

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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24.11.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week comes to an end many memorable moments having taken place. The children have been busy working hard in their classrooms, collaborating and building resilience in their learning. It's been lovely to – once again – see our children displaying our 'core four' values in all they do.

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.

Dogs in playground

It has been brought to our attention that dogs are being brought into the playground. We must inform all parents and carers that dogs are not permitted on site and therefore we respectfully ask that dogs are not brought onto the premises. Thank you for your cooperation.

EOCT Carol concert

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and Year 6) will be attending the EOCT Christmas Carol Concert along with other local primary schools in the Ossett area on the 15th December at 1.30pm, this will take place in Ossett town centre. Please ensure that pupils have full school uniform on and have appropriate outdoor clothing.

PTA updates

A reminder we are holding a non-uniform day next Friday (1st December) as part of our PTA preparations for the Christmas Fair. We kindly ask that – in exchange for non-uniform day - Early Years and KS1 (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 1/2 and Year 2) bring in chocolate / sweets for the chocolate tombola and KS2 (Years 3-6) bring in bottles for our bottle hoopla stall. Thank you – as always - for your support and to our amazing PTA who continue to work hard to raise funds for our school.

Drugs and Alcohol Visit – Upper Key Stage Two

On Monday 27th November 2023, Years 5, 5/6 and 6 will be visited by 'Drug ed4children' to take part in our drugs and alcohol awareness assembly. As part of our PSHE and Safeguarding curriculum, it is important that we equip our children with the knowledge to manage peer pressure and risk as they grow older. We are sure the children will gain a good understanding on the effects drugs and alcohol have on the body and effective strategies for managing various circumstances as they get older.



Year 3 Dental Nurse Visit

Year 3 will be visited by the school nursing team on Monday 27th November 2023 as part of our PSHE programme of study. Children will be reminded of the importance of oral hygiene and will revisit how to brush their teeth properly.

Reindeer Run

On Friday 8th December, we will be holding our annual sponsored Reindeer Run in aid of Wakefield Hospice. Your child has been issued with a sponsor form which can be returned to school with sponsors before 8th December. Alternatively, you can donate to our 'Just Giving Page' see the link below. Your child will be issued with a pair of reindeer ears on the day to complete their run and we may have a very special runner to accompany them. We will be running/jogging or walking around the running track on the Upper Key Stage 2 playground. Wakefield Hospice do not receive any funding from the Government so any amount would be gratefully received no matter how big or how small. Thank you for your continued support.

<https://wakefieldhospice.enthuse.com/pf/towngate-primary-academy-e1a38>

Lost coats & Uniform

If your child has lost any uniform or coats please can you come to the office 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 may have. The sessions run from 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! All books will be half price – so we hope you will stop by and browse the selection on offer!

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.

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!



What are we reading?

Mrs Poole has recently been enjoying a new book written by Nazreen Ahmed Pathak – City of Stolen Magic. Set in India in 1855, British rule and magic is forbidden and rumour has it that people born with magical powers are taken from their homes and across the sea to England. Chompa and her mother are two individuals, both born with powerful magic... This is a story of mystery, adventure and nail-biting moments. A must read!



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 96.74% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 1, who achieved 100% 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
Year 3	Lucas	Jayden	Verity	Freddie
Year 4	Thea	Aziz	Evie T	Lewis
Year 5	Connor	Adam	Umaimah	Lily
Year 5/6	Billie	Lola	Thomas	Jacob
Year 6	Georgia-Lee	Cora	Harrison	David

What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

This week we have been looking at the story 'Elmer' the children loved how Elmer was so colourful and played tricks on the others! The children were exploring how it is alright to be different. In phonics this week we have been learning about alliteration and identifying words that begin with 'a' and 'm' and our new Nursery rhyme of the week is 'Mary, Mary Quite Contrary'. In maths we have been sorting and matching colours and shapes, we have also been exploring the difference between a 2D flat shape and a 3D not flat shape. Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception

This week in F2 we have continued our learning around the story 'Little Glow' looking more closely at celebrations such as Hanukkah and Ramadan. In Maths we have worked on the number 5, thinking how to make 5 in different ways and singing lots of songs that include counting to and back from 5. In Geography this week we have looked at our local area and identified the physical and human features in Ossett. We also thought about our own journeys to school and created maps to show our routes. We have worked hard on using our art skills to recreate Vincent Van Goghs 'Starry Night'. We also had our class assembly this week, the children worked incredibly hard on learning their lines for this and we are very proud of them all. Thank you for coming to watch us, we hope you enjoyed it! We are now very excited to be starting our rehearsals for our Christmas production over the next few weeks. Well done F2!

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Riley & Mrs Phillips



Year 1

In Year 1 this week we have enjoyed a range of activities. In art we made a clay pinch pot and we learnt how to turn and pinch the clay to make the pot. In computing we have been learning how to take a good photograph. We know how to position and frame before we press capture. We can decide if it is a good photograph and if not, we know to retake it. In maths we have been working with numbers to 20, ordering from smallest to greatest and greatest to smallest. We have been comparing numbers to 20 and placing the teen numbers on a number line. In geography we have been learning about land, sea and ocean. We have enjoyed looking at the miniature globes and locating the oceans around the world. Do you know which is the largest ocean? We do! In PE we have continued to develop our dance sequence, practising and refining our moves. In English we have written a short narrative and have tried really hard to hold the sentences in our head and write independently this week.

Well done Year 1.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett

Year 1/2

It has been an exciting week in Class 1/2, we have been thinking about ... CHRISTMAS!! Yes, that's right, Christmas has come early for the children in KS1 as we have been learning our Christmas production songs. We are already so excited to share them all with our grown-ups. In RE we thought about how we should treat others and how Jesus suggested we treat others. The children came up with their own 'rule for all' and we had some fantastic ideas. *'Spread kindness all around', 'treat others as you want to be treated', 'forgive those that hurt you and teach them how to be better'*. In Science, we have been learning the difference between an amphibian, fish and reptile. We learnt that all these types of animals lay eggs, meaning the only animal group to have live babies is a mammal. We have launched a new History topic this week, The Great Fire of London, where we plotted it on a timeline and could see how this was such a long time ago! In the coming weeks, we will be looking at how London has changed since then and how the fire started! Well done to all the children for another brilliant week! Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Davies

Year 2

We have had another super week in Year 2! In English, we have been recapping the different sentence types we have learnt and have worked hard to use all of these in a narrative. Our super mathematicians have been looking at recognising and making equal groups, which we applied to writing repeated addition number sentences. In Geography, we had a wonderful lesson in which we explored what makes up the world's oceans, how waves are created and how this links to the earth's constant movement of water! In Art, we have used clay to practice techniques such as pinching, scoring, and smoothing. We had a lovely PSHE lesson looking at what makes us who we are, how we are similar and how we are different. There were some incredibly empathetic comments made about how our differences make us unique and special. A huge well done for all of your hard work Year 2, you continue to amaze me with your resilience and ownership. Have a lovely weekend - I can't wait for another fantastic week!

Miss Wilson

Year 3

We have had such a busy week in Year 3, in English, we have been completing our published write for our showcase display about 'The Wild Way Home' and in maths, we have been subtracting 2 numbers with no exchange. In History, we have been creating a scaled timeline and in Geography, we have been learning about settlements and the reasons why people settle in different places. In PSHE, we discussed challenges and in Art, we have been looking at oriental patterns ready for our nonprinting next week. In PE, we have been learning how to kick a rugby ball and we have completed our Daily Mile every day this week. Well done Year 3.

Mrs Schofield



Year 4

Another busy week in year 4. This week, pupils have been planning their persuasive adverts in English, looking to include the writing skills we have been practicing. In Maths, we have been subtracting a range of numbers and finding the most efficient method of subtracting different values. In Geography, we have looked at how landforms are created as well as looking at evaporation and condensation in Science. In Art we are continuing to focus on Collage, specifically our significant individuals: Pablo Picasso and Paul Klee. Well done for your hard work this week year 4. I look forward to another fantastic week next week.

Mr Hitch

Year 5

This week, in Year 5, we have continued our learning which focuses on multiplication and division. We multiplied and divided by 10, 100 and 1,000 - using place value charts to practise moving the digits either left or right the required number of times. We have also used our known facts to ensure that we are more comfortable when multiplying multiples of ten by integers. In English, we have analysed the features of an informal letter and discussed the audience and purpose for our writing. We have planned our own example writing from the perspective of one of the characters from our class book: Goodnight Mr Tom. In PE, we have spent more time developing our communication and teamwork through OAA activities where we needed to solve problems by working together. Our geography learning has centred around the comparison of two big slums located in Brazil and India, respectively. We compared total area, population density and the physical characteristics of the land on which they are built.

Mr Adlington

Year 5/6

A super week in year 5/6. In Art, the children have been learning about colour mixing - exploring primary, secondary and tertiary colours along with complementary colours using a colour wheel. In science, we have been investigating the strength of gravity compared to magnetism. In Forest Schools, we have absolutely loved learning about fire safety and making smores - delicious! As part of our Geography curriculum, this week we were comparing slums in different areas of the world; we looked closely at their size, features and location. Have a super weekend everyone, you absolutely deserve it!

Mrs Bateman

Year 6

This week has been another great week of fantastic learning. In Maths, we took our learning from finding equivalent fractions, to simplifying, comparing and ordering fractions. It's been really tricky but we are making positive gains in our learning and we will continue to embed our new knowledge prior to adding and subtracting fractions next week! In English, we have prepared to write our informal letters from the perspective of a young evacuee leaving the city for safety in the countryside: we have carefully considered our audience and purpose for writing to ensure our language is appropriate. Well done everyone! In Art, we continue to study our artist - Eduardo Kobra - as part of our holistic understanding of slums within our geography learning. We have compared and contrasted two slum settlements to understand that - although located at other sides of the world - there are many similarities and differences within these settlements. Our Friday extract study this week as part of our reading curriculum was War of the Worlds, written in 1898 by H G Wells. We considered the impact of this archaic language and compared this text to others we have read ourselves. Well done for another brilliant week everyone. I am immensely proud of you for working so hard.

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
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.

