

Towngate Primary Academy

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Dear parents and carers,

15.3.19

Maths morning

This week we welcomed parents into the classroom for our maths morning across school. This was a fantastic opportunity for our children in school to practice their key mathematical skills and show their hard work to the parents and carers who joined us in the academy. Thank you to all parents who attended and completed a feedback form; should you wish to provide any feedback following this event, please pass these on to class teachers.

Drumming lessons

We now have opportunities in school for children to begin percussion lessons with a qualified teacher from Wakefield Music Services. If you are interested in finding out more, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Comic Relief Day

Today the children dressed up in their non-uniform and brought donations of £1 into school for the worthy cause of Comic Relief. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about those who are less fortunate than ourselves and consider how charities can make a significant difference to the lives of others. Please speak to your child about Comic Relief and what they have learnt today.

Parents' Evening

A quick reminder that parents' evening is next week (Monday and Tuesday). If you have not yet made an appointment, please contact the school office to arrange one.

Picture News

Please find attached this week's Picture News poster. Picture News is a resource used in school to promote discussion around current issues. Each week there is a homework activity with an image and a question. We would encourage you to talk about this at home with the children. There are no right or wrong answers, it is a forum for discussion.

Big Battery Hunt

This week, the children were sent home with a Big Battery Hunt box; the Eco Team are trying to help the environment by recycling as many batteries as possible. Please use these boxes to collect used batteries then bring them into school. By doing this, the school will be in with a chance of winning some fantastic prizes – including £2000 worth of school equipment vouchers! Thank you in advance.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Mrs A Berry and Miss L Eke
Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher



Events in our academy this week:

To view more photographs of events happening within our academy, take a look at our Twitter account @TowngatePA

Early Years

This week in the Early Years, we have been preparing our garden in readiness for planting more seeds. We have four different seeds in our classroom which we are observing grow each day. We have been writing instructions about planting seeds and practising counting on using our number lines. We have enjoyed our non-uniform day and have thought about why Red Nose Day is so important.

Mrs Kimbley

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 this week, we have continued our learning in science to explore the sense of taste. We tasted four different food types to explore sweet, sour, bitter and salty. We discussed our favourite and linked this to the food we eat every day.

Miss Lockett

Key Stage 2

This week in Key Stage 2, Year 6 have enjoyed a mindfulness workshop looking at how to manage feelings of stress and anxiety in their lives, especially leading up to the SATS. This will be followed up over the next two weeks enabling the children to develop a bank of tools and strategies to equip them for later life. Year 5 have enjoyed reading the poem 'The Highwayman'; we have explored themes of love, hate and selflessness. Year 4 have really enjoyed their second Big Build session where they have worked with Jacob's engineers to decide what materials they would need to go to space. Year 3 have explored sound vibrations using ukuleles; the children are now able to identify how sound is made and how to change pitch.

Miss Atkinson





Special Mentions



Celebration Assembly Star of the Week

	Star of the Week
F2 : Mrs Kimbley	Lily and Kenny
Year 1: Miss Johnson	Thomas and Phoebe
Year 1 / 2: Miss Lockett	Jacob and Maya
Year 2: Miss Lane	Carter and Matilda
Year 3: Mr Hellam	Isabelle and James
Year 3 / 4: Miss Sissons	Finlay and Lewis
Year 4: Miss Johnstone	Lucie and Esme
Year 5: Miss Atkinson	George and Evie
Year 6: Miss Eke	Cerys and Harry

Well done to all our stars of the week! We are all very proud of your achievements.

Marble Winners

We celebrate excellent teamwork in our academy by awarding class marbles during learning time, transition time, playtime and lunchtime. Here are our marble winners for this week!

	Class	Marbles awarded
1 st Place	Y6	126
2 nd Place	Y5	87
3 rd Place	Y2	85

Congratulations to our winners this week – keep up your fantastic collaboration and teamwork!

School Attendance

Whole School	96.75%
Nursery	94.74%
Reception	95.24%
Year 1	96.61%
Year 1 / 2	93.16%
Year 2	97.93%
Year 3	100%
Year 3 / 4	99.60%
Year 4	98.52%
Year 5	92.62%
Year 6	98.33%

Our whole school attendance target is 97%. This week we have fallen below our target! Come on everyone let's really try next week!

Well done Year3 😊



British Values
11th – 17th March

Mutual Respect

There will be times when we feel happy, and times when we feel sad. It is important we support each other during difficult times and celebrate together the things that make us happy!



Picture News

at Home

11th March 2019

What's going on this week?



11th-17th March
Can we learn how to be happy?

Education secretary, Damian Hinds has announced a new pilot for up to 370 schools for the teaching of mindfulness. The pupils in the chosen schools will be taught mindfulness techniques and breathing exercises as part of one of the largest mental health trials in the world. The UK schools will offer the lessons to improve wellbeing and help to regulate emotions.

Things to talk about at home...

- 🍏 What kinds of things make you feel happy?
- 🍏 What are your favourite lessons at school? Would you like to see lessons that teach you different strategies and ways you can be happier?
- 🍏 Is it possible to be happy all the time? Do you think it's important that we learn about how to deal with sadness too?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...



Date	Event
Week commencing 18 th March	Shakespeare Week across the Academy
Monday 18 th March	Parents' Evening 3.15-5pm Year 4 local walk
Tuesday 19 th March	Parents' Evening 3.15-7pm Year 3 local walk
Wednesday 20 th March	Lower Key Stage Explore learning Maths workshop FI First steps together (session 2) Early Years local walk KSI INSPIRE afternoon
Thursday 21 st March	World Poetry Day Year 3/4 local walk Choir rehearsal at Dimplewell
Wednesday 27 th March	FI First Steps Together (session 3) Choir performance at Holy Trinity Church. Parents are welcome to attend from 1.30pm Good speaking competition
Thursday 28 th March	Early Years INSPIRE morning (9am-10am) Year 5 INSPIRE morning (10am-11am)
Friday 29 th March	'Shelly Hibernation Day'. Children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas / comfortable clothes with a suggested donation of £1 and celebrate a hibernation day with our Academy tortoise 'Shelly'.
Week commencing 1 st April	Assessment Week across the Academy
Monday 1 st April	Year 6 INSPIRE afternoon
Tuesday 2 nd April – Wednesday 3 rd April	Year 3 Kingswood residential
Wednesday 3 rd April	Recycling assembly Good speaking competition today Year 4 INSPIRE afternoon FI First Steps Together (session 4)
Thursday 4 th April	PTA 'EGG'stravaganza event from 3.15pm Children are welcome to bring decorated eggs to school today Year 3 INSPIRE afternoon
Friday 5 th April	Easter Bonnet Parade including decorated egg competition Break up for the holidays
Tuesday 23 rd April	Children return to school following the holidays.

