

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019**

**WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND**

The Value for this half term is WISDOM: 'Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.' Proverbs 4:6-7 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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Monday November 25<sup>th</sup> – Year 11 & 13 examinations over 2 weeks.**

Your child has an examination timetable with all the information

**Monday November 25<sup>th</sup>** St Albans Schools Music Concert 7.30pm at St Albans Arena. Tickets from the Arena

**Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.00am** Parent/Carer Support Group - the final meeting of the year for any interested parent/carers who would like to share strategies and ideas about supporting their child at Townsend.

**Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Jumper or other Jumper Day - donations will go towards Save the Children. Students may choose a jumper to wear instead of a blazer. Form tutors will collect donations in the morning

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2pm** Christingles Cathedral Service

**PRESTIGIOUS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR STAFF MEMBER**

**IAN GRAHAM - Service to Sport in Hertfordshire**

We are delighted to announce that Mr Ian Graham who currently still works at the school after over 50 years as a member of the education support team, has received two lifetime awards for his service to sport. Mr Graham retired as our Head of Art teacher in 2006. In the first instance, he was awarded the 'Service to Sports' lifetime award from the Hertfordshire Sports Partnership on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 for dedicating 40 years in organising and administering sports competitions such as Rugby 7s, chiring the Herts Schools Swimming Association, refereeing County Schools basketball games and running a swimming club to name a few. He also organised 54 school ski trips and was part of the St Albans District Sports Development Association that gave out sports awards to local youngsters. Mr Graham also received a second award for a 'Lifetime of Dedication to Schools' Athletics' by his colleagues of the English Schools' Athletic Association for organising athletics, track and field, cross-country championships at local, county, regional and national level. We are all so proud and truly inspired by Mr Graham's dedication to sports and providing sports opportunity for the youth at Townsend CE school and beyond.

**DEBATING SOCIETY**

Once again we are entering a debating competition run by the Rotary Club. The competition will take place at St Saviours Church in St Albans from 5.30 pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November. If your child is taking part, or your just fancy coming along to support, please do!

Mrs Harris, Director of Learning for English

**ALBAN FEDERATION**

Townsend School is a member of the Alban Federation partnership that works in the area of teacher training. Each year the Federation trains a large number of adults (55 trainees are currently following the programme in 2019/20), either straight from University or as career changers, and places them in a host school for the year to enable them to complete their training and gain Qualified Teacher Status. All applications are submitted through UCAS (the University Admission System) and the application window is now open for courses starting in September 2020. Courses are available in both Primary and Secondary programmes, with salaries or bursaries available for suitably qualified candidates in many subjects.

If you are interested in becoming a teacher and would like general advice or specific guidance as to how to apply, please feel free to contact the Alban Federation team via email via [afgtpenquiries@sandringham.herts.sch.uk](mailto:afgtpenquiries@sandringham.herts.sch.uk) or by phone on 01727 799560 Ext217.

## **YEAR 7 & 8**

### **HISTORY**

#### **Year 7**

Students should be working on their half termly project for History on Medieval castles. An instructional booklet has been provided to support them in their project and teachers will check every week on their progress. Information can also be accessed on Show My HomeWork (SMHW).

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

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

### **ROUTES INTO STEM**

[www.etrust.org.uk/routes-stem](http://www.etrust.org.uk/routes-stem)

Is your child in year 9 or 10 (13 to 15 years old)? This taster course will give them an invaluable experience and help them understand the routes to many exciting, diverse and well paid STEM (Science Tecnology Engineering and Mathematics) careers. Please read attached information.

### **HISTORY**

#### **Year 10**

Students are currently studying the American West and they can procure the revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office at any point in the year. 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 will be sitting Paper 1: Crime and punishment for their History trial examination on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 therefore it is important for your child to revise using their class notes, revision guide and GCSEpods as a starting point.

Please remind your child to attend Thursday lunchtime revision sessions starting at 1.30 in HU8. A revision programme can be found on History classroom doors or students can request a copy.

Students are currently studying Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany and the revision guide can be purchased at the cost of £4 from the History office. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please

Speak to your child's Director of Learning for the year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

## **STUDENT WELLBEING**

### **PARENT GUIDE TO ATTENDANCE**

Please see the Department of Education document attached which provides useful and important guidance on school attendance.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Please encourage your child to attend at least one lunchtime or after school club run by teaching and non-teaching staff. This is a great opportunity for your child to learn something new, meet new people and build confidence. You may see the full list on the school website <https://townsend.herts.sch.uk/parents/activities/>.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

***Please note that although we are very happy to pass on information these are not Townsend sponsored or organised events.***

Dr Kathy Weston is delivering a talk about **Building Resilience in Girls** on November 25<sup>th</sup> in the Townsend School Hall. The event has been booked by a different organisation but as it is being held in our Hall, parents/carers and teachers from Townsend are welcome to attend at no cost. Dr Weston is a fantastic speaker and offers really practical strategies for parents/carers. The talk is at 7-9pm  
<https://www.drkathyweston.com>

**Traffic Disruption in Watford during NATO Summit** – Heads of state will gather at the NATO summit at the Grove Hotel, (Chandler's Cross, Watford) on 4th December 2019. Hertfordshire Constabulary is warning people ahead of the disruption. Staff and parents are advised to allow for this disruption in their travel arrangements to and from school as several roads and footpaths will be closed around the time of the summit.