

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 14th September 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Anything's possible if you've got enough nerve – J K Rowling

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For September our value focus is Respect. 'Treat others the same way you want them to treat you' Luke 6.31. Our values for each month will be shared in daily worship sessions. Students will have the opportunity to reflect on their meanings with a particular reference to how we lead our everyday lives.

YEAR 6 RECRUITMENT OPEN EVENING 2018 WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH

A reminder that the school will be closed from 12.30 on Wednesday September 26th as so many students and staff will be back in the evening helping at this big school event. Staff are now looking for students to help out in different subject areas from 5.45-8.45pm so do please encourage your child to volunteer if you are able to transport them back to school in the evening. This event is a significant part of our recruitment, drive so please do spread the word to families and friends about coming to visit the school.

LUTON/HARPENDEN BUS

If your child travels from the Luton/Harpenden area please see the attached letter. Thank you. Mr Buckland

YEAR 7 LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT EVENING 2018

Thank you to all those who attended this event. We are delighted with the way students are settling into Townsend and hope that parents/carers found the evening worthwhile and helpful.

YEAR 12 LEARN TO LIVE

All of year 12 will be attending the Learn to Live Driving Awareness show at the Alban Arena on Wednesday. All students have had letters. Reply slips need to be returned to Miss Gibbons ASAP.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Please do remind students to arrive at school with all the equipment they need for lessons. This should include a Reading Book.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Instrumental lessons for Years 8 and above will begin next week. The Year 7 lesson requests are currently being processed by Herts Music Service and families should hear from them shortly. Year 7 instrumental lessons will therefore begin as soon as possible. For those in Year 8 and above, pupils need to please come to the music block on Monday morning to take note of their lesson time.

Miss F Kirk

SUBJECT INFORMATION

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Drama Club

We are getting ready for our Christmas production of 'A Dickensian Christmas' which will be performed on Friday the 14th December at 7pm in the school hall. Scripts were handed out on Thursday during Drama club and auditions for principle parts are on Wednesday. Chorus and Backstage positions do not need to be auditioned for. All students involved in the show will be given a letter and a rehearsal schedule so they will know when they are needed and be able to commit to the dates, the majority of rehearsals will be done during lunch times with only a one or two afterschool rehearsals nearer to the show date. We are very excited to be able to do two shows this year and hope that we will enjoy coming to see the hard work of the students.

GCSE Drama

Open house lunch sessions for GCSE Drama students will begin next Tuesday in IT1 1:25-1:55 for support with homework and revision. All student studying Drama from years 9-11 are welcome.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

GEOCLUB

All students are welcome to join us every Monday lunchtime in the geography department. Our theme this half term is "Saving the Oceans". The information below has been sent to all form groups. If your child has a particular interest in environmental issues, the oceans and wildlife, or they are keen to be involved in running the geo-newsletter please encourage them to come:

GEO-CLUB Monday lunchtimes - 1.25 – 1.55pm – HU7

All are welcome.

Would you like to take part in or lead initiatives and club activities to do with environmental issues concerning our planet?

Do you have what it takes to become a Geography Ambassador?

Would you like to learn more about issues concerning us all and what we can do about it?

Come to Geo-club and watch, take part or lead.

We only have ONE WORLD – we need to look after it.

This half term we are focusing on the Oceans:

Watch Blue Planet 2 to learn about our Oceans

Carry out research about the problems plastics are causing the oceans and their wildlife

Create a display about plastics in the oceans

Add to our half termly Geo newsletter or become a member of the Newsletter Team and become a Townsend Geo-Journalist

Please see the attached sheet for Topics being covered this year per year group.

Useful information and website for extra geographical learning at home:

Royal Geographic Society (RGS) website

National Geographic website

National Geographic magazine

Countryfile BBC programme

BBC schools geography site -

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/geography.shtml

Geographical Magazine - <http://geographical.co.uk/>

If you have any queries about geography this year, please feel free to contact your child's geography teacher or me.

We look forward to the year ahead,
Mrs Buckland

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

History club is launching on Wednesday 19th September starting at 1.30 in room HU8 for all years.

Year 7 Students are currently practising chronological and source skills with a focus on Anglo-Saxon England in their History lessons. Students can find the BBC bitesize link <http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zq2m6sg#zxxxtfr> on ShowMyHomeWork which will help them get an overview and understanding of the unit.

Year 8 Students are currently studying the British Empire and are considering the changes and continuities to present day. Students can find the BBC bitesize link

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zf7fr82/revision/1> on ShowMyHomeWork as supplementary reading to the history lessons.

Year 9 HISTORY GCSE

Students are currently studying a non-examined unit this term on the topic of the First World War. This is to help them prepare and develop examination skills. The History department sell revision guides which can be purchased throughout the year. Students will study Paper 1 (Crime and Punishment) from January and it is suggested they procure themselves with a copy at the cost of £4 in order to embed revision skills early in the course. If your family has financial difficulties please do contact Ms Reynolds in confidence so that we can support you.

Year 10 HISTORY GCSE

Students will now study Paper 2: The American West, c1835-c1895 this term. We encourage students to purchase the American West revision guide at the cost of £4 sold directly by the History department. If your family has financial difficulties please contact Mr Armitage in confidence so that we can support you. History revision will be held weekly on Thursdays at 1.30 in HU8 starting on Thursday 20th September. A revision programme has been issued to students this week and put on ShowMyHomeWork. Please continue to encourage your child to revise and make use of the 'History Revision Reward' card system.

Year 11 HISTORY GCSE

Year 11 History students have a trip opportunity on Wednesday 7th November 2018 to spend the day on a guided tour in London (Whitechapel area - historic environment for Paper 1) where trip letters have been issued this week. We ask that permission slips and payment is complete by the latest Monday 15th October. If your family has financial difficulties please contact Mr Still in confidence so that we can support you. Students will continue to study Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39. We encourage students to purchase the Weimar and Nazi Germany revision guide at the cost of £4 sold directly by the History department but again please do speak to Mr Still in confidence if you need financial support with this purchase. History revision will be held weekly on Thursdays at 1.30 in HU8 starting on Thursday 20th September. A revision programme will be issued to students this week and published on ShowMyHomeWork. Please continue to encourage your child to revise and make use of the 'History Revision Reward' card system.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

Throughout Europe, 800 million Europeans are represented in the Council of Europe's 47 member states and all are encouraged to discover more languages at any age, as part of or alongside their studies. This stems from the Council of Europe's conviction that linguistic diversity is a tool for achieving greater intercultural understanding and a key element in the rich cultural heritage of our continent. Therefore, the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, promotes plurilingualism in the whole of Europe. At the Council of Europe's initiative, the European Day of Languages has been celebrated every year since 2001 on 26 September.

<https://edl.ecml.at/>

To celebrate European Languages Day that falls on Wednesday 26th September, the Languages Department is running 2 competitions through the week- one for Years 7 and 8 and the other for Years 9, 10 and 11. Students will hear about the competitions in their language lessons next week, but please pass on the following information:

Years 7 & 8 Lebkuchen Gingerbread Competition

Students should use their cooking skills to make Lebkuchen (gingerbread) and decorate with European phrases/ themes.

Creations **marked clearly with the name and form** should be brought in on **Wednesday 26th 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. Gingerbread 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. Recipe sheets will be available from the French teachers.

Years 8-11 Guess the Member of Staff Competition

During French lessons in the week commencing 24th September, students will complete a quiz to identify linguistically talented members of the Townsend school staff speaking another language. They will hear a number of short extracts and will need to work out the language being spoken and the person who is speaking and complete an entry form which will be provided.

All correct entries will be entered in a prize draw.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Results

- Congratulations to all students involved in the year 7 mob cross country race at Sandringham on Tuesday and the 1st District cross country competitive race at Townsend on Thursday.
- A particular mention for Gianni in year 7, who came 1st in a tough race, fought right until the last step!

Year 7 and 8 girls

- Rebecca – 43rd
- Nina – 49th

Year 7 and 8 boys

- Gianni – 1st place!
- Jamie – 35th
- Hayden 36th
- Ethan 37th

Year 9 and 10 boys

- Charlie – 12th
- Ethan – 17th

Fixtures

- Wednesday 19th September – year 7 girls basketball @ Oaklands 3.30 – 6pm
- Thursday 20th September – district cross country at STAGS school 3.30 – 5.15pm
- *The year 8 and 9 netball match vs Beaumont on Wednesday 19th September has been postponed*

GCSE PE

GCSE PE support / revision club is running for year 9, 10 and 11 every Wednesday lunchtime from 1.25 in LA3. All students are invited to attend for help with understanding classwork, homework, revision, or furthering their knowledge of the theory side of PE.

- **Year 9** – are currently working on the skeletal system and movement analysis.
- **Year 10** – topics being covered this fortnight are participation in physical activity and ways of increasing participation.
- **Year 11** – will be covering mental preparation and types of guidance and feedback.

Sports Club Raffle

Starting from Monday 17th September, all students who attend a sports enrichment club at a lunch time or after school, or help out with a club as a leader will be given a raffle ticket, which will be put into a draw with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes to be won each term. Prizes may vary from sports equipment to vouchers that can be used towards sports clothing/equipment. The more clubs students attend, the more chance they have to win.

Early lunch pass for Sports Clubs

If your child is attending a sports club at lunchtime he/she can now collect an early lunch pass to allow them to go to the front of the lunch queue to get lunch quickly and therefore get to the club promptly.

Students need to collect the lunch pass at break time from a PE teacher, either in a PE office or from the staffroom. The name and club you are attending will be on the card.

Miss Pennifold Head of PE

COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION

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

National Online Safety Team

WhatsApp is the largest global social messaging platform, with over 1.5 billion users per month, and this free guide for parents & carers covers what they need to know about the platform to help safeguard their children from potential online risks including; the new age limit (16+), scam messages, connecting with strangers, location sharing and more.

Please help us spread the message by retweeting our WhatsApp guide for parents & carers here: <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1039846184360312833>

DSPL(Delivering Special Provision Locally)

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS WORKSHOPS WITH SALLY GLOSSOP

Problem solving sessions for parents/carers of children and young people aged 0-25 with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. All meetings run from 7-8.30pm. Always on Wednesday evenings Dates: September 12th November 21st, January 30th, March 13th May 15th, and July 10th. Cost is funded by DSPL7, places are limited so please book using the contact details below. VENUE: St Albans Girl's School Sandridgebury Lane St Albans AL3 6DB Booking Line: 01727853134 Ext 244 admin@dspl7.org.uk