection of food or clothing from the pantry.

Lost coats & Uniform

If your child has lost any uniform or coats please can you come to the office from Monday 20th November and we will direct you to the lost property. If items are not claimed these will go into the Towngate Pantry as mentioned above.

Towngate Talks

Once per week, Miss Lowell – our Learning Mentor – is going to be holding a session for parents / carers or members of our school community for a coffee and a natter. The aim of the sessions is to build relationships between home and school, whilst enjoying an informal chat. During this time, Miss Lowell will be able to offer advice and signpost to support in relation to any queries or questions you may have. The sessions start Wednesday 22nd November 2023 @ 9.00 – 9.45am.

Scholastic Book Fair – the perfect Christmas gifts!

Our Scholastic Book Fair is due to arrive on **Monday 11th December – Thursday 14th December**. This year, we are pleased to have secured a card machine to enable fast and efficient payment. For all books purchased, school also benefits from free books, therefore we sincerely hope to see the book fair well supported – the perfect opportunity for some Christmas gifts!

Towngate Tots

Thank you for sharing the news of our baby and toddler group far and widely – our first session is fully booked however please continue to encourage people from the community and wider to attend these sessions. Thank you to those who have kindly donated baby and toddler toys – we are very fortunate to be able to add these to further enhance our early years provision. To enquire about future places, please contact the school office. We cannot wait to share photographs of this new provision.



Parking

Due to ongoing complaints in relation to parking around the school, we are liaising with the police and community support. Unfortunately, we are making limited progress managing this situation and therefore will take lead from other agencies to support with this.

Safeguarding parent meeting 23.11.23 - 4.00pm

Our DSL team welcome parents to a safeguarding update meeting on 23.11.23 from 4pm: our focus is supporting children with mental health and wellbeing. Please email school to reserve a space.

Flu Immunisation

For any children who were absent from school for the flu immunisations that took place this week, there is a second session taking place on 17th January 2023.

Christmas Dinner

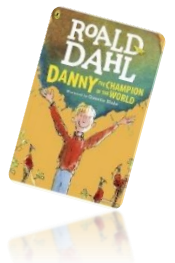
Monday 18th December is our annual Christmas Dinner Day. Please book your child's dinner via School Grid the week before – please be aware that there will be a reduced menu this day with no jacket potatoes or sandwiches. On this day, a special festive guest may be spotted around the school!

School pictures 23.11.23

Please be aware school photos are taking place on 23.11.23. As always, we request children are dressed in appropriate uniform.

What are we reading?

Miss Lockett has shared her favourite book this week – Roald Dahl's Danny the Champion of the World. Miss Lockett read this book when she was younger and also loved to share the books with her own children – and the children within her classroom too. This is a story of the power of family, making mischief and memories that last a lifetime.



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.



Pupil Achievements



Attendance

Our attendance is 96.81% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 6, who achieved 99.63% attendance this week. All classes in school are working towards achieving their 'Perfect Attendance' treat for 100% attendance every day – keep going everyone!

	Compassion	Ownership	Resilience	Excellence
Nursery	Gage	Molly	Jax	Talisha
Reception (adventures)	Grace	Joseph	Olivia	Selena
Reception (explorers)	Isabella	Freddie	Sebastian	Harry
Year 1	Esmee	Emily	Edie	Seth
Year 1/2	Eliza	Lucas	Ellie S	Eligh
Year 2	Henry	Ellie	Kennedy	Scarlet



What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

This week the children have been looking at the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' the children are becoming more familiar with the characters and their repeated phrases. We have been learning about the festival of Diwali, the children were really interested and were able to make links to other festivals that they celebrate, we have created some wonderful Rangoli patterns in the creative area. In maths the children have been matching numicon to numerals by doing some brilliant counting. I was so impressed to see our children making our new children on their visit feel very welcome, thank you everyone! Have a wonderful weekend and thank you for your continued support!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception

Another fantastic week in F2 this week! In Literacy we have looked at a new book, 'Little Glow'. This delightful story is all about celebrations and festivals with a different celebration on each page. We have looked closely at Halloween and birthdays this week and thought about using nouns and adjectives to describe these celebrations. In Maths we have focused on the composition of 4 and 5. We have even tried writing number sentences to show the different ways we can make 4 and 5. In PE we have begun learning a jungle dance, thinking of the ways different animals move and how we can turn these into a dance. We have loved using our new story area to retell the story of 'Room on the Broom' using our knitted props. In Science we have explored and investigated light using torches and coloured paddles. In Geography we have looked at our local area and identified the physical and human features in Ossett. Well done for a super week again F2!

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Riley & Mrs Phillips

Year 1

In Year 1 this week we have been learning about the numbers 11-20 thinking about how many tens and how many ones. We have been making the numbers using numicon and diennes. We had a challenge to make 20 using just 10's and 5's. We then extended this to making 30. In geography we found out about the oceans in the world. We had a little rhyme to help us remember the names - Aunt Sally Is A Pirate. We looked at a world map to locate where the oceans are. In PSHE we talked about people who are special to us. We have also been talking about anti-bullying week and know it means STOP - several times on purpose! In English we wrote a set of commands of how to look after a packet of crayons. We know to use bossy verbs (action words) to tell us what to do.

A super week Year 1.

Well done.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett

Year 1/2

Another busy week in Class 1/2! In our Science lesson this week, we have started learning about the different animal groups. We focussed on mammals and birds, identifying the different features, making comparisons and sorting them by their features. Did you know that a bat is a mammal? They are the only mammal that has wings, making most people think they are a bird. In Art, we have practised using different techniques to manipulate the shape of clay. It was trickier than we thought! We have been stretching it, rolling it, pinching, pulling and using tools to carve into the clay. In Geography, following on from our learning about the world's continents, we have identified the five oceans! We have really enjoyed using the globes to explore the world and find both the continents and oceans. We are continuing to enjoy our English text, The Day the Crayons Came Home, and this week we have used command sentences to write a set of instructions, to help Duncan look after his crayons! Well done, as always, for all your hard work this week. Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Davies



Year 2

This week in English we have been focusing on command sentences, working on an instructional piece of writing about how to look after a pack of crayons. Our marvellous mathematicians have been using column subtraction to subtract 2-digit numbers crossing tens, as well as completing missing number problems. Our geographers have been learning the names and locations of the oceans, as well as being super scientists, learning about the difference between mammals and birds. In PE, we have enjoyed warming up with a circuit to increase our heart rates, as well as working towards making a dance routine. In music, we had a super samba lesson in which we enjoyed singing and playing instruments! We have also had a very important focus on Anti-Bullying this week and have looked at the importance of making a noise about bullying. What a fabulous week we have had with some super learning!

Miss Wilson

Year 3

In Year 3 this week, we have been busy planning and writing our setting descriptions to go with our new core text 'The Wild way Home' where Charlie the main character has run away from home because his brother has a heart defect. He lives in the woods and eventually meets a friend from the Stone Age. We can't wait to read more! In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting and using our reasoning and problem-solving skills and in Geography, we have been learning where the world's people are for our new topic 'villages, towns and cities'. In PE this week, we were practicing our passing and throwing skills in rugby and in Music, we were using different instruments such as the Surdo drums, Agogo's, Ganza's and Tambo rims to create Samba music. On Thursday, we had a fantastic time visiting 'Stump Cross Caverns at Pateley Bridge where we went down the into the limestone caves and saw stalactites and stalagmites. We used our torches to see the limestone glowing under UV light and we saw a real cave woman. Today, we dressed in 'Spots to raise lots' for BBC Children in Need and discussed why it is necessary to raise money for these children. Well done for a fabulous week Year 3!

Mrs Schofield

Year 4

Another brilliant week in year 4. This week has seen us complete our character descriptions and redraft them, focusing on coherence and using pronouns to avoid repetition. In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers including exchanging. In Science we have been learning how particles behave in different states of matter. In Geography, we have been following on with our topic of major rivers in the world, this week has included looking at how rivers shape the land around us. I have thoroughly enjoyed the hard work and perseverance year 4 has shown this week and I look forward to welcoming you all back after the weekend.

Mr Hitch

Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have continued developing our knowledge of multiplication and division by looking at special numbers such as prime and square numbers. We have discussed why these numbers are different to other integers and have experimented with the most efficient ways to find prime and square numbers. We have spotted patterns and used these patterns to help us find other numbers which can be grouped under these headings. In English, we have analysed a diary entry and discussed what makes this different from a narrative or newspaper article, for example. We have then planned and written our own examples and developed our writing through peer assessment. In geography, we have discussed how and why slums developed and learned about push and pull factors. Our PE lesson focussed on developing our orienteering skills by using maps to locate objects around the school grounds, we also looked to develop our teamwork and communication through other OAA activities such as problem solving.

Mr Adlington



Year 5/6

This week in Year 5/6 we have really enjoyed our English lessons where we have written a diary entry by Mr Tom Oakley, the protagonist in our new book - Goodnight Mr Tom. We have carefully considered our use of vocabulary for characterisation and have explored our use of informal dialect. In Art, we have begun learning about Edwardo Kobra, a Brazilian street artist who uses bright colours to paint portraits and murals on buildings. In PSHE, we participated in discussions about the qualities of a good friend and through carefully about how we can demonstrate these qualities. In Maths, we have begun our exciting journey through the world of fractions, starting with equivalent fractions. The children have been really resilient with this new learning - what a fantastic start to the unit! Well done everyone!

Mrs Bateman

Year 6

After another fantastic week of learning, it's safe to say that Year 6 are truly back in the swing of things! In English, we have been using our visualiser to provide feedback to each other based on our initial drafts of a diary entry, using our core text Goodnight Mr Tom as a stimulus. We thought carefully about how to choose language carefully to represent our character's thoughts and emotions as his evacuee - Willie - comes to stay. In maths, we have been working on our fluency with order of operations and understood how by changing the position of our brackets changes our final answer. Next week we are excited to begin our learning on fractions! In Geography, we explored the various reasons slums develop across the world: we understand that slums are densely populated settlements which are established as a direct result of urbanisation. As a class, we discussed the various challenges faced by those residing within slums. It's been another wonderful week Year 6 - I am immensely proud of you, as always!

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
21.11.23	F2 Class Assembly 2:00pm	Reception
22.11.23	Nursery Stay and Play 1.30pm – 2.30pm	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 1.30pm – 2.30pm	New Nursery Parents
01.12.23	PTA Non-Uniform Day	Whole School
6.12.23	Nursery Stay and Play 1.30pm – 2.30pm	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
18.12.23	Christmas Dinner	Whole School
19.12.23	KS1 Christmas Show 10:00am	Year 1 Year 2
20.12.23	UKS2 Christmas Show 5:00pm	Year 5 Year 6
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 Butterfly Garden Sheffield	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
15.7.23	Y6 residential to PGL @ Newby Wiske, Northallerton	
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 EY: 9:00am KS1: 10:30am LKS2: 1:00pm UKS2: 2:00pm	Whole School
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





'Towngate Talks'

Ever feel the need to chat?

Fancy a cuppa?

Everyone's welcome to join our Wednesday coffee morning, every
week 9-9.45am

Come to the school office and be welcomed by our lovely team,
the kettle will be on and the biscuits ready.

