

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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15.12.2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

With just one more week until school closes for the festive period, we continue to spread joy and festive cheer across the school. So far, we have enjoyed the Christmas performances of Early Years who performed Twinkly Nativity and our children in Year 3 and Year 4 held a cracking carol concert. Thank you to the parents and carers who continue to support school by attending.

Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA who arranged our brilliant Christmas Fair. Once again, this was a wonderful event where we were able to feel a little more festive together. Thanks to parents and carers supporting this event, the PTA raised an incredible £697! Thank you all.

Thank you and Good Luck

We would like to wish Mrs Adamson all the best as she will be leaving Towngate at Christmas to begin her new role working in a new school with children aged 16-25. We wish Mrs Adamson the best of luck in her new venture – thank you for all of your hard work!

Christmas Parties

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

Christmas Dinner

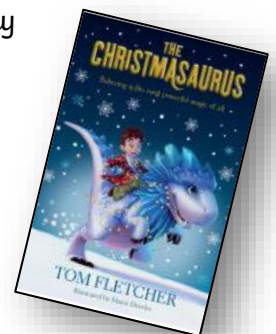
Monday 18th December is our annual Christmas Dinner Day. Please book your child's dinner via School Grid the week before – please be aware that there will be a reduced menu this day with no jacket potatoes or sandwiches. On this day, a special festive guest may be spotted around the school!

Reindeer run

Our annual Reindeer Run for Wakefield Hospice has raised an incredible **£1327.70!** We are blown away by the generosity of our school community, for such a wonderful cause. Any outstanding donations can be sent into school before Thursday 21st December when Alex from the Hospice will be coming into to collect. Thank you every one!

What are we reading?

This week, Mrs Billington has been reading Tom Fletcher's *The Christmasaurus*. Taking the reins from Rudolph, *The Christmasaurus* lives with Santa and his elves in the North Pole. His dream is to fly with Santa on Christmas Eve... but will he get his wish? Mrs Billington loves the series and enjoys sharing the book with the youngest members of her family!



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 93.32% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to F2 Adventurers, who achieved 97.37% attendance this week. All classes in school are working towards achieving their 'Perfect Attendance' treat for 100% attendance every day – keep going everyone!

What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

This week has been extremely busy for the children as they have been practicing and performing their Christmas Nativity. We were very proud of the children's singing as it hard to remember lots of songs but we did it! The children are also enjoying taking part in festive crafts and have some wonderful surprises to give for Christmas. We are continuing to learn about the Stick Man story and exploring repeating patterns. This week's focus Nursery Rhyme is 'I hear Thunder'. We hope you all have a nice rest and are ready for another week of festive fun!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception

Wow! What a busy week we have had in F2. We performed our Nativity twice for our grown-ups and loved every second! We definitely have some budding actors and actresses in our class, well done to each and every one of you - we are very proud of you all. In Literacy this week we have looked at the book 'Goodnight, Spaceman' and learnt all about Tim Peake and Neil Armstrong. Did you know that Tim Peake was the first British male astronaut to walk on the moon? In Maths we have looked at sequencing and focused on our day and what our day looks like, how morning is different tonight and the activities we do might be different because of this. In Art we have made clay pots inspired by our learning about Diwali and celebrations. Well done for a super week F2.

Mrs Kimbley, Miss Riley & Mrs Phillip

Year 1

This week in Year 1 the children have continued to learn about the Great Fire of London. We have looked at what is meant by an eyewitness. We have read extracts from Samuel Pepys diary, a primary source, that tells us all about the Great Fire of London. In groups we acted out different parts of his diary to help our understanding. We discussed how reliable a range of sources are and why. In maths we are continuing to practise our number bonds to 10 and 20, looking for patterns. We have also been learning about how to find doubles and near doubles and looking at the pattern of the numbers when we write doubles down in order. In English we wrote about one of the postcards Duncan received from Chunky Crayon. We tried really hard with our handwriting and using capital letters and full stops. In Geography we created a poster about why and how we should save our oceans. We know to stop using plastic where possible, to take our litter home from the beach and to be respectful around the rockpools where we will see marine life.

Well done Year 1, you are all working very hard.

Let's keep going! One more week to go.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lockett



Year 1/2

Well it's been another festive week for us in Class 1/2, which was kicked off by our fantastic Christmas fair! Thank you to the PTA for organising a wonderful event. In Music, we have been practicing the Christmas carols we will be performing at the church next week and I must say we have some extremely talented singers in our class! In History, we have learnt about Samuel Pepys and how important he is when learning about the Great Fire of London. We know now what is meant by an eyewitness and the importance of sources when learning about a historical event. The children are really enjoying this topic and we acted out different parts of Samuel Pepys diary entries this week to gain a better understanding of how the fire started and spread! We have been working incredibly hard to master our pencil pick up and form our letters correctly in handwriting lessons this week. I look forward to seeing the impact this is going to have and sharing this with our grown-ups! Well done everyone! Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Davies

Year 2

This week, in Year 2, we've had a wonderfully festive week! In English, we have written a postcard from Chunky Crayon to Duncan to explain where we have been left and what we have experienced. In Geography, we have been learning how to save our oceans by becoming environmental champions. We looked at the impact of plastic pollution and what we can do to help our world, which was inspired by David Attenborough's work! In History, we have been learning about how the Great Fire of London spread through looking at sources. We combined our historical knowledge and artistic skills to create some wonderful art pieces of the Great Fire of London! In RE, we had a wonderful lesson, focusing on Prophet Muhammad's trustworthiness and exploring the significance of the Black Stone – this led to our team getting involved in a lovely trust activity. In computing, we have been making brilliant use of the iPads, building on our digital skills, and editing photographs. We have continued to practice our Nativity and we can't wait to show you all! Well done for another fabulous week Year 2, you continue to blow me away with your hard work and incredible learning behaviours.

Miss Wilson

Year 3

Well, it's the penultimate week of the school year, I can't believe it! We have had a super week in Year 3, giving 3 amazing performances of our Christmas Carol Concert. First, we rehearsed in front of Upper Key Stage 2, then we performed twice on Thursday to our parents and I must say the children were amazing!! I am so proud of them all! As well as all our rehearsing, we have managed to learn about what affects where people live in our Geography topic such as natural resources like, trees, water and rocks. In English Grammar, we have been learning how to use direct speech and in Maths, we have been learning how to estimate and how to solve calculations using the inverse. In Guided Reading, we have been following Charlie Merrium in our new book 'The Wild Way Home'. Charlie has run away from home because his little brother has a heart defect and needs an urgent operation and we have been working really hard on our kinetic letters, learning target pairs of letters to improve our handwriting. Wow! What an amazing week we've had! Another Massive well done, Year 3, I am so proud of you!!!!

Mrs Schofield

Year 4

What a brilliant, penultimate week we have had in year 4. Our Christmas Concert was amazing and the students are extremely proud of themselves. We would like to say a huge thank you to parents and carers for coming along to support us. In English, we have been planning our narrative which has seen us consistently using the English writing skills we have been practicing since the beginning of the year. In Maths, we have been multiplying and dividing by different numbers such as 3, 6, 9 and 7. In Science, we are preparing to conduct an experiment to test how different environments affect the rate of evaporation. Finally, we have been focusing on our new topic of the Anglo Saxons which we will be continuing after Christmas.

Mr Hitch



Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have continued our work on fractions by comparing and ordering fractions. We discussed how to compare and order fractions with the same denominator, the same numerator and what to do when both the numerator and denominator are different. We found equivalent fractions by finding a common denominator before we ordered and compared them to make the process easier. In English, we have completed a redraft of our formal letter by conducting peer assessment to make improvements. We have spent time decorating the classroom for Christmas and have practised for our upcoming Christmas production. On Friday, we visited Ossett town centre to take part in a carol service and finish our week off nicely.

Mr Adlington

Year 5/6

Another extremely busy week in class 5/6. Firstly, I would like to say congratulations to the children for working so hard to make and sell our own Christmas decorations during the PTA's Christmas Fair. These items were all sold to raise money for our class charity, Age UK, as part of our 'Giving Back' pledge and we successfully raised £28! This week we have been feeling incredibly festive making Christmas cards and doing our final rehearsals for our Christmas concert next week. The children have all shown a fantastic commitment to learning their lines and making this performance the best it can be, we are so proud of you all! This afternoon, we have enjoyed a walk into Ossett to participate in the EOCT Christmas Carol concert with other local schools. Have a wonderful weekend everyone, we look forward to seeing you next week!

Mrs Bateman

Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have been busy perfecting our performance skills as we prepare for our Christmas production of *Gimme, Gimme, Gimme*. We can't wait to get dressed in our finest costumes and welcome you into school next week. In English, we have been planning to write a formal letter from the perspective of Neville Chamberlain announcing the second world war. In Maths, we have worked hard to complete our learning with fractions as we learnt to multiply and divide fractions by integers and in Science, we continue to delve further into our learning as we conducted an investigation to best understand air resistance. Year 6, we are already reaching the end of our first term together - what a term it's been. I really couldn't be prouder of you all.

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
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
9.1.24	Hibernation Day for Shelley – Children can attend school in PJS	Whole School
11.1.24	Early Years Open Evening 4:00pm – 5:30pm	New Early Years Parents
18.1.24	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



Last week before Christmas: Attendance Challenge



Every child who achieves **100% attendance** and arrives to school on time between Monday 18th and Friday 22nd December, will be entered into a prize draw to win **£10 Amazon voucher**.



"Perfect attendance, perfect opportunity!"

Will be drawn Friday 22nd at 2pm



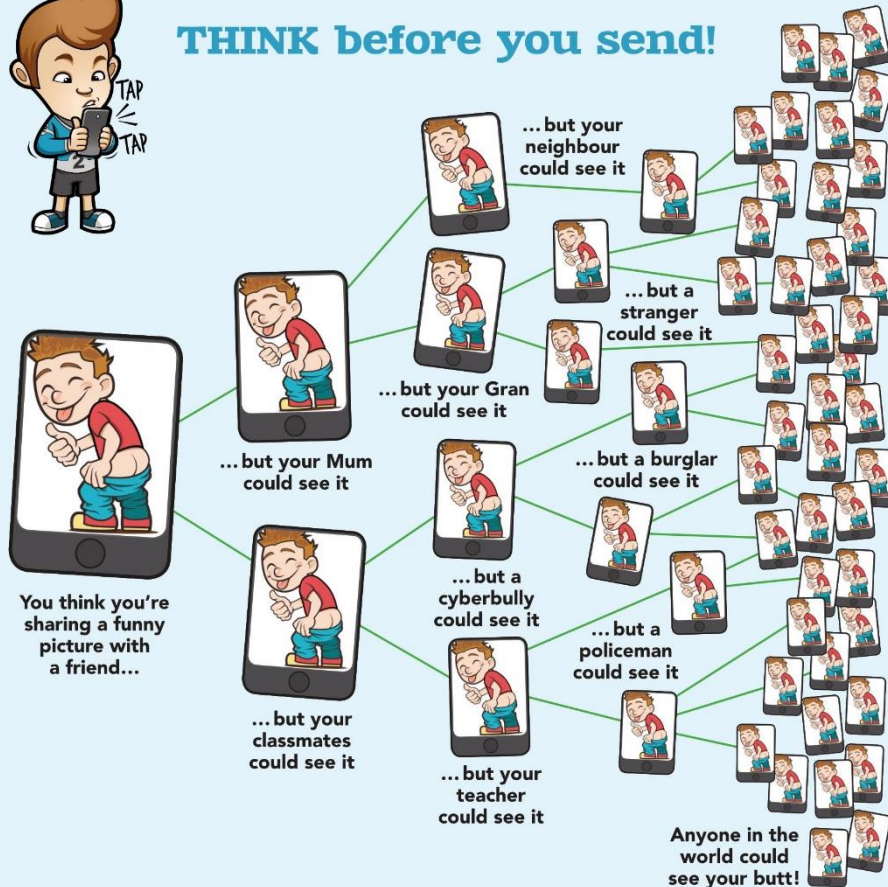
*Consideration will be given to individual children depending on circumstances.



Parent Guides to Online Safety



THINK before you send!



If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



www.skipssafetynet.org





'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

