

# Towngate Primary Academy

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Dear parents and carers,

29.3.19

## Mrs Danby

It is with great sadness that we inform all parents that Mrs Danby will be retiring from the academy at Easter. Mrs Danby has been an integral part of the staff team of Towngate for over 15 years, inspiring and supporting many of the children who have passed through our doors on their journey through education. From the bottom of our hearts, we hope you will join us in thanking Mrs Danby for her continued commitment and dedication that she has shown to the school for many years; Mrs Danby, you will be sorely missed by each and every one of us.

## Mrs Edwards

We would like to inform all parents/carers and members of our academy community that Mrs Edwards will not be returning to Towngate in her role as a Teaching Assistant. As many of you will be aware, Mrs Edwards' has had an ongoing health condition which has affected her daily life; as a school, we are incredibly grateful and proud to have Mrs Edwards as part of our school community and look forward to seeing her again for many of our academy events and assemblies. Thank you, Mrs Edwards, for the many years of hard-work and dedication you have shown to the academy!

## Hibernation Day

Today has been a wonderful day in school, where the children in school were invited to come into the academy wearing their pyjamas or comfortable clothing in order to raise funds for our academy tortoise, Shelly. Thank you to parents and carers for your support in our fundraising efforts.

## Items in school

Please may we remind you that children should not be bringing their personal possessions into the academy (including match-attack cards / toys etc.) The academy will take no liability should any items become lost or misplaced.

## Usborne Sponsored Read Event

On Monday, children will be bringing home a letter regarding a sponsored read event we are undertaking over the half term holidays. This is an exciting opportunity for children to be rewarded for their commitment to reading and continue to develop key skills. Thank you for your support with this.



## Reading Event with Mrs Berry and Miss Eke

Following the success of our reading event held for parents of children in the Early Years, we are pleased to announce that the next event will be for Key Stage 1 children and their parents / carers. Please can we ask that you arrive promptly at 2.45pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April to the academy office. We look forward to seeing you then.



Miss Atkinson, Mrs Drury and Mr Ramsden would like to thank all parents and carers who attended yesterday's INSPIRE morning. The children have had a fantastic experience designing rockets and experimenting with chemical reactions!

## Value of the Month

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, our value of the month is **respect**. Please can you discuss this value with your children at home.

Kindest regards,

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 F1 have continued to enjoy our story, Jack and the Beanstalk, and we have been writing letters to the Jack. We have also been recognising numbers during the week.

F2 have continued to talk about features of a plant as we have been watching different beans and seeds grow. We have also enjoyed using money and adding different coins together.

Early years, also thoroughly enjoyed all of our Inspire activities on Thursday morning.

A very busy week. Well done everyone!

Mrs Kimbley

### Key Stage One

This week in Key Stage 1 we have been learning about our sense of sight. We used a blind fold to take our sight away and then we had to rely on our friend to lead us on a little walk. We called this our 'trust walk'. After this we talked about what we would miss seeing if we had no sight. These are our thoughts:

'I would miss seeing all the beautiful things.'

'I would miss seeing my family.'

'I would miss seeing my mummy.'

'I would miss looking at the flowers and trees.'

In class 1,2 Hughie said 'I would need a guide dog to help me get around.'

Miss Lockett

### Key Stage Two

This week in Key Stage 2, Mr Hellam's class have challenged themselves by using their writing skills during a topic lesson to write a diary entry about a day in the life of a Victorian prisoner. They studied the impact the punishments would have on prisoners in the past. Year 3/4 have enjoyed creating a stained glass window based on their own values and beliefs following their local walk to Holy Trinity church last week. Year 5 have been working hard with Mr Ramsden carrying out an experiment to investigate the difference in shadows throughout the school day. They also had a fantastic INSPIRE morning yesterday, creating their own rockets and making them blast off using a chemical reaction! Year 6 had their final stress workshop this week. We would like to say a big well done to all of year six for being so mature and for engaging with each session.

Miss Atkinson





# Special Mentions



## Celebration Assembly Star of the Week

	Star of the Week
F2 : Mrs Kimbley	Noah and Isabelle
Year 1: Miss Johnson	Clay and Phoebe
Year 1 / 2: Miss Lockett	Tahila and Ben
Year 2: Miss Lane	Ava and Niall
Year 3: Mr Hellam	Ethan and Harry
Year 3 / 4: Miss Sissons	Grace and Oktavian
Year 4: Miss Johnstone	Ruby and Aston
Year 5: Miss Atkinson	Harry and Jensen
Year 6: Miss Eke	Noah and Madison
Pastoral Team	

Well done to this week's celebration achievement children. Your hard work and dedication to learning has been noticed by your teachers this week!

## 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 <sup>st</sup> Place	Y6	168
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Y2	155
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Y3	140

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



## School Attendance

Whole School	97.37%
Nursery	
Reception	95.26%
Year 1	98.47%
Year 1 / 2	98.08%
Year 2	99.26%
Year 3	96.53%
Year 3 / 4	99.28%
Year 4	97.41%
Year 5	95.10%
Year 6	96.67%

Our whole school attendance target is 97%.

Well done Year 3/4! 😊



## Picture news at home



# Picture News

at Home

25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

What's going on this week?



A bid to stop plans to close 25 libraries, and hand over several more to be "community-run" by volunteers, has failed in Essex last week. At a meeting of Essex County Council, an amendment was passed which did not rule out closures but agreed to explore using libraries as community hubs. At least 846 public libraries have been closed nationwide since 2010, according to figures from library association CILIP, which has left several local authorities with the lowest library provision in Europe.

Things to talk about at home...

- 🍏 How often do you use libraries and what do you use them for?
- 🍏 How do you think libraries could change to keep up with modern times? Do you think they need to?
- 🍏 Do you think all schools should have their own library?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...

