

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

“When you realise nothing is lacking, the whole world belongs to you” - Lao Tzu

**WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND**

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For November our value focus is Peace ‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God’ Matthew 5.9. 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.

**ANTI BULLYING WEEK 2017**

This year’s national theme is ‘All Different All Equal’. Clearly this message lends itself to our Respect for All Statement and we are proud that we have this ethos embedded within the school and therefore we are already committed to All Different All Equal.

Each year through this week we organise a range of activities that highlight and promote awareness to such an important area of our society. We take the opportunity of inviting external speakers into school to talk to students about how individuals have overcome barriers in their lives, have dealt with feeling different or have changed their lives around by their strength in standing up to prejudice.

Through different activities and events in the week, Miss Scott our Anti -Bullying Coordinator has produced an innovative programme that celebrates differences and continues to provide all our diverse community of young people opportunities of further support and opportunities to talk to others about similar worries. We remain proud and delighted that so many of the additional support groups being launched are being suggested led and driven by the students themselves.

We have provided external speakers to age appropriate audiences and our intention remains focused on educating young children about the world, so that they can make informed decisions about their lives and life styles. Our intention is never to direct or guide students but to support them with the decisions they choose to make about their own lives.

Please do go through the programme with your child to see what is happening and reinforce our important message about All Different All Equal.

If you have any questions or queries about any of the activities or events please do ring the school to talk to Miss Scott.

**CHILDREN IN NEED 2017**

Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> is Children in Need Day and as a school we support the good work this charity does for so many young people. You will see alongside the Anti-Bullying events that there are several Children in Need activities being led by Sixth Form students. The week culminates with a Non Uniform Day for students and a lunch activity in the Hall. Students can come to school in their own clothes with a contribution of £1 that will go directly to Children in Need. Dress should be appropriate and where students have PE or other practical lessons, they must remember to bring PE kit or other practical items as required. Dyed hair is not permitted. A reminder for students who have bus passes to take them out of blazer pockets so that they remember to bring them in!

## **FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND (PTA)**

### **Grand Christmas Raffle**

Parent /carers should be receiving raffle tickets from school via students. Please try to support this fundraising event, as all money raised will benefit students by going directly into subject areas to build resources, to help make special purchases or improve learning environments . We have some fantastic prizes including Festive Hampers, Wine and Bubbles, Chocolates, Christmas Goodies, Gift Vouchers and more.

If you do not wish to purchase raffle tickets but still wish to support the school by making a donation, please send this into to the school office with the returned tickets so someone else can sell them. If you require more raffle tickets they are available to be picked up at Reception.

Many thanks for your support

Friends of Townsend.

### **YEAR 8 CONSULTATION EVENING - THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 5.00-8pm**

We look forward to welcoming ALL our parents/carers of year 8. Many students have already made appointments for this evening but others need to speed up so that wherever possible appointments are not spread over a long period! Every child should be attending the evening in full school uniform with a parent/carer. If you are unable to come through work commitments please can you arrange for another family member to bring your child so that progress from teachers can be shared and celebrated. Thank you

### **YEAR 7 CONSULTATION EVENING**

A reminder that this is on **Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> 5.00-8.00pm** . Letters will be sent out next week and students will be told how the evening is arranged. Please can all Year 7 Parents/Carers make a note in your diaries as we would like to achieve 100%% attendance at this important event.

### **YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 TRIAL EXAMS**

These begin on Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>. Students should have started revision plans and teachers will be helping children in lessons and form times with preparation and examination technique. There are additional Study Clubs taking place at lunch times and after school students can attend. All students in both year groups do need to be putting in the hours after school to help with preparation and we do ask for your support with this. Thank you

### **ATTENDANCE**

We are having a real push on attendance and prompt arrival to school. Please can you support us with this by ensuring your child is prepared for school the night before so that they can get out of the house in good time to catch buses or lifts. School starts at 8.45 and we are expecting all students in for this. If your child is ill please contact reception to communicate this so that we can keep registration certificates up to date and accurate.

### **UNIFORM**

Stevenson's now have ties available for sale from their shop so if your child is still wearing a borrowed striped tie please can you purchase a new one. Thank you

## **LEGO**

We are still looking for any boxes of lego you may have sitting in an attic or loft that your children have grown out of. We promise to put the lego to good use and will be willing to make a contribution if you have any. Thank you

## **BORROWING BOOKS FROM THE DISCOVERY CENTRE**

Please can we ask for your support with talking to your child/children about how they look after our school library books. We are obviously keen to ensure that students have access to a wide range of books we have at school and that are available to borrow but currently we have some concern about how a minority of students are treating the system. Students need to use the system for borrowing and returning books and take greater responsibility for looking after these books. On occasions because books are being left around the school or not being returned to Mrs Rice by using the blue return box in the Discovery Centre the system is indicating the book is still on loan and overdue. Thank you for your support with this.

Mrs Rice

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

Year 10 students have had a presentation and are currently signing up for the next DofE expedition. If your child has taken a form please return it by the end of next week (17<sup>th</sup> November) Anyone interested in taking part and needing a letter, there are copies at reception. Thank you

Mrs Liddington

## **SUBJECT INFORMATION**

### **SCIENCE**

This week those pupils who have ordered revision guides will have received them. There is some spare stock available for pupils to buy if they did not manage to order them on time. They will be sold at a first come first serve basis on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in SC6 at the start of lunchtime. Information regarding pricing of these is available on the School Website. If you would like your child to have a revision guide but you are currently struggling with a financial hardship please do contact me so we can support you.

Mrs McNeillis

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Please note that netball club on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> will finish at 4.25pm.

#### Fixtures

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November- Year 7 v Sir John Lawes, 2pm kick off at Townsend.

***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.***

## **DSPL7 SEND INFORMATION VILLAGE**

**WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2017 10.00am – 12.noon**

An opportunity to meet Specialist Advisors, Educational Psychologists, Service Providers, representatives from Special Schools, Oaklands College and the Voluntary Sector

Please come along and meet representatives from over thirty organisations to find out about the support that is available for children and young people (0-25 years) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Some of those attending include:

*DSPL7 SEND Team SPACE Support Group*

*Brain Buzz Special Olympics*

*Harpenden Plus Partnership & St Albans Plus Partnership*

*ESTMA SNAP Phoenix*

*Steps Speech language and communication team SENDIASS*

*Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database KIDS Hub, Independent Support*

*Practitioner*

*Families in Focus Early Years SEND Team*

Please see attached flyer for more information