

# Towngate Primary Academy

Headteacher:  
Mrs Annabel Berry

Chair of Governors:  
Mr Philip Emms

Safeguarding Officers:  
Mrs A Berry; Mrs L Poole; Mrs A Bateman;  
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12.01.2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

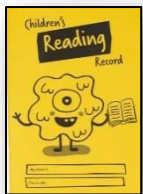
Welcome back to school for the beginning of spring term! We hope you all had a wonderful, restful break. This week has been full of excitement as the children have reconnected and settled back into school routines, showing their core values in their everyday actions and behaviours. Welcome back everyone – it's fantastic to see you all back!

## Year 6 mocks

Well done to our Year 6 children, who on return to school have completed their mock SATs assessments. The children have all tried really hard and have shown super resilience to tackle these papers, without any revision! Mrs Poole and Mrs Bateman look forward to meeting with parents over the next week or so to share the results and discuss plans in place over the next term.

## Progress reports

As we did last year, progress reports have been sent out to parents again this week to report on the children's progress during autumn term. These progress reports are an additional reporting tool in response to parent feedback in between parents' evening appointments.



## Reading Records

Please can we urge parents and carers of all classes to encourage your children to be reading at home, very regularly and logging this in the children's reading records. Reading forms an integral part of our homework expectations and developing a love for reading in both school and at home is proven to have considerable impact on pupils' life chances in the future. Reading records should be brought into school daily and class teachers check these throughout the week. Thank you for your commitment.

## Early Years Open Evening

We were proud to open our doors on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January for another of our Early Years open evenings. If you are aware of any parents/carers who are looking at possible settings for either Nursery or Reception places, please inform them that our Early Years setting is open every second Thursday of the month for viewing – please call 01924 302865 or email [TGA-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:TGA-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk) for further details.

## What are we reading?

Mrs Hartley loves to read Lynley Dodd's series of Hairy Maclary! She loves the mischievous adventures that Hairy Maclary gets up to – from stealing bones, attending a dog show and making lots of friends along the way. This really is a great read to share with family and friends.



## Thank you

Thank you, Mrs Glazebrook, for donating some lovely books for school; we are busy redeveloping our reading sheds and therefore these books will absolutely go to great use!

## 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



	Compassion	Ownership	Resilience	Excellence
Nursery	Ellie- Mae	Talisha	Lota	Rory
Reception - (adventurers)	Selina	Keegan	Joseph	Marlie
Reception - (explorers)	Mason	Zach	Oliver	Archie
Year 1	Olivia	Ava	Archie	Izrael
Year 1 -2	Paisley	Oliver	Imaya	Freddie
Year 2	Charlie	Freya	Evie	Ben

## Attendance

Our attendance is 96.45% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to year 1, who achieved 99.26% 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 we have welcomed our new friends to Nursery, the children have been so kind and helpful. The children have settled really well and have enjoyed exploring Nursery and meeting lots of new friends to play with. We are learning about a new story this week which is 'The Gingerbread Man' the children have been brilliant at joining in with the repeated story language and have shown a great interest in the characters. In maths this week we have been singing lots of number rhymes and focussing on our counting skills. We thank you for your continued support and we hope you have a great weekend!

**Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon**

### Reception

What a delightful first week back for F2! This week we have focused on our new story 'One Snowy Night' by Nick Butterworth. We have explored the theme of winter and thought about appropriate clothing that is needed in winter. In Maths we have explored making 0 and looked at number sentences that equal 0 as well as continuing to practise our subitising. We have carried out an interesting Science experiment this week, exploring how quickly ice melts in different environments - using our prediction skills to help us. We have started our gymnastics learning in our PE lessons, practising our stretching, hopping and jumping this week. A super first week back F2, well done! We are looking forward to a lovely half-term.

**Mrs Kimbley, Miss Riley & Mrs Phillip**



## Year 1

Welcome back Year 1 and a happy new year!

In Year 1 this week we have continued to learn about the Great Fire of London. This week we talked about the key word's eyewitness and source. We know Samuel Pepys was an eyewitness and wrote a diary to record what happened. The children know how the fire spread and how they stopped the fire.

In Geography we are continuing to learn about the continents but are focusing on Europe. We looked at a map of Europe and located where the UK is. We talked about the word's region and populous. We know our regions are Ossett, Dewsbury, Wakefield and Yorkshire. We also know our regions are in England and the UK.

In PE we have been learning football skills, dribbling and stopping the ball. We had great fun with this trying to control the ball at our feet. More practise needed next week!

In English we wrote facts about Sir David Attenborough. We know he is 97 years old. We know he continues to protect animals and the planet. Wow Year 1, what a busy first week back! Well done for settling in and concentrating so well.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Miss Lockett**

## Year 1/2

A huge welcome back and a happy new year to all our children and their parents/carers! I hope you all had a fantastic break. The children have come back and settled in instantly, enjoying being back with their friends and learning new things! In English this week, we have used our amazing knowledge of Sir David Attenborough to write a fact file about him. We wrote about what his life was like when he was younger and how he has become such a significant person. We are working hard on our handwriting and presentation and enjoying our daily handwriting practice, the children are applying this successfully in their workbooks. In Geography, we have used maps to locate Europe and looked closely at the different countries that make Europe. We are looking forward to learning more about our continent. Well done to all our children for coming back into a new half term with such positivity and willingness to learn. Have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs Davies**

## Year 2

This week in English, we have been learning how to use commas in a list and we have worked so hard to use these in our non-fiction writing! We have thoroughly enjoyed producing a fact file about David Attenborough, which links to our previous Geography and Science unit, as well as our new core text. We have seen a class of marvellous mathematicians this week, looking at multiplying and dividing by 10 and 5. In History, we have been using historical sources to understand how the Great Fire of London spread so quickly! Our super geographers have explored the countries within Europe, as well as the seas that surround it. In PSHE, we have started our new unit, "Keeping Safe", by discussing ways to ensure we are safe when using medication. In Science, we have absolutely loved our first lesson! We started our unit by exploring which offspring belongs to which parent, as well as similarities and differences between animal parents and children. A huge well done to each and every one of you, you have settled back in beautifully after our festive break. I hope you have a wonderful weekend, Year 2.

**Miss Wilson**

## Year 3

Year 3 have had a super first week back! I am so proud of how the children have returned to school eager to learn after their well-earned break. In English this week, we began studying our new core text picture book 'Storm in a Jar' about a boy called Arlo whose Nana has sadly passed away and in Maths we continue our multiplication and division learning. This week, we have been sharing and grouping numbers and learning our 2, 3, 5- & 10-times tables. In Science, we began our new topic 'forces' by sorting toys into 'pull force' and 'push force' and in History, we continue our topic of Egyptians and this week we have been learning all about the Pharaoh's. In RE, we discussed what we think God would look like, is God a person, an object or a thing? We came up with some very interesting ideas. In French this week, we have been recapping our French greetings and in PE, we had street dance with the Elite Sports Coach and multisport with Mr Hitch. Well done for a very busy first week back Year 3.

**Mrs Schofield**



#### Year 4

Welcome back year 4, we have had a fantastic start to the year so far. In English, we have been reading 'The Arrival' which has seen our class show determination, perseverance and resilience as we have had to gain an understanding of the book even though it has no words. In Maths, year 4 has been multiplying three numbers confidently. Our new French topic is family members, which will see us speak and write our family members and their names. In History we have been continuing to learn about the Anglo Saxons, most recently we have been learning that our days of the week originate from the Anglo-Saxon days of the week. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday.

**Mr Hitch**

#### Year 5

This week, in Year 5, we have really settled in well to our routines and have enjoyed being back in school together with our friends. We have begun a new unit of learning in maths - multiplication and division. We have looked at using the area method to help us practically visualise how to multiply two 2-digit numbers and we have used this knowledge to move to more formal written methods. We have completed some reasoning and problem-solving activities to practise identifying key information in a worded question. In English, we have started to read a new class novel - Windrush Child - which follows the trials and tribulations of a Windrush child called Leonard as he reaches England following his move from Jamaica. We have completed a comprehension to develop our retrieval skills as well as looking at ways we can draw inferences from the text by using a character's thoughts, feelings, actions or dialogue as clues. In history, we have continued our work on the 1950s civil rights movement in America by discussing what life was like for different groups of people at this time. We have identified ways that inequality persisted and looked at who did what to change life for minority groups and whether, ultimately, any major changes occurred. In PE, we have begun a new sport - badminton! We have identified the key physical characteristics to be successful in badminton as well as learning some of the basic rules and having a go at some simple shots.

**Mr Adlington**

#### Year 5/6

A brilliant first week back for Class 5/6. Firstly, an enormous well done to Year 6 who have worked tirelessly during their mock SATs week - your sheer determination has absolutely blown us away this week and we couldn't be prouder! During our first week back, we have enjoyed starting our new class text during our English lessons; this half term we will be reading Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah a story about the experiences of those in the Windrush generation, who came to England but did not all have positive experiences as they were promised. In maths, we have been further exploring fractions, decimals and percentages. Year 5 have been calculating fractions of amounts and Year 6 have been calculating percentages of amounts - well done everyone! In French, we have practiced speaking and writing about our hobbies, thinking carefully about tenses and pronunciation. In PE, we have started learning about Badminton including developing new skills and an introduction to the rules of the game.

**Mrs Bateman**

#### Year 6

Wow - what a week, Year 6! It can be tricky enough to have returned to school after two weeks of rest and relaxation, but to return and tackle your mock SATs is a whole other challenge! Mrs Drury and I are so proud of you all for returning and giving your best shot in your assessments. We look forward to working with you for the rest of the year, ensuring you are high school ready and prepared for the next phase of your journey! In art, we have been busy creating our final pieces of our drawings inspired by Brazilian street artist, Eduardo Kobra, whilst in Science we have been busy exploring forces - investigating how shape and mass impacts water resistance. In Geography, we have been discussing the challenges that people living within slums face, with a particular focus on being drawn into criminal activity and the reasons that this - for many - may feel the only option due to lack of employment opportunities in the area. In History, we explored significant individuals as part of our unit of work on Civil Rights. We thought about our learning before half term and how we could link our knowledge from KS1 of Rosa Parks to what we now know about life in 1950s America. The children were very thoughtful in their discussions as we began to unpick how a life of segregation was considered acceptable during this time. As always, Year 6, I am incredibly proud to be your teacher - thank you for working so hard! Have a great weekend!

**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.**

### Spring Term

Date	Event	Class
18.1.24	Y3 Class Assembly 2:30pm	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
9.24.24	Hibernation Day for Shelley – Children can attend school in PJS	Whole school
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 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

