

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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09.02.2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we have reached the end of this half term, we wish to thank you – once again – for your ongoing support. There have been many moments of celebration this term, where we have continued to hold our Towngate Tots stay and play sessions, continued to drive learning forward across all curriculum areas and took part in events to support our school community.

May we offer a reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday 19th February; we hope you enjoy a restful half term break, before we return to school on **Tuesday 20th February**.

Baby News

We are incredibly excited to share the news that Miss Riley has welcomed her second baby boy into the world. Louie Arthur Riley was born on February 7th, weighing a healthy 9lb 7oz. Congratulations to Miss Riley and her family on this wonderful news. We cannot wait to meet your new addition!

World Book Day

On Thursday 7th March, Towngate will be participating in World Book Day, where we will come together as a school to celebrate our love of reading. On this day, we welcome children to dress up as one of their favourite book characters for the day and to bring in a favourite book from home, to share with their peers during the day. We can't wait to celebrate all things reading and see the children's amazing outfits!

Car parking

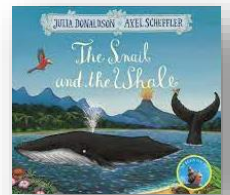
It has been brought to our attention that a number of cars have been parking near and on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of school. We would like to send a polite reminder that it is illegal to park on this area of the road as it poses a huge risk to the safety of our children. We are requesting that this area is kept clear when families are collecting children from school.

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.

What are we reading?

This week Mr Hitch is enjoying reading to his little Girl, 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. This is a classic book about a little snail longs to see the world and hitches a lift on the tail of an enormous whale. Together they go on an amazing journey, past icebergs and volcanoes, sharks and penguins, and the little snail feels so small in the vastness of the world. But when disaster strikes and the whale is beached in a bay, it's the tiny snail's big plan that saves the day!



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 | Theo | Briar | Gage | Hollie |
| Reception (explorers) | Avah | Bradley | Summer | Sebastian |
| Reception (adventurers) | Olivia | Jenson | Grace | Olivier |
| Year 1 | Phoebe | Austin | Emilie | Darcy |
| Year 1/2 | Pippa | Daisy | Eden | Jack |
| Year 2 | Millie | Charlie | Joseph | Bethany |

Attendance

Our attendance is 95.66% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Nursery AM, 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!

What have we been getting up to this week?

Nursery

Firstly, I just wanted to express how proud myself and Mrs Gordon were of the children in their first ever assembly, the children were so excited and enthusiastic about performing in front of their families and were amazing at remembering all the songs. We have been practicing every day and each week we add another rhyme to learn, this has inspired the children's love of singing and extended their vocabulary. They have loved playing out and exploring the snow yesterday which is one of our Nursery promises, the children were thrilled to go on a snow walk on the field and particularly liked throwing snowballs at the teachers! We have also been learning about Chinese New Year this week, the children have become very knowledgeable about how people celebrate this festival and why they believe that red is the most popular colour. Have a great time with your family this holiday and we will see you after the holidays!

Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon

Reception

Reception have been very busy this week. We have learnt all about The Gingerbread Man, Chinese New Year and Mental Well-being. Our parents and carers even got to meet us at our Excellence Exhibit where we got a chance to showcase all our learning we have been doing in our class. We have been listening to the Feelings song so we can regulate our emotions and feelings. This song has got all the staff singing in Reception class as well! We even baked Gingerbread Man biscuits and decorated them – we are sure that the children will enjoy eating them, they look delicious! (Let's hope they don't run away!) To end the term, we got to wear our pyjamas to celebrate Shelly's birthday. Happy Birthday Shelly from all of Reception!

We would like to say goodbye and thank you to Miss Lawrence, our student teacher who has worked incredibly hard with us since September. We have had a wonderful half term where lots of learning has been taken place and looking forward to all the learning that will happen next term. Hope you all have a lovely holiday.

Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Phillips & Mrs Patel-Daji



Year 1

This week in Year 1 we started to think about 'My Voice Matters'. This is because it is Children's Mental Health. All week we have been talking about how important it is to talk about our feelings so we can begin to sort them when we feel tangled and confused. We have been saying - BE CONFIDENT. This links with our Wednesday wellbeing affirmation this week which was 'The magic is in you.' In English we have been writing about turtles and tortoises and linking this to Shelly's birthday this Friday - our school tortoise who is 7 today. Happy Birthday Shelly!

In maths we have been making numbers using the tens and one rods and exploring the whole part numbers. We have had to think about which part is the tens and which part is the ones. In DT we have completed our animal shelters making cubes and cuboids and ensuring the structure is strong and rigid. We are now starting to enjoy decorating the end product. Finally, well done for a super half term. The children have worked so hard and I am very proud of all the children. Have a lovely holiday with family and friends.

Miss Lockett

Year 1/2

We can't believe we have come to the end of another half term! We've loved learning about tortoises this week, linking our learning to our wonderful school tortoise Shelly. We have written a set of instructions about how to look after a tortoise and we even spent some time with Shelly. Thank you for all your generous donations for our hibernation day! We've been learning about adjectives and adding these into our writing to add further detail to our sentences. In DT, we have been exploring different ways to build our animal shelters and tested different materials. Thinking about which would be the best and why. We've taken part in some lovely activities for Children's Mental Health Week. Where we've discussed how our voice matters. We used 'The Colour Monster' book to think about our feelings and how we can understand our different feelings. We created some positive affirmations, which we will be using each day to keep our minds positive when things may feel too much. As we won the highest attendance last half term, we celebrated with a cinema afternoon! Well done on beating our school target and enjoying a well-deserved treat. Have a wonderful week off with your loved ones.

Mrs Davies

Year 2

This week in English, we have written a very handy, informative leaflet about how to look after a tortoise. This linked wonderfully to our Hibernation Day today when we celebrated Shelly's 7th birthday. In Maths we have enjoyed our shape unit - we started by looking at the properties of 2D shapes and then progressed to 3D shapes. In Computing, we focused on E-Safety and looked at the positives and negatives of the internet, as well as how we can stay safe online. In PSHE, we looked at whether situations are fun or not and how we could deal with them. We practiced sentences that we could say to people if we didn't find something fun that they did, such as shaking our hand too hard. We have also thoroughly enjoyed 'Children's Mental Health Week' by carrying out some lovely activities such as writing affirmations and making a gratitude journal. It has been wonderful to consider how important our feelings are and how we can manage these. We would also like to thank our grown-ups who came to join us for our 'Excellence Exhibit' on Wednesday - we loved showing off our hard work! Well done for all of your hard work not just this week, but for the whole term. I am so proud of you! I hope you have a wonderful half-term.

Miss Wilson

Year 3

What a busy final week we've had! In English, we have been writing a narrative about Arlo and Nan from our core text 'Storm in a Jar'. We discussed the rollercoaster of emotions that Arlo went through when his Nan died and in Maths, we have been dividing 2 digits by 1 digit with and without a remainder. In Geography, we have been finishing our topic about villages, towns and cities by comparing the similarities and differences between them and in Science, we have been learning about contact and non-contact forces and also learning why magnets attract. In Computing this week, we have been learning how to change the outfit of our Sprite and in DT we have been creating a memory box for Arlo using the designs we created on Sketchup. On Thursday, it was Chinese New Year and we tasted fortune cookies and prawn crackers, they were delicious! Today, we all dressed in our pyjamas to raise money for our Shelly Fund. Well done for an amazing half term Year 3 - Have a fantastic week!

Mrs Schofield



Year 4

What a fantastic week we have had in year 4. We began the week modelling the digestive system which children found educational and exciting. In Math's we have been dividing 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers using a variety of methods, students have shown resilience and perseverance and are now confident with division. In English, we are completing our last big write focusing on our core text 'The Arrival' which will be a letter. I look forward to reading the many English writing skills that year 4 will include. In DT, we have been making flood rescue vehicles with a functional linkage and lever. I hope you all have a wonderful break and look forward to seeing you all when we return.

Mr Hitch

Year 5

This week, year 5 have continued to demonstrate their excellent attitude towards their learning right until the final day of the half term. The children have continued to work hard despite the challenges that they have faced with regards to changes in teaching staff. In maths, we have learned how to compare fractions and decimals using hundredths as a starting point. We discussed how this can help with converting to percentages in readiness for converting between all three representations. In English, we have completed our redraft of a persuasive text - looking specifically at the redrafting process and ensuring that we included the relevant features. In history, we have identified the importance of Martin Luther King Jr's 'I have a dream speech' and discussed what made Martin Luther King Jr into the man he was. We compared MLK to other civil rights leaders and identified the similarities and differences between them.

Mr Addlington , Mrs Drury & Mrs Johnson

Year 5/6

Year 5/6 have absolutely blown us away this half term! We have absolutely loved finishing sewing our pencil cases this week; the children have been extremely determined whilst completing these and are incredibly proud of what they have produced! In Maths, we have started exploring statistics, reading and interpreting line graphs. In English, the children have written a persuasive piece and carefully constructed their redrafts to ensure they have developed both sentence structure and vocabulary. As part of Mental Health week, we have written our own positive affirmations and carefully considering the daily struggles with mental health we may encounter. The children have been really reflective this week and we are incredibly proud of them. Finally, a big well done to Year 6 on their first week of revision, your hard work continues to pay off! Have a wonderful holiday everyone.

Mrs Bateman

Year 6

As we approach the end of another half term, I want to express my pride in the hard work and dedication you are all striving to show every single day. Well done and thank you!

This week, we have been working hard on writing our persuasive text based on our core text, Windrush Child. We have developed our sewing skills as we began putting together our sustainable pencil cases after evaluating our prototypes. In Geography, we continued our learning on the topic of sustainability; we know that for sustainability to be successful, it has to be good for the economy, good for the environment and good for the people – both now and in the future. During Mental Health Week, we thought about struggles we may face as we grow older, especially as we think about our next steps through to high school, whilst also considering the ways in which we can manage this. We wrote positive affirmations about ourselves and peers so we can reflect on what makes us each special, unique and valued.

Have a fantastic break Year 6 – enjoy your break and I look forward to welcoming you back.

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 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 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



Wakefield Comic Con



Sat. 17th Feb. 10am - 4pm

Sun. 18th Feb. 11am - 4pm

**The Ridings Shopping Centre
Wakefield, WF1 1DS**

**Character "Meet & Greets" - Photo Op's - Props
Costumers inc. Star Wars & Superheroes & more
Fantastic selection of Comic Con Traders!**

