

# 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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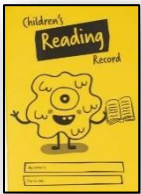
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02.02.2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## A dream comes true

Henry in Year 2 has, this week, had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Manchester City stadium to be a game mascot. Henry's dad was a lifelong Manchester City supporter so we know what an amazing experience this would have been for him. We hope you enjoyed it and all of the staff loved watching your smiling face as you walked out onto the pitch from our own televisions!



## Reading Records

Please can we thank parents and carers for encouraging your children to read at home, we can really see a difference in their reading records already! 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.

## PTA

Letters have been handed out today for the valentine's disco, which will take place on Wednesday 21st February.

We are also holding a spring fair on the 20th March, this will be held during the day and each class will get an opportunity to visit the fair. There will be a non-uniform day on the 1st March in exchange for bottles for ks2 and sweets/ chocolates for ks1 and early years. As always, we thank you for your support.

## School Uniform

Please can we remind parents and carers about children coming to school in correct school uniform. In school, we are pleased to maintain 'Towngate Pantry' where spare uniform can be taken if needed – please ask at the office if you would like to use this service.

## Children's Mental Health week.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week: the theme is 'My Voice Matters'.

**My Voice Matters** is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

We will be starting the week with a whole school assembly to discuss what we know already about our mental wellbeing. The staff will filter tasks into the week with daily activities.



## Online Safety Week

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day. This year, the theme is 'Together for a better internet'. Across school, children will explore keeping themselves safe online in addition to exploring how they can use the internet for good. This week will be a chance for children to share their learning and understanding with staff in school and parents at home.

## What are we reading?

This week, Miss Phillips is reading *The Smartest Giant in Town* by Julian Donaldson. This is a classic book about how George is the scruffiest giant in town, so he buys a new outfit to smarten himself up. On the way home, however, he meets others who are in greater need of his clothes than he is, so he gradually gives away each new item of clothing.



## 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
Year 3	Jada	Verity WC	Kody	Jayden
Year 4	Edward	Leland	Evie	Ameen
Year 5	Jeanie	Bradley	Kenny	Benjamin
Year 5/6	Libby	Jotham	Thomas	Evie
Year 6	Phoebe	Eva H	Joshua	Dylan

## Attendance

Our attendance is 95.67% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to 5/6, who achieved 99.66% 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 the children have been learning about another country related to one of our stories 'Poles Apart'. Last week we explored the North and South Pole and Australia looking at the different animals and climates, this week we have been exploring Africa! The children loved the quiz about guessing the animal by giving clues and they learnt some interesting facts about the animals. We looked at some videos of the animals and looked at what made them unique, the particularly liked the Giraffes long tongue and the Hyenas laugh! In maths we have been looking and identifying patterns, we have been matching patterns of animals and looking at patterns that repeat themselves. We have also been learning a new nursery rhyme of the week 'Humpty Dumpty' and the traditional tale 'Little Red Riding Hood'. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

### Reception

This week, Reception have enjoyed reading the story, *The Three Little Pigs*. We arrived on Monday to find that our role play area was covered in sticks and straw. The children enjoyed working in this area and developing their ideas. Within provision, we have also been very busy retelling the story, designing and building our own houses and we have also been making puppets. All the staff are very proud of how hard the children are working to develop their writing in both their focus lessons, early morning activities and through our Kinetic Letters lessons. This week the children have also continued to show a super knowledge of number, as we have been thinking about the numbers 6, 7, and 8 in our lessons.

A super week, well done everyone!

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Phillips & Mrs Patel-Daji



### Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have been working really hard to develop our knowledge of place value with numbers from 20 to 50.

We have been partitioning numbers into tens and ones and learning how to add on 10 more to any given number. We have been counting groups of objects in tens to help us count quickly. We used our counting in twos to support this skill. In history we found out that there was no fire service in 1666 when the Great Fire of London happened. We acted out using a fire squirt and carrying a leather bucket down to the River Thames to fill with water and then run back to the fire. We found out that the first fire service started in 1667 but people had to pay for this. In DT we made our animal shelters and then evaluated how the making process had been. In English we wrote a missing poster for Polly the parrot who went missing in the week. We had to describe her feathers and say the things she likes to eat and drink. This week we have worked really hard on our handwriting thinking about how kinetic letter skills. What a super week of learning Year 1. I continue to be very proud of you.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Miss Lockett**

### Year 1/2

Another busy week here in Class 1/2, the children have worked extremely hard and taken part in some wonderful discussions and produced some excellent work. We have had a big push this week on handwriting, with many of us embedding our correct letter formation and blowing me away with their fantastic presentation! In English, we have used our knowledge of birds and the grammatical feature of adjectives to write a wanted poster! In Maths, year 1 have been working with numbers up to 50, counting forwards and backwards from different numbers. We are able to say what number comes before and after a certain number. Year 2, have started their work on shape, where they are describing the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. In History, we have analysed sources to help us understand how the fire service has changed over time. We learnt that in 1666, they used fire hooks, fire squirts and leather buckets to try stop the fire! We were shocked to learn that women were only allowed to join the fire service in 1982! We made venn diagrams to think about the fire service then and now. In RE, we have been continuing to learn about Easter and this week we looked at different symbols that are associated with Easter. Well done for your continued hard work Class 1/2, have a lovely weekend!

**Mrs Davies**

### Year 2

This week in English, we have worked really hard on our retrieval and inference skills, answering questions about the 'World of Birds' in our Animal Encyclopaedia text. We then wrote a wanted poster about a missing bird! In Maths, we have been extremely resilient to finish our unit on money. We have then started our new unit on shape by describing the properties of 2D shapes. In Geography, we continued to explore what Europe is like, studying what countries make up Europe and what those countries are like. In Science, we looked at the basic needs of all animals to survive. We discussed how we can distinguish between a need and a want. In PE, we have continued to develop our ball skills by considering the ways we can control our hands and feet when passing and travelling with the ball. In PSHE, we had an extremely important lesson looking at the PANTS rule to ensure that we keep ourselves, and others, safe. Well done for another wonderful week Year 2, I hope you have a lovely weekend.

**Miss Wilson**

### Year 3

Well, we have had a super week in Year 3! In English, we have been writing a character description for our main character Arlo in our core text picture book 'Storm in a jar', using prepositions. We are really enjoying this picture book. In Maths, we have been multiplying 2 digits by 1 digit and linking multiplication and division and in RE, we have been learning about two different stories about Moses and the burning bush and about Saint Paul's conversion and we compared the similarities with both stories. In Geography this week, we looked at how settlements have been shaped over time from the Stone Age to present and looking at different settlement patterns such as nucleated, linear, dispersed or isolated and in History this week, we have been learning about the different Pharaoh's and why the pyramids were built. In PE, we have been learning multi sports skills with Mr Hitch and Dance skills with the Elite sports coaches and in Music, we have continued our



Samba learning with Mr Whiteley. In DT, we have been planning how to make our own memory box by looking at nets and sketching in our books and then using a computer program 'Sketchup' to create our design. Well done for a super week Year 3!

**Mrs Schofield**

#### **Year 4**

This week, year 4 have been completing and redrafting their diary entries. Some of which, have been exceptional and have displayed each of the skills that we have learned so far this year. In Science, we have been learning about and identifying the different parts digestive system. Finally, there has been an upturn in the number of students attending Math's club on a Wednesday, this is not compulsory but all students are welcome to attend. Thank you and have a wonderful weekend, I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday morning.

**Mr Hitch**

#### **Year 5**

This week in year 5, we have commenced learning how to multiply a fraction by a whole number. We completed lots of examples to develop our fluency and used pictorial representations to check our understanding. In English, we have analysed a persuasive text to persuade the people of Jamaica to come and live in 1940's Britain. They then planned and drafted their own version, they discussed how difficult it would have been for these people coming to England

We have continued to enjoy reading Cogheart as part of our guided reading and we have been working hard to continue our reading at home. In Geography, we started looking at our new topic- sustainability- we discussed what is meant by term and how it can help the economies of countries grow. In French we worked extremely hard to learn the different words for food, we realised some words were very similar to the words we use in English, they then listened to a paragraph spoken in French and worked out which words were missing. We had some excellent pronunciations of the words.

Another brilliant week year 5, have a fantastic weekend?

**Mr Adlington**

#### **Year 5/6**

In DT, we have created a prototype of our sustainable pencil cases. We developed our designs and used a net to form the shape. In maths, we have consolidated our knowledge on area and perimeter, year 5 have focused on irregular shapes and year 6 have found areas of triangles. In English, we have enjoyed writing a persuasive text based on the Windrush Generation. We carefully considered what the push and pull factors for the Jamaicans coming over to England on the Empire Windrush. In History, we furthered our understanding of non-violent civil disobedience, focusing in particular on Rosa Parks and Dr Martin Luther King and their work towards abolishing Jim Crow laws. Next week, we are looking forward to Children's Mental Health week and Internet Safety week. We are also excited to enjoy our cinema afternoon for getting the highest attendance in the school last term! Well done everyone!

**Mrs Bateman**

#### **Year 6**

This week has been another great one in Year 6- I continue to be proud of your hard work and efforts to making progress. In English, we have explored our new model where we have unpicked the features of a persuasive text – we are excited to begin the process of planning, drafting and editing our work next week. In Maths, we have continued our work on geometry as we practised calculating the perimeter and area of various shapes with increasing complexity. In RE, we compared both the Anglican and Baptist church and thought hard about their contrasting practices. In Science, we have enjoyed learning about the planets in the solar system, how their revolutions and rotations differ dependent on their distance from the sun. Next week, we will begin our revision – please remember we are here every day if you need any help at all and don't forget that you must all continue to practice your times tables in order to be successful moving forward! Have a lovely weekend, everyone.

**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
5.2.24	Safer Internet Week	Whole School
5.24.24	Children's mental health week	Whole school
5.2.24	Nursery Class Assembly - 2.30pm	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	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
21.2.24	Valentines Disco	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
1.3.24	PTA non-uniform day for spring fair	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	Rocksteady Concert 10.00am	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
20.3.24	Spring fair – throughout the day	Whole school
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	Year 6
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



# Hibernation day.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February



It is time to celebrate Shelly's birthday!  
He will be 7 years old.

Children are welcome to come to school in their pyjamas / loungewear and all donations received will go towards Shelly's upkeep.

Thank you for your support.