

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 15th December 2017

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"It's our choices that show us truly who we are, far more than our abilities" – Albus Dumbledore

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For December our value focus is Grace 'For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of god – not by works, so that no one can boast' Ephesians 2:8-9 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.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

Thank you for all your support through the start of this week. It was a difficult situation but we hope that you all felt the decisions were appropriate and based on the safety of all our school community – students, staff and parents/carers

**CHRISTINGLES SERVICE AT ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL
MONDAY DECEMBER 18TH 2PM**

Our school Christingle Christmas Service takes place at St Albans Cathedral from 2.00pm – 3.00pm on Monday December 19th. Students will be transported to the Cathedral from school but will need to make alternative travel arrangements home from the Cathedral at approximately 3.00pm. We do ask that you are clear with your child about a meeting point after the service (the West Gate is where students leave the Cathedral at the end of the service). Parents/carers are most welcome to join us for this service but please be aware that there is limited seating available. Please note that there is a Christmas market in the Vintry Garden in the Cathedral grounds so traffic will be particularly heavy in and around St Albans. **Please do allow extra time for travelling!**

REMINDER

The end of term is Wednesday December 20th at 12.30pm

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND

Many Thanks for all your support over this term.

Please note that our Christmas Prize Raffle will be drawn at 11.00am on Monday. Please return all your raffle tickets before then to be in it. Our aim is £1500 we are close to a £1000 at present so we need a big last effort to sell tickets.

Remember all money raised will go to Departments in the school to support student learning. Friends of Townsend will add a contribution to the amount raised to support the school. Raffle winners will be informed on Monday and Tuesday.

Christmas pudding orders are now ready to collect from Reception.

Many thanks

Friends of Townsend

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Students are gradually making choices from the database, or getting their private placement forms completed.

If your son or daughter still needs to do this, please ensure that they spend time over the Christmas holiday doing so. In January I shall start allocating placements by offering jobs to the most suitable applicants.

There are spare private placement forms available from reception, and I can unlock students' choices on the database if they have submitted in error.

Thank you for your support so far and I wish you a Happy Christmas

Margaret Wood

Work Experience Co-ordinator

HOMEWORK CLUB

Please note that there will be **no homework club** on Tuesday 19th December.

SUBJECT INFORMATION

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

The following classes who missed their cooking lessons this week due to snow and teacher absence will be cooking on Tuesday 19th Dec. The recipes and methods are on show my homework and the classes and dishes are as follows:

8YDt3 - Christmas desert/cookies

7XDt3 - Dietary requirement dish (free choice)

7YDt2 - Pizza Toast

8XDt3 - Christmas desert/cookies

Please check what class your child is in and make sure they bring their ingredients and a container to class, any problems please contact Mrs. Coates. Thank you.

HISTORY

Year 7 – Castle Project and competition

Congratulations to all students for a fantastic effort – they all look superb!!

The top 25 castles in year 7 have now been chosen. These castles will then be part of the whole school display in the Discovery centre. These will be on display on Tuesday 19th December in the Discovery centre where the entire school will vote for their favourite one. Winners will be announced in assembly (and on parentmail) early January 2018. Prizes, house points and postcards will be awarded to winners and special commendations and castles will be displayed in school. Thank you for your continuous support, Mrs Bailey

GCSE History

We encourage all history students to buy Revision guides (includes key information and exercises) for the American West, Elizabethan England and Weimar and Nazi Germany at £4 each. Please note that the Crime and Punishment revision guide will be available in February 2018. They may obtain these directly from their History teacher. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in special cases. Please speak to your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence. Thank you for your support, Mrs Bailey

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.

All the information is below is provided by DSPL(Delivering Special Provision Locally)

PARENT NETWORK – www.familiesinfocus.co.uk

Drop in sessions at St Michaels Parish Centre, St Albans, AL3 4SL on Mondays 7pm – 9pm for parents caring for children and young people with any additional needs, chronic health condition and/or disability.

15th January 2018 – Seeking sleep 1 – helping children with SEND get to sleep

5th February 2018 - Seeking sleep 2 – helping children with SEND get to sleep

26th February 2018 – Phone safety with Maria Field

19th March 2018 – Independent Living skills

BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP by Mark Brown on Friday 2nd February 2018 10am-1pm at Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel, Roehyde Way, Hatfield, AL10 9AF

VISTA ST ALBANS - To reserve a place for any of the courses below contact Vista on 01727 855134 or email vistastalban@gmail.com

First Aid Course - Saturday 21st April 2018 9am – 1pm at St Albans Fire Station, 153 London Road, AL1 1TQ cost £40 per person

Raising Boys Course for mums of boys aged 5-11 years. At Community Room, St Albans Fire Station, 153 London Road, AL1 1TQ cost £40 per person. On 17th April-8th May 2018 Tuesday 7.30pm-9.30pm

Understanding Anger for parents of children aged 5-12 years. At Community Room, St Albans Fire Station, 153 London Road, AL1 1TQ cost £40 per person. On 19th February – 12th March 2018 Monday 9.30am-11.30am

Support session for parents of children/young people with a diagnosis of ASC. Please call Vista St Albans CIC on 07584 798528 to book your 30 minutes appointment.

All Surgeries will take place at Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW. Times available are: 9.15am, 9.50am, 10.30am and 11.05am.

Spring Term 2018 - Consultation Dates:

Monday, 15th January 2018 (Afternoon sessions)

Monday, 5th February 2018

Monday, 5th March 2018