

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER

Friday 20th April 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Create the highest, grandest vision possible for your life, because you become what you believe' Oprah Winfrey

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For April our value focus is Responsibility. 'For each will have to bear his own load' Galatians 6:5. 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.

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND/PTA

Abbey Theatre Charity Performance 'On Golden Pond' Thursday 10th May 8pm. - Support our School !

Tickets now on sale at £12 each to include a welcome drink for Thursday 10th May 2018 8pm at The Abbey Theatre St Albans. Come and see 'On Golden Pond'- a family saga suitable for all secondary school students, friends and family. The Abbey Theatre is next to Westminster Lodge and we are sharing the charity night with the Hands Together Project who help communities in Nepal.

Profits from the evening will be shared and Townsend School will use the funds raised to benefit our students.

Contact Finola Murphy finola@practice-perfect.net to buy tickets or call 07778 855875.

CAREERS INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

If your child is in year 10, 11 or 12 and is interested in a career as a doctor, vet or dentist, please see the attachment or there is information regarding this in the Discovery Centre your child can access.

We are currently in the process of applying for the **Investor in Careers award**. The purpose of the award is to ensure that we have a quality programme of Careers Information Advice and Guidance (CIAG) across the school and that its effectiveness is evaluated on a regular basis. We are currently updating our career webpage on the website so do keep checking. We are well supported in school by YCHertfordshire (Connexions) and by our participation in the Enterprise Adviser Network run by the Careers and Enterprise Company. If you have any proposals or suggestions regarding careers work do contact me. Your child has recently been working on their Career Files in form times so do ask them about it. Mrs Maguire

SHOW MY HOMEWORK

We have recently received our second termly report from Show my Homework and thought you may be interested in some of the key headlines. Teacher activity – as a number of Homework's set is high and has increased by 5% since the previous report. Parent Activity – which is parents logging on to check their child's homework is above average and has increased 13% over the last term. Pupil activity – that is the number of student's logging on to check what homework has been set, is average and has increased by 5% over the last year. Overall Townsend is performing better than schools of comparable size.

Over this term we would like to focus on increasing pupil usage and to this end we will be reintroducing pupils to SMHW in year assemblies next week. Please do ask your

son/daughter about it in order to encourage their use. Also student and parent/carer Pin numbers will be easily available through form tutors and Directors of Learning for year groups and subjects. If you would like another copy of your pin number please put a note in your child's Record and Achievement Book. Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Maguire

YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHS

Students should have brought home their year group photos, if you wish to purchase these photos then you must return them to the office by 29th April. They will be collected shortly after this date, any that arrive after the 2nd May will need to be sent directly to Van Cols and may incur a late payment fee.

BCG INJECTIONS – YEAR 7

The BCG vaccination is ONLY given if your child, his/her parents and his/her grandparents were born outside of the UK or Western Europe. More information is on the attached letter. If your child needs to have a BCG vaccination please print the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

HPV INJECTIONS – YEAR 8 AND 9 GIRLS

The school health team will be in school on the 5th June.

SUBJECT INFORMATION

HISTORY

Year 11 GCSE

A reminder that Year 11 GCSE History revision takes place every Monday (boys only) in HU6 at 1.30 and every Thursday (girls only) in HU8 at 1.30. Your child has been given a lunchtime revision and lesson countdown as a guide. GCSE History lunchtime revision sessions will run until 10th May. Thursday after school revision sessions can be organised in advance with Mrs Bailey.

YEAR 10 GCSE DRAMA

Letters have been sent home for the GCSE Devising performance evening which will be on Friday the 18th May at 6:30pm in the Drama Studio. Please be advised that we are recording the performance to be sent off to the exam board for moderation and this will be counted towards the year 10's GCSE grade, therefore we ask that there is no photography, mobile phone use or leaving the studio during a performance. We also advise that children watching be over the age of 12 due to GCSE content in the pieces. All reply slips need to be brought back ASAP so we are prepared for the number of audience members and we look forward to being able to show the year 10's hard work off to you.

There is also a 2 hour rehearsal workshop for the students on Friday the 11th of May which they should attend to allow them extra time to work on their pieces. It is running at 3:30-5:30pm.

If you have any questions about the workshop or performance please contact Mrs Coates.

ENGLISH

Students in sets 1 and 2 of Year 11 will be taking part in a live screening of 'Macbeth' this Thursday morning. Year 10 students in Ms Probyn's class will also be attending if they are not on the Geography trip. This is an exciting opportunity to watch a quality performance that is being screened in schools across the country and should help deepen their understanding of the play. Mrs Harris

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Year 11 GCSE French oral exams will be taking place during periods 1-4 on Thursday 3rd May 2018. Please can you help to make sure that your child is prepared on that day. Mr Grzesiczek

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.

Understanding PDA for parents/carers (Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL7))

Tuesday June 12th 10-2pm

Would you like to know more about Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) This course has been developed for parents/carers of children with PDA (or suspected PDA) .The course will help you to

- Increase your understanding of PDA
- Develop specific strategies for supporting children who have the condition
- Put you in touch with like-minded others

Venue: St Albans Girls School Sandridgebury Lane St Albans AL3 6DB

Coffee/Tea provided but bring your own lunch. Parking on site.

Booking is essential. By phone 01727 853134 Ext 244 or email

admin@dspl7.org.uk