

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 13th September 2019

PARENTMAIL

We are aware parentmail is very long but actually the information we are sharing with you is really useful. What we are now going to try to do is to put information into year order; Dates for your Diary /General Information; Years 7 & 8; Years 9-11; 6th form and then Well-Being . We hope this may help with you being guided to the relevant information.

**WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND
RESPECT**

At Townsend our School Vision 'Achievement For All, Respect For All' is based on Genesis 1:27. We recognise the special qualities represented in each individual and aim to nurture our students so all are able to achieve and thrive in our community and beyond. As such, we have developed six school values which were uniquely chosen to compliment the whole person and support the wider community; Respect, Wisdom, Love, Hope, Awe and Wonder and Stewardship. Our School Vision and Values underpin every aspect of our school life in order to allow each person in our community to be able to live life in all its fullness. 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

**Wednesday 18th
September**

Year 7 Drop In from 3.30-4.30

**Thursday 19th
September**

Dedication Cathedral Service at 2pm (ends at 3pm). Pupils are expected to make travel arrangements to get home afterwards.

**Monday 14th
October at 19.00 in
the school hall**

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND (PTA)

Please make a note in your diary!

Friends of Townsend AGM will be held on Monday 14th of October at 7pm in the school hall. All parent/ carers are most welcome to attend. An agenda will be sent out nearer the AGM date.

We need your help!

Our Consultation Evenings start in October.

If any parent/carers is able to help serve refreshments at any of these, please contact the school office or send a message via the PTAFriends@townsend.herts.sch.uk

Dates are in your school calendar

FUNDRAISING

Christmas is a long way away but we are already collecting items to put in our Christmas Hamper Raffle. If you can help in anyway by providing items please send them to the school office **after** 25th of September. We are looking for: non-perishable food items, confectionary such as biscuits, chocolates, sweets, bottles of wine, spirits, novelty Christmas items (yes, Christmas items are already on sale in

some supermarkets!)

If any of you have any old hampers please send in for us to fill!

We have our **ANNUAL OPEN EVENING** for year 6 prospective students on **WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25th at 6pm**. The school will close at 12.30 for students on this day so we can prepare for the evening. Help is needed from parent/carers on this evening from 6pm until 9pm.

If you can help please leave a message with the school office or email PTAFriends@townsend.herts.sch.uk

Our Friends AGM is also coming up in October. Please watch out for the date.

Many Thanks

Friends of Townsend

ENRICHMENT CLUBS

Lunchtime and after school clubs are now up and running. Check out the school website <https://townsend.herts.sch.uk/parents/activities/> for further information.

ATTENDANCE

How does your child compare? Did you know?

It has been proven that if children attend school regularly they are more likely to: -

- Keep on top of their school work
- Make and maintain positive friendships
- Be happy at school
- Exhibit positive behaviours
- Achieve good grades which allow students to move on to further education and employment.

HOME STUDY CLUB

Study club is up and running again. It is held every Tuesday and Thursday in IT4 from 3.25pm-5pm.

NUMERACY TIP OF THE WEEK

Be positive about maths. Try not to say things like "I can't do maths" or "I hated maths at school" - your child may start to think like that themselves. Point out the maths in everyday life. Include your child in activities involving numbers and measuring, such as shopping, cooking and travelling.

Mr Timpson

Lead in Numeracy

YEAR 7 & 8

Year 7

All year 7s were given a letter regarding the up and coming Abbey Service on Thursday of next week. There are also other items on the letter regarding the Open Evening on 25/9/29, Progress and Achievement evening coming up in October and also PTA information. Please read it and return the reply slip by Monday. We are also having the Year 7 drop in sessions on Wednesday from 3-30pm, this is a chance to talk with your child's form tutor about any issues no matter how big or small. Well

done to those Year 7s that have been to enrichment activities so far this term and especially the pupils representing the school at X-Country. The enrichment timetable is available on the school website and is also pinned up in the form rooms, we encourage all pupils of all abilities to get involved with an activity this term!

Mr Still

LANGUAGES

As we are at the beginning of a new school year, I would like to ask you to consider purchasing some useful resources for your children to use in their French studies:

Recommended Languages Resources all students

It would be very useful for all students to have their own French/ English dictionary to use at home when preparing their homework. A school dictionary such as the Collins Gem French School Dictionary contains key vocabulary and verb tables and costs £4.99 from Amazon or high street bookshops.

If any families are experiencing difficulties and would like to discuss financial assistance to purchase these resources, please contact Mrs. Livesey, Head of Languages via the school admin email address.

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

To celebrate European Languages Day on Wednesday 26th September, the Languages Department is running 2 competitions, one for Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) and the other for Key Stage 4 (Years 9,10,11).

Students will hear about the competitions in their language lessons next week, but please pass on the following information:

Key Stage 3 European Languages Day Bake-off

Students should use their cooking skills to make a cake/ biscuits and decorate with European phrases/ themes.

Creations **marked clearly with the name and form** should be brought in on **Wednesday 25th September** to the MFL classrooms (LA1 and LA2) before school or during break.

Entries will be on display at Open Evening and will be judged by the teachers on Thursday 26th September. Cakes/ biscuits can be collected at the end of P5 on Thursday from LA1 and LA2.

Prizes and house points will be awarded for taste and presentation.

YEAR 9, 10 & 11

LANGUAGES

Key Stage 4 Resources

As you are probably aware, a new specification has been introduced for Languages GCSEs with the first examinations following this specification taking place in 2018. As part of the new GCSE, there is a greater emphasis on a secure grasp of French grammar. In order to help students develop their grammatical knowledge a new workbook has been created especially for the Edexcel exam board which we follow.

We would like to request that all students in Years 9, 10 and 11 studying French purchase this grammar and translation workbook to help them prepare for the new exam. The workbook will be used for classwork, homework and is also an excellent revision resource. The price is £5.99 and it can be purchased from Amazon or high street bookshops.

If any families are experiencing difficulties and would like to discuss financial assistance to purchase these resources, please contact Mrs. Livesey, Head of Languages via the school admin email address.

Details as follows:

Studio Edexcel GCSE French Grammar and Translation Workbook

Publisher: Pearson Education

ISBN: 9781292132990

Price: £5.99

If any families are experiencing difficulties and would like to discuss financial assistance to purchase these resources, please contact Mrs. Livesey, Head of Languages via the school admin email address.

We will be in touch with more information about revision resources for Year 11 soon.

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

In order to help students prepare and practise further for the speaking and writing papers in particular, 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 that they need to attend regularly.

FOUNDATION – Mondays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2

HIGHER – Tuesdays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2

Special meeting MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER for all Year students of French - GCSE FRENCH REVISION TIPS from current Year 12 students who completed their French GCSE this summer in LA1 12.25

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Key Stage 4 Guess the Celebrity and Language Competition

During French lessons in the week commencing 23rd September, Key Stage 4 students will complete a quiz to identify the language being spoken and the names of the linguistically talented celebrities. They will hear a number of short extracts and will need to work out the language being spoken, match to the correct celebrity and complete an entry form which will be provided.

All correct entries will be entered in a prize draw.

Mrs Livesey

SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Sexual Health Clinic - We will be continuing to offer the Hertfordshire County Council Herts YC sexual health drop in sessions for sixth form and consortium sixth formers this term to promote healthy relationships. Once a month, on a trial basis, Alex Dellar or Katie Fineman from Hertfordshire County Council YC Hertfordshire will be available to give sexual health advice to years 12 & 13. They will be located in SI3 in the sixth form block and will be available from 3.45-4.15pm for any sixth formers to speak to confidentially for advice and guidance. Among the services offered are - leaflets for students regarding certain topics, chlamydia testing,

health and sexual guidance, pregnancy testing, free condoms, and condom demonstrations.

The dates for these Hertfordshire County Council trials for the rest of this term are:

Thursday 27th September

Thursday 24th October

Thursday 28th November

Tuesday 17th December

For further information, please speak to Miss Gibbons, Head of 6th Form

WELLBEING

Head students are looking to support Greta Thunberg (climate change activist) on Friday 20th September and would like to encourage everyone to avoid using single use plastics (for the whole day), drink from a reusable water bottle and bring in a tub to be served food at the school canteen. Ideally, this should be regular practice but head students are currently reviewing sustainable methods within our school. There will be further information to follow on how we are making small changes with a positive impact on our environment.

COMMUNITY NEWS

This week we have been asked to pass on the following information as part of our support for the community. Please note that although we are very happy to pass on information these are not Townsend sponsored or organised events.

County Youth Music Groups Auditions: Week Commencing 30th September

Auditions for the County Youth Music Groups will be held during the week commencing 30th September and we are delighted to invite students from around Hertfordshire. Applicants can sign up at the following link: <http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/county-groups-registration/>. The 2019-20 season is to include many exciting projects, including HSSO performing at the Royal Albert Hall, CYC working with singers from the Monteverdi Choir, CYO touring to Loire, CYB collaborating with local brass bands, and CWS working with the musicians of the Central Band of the RAF.

Guidance on the audition process, along with excerpts, can be found here: <http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/hcyo-downloads/auditions/>.

National Saturday Club at the University of Hertfordshire

The Club runs from 5th October 2019 to the 13th June 2020 (term time only) and offers 16 weeks of inspiring classes, introducing a range of different disciplines, including gaming, drawing, comic design and sculpture, all of which use our specialist facilities and are supported by expert tutors. They also run a masterclass taught by a leading industry professional. Please see attached flyers for further information or the school office for copies of the flyer and application form.

PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS AND COURSES (SEE FLYERS)