

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

**'THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK'**

Nothing liberates our greatness like the desire to help, the desire to serve -  
Marianne Williamson

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

Can I take this opportunity of thanking you all for your ongoing support for our school. This term is a particularly long term and with the added disruption of snow and a growing number of colds and bad throats the last couple of weeks have felt quite challenging at times. For our year 7 – congratulations on completing their first term so successfully. We are delighted with the way they have settled in and we look forward to academic growth and success next term as our settling in period moves to focused study! For Year 11 and Year 13 well done for tackling the trial exams with such positivity and determination. We are aware there is still a great deal of hard work to come but hope students learn from these trial examinations and have already taken on board the advice and feedback they have received. For some we are aware further study will be needed over the holiday break period but any extra work has been set for the students benefit and we hope that this will be understood.

Our Christingles Service was a joy to be part of once again and thank you to all those who were able to join us. My message on this occasion included a thought and prayer for all those families around the world but also within our own school community, who may not have a good Christmas or who are actually fearful of what lies ahead in 2018. As a Church school we continue to pray and care for the many different needs of our young people that on a daily basis we are identifying, recognising and trying to support. Society remains a challenge for our students and growing up can be a roller coaster for even the most resilient. We would like to draw your attention to the Safeguarding message included in this parentmail should you or your children need help over the Christmas break.

We do not have many staff changes at the end of this long term but we would like to wish Mrs Mcneillis well as she begins her maternity leave from the end of this term and say thank you and farewell to Miss Bentley who has stepped in to help us in the French department this term before our new Head of Foreign Languages Mrs Livesey arrives in for January 2018.

Finally I would like to wish all of you a peaceful and relaxing Christmas and good wishes for 2018.  
A.Wellbeloved

**SIXTH FORM**

**Year 13 Gradesheets**

The year 13 students have been issued with grade sheets that include predicted grades and trial examination results. Please use these grade sheets to discuss progress towards target grades and get feedback from the students about advice given by subject teachers.

Any subject queries should be made to subject teachers or Heads of Departments.  
Mrs Buckland and Miss Gibbons

**Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening** - a reminder that Year 12 & 13 parents evening is on Thursday 11th January 5-8pm. All students should attend with their parent/carers. Students should make appointments with all of their teachers. Thanks Miss Gibbons & Mrs Buckland

**Sixth Form First Aid Course** - there are still spaces on this course for January 26th at a cost of £25. Students were given letters, and I have spares if anyone would like to take part. Thanks, Miss Gibbons

## **YEAR 11**

**Year 11 Study Support Evening** - a letter has been given to students today regarding this evening on Thursday 18th January at 7pm. Further appointments will be issued in January and all students and parent/carers should attend. We look forward to seeing you there. Miss Gibbons & Mrs Buckland

## **SAFEGUARDING**

Christmas is a time for quality family time but we also recognise that there is greater freedom for some of our youngsters and for other children who are experiencing difficulties in their lives, worries and anxieties do not simply go away because it is Christmas. Should you or your child/children feel the need to seek help or advice over this break, please do remember the many organisations that can offer support

Childline [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) Tel: 08001111

Young Minds [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

School Nurse Text Service 07480635050

Samaritans [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) Tel: 116123

Kooth [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

Well-Being Service <http://www.hpft.nhs.uk/services/community-services/wellbeing-service/>

## **INVESTOR IN CAREERS**

I am delighted to inform you that we are applying for the Investor in Careers awards. Over the coming months I will keep you informed of our progress.

Mrs Maguire (Head of Careers Information and Guidance)

## **DISCOVERY CENTRE**

Over the holidays, we hope the students will continue with reading their own books so that the momentum of reading on a daily basis is not lost. Reading regularly can have a significant impact on future achievement.

Year 7 students have been set the task of completing a book review sheet during the holidays (given out by Mrs Rice) writing about one of these books they read. We are hoping to create a display in the Discovery Centre with the completed reviews so we would ask that you encourage and support your child with this task. There will be prizes for the most interesting and well written ones next term. Teachers will be collecting in the reviews in the first English lesson they have after the holidays, which will then be passed to Mrs Rice.

Thank you Mrs Rice

## **SUBJECT INFORMATION**

### **YEAR 11 GCSE HISTORY**

Over the Christmas break all year 11 GCSE History students should be completing some of the activities from their revision workbooks and also making use of the

revision activities on SAM Learning. Students should focus their revision on The American West and Early Elizabethan England units as they will be retested on their knowledge of these units early in the spring term.

### **FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

If your child is in the food tech group 7yDt2 (Tuesday period 3 & Thursday period 2) then they will be cooking their fruit crumble recipe on Tuesday 8th January 2018 which is their first lesson back. The method and ingredients are also on show my homework, practical cooking sessions will continue to be every Tuesday from then onwards. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me. Thank you, Mrs Coates.

### **YEAR 11 FOOD AND NUTRITION**

When year 11 return after the holidays, they will be taking part in their 2nd piece of controlled assessment. It takes 20 hours of lesson time and is worth 35% of their overall GCSE grade. On Wednesday 7th February and Thursday 8th February students will take part in their compulsory 3 hour final practical exam related to their controlled assessment. We will let students know which day they will be cooking nearer the time. During the 20 hours, students will need to plan, prepare and cook various dishes related to their chosen topic. Please support your child by ensuring they have the required ingredients when necessary throughout this time. Thanks, Miss Gibbons and Mrs Woodward

### **MATHEMATICS**

All Year 11 students have been set Maths work on SamLearning to focus their revision and consolidation over the holidays and the next half term. This is in addition to any work set by their classroom teacher and focuses on topics that students have been taught previously but might need refreshing.

Mrs A Berry

Director of Learning - Mathematics

### **PE**

Please find attached our PE extra-curricular clubs January-Easter 2018

***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.***

We have attached the DSPL7 (Delivering Special Provision Locally) Newsletter. It does include a lot of useful information guidance and support for families with children who have additional needs.