

Towngate Primary Academy

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Dear parents and carers,

As our first half term back in school continues, the children are continuing to impress their teachers everyday by developing super perseverance in their learning.

Parenting courses on offer at Towngate

We are pleased to be able to offer a range of courses for parents in the academy this year. Please see a brief overview of some of the courses we are looking at running this year – if you would be interested in attending any of these, please register your interest at the school office or contact us. Depending on numbers, we will inform all parents and carers when these sessions are booked to take place:

Cartoon Capers –

A fun art course in which adults and children together use cartooning and illustration techniques to design and create their favourite characters, such as superheroes, or dangerous dinos!

Mindfulness and Wellbeing –

Feeling stressed? Find out about mindfulness and its benefits, learn how to notice what is happening within and around you, and how to perform mindfulness exercises which help you create space between you and your thoughts.

Keep Calm and Carry on Parenting –

A course designed to support parents/carers to develop strategies to address children's challenging behaviour, and develop resilience as a parent. For parent/carers of children aged 2-11 years.

Reading Hubs

Thank you to our fantastic PTA who have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to fundraise for our academy. Recently, the PTA have purchased two 'Reading Hubs' which are now situated on the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 playgrounds. These hubs will very soon be open for business during break times and lunchtimes as a peaceful place to share a book with a friend.

Parking outside the academy

Please can we remind all parents and carers to take care and consider others when choosing places to park during drop off and pick up times. The Highway Code (Rule 243) states that cars are **not** to stop or park at the school entrance or on clear yellow lines. It is in everyone's interest to keep all children, parents and carers safe outside the academy.



The Harvest Festival

Regrettably, we will be changing the date of the school's Harvest Festival: the new date will be Tuesday 23rd October from 9.00am - 10.00am. Parents are welcome to join us in our celebrations.

Life skills curriculum

To further develop the broad and balanced curriculum on offer here at Towngate, Ms Brown and Mrs Johnson will be planning and delivering a variety of 'life-skills' sessions for the children within our academy. Each session will be designed to support the children in developing wider age-appropriate core skills. For example, Nursery will be learning how to zip their coats independently, whereas Year 6 will be inviting parents and carers in for a three-course meal prepared by themselves. We hope you will support us at home by continuing to promote independent skills: we would love to hear if you have any further ideas!

Ossett Scarecrow Competition

Thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to visit the Ossett Scarecrow Competition last weekend. We hope you were as impressed as we were with the children's scarecrows!

Kindest regards,

Mrs Annabel Berry
Headteacher

Miss Laura Eke
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 we have continued to think about the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have been thinking about what we like for breakfast and we have been working hard this week to develop our pencil skills. We have also enjoyed our dance lesson with Miss Anna.

Mrs Kimbley

Key Stage One

In Key Stage 1 this week, we have been looking at how Florence Nightingale influenced how we think today. We know she helped to maintain cleanliness in hospitals to ensure the quick recovery of patients. Also, she was the first person to set up a nursing school in London and that she changed the way people thought of women working! Well done to all the children for being able to remember lots of facts about Florence Nightingale - we are really impressed.

Miss Lockett

Key Stage Two

In Lower Key Stage 2, children have been focusing on E-safety and have all had chance to design their very own posters to keep the younger children in school safe online. In Topic work, children have enjoyed writing a persuasive piece about visiting the Mediterranean. Finally, in Science the children have created their electrical circuits using bulbs, buzzers, motors and batteries.

In Upper Key Stage 2, the children have enjoyed designing and creating their poppies for the Ossett Remembers Community Project. We are also enjoying learning new dance routine during PE with Miss Abbie and consolidating our basketball skills with the Total Sports Solutions coach.

Key Stage 2 football club have been lucky enough to be supported by James from Golden Boots Academy in this week's training session. This gave the children an opportunity to have some professional coaching from a semi-professional footballer!

Miss Atkinson and Miss Eke would like to say a huge well done and thank you for the hard work and dedication all children have shown this week.

Miss Atkinson





Special Mentions



Celebration Assembly Star of the Week

Here are our Star of the Week children for this week:

Foundation Stage	Evan & Eva
Year 1	Flynn & Georgia
Year 1 / 2	Maisee & Aaliyah
Year 2	Ethan & Mason
Year 3	Finley & Lacey
Year 3 / 4	Isaac & Suzie
Year 4	Lois & Archie
Year 5	Jack & Madison
Year 6	Jordon & Cerys

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 this week:

1 st Place	Year 1: 206 marbles
2 nd Place	Year 4: 112 Year 5: 112
3 rd Place	Year 6: 109

School Attendance

Whole School	96.81%
Nursery	97.45%
Foundation Stage	96.73%
Year 1	96.18%
Year 1 / 2	97.11%
Year 2	95.61%
Year 3	97.27%
Year 3 / 4	94.05%
Year 4	97.95%
Year 5	97.48%
Year 6	99.01%

Our whole school attendance target is 97%. We have marginally missed our target for this week; let's work even harder next week!

Congratulations to Year 6 who have been our school attendance winners for four consecutive weeks!



Upcoming Events

Here are some more dates to add to your diaries:

Friday 12th October:

Year 6 height and weight checks

Week commencing 15th October:

Assessment week across the academy

Tuesday 16th October:

Parents evening – separate letters will be sent out: can I remind parents that appointments are on a first come, first served basis.

Wednesday 17th October:

F2 Dance Show: a showcase for the children in the school to share the hard work our pupils have shown this half term.

Thursday 18th October:

Year 5 and 6 Dance Show: a showcase for the children in the school to share the hard work our pupils have shown this half term.

Thursday 18th October:

Parents evening – separate letters will be sent out: can I remind parents that appointments are on a first come, first served basis.

Tuesday 23rd October:

The Harvest Festival: parents are welcome to attend.

Friday 26th October:

The academy breaks for October half term holidays today.



Ossett Remembers: a community art project

Please see the attached information for the Ossett Remembers project. The children in school have been working to create their own poppies, which will be displayed in Ossett as part of the Armistice Day celebrations. We would like to ask that if any children would like to make their own poppies at home, that these be brought into school to the Academy Council.

Thank you.



Ossett Remembers – A Community Art Project.

As a community, we want to commemorate the sacrifices of Ossett residents during World War I, by creating a fabric panel filled with approximately three thousand fabric, ribbon, knitted, crocheted and paper poppies. The finished piece of artwork will be displayed in the centre of Ossett in November.

Would you like to make your own poppy to add to the community artwork?

Poppy Guidelines

- *Main colour - red.
- *Number of petals - like real life poppies so three, four, five, six or more, or a red circle with no defined petals.
- *Leaves and stems are not required, just flowers please.
- *Materials - fabric, ribbon, felt, felted, yarn, knitted, crochet, lace, paper. Not plastic please.
- *Centres - knitted, crochet, buttons, embroidered, beads, pom-poms, etc. Colour - black.
- *Size - no bigger than 8cm / 3 inch in diameter.
- *Poppies should NOT resemble the two petal Royal British Legion Remembrance poppy or logo as these are copyright.
- *All poppies need to be received by Friday 19th October. Please drop your poppy off at any of the collection points.

Collection Points

Spinning Yarns
The Recycling Yard
Ossett Arts.
Squires Family Deli.

Building Ossett Better will also have a box for your poppies at their markets at the end of September and October.

If you would like to be recognised for your contribution, please attach your full name and details of any Ossett group that you may belong to, or put your poppy in a named bag/envelope, before you drop it off at the collection point.

For more information see our Facebook page: Ossett Remembers – A community tribute of remembrance and respect.

Or email ossettremembers@buildingossettbetter.co.uk

