

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER

Date 11th October 2019

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND RESPECT

The Value for this half term is RESPECT: 'Treat others the same way you want them to treat you' Luke 6:31. The values will be shared in daily worship sessions and students will have the opportunity to reflect on their meanings with a particular reference to how we lead our everyday lives.

Ms Sheppard, Head of Religious Education and School Worship

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

DIVERSITY DROP DOWN DAY (note for JBA)

THE TIMETABLE STARTING MONDAY 14th OCTOBER IS WEEK 1.

PUPIL PREMIUM

SERVICE PUPIL PREMIUM

There are around 130,000 Service children across the UK and almost 75,000 children in England who generate the Service Pupil Premium (SPP) for their school. We have been sent a letter by Russell Collier (Principal Education Officer Global Education Team Directorate Children & Young People Ministry of Defence) who would like schools to share their work of supporting students in this area. He says

Information from the Department for Education suggests that nearly 10,500 state schools in England have at least one child on their roll who attracts the SPP. In nearly half of these schools there are only one or two Service children on roll and 90% of the schools in receipt of the SPP have twelve or fewer Service children. Whilst information about the SPP can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-service-pupil-premium> we are looking to develop a guide for all state schools in England which will include a range of examples of good practice of how schools have supported Service children through the use of this additional funding.

We only have information about Service children if parents/carers have chosen to tell us. If your child falls into this category please do speak in confidence with Miss Lingwood so we can update our records and offer more support for your child

SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDER AND ADOPTED FROM BIRTH

These are two other areas where students can receive additional support from school. Once again we only know children who have been adopted from birth or are under a special guardianship order if carers have chosen to share this information or it was shared with primary schools and it has come to us from your child's school records. We are keen to ensure that students are supported with additional help if it is appropriate so would ask if your child falls within either category, if you haven't already told us, please do contact Miss Lingwood (in confidence).

Thank you Miss Lingwood

PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION EVENINGS

YEAR 11 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 17TH October 5-8pm

YEAR 8 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 24TH October 5-8pm
YEAR 10 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 21st November 5-8pm

ICELAND TRIP PARENT/CARER INFORMATION MEETING (YEARS 9-12)

Tuesday 15th October at 6pm in the Lecture Theatre (science block)

This meeting will give further information about the trip and give Parents/Carers a chance to ask questions before making decisions about whether you would like your child to attend. Mrs Buckland

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

As part of our help in the community we will be going out on the streets surrounding school and in the school grounds on a community litter pick every Friday, starting on the 18th October. Each year group will take a week at a time to join us! We will need 2 volunteers from each form when it is your child's year group that are involved. We are meeting in the sixth form reception at 1.30pm, so please remind your child if they are participating they will need to have their lunch first and then come to meet us. They will be joined by a team of sixth form and staff on the litter pick!

DIVERSITY DROP DOWN DAY

All students will be participating in a 'Diversity Drop Down Day' on Wednesday 23rd October as part of our annual Diversity celebrations. Students will work in vertical groups (different year groups working together) within their respective House representing a country participating in the Summer 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. Year Heads will be helping with arranging groups.

YEAR 7 & 8

PRIMARY SCHOOLS VISIT FOR YEAR 7 WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER

Those Primary school teachers who have been invited by students and who have replied positively saying they can come will be visiting the school on Wednesday October 16th from 3.30-5.15. Students have received letters with current information we have received from the primary schools. The school office team are chasing those who haven't replied to see if they are sending teachers on the 14th. We will reissue the letter with information to students on Monday with any updates. We have to presume that from the end of Monday, if a school hasn't replied they are unable to come. Thank you for helping with this by making alternative arrangements for your child to travel home.

YEAR 7 PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

Thank you to everyone who was able to make the year 7 Learning and Achievement evening, we hope you found it worthwhile. It was lovely to speak with many of you on the night. We will be addressing any issues that were brought to our attention promptly. The slides from the evening will be put on the school website in due course along with any information that was given out on the evening. Our enrichment programme (extracurricular activities), list of subject leaders and key year 7 dates can also be found on the school website. If you have any further questions then please contact me at school. Mr Still

YEAR 8 PHYSICAL EDUCATION FIXTURE

Year 8 Netball Match Vs Roundwood Park School – Wednesday 16th October
– 3.25 – 5pm at Townsend School

LANGUAGES

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER WINNERS

Key Stage 3 European Languages Day Bake-off

The standard was very high and a House Point has been awarded to everyone who took part.

The winners were as follows:

1st Prize appearance: Naarah 7N and Jocelyn 7N (joint entry)

1st Prize Taste: Joshua 7E

Overall Winner: Joshua 7E

Key Stage 4 Guess the Celebrity and Language Competition

Winning entry: Amelia 10D

Staff Guess the Student Competition

Winning entry: Mr. Armitage

Félicitations to all our worthy winners.

Mrs Livesey - Head of Languages

YEAR 9, 10 & 11

YEAR 11 PARENT/CARER EVENING THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER 5-8PM

A reminder that the Parent / Carer Evening appointments are being made by students with their teachers. Nicky Honeywell from YCHerts will also be available for drop ins to discuss future pathways.

Mr Armitage, Director of Learning for Year 11

YEAR 9 BATTLEFIELDS TRIP IN NOVEMBER

There is a compulsory meeting for the parents / carers of all students going on the **November** Battlefields trip on Monday 21st October at 7.00pm in the school hall. Unfortunately, your child will be unable to attend if a parent or carer does not attend this meeting. It would also be helpful for your child to attend with you as a lot of essential information about the trip will be given out. There will be a meeting later in the year for the parents / carers of students taking part in the March trip.

Mrs Davey, Assistant Head Teacher

HISTORY

Year 10

Students will have the opportunity to take part in a workshop delivered by two Native Americans on **Tuesday 22nd October** to learn about Native American beliefs and culture which links with Paper 2. This also ties in well with our Diversity week celebrations at school. Letters have already been issued and consent slips must be signed and returned as soon as possible with a £4 contribution. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Students have started studying the American West and they can procure the revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office at any point in the year. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Year 11

Students have been offered the opportunity to go on a trip to London on a full day tour of the Whitechapel area which is the historical environment feature in Paper 1 Crime and Punishment. This is an ideal opportunity for students to revisit content and practice source skills in the context of Whitechapel. Trip letters and payment must be made by the **latest 14th October**.

Please see the note above on the American West workshop which will also be offered to Year 11 History students as part of their enrichment and revision of Paper 2.

Students can procure the Weimar and Nazi Germany revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office as we will be starting this unit in September. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Director of Learning for the year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

LANGUAGES

REMINDER Year 11 GCSE intervention Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes LA1 and LA2

In order to help students prepare and practise further for the trial examinations, Higher and Foundation support sessions are available to all Year 11 students studying French. Some students, for whom the sessions are essential to improve their current predicted grade, will be advised to attend regularly.

FOUNDATION – Mondays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2

HIGHER – Tuesdays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2

LANGUAGES CLUBS REMINDER

Languages clubs are for beginners and are open to all students They run as follows:

SPANISH – MONDAYS 1.25-1.55 LA3

GERMAN – THURSDAYS 1.25-1.55 LA1

Please come along and give them a try.

Year 11 students have been provided with a letter signposting them to discounted Edexcel GCSE revision resources. Please read my recommendations on how your child can achieve their potential in GCSE French examination in 2020.

Mrs Livesey - Head of Languages

STUDENT WELLBEING

WHY IS PUNCTUALITY SO IMPORTANT?

It's a **GREAT START** to the day, putting your child in a positive frame of mind to make the most of the day's learning and activities.

Punctuality is linked to good attendance, and as we know, good attenders have more opportunities, more support and therefore achieve more!

LATE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

We understand that on occasions buses arrive late and that there are accidents that cause added congestion travelling to school. However school arrival should ideally be from 8.15am and we do ask that you allow time for the huge extra traffic we always get around St Albans.

When the bell rings at 8.45 students should go to registration. A late arrival after 8.55 but before 9.15 a student should go straight to their first lesson where the teacher will mark them present but add a note stating it was a late arrival with a reason. The form tutor will follow this up in after noon registration and if it becomes a persistent problem will contact home to discuss it.

If a student arrives after 9.15 then the child should sign in at the school office and an absence letter will be required by the form tutor the next day.

Ongoing late arrivals to school can impact a child's learning and cause unnecessary anxiety. They can also cause disruptions to lessons and can trigger intervention from both the school and Local Authority Attendance Team.

We do need your support with this important part of your child's journey through school. If you are finding it difficult to get your child to school on time, talk to your child's Form Tutor or Director of Learning.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note that although we are very happy to pass on information these are not Townsend sponsored or organised events.

Understanding Adolescence – Positive Strategies for Parents

Wed 15th Jan. 2020 | 19:15 to 21:15 £19 The SandPit Theatre, The Ridgeway, St Albans, AL4 9NX

BOOK NOW... www.keystoneworkshops.co.uk
(see flyer for additional information)