

# 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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22.03.2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today marks Mrs Vickerman's last visit to Towngate before she embarks on her retirement from the Trust. On behalf of Towngate, we would like to thank Mrs Vickerman for her continued support and dedication to the school over the years. We spent some time celebrating Mrs Vickerman today by singing her favourite songs, sharing stories and kind words, before sending her off on her retirement with all children lining the corridors, cheering and clapping in our gratitude for her. We would all like to wish Mrs Vickerman a happy, healthy retirement and a well-earned rest! Thank you for everything.

## **Egg competition**

Thank you to Mrs O'Driscoll and Mr Fisher – our Governors – for volunteering to come and judge the ever-important Easter Egg decorating competition! Well, done to all who submitted an entry and to our class winners!

## **Easter Bunny - Wakefield Hospice**

Year 3 are pleased to announce that we have raised £75.97 for Wakefield Hospice by raffling our giant Easter bunny that was won by Hannah in Year 2 - Well done Hannah! Thank you so much to everyone who bought a ticket for this very worthwhile charity.

## **Rescheduled Future in minds session**

We will be holding a session on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April @3.30pm -5.00pm with Future in Minds (managing emotions). This is an opportunity for parents and carers to join a session with practitioners from CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) to support children's emotions.

Thank you

## **Parent Parking**

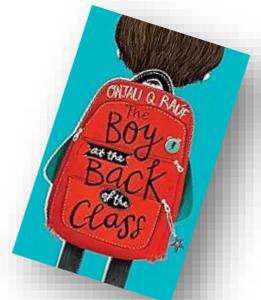
It has been brought to our attention that a number of cars have been parking near and on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of school. We would like to send a polite reminder that it is illegal to park on this area of the road as it poses a huge risk to the safety of our children. **We are requesting that 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 Miss Page is enjoying reading 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. This book is about a little boy who is unable to speak English and seated at the back of the class, Ahmet 'the refugee kid' becomes the perfect target for bullies and rumours alike. But Ahmet has also captured the attention and empathy of a fellow classmate, who will do anything to help him find his family. This is a wonderful story about diversity and difference – a must read!



## 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 93.72% this week; well done everyone. A particular well done must go to Year 3 who achieved 99.33% 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 continued to learn about the different jobs that people do and how they help us, this week we have been learning about doctors and paramedics and our visitor of the week was a train driver! We found out about how to start a train, the different hand gestures they use for slow down and stop. The children explored some different keys that start the trains we looked at a torch that's used by the driver that has different coloured lights and learnt the importance of keeping safe. They then found out about the different types of trains that there are and were truly inspired by the end of our visit, thank you Mr Williams for taking time to come and tell the children about your job! We have also been on a Spring walk this week, the children were amazing at identifying signs of Spring, they noticed the buds, the blossom and the leaves that are beginning to open. Thank you so much for your continued support and we hope you enjoy the holidays!

**Miss Haigh/Mrs Gordon**

#### Reception

This week in Reception, we have had a very busy and exciting week. We had parents' meetings, spring fair, spring walk, creating Easter cards and designing our own Easter eggs. We really enjoyed reading our class book called 'Hello Spring' it was all about friendship and seasons. We tried to retell the story from the different characters in the book. In Maths, we continued our learning about shape and patterns. In Art, we were inspired by the artist called 'Georgia O'Keefe, she inspired us to paint our own beautiful flowers using watercolours. Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended parent meetings. We hope you all have a lovely Easter break.

**Mrs Kimbley, Mrs Phillips & Mrs Patel-Daji**

#### Year 1

Wow! What a fantastic last week we've had! We were so proud to watch the year 1 children showcase their amazing History learning this week, in their class assembly. To all those grown-ups that joined us, I'm sure you left with a beaming smile as we did. It was clear they loved sharing their learning with you all and what wonderful singing voices they have! We enjoyed a lesson in British Sign Language this week, where we've learnt different greetings and how to talk about our family. We understood what an important way to communicate this is and loved learning all about it! In English, we've put our story telling caps on and rewritten part of The Velveteen Rabbit, where the children have formed excellent sentences using adjectives to create detail. We would love to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to all the children in year 1 for their hard work and fantastic learning. We hope you all have relaxing break with your loved ones.

**Miss Lockett**

#### Year 1/2

Well, I can't believe another half term has come to an end! As we get ready to go into our Summer term, I have been reflecting on all the wonderful things we have done this half term. The children are continuing to wow us with the progress they are making with their handwriting and the pride they are taking in their presentation. We have produced some truly detailed and well written pieces of work based on The Velveteen Rabbit, which we will be continuing at the beginning of next half term. We've focussed on measurement in Maths and the children have been learning how to use schools, using grams and the vocabulary 'heavier and lighter'. Our Science learning has taught us all about how to look after ourselves. We know how to keep clean, what foods to eat and how exercise keeps us fit and healthy. We've been producing some wonderful collages, where we have learnt to tear and overlap different images to create our own masterpieces! I am extremely proud of everyone, which I shared with parents at parents' evenings this week, with the progress we are making. I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and I look forward to seeing you when we return.

**Mrs Davies**



## Year 2

What a super, final week we have had! This week we have started our new unit of measuring mass; we started by measuring in grams and then progressed to measuring in kilograms. In English, we have looked at applying the suffixes "es" and "est" and have retold a part of our Velveteen Rabbit story. In History, we have moved on to looking at why Christopher Columbus is a significant individual; we plotted his events of exploring on a timeline and then answered some retrieval questions. In Geography, we had a wonderful lesson exploring which parts of the world are hot and cold, in relation to their distance from the Equator. We used globes and atlases to support us with this. In PSHE, we looked at money and how spending money in different scenarios would make us feel. We discussed reasons why we might save or spend money and when each of these options are appropriate. Over this term we have thoroughly enjoyed our music lessons with Mrs Collins from Wakefield Music Service and have produced some incredible pieces of Samba music. As we come to our final day of the term, I would like to say how immensely proud I am of each and every one of our class. The progress that has been achieved is nothing short of incredible and that's because of the learning behaviours and ownership shown. I hope you all have a lovely half-term and a well-earned rest; I will see you after half-term.

**Miss Wilson**

## Year 3

Wow! It's the final week of half term already! We have been very busy in Year 3 this week. In English, we have been retrieving information from a poem called 'Sun and flowers' and working on our dictionary skills and in Maths, we have been finding the perimeter. In History, we have been learning about Ancient Greek Governments and the difference between monarchy, oligarchy, tyranny and democracy and which one we would prefer to be governed by and in Geography, we learned about why it rains. In Science, we have been learning about how our muscles work and in Music, we have been learning our song 'Love What We Do'. This week is British Sign Language Week and on Wednesday we took part in a British Sign Language lesson where we learned the alphabet, family names, animals and colours and on Thursday we attended the Spring Fair in school. Well done for a fantastic half term Year 3, enjoy your holidays.

**Mrs Schofield & Miss Leveridge**

## Year 4

This week has been our parents evening and it has been lovely to see many, if not all of the parents to discuss the progress the students are making. This week, we have made our own Bayeux Tapestry based on the Anglo-Saxons and in Maths we have been learning about mixed numbers within fractions. In English, we have been trying to make our own Limericks which has been very entertaining as Limerick's are often funny. Finally, on Thursday we have had the Big Build workshop again, which our students love. Please enjoy the holidays and I look forward to welcoming you back to school.

**Mr Hitch**

## Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have spent some time practising our arithmetic skills. We have looked at basic year 5 skills, such as multiplying a four-digit number by a two-digit number and dividing using a formal written method. We have also had chance to practise more difficult concepts such as finding fractions of amounts, adding and subtracting fractions and working with square and cube numbers. In English, we have continued to develop our flashback in a narrative through revising our drafts and perfecting the editing process. We have specifically looked at adding detailed descriptions and varying our sentence structure by introducing new sentence models. In geography, we have identified ways that Curitiba - in Brazil - has become more sustainable including revolutionising their city transport systems and creating green spaces. In art, we have completed our final piece of work by composing a space themed picture ensuring we have thought about the 8 principles of an effective composition.

**Mr Adlington**

## Year 5/6

This week, in class 5/6, we have been working hard to consolidate our reasoning skills in Maths. We have worked carefully on reading questions carefully to elicit key information before we calculate. In English, we have been planning and writing a flashback using both description and dialogue to advance the action. We have worked collaboratively to build sentences with varied structures to further engage the reader. In History, we have further explored the Black Lives Matter movement and compared this with the Civil Rights Movement during the 1960s. This week was British Sign Language week, we have enjoyed learning the letters of their names and basic communications - well done everyone!

**Mrs Bateman**

## Year 6

In Year 6 this week we have been working hard to finish our flashback within our narratives based on our core text, Windrush Child. We considered memorable objects that may trigger a flashback for our main character, Leonard and chose a range of sentence models to support the cohesion of our writing. In History, we have been looking at the Black Lives Matter movement and thought about how the events that led to this movement could be compared to those within the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. We have had lots of thought-provoking discussion which were wonderful to hear. In Art, we were working on our final pieces of work based on space-themed compositions - we carefully considered our colour choices and used pastel as a medium to produce our art work. During British Sign Language Week, we have learned how to sign our names and also greetings - this forms part of our life skills curriculum. Well done everyone for a brilliant half term - thank you for always working so hard and I can't wait to see you all back after a restful Easter holiday.

**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!

**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
<b>13.5.24</b>	<b>KS2 SATs Assessments this week</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
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 2:30pm	All Year 6
24.6.24	Year 5 Class Assembly 2:30pm	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
20.7.24	Summer Gala	All welcome
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	Year 6 leavers fest	All Year 6
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

