

Towngate Primary Academy

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Dear parents and carers,

As the first week back in school following the half term holidays has come to an end, staff in school are delighted to see the children returning to school with such positivity and enthusiasm. Welcome back everybody!

Lunchtime / Outdoor Area Development

We are looking at ways in which we can develop our outdoor area to further inspire children to explore and learn in the outdoor environment. With this in mind, the lunchtime supervisors would like to request any donations of items that could be used in school during a lunchtime. Should any parents or carers have any spare toys / materials / dressing up costumes / craft materials / paint to brighten up the playgrounds etc. we would be incredibly grateful!

Additionally, if any parents/carers would like to lend a hand to spruce up the outdoor area or have any hidden talents that you would be willing to share, we would love to hear from you!

After School Club

We are looking at the possibility of offering an after school club to parents and carers following the success of our breakfast club provision. If you would be interested in your child/ren attending an after school club here at Towngate, please register your interest at the school office. It will be dependent on the number of parents interested to determine if this club would be feasible to run.

Online Safety

As you will be aware, online safety has been particularly prevalent in the news recently. As always, please can we recommend that should your children be using devices / the internet at home that they are supervised when doing so. Please see the E-safety feature attached to our academy newsletter.

Clubs

Key Stage 2 children will be receiving a letter offering places in the netball and football clubs, starting next Wednesday 6th March. Should your child be interested, please ensure your letters are returned to the academy.

As of Wednesday 13th March, Liquidance will be offering an Acro club for Key Stage 1 and F2 children. Please return your letters should your child be interested.

Values Pupil Award

In order to further develop our Values Based Curriculum here at Towngate, we are launching the Pupil Award. This will provide children with the opportunity to demonstrate their core values taught at school in a variety of different contexts. Please discuss this with your child at home.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Annabel Berry
Headteacher

Miss Laura Eke



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

We have had a very busy start to our new term and we are excited to begin our new topic, Let It Grow. We are using the story Jack and the Beanstalk to develop our writing and our art skills. We are also thinking about how plants grow. F1 have been learning about shapes in the environment and F2 have been describing 3D shapes in our maths activities.

Mrs Kimbley

Key Stage One

In KSI this week we have been learning about Africa; we now know lots of facts from our discussions and reading. These are just some of the facts we have learnt:

- *Did you know there are 54 countries in Africa?*
- *Africa is the second largest continent – it is actually the hottest continent!*
- *The biggest country in Africa is Algeria.*

The children have been labelling the map of Africa, whilst looking for countries. We are very good at retaining and recalling facts about all the continents in the world and especially Africa!

Next week we will be looking in detail at Kenya and comparing this to our own country of England.

Well done KSI - keep on remembering all the facts we are learning!

Miss Lockett

Key Stage Two

Year 3 have had a fantastic morning learning about time! The children have made their own clocks and solved problems involving time on the playground. Lower Key Stage 2 have enjoyed completing a sound survey for their new science topic - sound. They have learnt about how sounds are made and investigated the different sounds we hear around school. The children are also excited about their new topic - Early Law Makers and already have lots of questions which they want to research!

In upper Key Stage 2, Year 5 have had a busy week launching their new topic of Space and Tudors! The children have been learning about the order of the planets and the distance between them, they even made their own models! Year 6 have started revising for their SATS and we are so proud of how positive the children have been this week! They have launched their new novel, The Titanic, as part of their English curriculum and are excited to deepen their knowledge of the iconic tragedy.

Miss Atkinson





Special Mentions



Celebration Assembly Star of the Week

	Star of the Week
F2 : Mrs Kimbley	Inaaya and William
Year 1: Miss Johnson	Eva and Ethan
Year 1 / 2: Miss Lockett	Oliver and Layson
Year 2: Miss Lane	Mason and William
Year 3: Mr Hellam	Finlay and Lois
Year 3 / 4: Miss Sissons	Isaac and Archie
Year 4: Miss Johnstone	Violet and Cole
Year 5: Miss Atkinson	Faye and Dylan
Year 6: Miss Eke	Alfie and Mia

Well done to this week's Star of the Week achievers; your hard work and commitment to learning have been noticed and celebrated in this week's assembly.

Congratulations to you all!

Marble Winners

We celebrate excellent team work 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	150
2 nd Place	Y4	112
3 rd Place	Y1	85

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

School Attendance

Whole School	97.95%
Nursery	95.70%
Reception	99.49%
Year 1	97.54%
Year 1 / 2	98.03%
Year 2	98.57%
Year 3	99.11%
Year 3 / 4	96.793%
Year 4	97.16%
Year 5	96.70%
Year 6	98.10%

Our whole school attendance target is 97% - Well done everyone!

Well done everybody for your **fantastic** attendance this week – we have **exceeded** our attendance target **again!**



E-Safety Newsletter March 2019

E-Safety Surveys

Thank you to all the parents who returned the Online Safety surveys we sent out. The majority of parents who responded to the survey knew how to use the security and privacy settings and felt that they could also teach their child how to use them. Over 85% of parents discussed the safe use of the internet with their child and also set internet rules. Most parents felt that they could explain some e-safety risks (grooming, cyber bullying, trolling etc) if their child asked about them.

The children also completed an Online Safety survey and the results showed that most children watched You Tube and played the online game Roblox. The majority of children in Key Stage 2 were confident in knowing what to do if they found something inappropriate online or were concerned about something. An area that children felt they would like more support with at home was ensuring security settings were applied to games / apps they utilise at home.

Internet Matters app

We have found an Internet Safety app that you may find useful called **Internet Matters**. This is only available on tablets but it contains quizzes and games that you can do with your child to help improve both your own and your child's knowledge about online safety.



360 Degree Safe

The E-Safety team are now using the 360 Degree Safe online tool to help us improve our online safety and hopefully get accredited with the Online Safety Mark.

E-Safety Ambassadors

We are looking for children from Years 4, 5 and 6 to become our E-Safety Ambassadors. We have invited children to write to the E-safety team about why they would be suitable for the role. Their responsibilities will be:

- Help others learn how to keep themselves safe online
- Promote school internet rules
- Learn how to use new technologies, apps and software
- Support teachers in using new technologies, apps and software
- Suggest improvements to the ICT around school
- Plan and deliver online safety assemblies
- Keep parents and Governors up to date with current e-safety topics

Our chosen ambassadors will be announced in celebration assembly on Friday 8th March.



Key dates for your diary

Date	Event
Wednesday 6 th March	School Nurse in to see children in F2 (height and weight checks)
	Year 6 Puberty Talk – a letter will be sent to Parents from class teacher
	Year 2 local walk
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – Children are invited to dress in non-uniform or dress as a book character and bring along their favourite book.
Monday 11 th March 9.00-10.00am	Maths morning in Years 1-6. Parents are invited to come into school during this session
Tuesday 12 th March	Year 6 local walk around Ossett
Wednesday 13 th March	Explore learning assembly focusing on inspiring writing.
	FI First Steps Together (session 1)
Thursday 14 th March	Tempest Class Photographs today
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief Day. Children are invited to wear non –uniform and bring a donation to support this worthy cause.
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
	Early Years INSPIRE morning (9am-10am)
Thursday 28 th March	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.

