

# Towngate Primary Academy

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Chair of Governors:  
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Safeguarding Officers:  
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08.12.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

With only two weeks to go, school is most definitely feeling festive now that the Christmas decorations are up and the sound of the children's beautiful voices continue to fill the corridors as they practice their Christmas productions.

We have had many donations to keep our pantry well-stocked, thank you all so very much. In the current climate, we may all struggle with the cost of living so please do speak with any member of school staff to access the pantry for additional foods, clothing or toiletries.

## **Christmas concert tickets**

Tickets for the Christmas concerts are on sale and can be purchased for £1 a ticket via the school office. We have added additional performances; the days and times of these were sent out to parents yesterday and can also be found on the key term dates at the end of this newsletter.

## **Rock steady concert 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Parents and carers of pupils who participate in Rock Steady music lessons are invited into school on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** to watch the children perform in a musical extravaganza! Please arrive at the school office at 10am We look forward to seeing you then!

## **Excellent exhibit**

Our second Excellence Exhibit is due to take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm**. Parents and carers are welcome to come into school via the external classroom doors to see some of the children's work from this half term.

## **Scholastic Book Fair – the perfect Christmas gifts!**

Our Scholastic Book Fair is due to arrive on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. This year, we are pleased to enable fast and efficient payment by using the QR code which are next to the book fair & at main reception . 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! **The books will be 50% off** – so we hope you will stop by and browse the selection on offer!



## Reindeer Run

Our children have had a fantastic time today completing our sponsored Reindeer Run in aid of Wakefield Hospice. Thank you so much to everyone who donated to such a vital and worthy cause in our community. So far, we have raised £195 online and lots of cash donations came into school this morning. Wakefield Hospice do not receive any government funding so every donation makes a huge difference! It's not too late to donate, simply follow the link or scan the barcode below:

[Wakefield Hospice: SCHOOLS Reindeer Run 2023 \(enthuse.com\)](https://www.enthuse.com/Wakefield-Hospice-SCHOOLS-Reindeer-Run-2023)



## Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Children are invited into school wearing their party clothes where they can spend time celebrating with their friends.

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Christmas Dinner

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> 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?



J.R.R. Tolkien's Letters from Father Christmas is this week's chosen book from Mrs Drury. Famous for his imagination and incredibly literary mind, Tolkien has taken a spin on Christmas, with each letter written telling delights of tales of life from Santa's kingdom across the North Pole. These short fairytales guide the reader through miracles and misfortune – as only Tolkien can do!

## 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 95.74% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 1/2, who achieved 98.89% 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	Finley	Mia	McKenzie	Andrea
Year 4	Lewis	Ruby	Oliver B	Ava
Year 5	David	Swathika	Jocelyn	Seb
Year 5/6	Eva	Ethan V	Emily	Billy KB
Year 6	Ava B	Reuben	Paris	Eva H

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

#### **Nursery**

This week the children have been exploring our new story 'Stick Man' we have been discussing how Stick Man was feeling and we followed his journey through the different locations he went to. We have been working extremely hard practicing our nursery rhymes and Christmas nativity songs, the children are amazing singers! In maths this week we have been exploring weight, the children have been making predictions of which items they thought were heavy and light, we then used the balance scales to see if we were correct. Thank you for your continued support and have a great weekend!

**Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon**

#### **Reception**

This week in F2 we have been very busy practising for our Nativity next week! We are very excited to show you our wonderful performance. In Literacy we have read the book 'Whatever Next' and enjoyed learning all about space and rockets. We have even made our own rockets in our DT area and construction area. In Maths we have learnt about shapes and the properties that make the shapes different from each other. In Geography we have continued our work on maps looking at symbols we see on a map and trying to use these on our own work. We have also enjoyed using the Bee-Bot this week to navigate to different CVC words on a map. We had to listen carefully to our teachers Fred talking a word then use our ICT skills to get the Bee-Bot to move to the correct image on the map. We have continued working on our kinetic letters activities and have worked on this week on the consistency of our letter size and trying to get our letters to sit neatly on the lines. Well done F2 for another super week!

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



### Year 1

This week we have really enjoyed researching about The Great Fire of London. We are loving this topic! We have created our own information sheets at home and found out about where the fire started, why it started and how long it lasted for. We have also been learning the song London's Burning and we know this significant event is beyond our living memory. We can't wait for the next lesson! In geography we now know how to name the 7 continents in order from largest to smallest. We can also name the oceans in the world. We know the Indian ocean is the warmest. We know the Pacific Ocean is the largest in the world. Do you know any facts about the continents or oceans? In maths we have been completing activities about arithmetic questions and reasoning questions about time, length and shape. We enjoyed completing these. We have been playing on the Top Mark games to support our learning with place value, developing our understanding of tens and ones. In art we have started our calendars to take home for the new year. Can you guess what they will be about? Here is a clue. 'Fetch the engine. Fire, fire. Fire, fire. Pour on water, pour on water.'

Watch out for our amazing art work on Twitter.

Well done Year 1, you're learning behaviour this week has been superb!

Have a lovely weekend.

**Miss Lockett**

### Year 1/2

We have had a lovely week here in Class 1/2! The Y2 children are really enjoying practicing their acting roles for our Christmas production and it is amazing to see how dedicated they are to their parts! This week in Science, we learnt about our 5 senses and which body part is matched to each sense. We then took part in a senses experiment where we used all our different senses! We are really enjoying learning about the Great Fire of London, this week we have completed a venn diagram comparing London 1666 to London 2023. Well done for another fantastic week! Have a wonderful weekend.

**Mrs Davies**

### Year 2

It has been another super week in Year 2! Our class have been engaged in assessments, showing the incredible progress they have made in English and Maths already. We have been super geographers, discussing and learning about the significance of oceans, exploring why they are crucial to our planet's health and understanding our responsibility in preserving them. We also celebrated World Disability Day by dedicating time to fostering awareness about a range of disabilities, encouraging empathy, and celebrating the uniqueness of every individual. Can you believe we learned how to spell our names in braille and sign language? In science, our curious minds have been learning about our body parts and senses. We brought science to life in our classroom by visiting 'sense stations' - what fun we had! In RE, we have been learning about the story of Moses and retold the story through a class role play. We have also continued to practice for our Nativity, Baarmy Bethlehem, and we are doing a fantastic job! We can't wait to show you all. Well done Year 2!

**Miss Wilson**

### Year 3

We have had a lovely festive week in Year 3, creating our Christmas cards and rehearsing for our Christmas Carol Concert. We have also been writing a diary entry as Charlie from our core text 'Wild Way Home' and in Maths, we have been subtracting 2 digits from 3 digits. In History, we have been learning about who the Egyptians were and the different Kingdoms and in Science, we have been learning about reflection and how we can use it. In PE, we have been practising dribbling skills for football and in Music, we have been learning a Christmas Samba song using the instruments. In Art, we have been learning how different media prints onto paper and how to create a monograph print. In PSHE, we watched a video about disabilities for 'disability awareness day on Monday, we had a fantastic, very grown-up discussion about different disabilities including hidden disabilities. A super well-done Year 3!

**Mrs Schofield**





#### Year 4

Regardless of the cold weather, the students have been on fire this week. We have completed assessments in Maths and English, which has provided opportunities for pupils to show their resilience and perseverance. In Science, we have been learning about the water cycle and in Geography we have been focussing on the effects of flooding, these topics have seen our students asking investigative questions and taking ownership of their own learning. Finally, our Christmas Carol concert is beginning to take shape and we are looking forward to welcoming you to watch our performance.

**Mr Hitch**

#### Year 5

This week, in Year 5, we have continued our unit of learning on fractions by discovering how to convert between improper fractions and mixed numbers. We have used concrete and visual strategies to complete fluency and reasoning and problem-solving questions. We have also used this knowledge to learn how to effectively convert between mixed numbers to improper fractions. In English, we have written a formal letter which is written to inform Britain of the declaration of war from Neville Chamberlain. We have discussed how the formality will differ from our usual narrative writing and have planned our ideas together using Padlet. In geography, we have identified the dangers of living in slums around the world and compared these to highlight any differences. We have also spent some time rehearsing for our upcoming Christmas production which is coming along nicely!

**Mr Adlington**

#### Year 5/6

What a brilliant week we've had! We have been extremely busy with our Christmas crafts to create decorations to be sold at the Christmas fair on Monday, all funds raised will go towards our class charity – Age UK. This week in history, we have been interpreting historical sources to understand what life was like in 1950's America and how things have changed since then. In English, we have enjoyed reading our class text 'Goodnight Mr Tom' and exploring how citizens felt when the second world war was announced in 1939, we have used our understanding to answer comprehension questions with a focus on inference and retrieval. In computing, we have used the zoom tool to further develop our vector drawings, ensuring we use fine details to add depth our images. Well done everyone – this took a lot of patience! Have a great weekend everyone!

**Mrs Bateman**

#### Year 6

What a busy week we have had again in Year 6!

This week it has been fantastic to watch the children take ownership as they learn the songs and lines ready for our final Christmas performance in primary school – Gimme, Gimme, Gimme! Whilst busy rehearsing, we have remained incredibly focused in learning time, this week mastering addition and subtraction of mixed numbers. We considered efficient ways to calculate before we progressed onto reasoning and problem solving questions. Well done to those children who have shown great commitment so far to re-learning your times tables – we are fast discovering these key skills are vital for success in mathematics this year and I'm really proud of those of you who are taking great ownership with this! In English, we have mastered the art of punctuating sentences with both colons and semi-colons, carefully considering the position of these marks to add interest and control the reader. In History, we have started to explore the Civil Rights Movement of 1954, unpicking the inequality and segregation that took place in 1950s America. We thought about how the term 'separate but equal' was used by many key figures back then to suggest fairness and equality in America, which we are quickly realising was not the case. Year 6, thank you for your thoughtful contributions to our discussions – you're all wonderful! Have a great weekend – can't wait to see you back on Monday!

**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
11.12.23	Christmas Fair	Whole School
12.12.23	Excellence Exhibit 3:00pm	Whole School
12.12.23	Rocksteady concert @ 10am	Whole school
13.12.23	Early Years Christmas Show 10am & 2:00pm	EYFS
14.12.23	LKS2 Christmas Show 10:00am & 2.00pm	Year 3 Year 4
18.12.23	Christmas Dinner	Whole School
19.12.23	KS1 Christmas Show 10:00am & 2.00pm	Year 1 Year 2
20.12.23	UKS2 Christmas Show 2.00pm & 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
8.1.24	Young voices Concert in Sheffield Arena	Choir
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	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 PRIMARY ACADEMY

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

11TH DEC 2023.  
3.30PM - 5PM

Santa's grotto- Refreshments -  
Tombola - Raffle - External stall  
holders - Crafts

Made with PosterMyWall.com



**JOIN US FOR ...**



**A MERRY BERRY QUIZ  
AT THE NORTH POOLE**

Christmas family quiz evening.

**December 21st 2023. 5 pm- 7pm**

**£2 per ticket per person. Teams of up to 5.**

**Refreshments and raffle on the night.**

**Towngate Primary Academy.**





## 'Towngate Pantry'



The Pantry is now open for families to access  
We are here to offer a little extra help to families that may  
need it

We have food supplies, clothes, uniform, shoes, toys, books  
and toiletries

Please let us know if you need anything  
This is a confidential service and can be accessed discreetly  
We are here to help

