

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
THURSDAY JULY 20TH 2017

'THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK'

"Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans" – John Lennon

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Our value focus for July will be *Humility* - See: *John 13: 1-17*

HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

After a long and busy year we would like to thank you all for your continued support. As a school we will not always get things right and we will not always agree over every incident but what we do want to reassure you about is that, we try our very hardest to put every individual child's growth and development as a young person at the heart of all we do. Achieving success in life is not simply about having the best exam grade. It's about the young person growing into a respectful thoughtful self-aware responsible young adult and engaging with the world around them.

We do sadly say good bye to some of our staff for different reasons and we do thank these staff for all their hard work and loyalty to Townsend. We wish them every success for their future ventures. We say farewell to Ms McKenzie and Ms Redmond from Inclusion, to Mr Dawson from Foreign Languages, to Miss Chapman from Technology, to Mrs Town from Religious Education, to Miss Cooper and Mr Coote who have helped out in Science and Technology and to Mrs Allen who has been working in reception. We also say farewell to Mr Ware and Mr Ofori who have been working on a temporary basis in History and English.

We also extend good wishes and congratulations to Miss Noble Mr Timpson Miss Shepherd and Miss Chapman for their Summer weddings.

Looking forward to September we will be welcoming the following new staff (some full-time some part-time)

Mrs Castle will be acting as our SENCO in September reverting back to the role she had at her previous job before joining Townsend this year. She will be supported by Mrs Baker who is joining us with a wealth of experience in SEND.

Mr Hill will take over as Head of Design and Technology. Mrs J Woodward is joining the Design and Technology department

Mrs Bunyan and Mrs Kleynhans are joining the English department as Assistant Heads of English

Mr Connolly is joining mathematics

Mrs Burani is joining History. Mr Greenhaf will be covering Mrs Bailey's maternity leave in History

Mr Hill is joining Physical Education

Mrs Gates is joining Geography

Mrs Passmore is also joining us permanently in Religious Education.

I am delighted to tell you all that we are fully staffed for September and we are excited about the new year ahead. Our focus remains on the high quality of all round education we want to provide for your child. However, with ongoing changes to policy and practice in education coupled with reductions in budgets the future will

bring new challenges for the school. We hope as a community we can continue to work together to overcome these in the next academic year

We do hope the hard work and efforts students and staff have put into academic study for the GCSE and A' Level students pay off and we do wish all our students the very best of luck with their results.

Finally we wish you all a safe and relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing all the children back in September. Year 7 start on Tuesday September 5th and Years 8 – 13 start on Wednesday September 6th

UNIFORM

We have attached updated uniform lists for ALL students. Before you purchase new uniform or your child has a redesigned hair cut or they make a plea to you for a body piercing please can you and your child read the uniform /attire details very clearly. A reminder that only black and navy coats are acceptable and girl's skirts should be an appropriate length. We do not want to have difficult conversations with anyone in our first week back in September about uniform that has been purchased that is inappropriate or not on our uniform lists! In year 11 students are required to wear black blazers. A letter has been sent with year 10 reports regarding style of black blazers for year 11 that are acceptable. We have a selection of secondhand black blazers at school for £5 if anyone would like to look. If any students have uniform no longer required please bring into the school office where they will be gratefully received.

SUPPORT OVER THE HOLIDAYS

As we approach a long holiday period we are conscious that although it is a great opportunity for quality family time, and a time for resting and recharging for a number of our children, this time away from friends and routine can also cause anxiety and worry. This week, Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Trigg have been touching base with many students across all year groups- some who they have been supporting over the year others whom we have recognised are in need of a little extra support from school. As part of this ongoing support we have issued information about who students can contact over the holidays should they want to talk to someone. We appreciate that in many cases children will turn to family members when things go wrong and they have worries but on some occasions neither family or teachers are who children want to confide in!

The contacts students have been given are

- Childline www.childline.org.uk Telephone 08001111
- Kooth www.kooth.com When are counsellors online? Monday-Friday 12 noon till 10pm. Weekend 6pm till 10pm
- School Nurse Text service 07480635050

Parents/carers can also use Young Minds www.youngminds.org or telephone 0808 802 5544 as a support.

We do wish you and the children a safe and relaxing holiday, but would ask that you are also mindful of your child's online use of social media sites over these next 6 weeks. For many this will be their communication system to peers and friends and if things go wrong it can be quite damaging for young people.

BATTLEFIELDS, MORFA BAY AND SWANAGE TRIPS

Payments owed for these trips can still be made over the summer holidays by the School Gateway method. Battlefields trip is filling up fast so if you want your child to

be able to take part please get your holding deposit of £50 in. Please try and make the July and August payments by the Gateway for Morfa Bay. There are still a few year 9 Geographers that have to pay their deposit for Swanage. Attached is the School Gateway instructions for paying. Thank you

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Congratulations to all who took part in the Silver practice last weekend in the New Forest. The Silver qualifying is in the South Downs on 15th-17th September to which a letter has been handed out to all taking part. The Bronze qualifying is on 30th September-1st October. Letters to follow. Mrs Liddington

SUMMER WORK

All students in current Years 9 & 10 have been set Summer Work to complete over the holidays to reinforce what they have learnt this year. All teachers should have used Show My Homework to record what has been set. Please support your son/daughter in the best way possible in completing this work. Many thanks.

YEAR 8

Thank you all for your support over the past academic year. I have had many happy and rewarding times overlooking the progress of your children throughout year 8. I am extremely proud of what they have achieved as I am sure you as parents/carers are too. I am looking forward to seeing what next year has in store. I wish yourselves and your child the best over the summer and look forward to seeing them in September. Kind Regards, Mr Armitage

YEAR 8 SUMMER HOMEWORK

Your child has received a personalised booklet containing all of the summer homework for the summer. Please encourage your child to complete all homework as it will be important for the start of their GCSE courses next year and will ensure a positive start to their studies. Many Thanks, Mr Armitage

YEAR 11

As we continue to develop the sixth form at Townsend we are looking to expand the upper school to improve transition from year 11 into the sixth form so we can offer courses and career information and guidance for the older students that suits their individual needs. As a way of doing this, leadership of year 11 will change from September. Mr Still has been an excellent support to current year 10 students and will continue to be Director of Learning for Year 10 next year. Miss Gibbons and Mrs Buckland, who are currently joint Heads of Sixth Form will also become Heads of Year 11 from September in order to improve continuity from Key Stage 4 into Key Stage 5. We are both very excited to be able to work with and support the Year 11's next year and look forward to working with the year 11 students and parents. Best wishes over the summer holidays.

Mrs Buckland and Miss Gibbons

SIXTH FORM

We would like to say a huge well done to the sixth form this year. All student have worked exceptionally hard this year and we look forward to a successful results day. We look forward to welcoming the new Year 12 into the sixth form and are hopeful about their achievements. Teachers will have set summer work for students to complete in for new year 12 an 13, please ensure you take some time over the summer to reflect on what you have done this year, and look forward to next year and what you need to continue doing, or change to be as successful as you want!

Remember, you put in what you get out, so please use the 6 weeks wisely to prepare for next year and we look forward to seeing you all in September. Miss Gibbons & Mrs Buckland.

REPORTS

All students have been given school reports. Within the envelopes are Curriculum booklets and Report Reply slips. For Year 9 there is an additional Work Experience letter. Please can you ensure the reply slip is signed and returned with your child the first day back in September

RESULTS DATES 2017

Results can be collected from school as follows:-

GCE (A2 and AS) Thursday 17th August 9am to 11am

GCSE Thursday 24th August 9am to 11am