

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND  
RESPECT**

The Value for this half term is RESPECT: 'Treat others the same way you want them to treat you' Luke 6:31. The values will be shared in daily worship sessions and students will have the opportunity to reflect on their meanings with a particular reference to how we lead our everyday lives.

Ms Sheppard, Head of Religious Education and School Worship

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

**SCHOOL OPEN EVENING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 6-9.15PM**

Please remember school is closed to students from 12.30pm. Student helpers should be back in school for the session that they have volunteered to help with. If it is the first session students should be back in school for 5.45pm.

**YEAR 11 PARENT/CARER EVENING THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 5-8PM**

**RAISE – WELLBEING AND ANTI-BULLYING AT TOWNSEND**

RAISE (Respect, Achieve, Inspire, Support, Encourage) is a student led initiative to support wellbeing and anti-bullying work at Townsend. We have a number of students from all years that support different groups of children at Townsend; these include Pop Up Peers, Anti-bullying Ambassadors and LGBTQ+ group. We also signpost students to support agencies outside of school. Please do encourage your child to get involved and go to any group they feel they could and want to identify with.

**RAISE Ambassadors aim to:**

- Ensure that all members of Townsend – adults and young people understand why it is so important to treat others with respect tolerance and care.
- Ensure all members of Townsend understand that bullying is not welcome or wanted in our school community
- Always promote kindness and tolerance to all students particularly those who may be quiet or shy or lack confidence
- Listen, guide, offer advice and guide students to receive the help they need.
- Make a positive impact to the school and promote equality and Respect for All in our community.

**Please do encourage your child to come along to the Discovery Centre on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September to find out more!**

Miss Scott

**MUSIC**

Instrumental lessons are now up and running on the following days:

Monday - Violin/Viola and Percussion

Wednesday - Piano and Guitar

Thursday - Flute and Pop Keyboards

Friday - Singing

Lesson timings are on the noticeboard in the music block.

Miss Kirk, Head of Music

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **Challenge Corner**

Students are challenged this half term to learn as many of names the bones in the body as they can, and identify where they are.

A display of the skeleton with 20 of the key bones (required to learn for GCSE PE) is along the PE corridor.

Any students who can name all 20 bones to a PE teacher before the end of half term will be awarded a house point.

A prize will go to the student who can name the most bones (206 in total)

### **Cross Country**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September @ Nicholas Breakspear School 3.25 – 5pm

All students are welcome to compete, for more information please see a member of the PE staff.

Miss Pennifold, Head of Physical Education

## **YEAR 7 & 8**

Well done to all the Year 7 pupils that have participated in the Dedication Cathedral service this week. It's a highlight of the year where the whole school comes together in worship and feel stronger as a community. The pupils have now been through two full weeks of the school timetable and certainly appear to be growing in confidence in their lessons and more familiar around the school environment. Please note that the Year 7 'drop in' session will move to Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm next week as we have an early finish at 12.30pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September for our Open Evening. Do take this opportunity to speak to your child's form teacher or myself on a one to one basis should you wish to discuss any matters. This also means that on the Wednesday the two school buses will be collecting children at 12.30. Thank you for making alternative arrangements for your child to get home on Wednesday to other parent/carers. If your child is helping out in the evening - again thank you for your support with transport!

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

### **EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

To celebrate European Languages Day on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, the Languages Department is running 2 competitions, one for Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) and the other for Key Stage 4 (Years 9,10,11).

#### **Key Stage 3 European Languages Day Bake-off**

Students should use their cooking skills to make a cake/ biscuits and decorate with European phrases/ themes.

Creations **marked clearly with the name and form** should be brought in on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** to the Modern Foreign Languages 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 26<sup>th</sup> September. Cakes/ biscuits 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.

### **LANGUAGES CLUBS**

We are starting our new Languages clubs this week. They are for beginners and are open to all students They will run as follows:

**SPANISH – MONDAYS 1.25-1.55 LA3**

**GERMAN – THURSDAYS 1.25-1.55 LA1**

Mrs Livesey, Head of Modern Foreign Languages

## **YEAR 9, 10 & 11**

### **GCSE DRAMA TRIPS YEAR 10**

Letters have been given out for the Paper Birds Workshop on Thursday 26/9/19 and the 'Thirsty' theatre trip on Friday 27/9/19. Please could permission slips be returned ASAP and if you have any questions or if letters for the trips have been lost or not received please contact Mrs Coates.

Mrs Coates, Head of Drama

### **HISTORY**

#### **Year 10**

Students will have the opportunity to take part in a workshop delivered by two Native Americans on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to learn about Native American beliefs and culture which links with Paper 2. This also ties in well with our Diversity week celebrations at school. Letters will be issued early next week for further details and small contribution for the event.

Students can procure the American West revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office as we will be starting this unit in September. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

#### **Year 11**

Students have been offered the opportunity to go on a trip to London on a full day tour of the Whitechapel area which is the historical environment feature in Paper 1 Crime and Punishment. This is an ideal opportunity for students to revisit content and practice source skills in the context of Whitechapel. Trip letters and payment must be made by the latest 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Please see the note above on the American West workshop which will also be offered to Year 11 History students as part of their enrichment and revision of Paper 2.

Students can procure the Weimar and Nazi Germany revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office as we will be starting this unit in September. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

### **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

#### **REMINDER Year 11 GCSE intervention Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes LA1 and LA2**

In order to help students prepare and practise further for the speaking and writing papers in particular, Higher and Foundation support sessions are available to all Year 11 students studying French. Some students, for whom the sessions are essential to improve their current predicted grade, will be advised that they need to attend regularly.

#### **FOUNDATION – Mondays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2**

#### **HIGHER – Tuesdays 1.25-1.55 LA1 and LA2**

**POSTPONED** Special meeting NOW MONDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER for all Year students of French - GCSE FRENCH REVISION TIPS from current Year 12 students who completed their French GCSE this summer in LA1 12.25

#### **EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

#### **Key Stage 4 Guess the Celebrity and Language Competition**

During French lessons in the week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September, KS4 students will complete a quiz to identify the language being spoken and the names of the linguistically talented celebrities. They will hear a number of short extracts and will need to work out the language being spoken, match to the correct celebrity and complete an entry form which will be provided.

All correct entries will be entered in a prize draw.

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Mrs Livesey, Head of Modern Foreign Languages

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

#### **Netball**

Year 10 Netball match Vs Marlborough School (away) – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 3.25 – 5pm

#### **GCSE PE**

Year 9s are studying the Skeletal System

Year 10s are studying the Factors Affecting Participation in Sport

Year 11s are completing their coursework and reviewing previous topics about the body systems

### **SIXTH FORM**

A reminder that the Sexual Health Clinic will be offering a drop in session for sixth form and consortium sixth formers on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

### **STUDENT WELLBEING**

#### **MOBILE PHONE USE & SOCIAL MEDIA**

Please can all parents/carers talk to your children about safe and appropriate use of social media. We would also draw your attention to the fact a number of sites have age restrictions and these restrictions are entirely around safety. If you are not doing so already it may be a good idea you have a system of monitoring your child's use of any sites. A lot of children use WhatsApp and although this can be a fun media for communication it can also be quickly used to exclude or isolate children. It is a free messaging service, but users should be at least 13 years of age. The school does provide information and discusses safe social media use throughout the children's time in school, but parents/carers reinforcing messages around appropriate use of this popular form of communication helps. The other support we would appreciate from you, is to consider removing mobiles from student's bedrooms overnight. We have already noticed bleary eyes and when questioned it appears mobile phone use through the night is a common cause of tiredness! Thank you.

#### **LATENESS**

Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year?

Please encourage your child to be punctual each day.

### **WELLBEING HEADQUARTERS**

Our school counsellors, Veronica and Gillian can be found in the student wellbeing headquarters in the humanities corridor. They support students with varying needs and host a range of events throughout the year to promote wellbeing. Please encourage your child to speak to one of the counsellors should they need advice on any matters of concerns relating to wellbeing.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

***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.***

#### **St Albans Hockey Club**

This Sunday at Oaklands we're having our official launch for this season. Please see flyer attached for times etc if you are interested in coming along.