

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th April 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Each time we face our fear, we gain strength, courage and confidence in the doing'
– Theodore Roosevelt

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For April our value focus is Responsibility. 'For each will have to bear his own load' Galatians 6:5 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.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Thank you for all your support in helping to prepare your son or daughter for work experience next week. I hope the week will go well for everyone.

All students should have brought home this week a letter to you from me, plus a bright pink sheet with important points to check. Please go through this carefully with them. In case of absence next week, please phone the school immediately, as well as the employer. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

Margaret Wood

Work Experience Coordinator.

YEAR 11

Year 11 - 2 weeks to go until the first GCSE exams - students should be revising at home to prepare themselves for their exams. Next week the following is happening for year 11, students will know times if they are involved:

- English booster session (Monday 30th April)
- French oral exams (Thursday 3rd May)
- Art exam (Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th May)

Students are working exceptionally hard and attending extra revision clubs at lunchtimes and after school. Please ask them to see Miss Gibbons or Mrs Buckland if they need any support. Thanks.

<https://www.tes.com/news/what-tell-your-students-about-sleep-and-exam-success>

PARENT /CARER SUPPORT GROUP

At the last parent support group meeting we had it was agreed we would meet on the first Thursday of each month. This may not be suitable for everyone but we will continue with this arrangement for this term and review in July for September.

The two meetings will therefore take place **Thursday May 3rd from 10.00-11.00** and for those who prefer an evening meeting **6.30-7.30**. A reminder that this support group is open to all our parents/carers at Townsend who have children with any additional need. This could be related to a learning need or related to anxiety or stress. We look forward to seeing you there.

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND/PTA

Abbey Theatre Charity Performance 'On Golden Pond' Thursday 10th May
8pm. Tickets are still available at £12 each. This includes a welcome drink. Children

are half price when accompanied by an adult. Do join us for 'On Golden Pond'- a family saga suitable for all secondary school students, friends and family. The Abbey Theatre is next to Westminster Lodge and we are sharing the charity night with the Hands Together Project who help communities in Nepal. Profits from the evening will be shared and Townsend School will use the funds raised to benefit our students.

Contact Finola Murphy finola@practice-perfect.net to buy tickets or call 07778 855875.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Tickets for this year's school production of 'The Wizard of Oz' are now on sale in at reception on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th July. Adults £5 and concession £3. Come and support all our students who have been working so hard to put on a great show. Mrs Coates and Mr Phelps

CAREERS

Year 9 students have been invited to take part in a new Careers initiative called the WOW Show (World of Work). The show will be streamed live to school on Wednesday May 2nd. In order to maximise this opportunity, students have been working during form times to prepare in advance. The show lasts approximately 30 minutes. Further details have been posted on our web page including information about an additional careers event for years 9 and 10 taking place during the May half term break. Details are attached to this parentmail.

FAMILY LIVES

This used to be called Parentline but we are recommending it as a useful resource for parents/carers as it covers so many topics and areas.

Confidential helpline

Call the free and confidential helpline for support

Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service (previously known as Parentline). Please call us on 0808 800 2222 for information, advice, guidance and support on any aspect of parenting and family life, including bullying.*

The helpline service is open 9am – 9pm, Monday to Friday and 10am – 3pm Saturday and Sunday.

We currently answer 58% of all callers ringing. If you don't get answered first time please do try again.

We will only break confidentiality if there is a life threatening situation, or a child or adult is felt to be at risk of significant harm.

SWANAGE FIELD TRIP

Congratulations to all the year 10 and sixth form geography students who have just returned from Swanage after a very successful field studies trip. All students collected primary data, essential for their course and gained great experience and skills in the field. All staff who attended the trip are very proud of the hard work and effort they put in and received many compliments from members of the public on their conduct and friendliness. Miss Reynolds and Mrs Buckland

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CATHEDRAL SERVICE

A reminder that the Ascension Day Service is on Thursday May 10th at 2pm at St Albans Cathedral. Students should make arrangements to be collected from St Albans Cathedral for 3.00pm. Again we do ask that you are clear with your child

about where you are meeting them/picking them up. Parents/carers are welcome to join us for this service.

SUBJECT INFORMATION

HISTORY

Year 7

Students will complete an assessment on the impact of the Crusades on both Europe and the Middle East starting the week of the 30th April. They had two lessons to prepare for their assessment and further information on planning can be found on Show My Homework.

Year 8

Students who have chosen GCSE History will be provided with a reading list following parent feedback from Year 8 options evening. These will be handed out to students in the next few weeks.

Year 9

Students have been encouraged to purchase the Crime and Punishment revision guide in preparation for their Paper 1 trial examination on the week starting Monday 2nd July 2018. 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. They have also been encouraged to attend weekly lunchtime revision at 1.30 in HU8 and access revision materials from GCSEpod or on the shared area from the school network (they print what they need or put it on a USB stick).

Year 11 GCSE

A reminder that Year 11 GCSE History revision takes place every Monday (boys only) in HU6 at 1.30 and every Thursday (girls only) in HU8 at 1.30. Your child has been given a lunchtime revision and lesson countdown as a guide. GCSE History lunchtime revision sessions will run until 10th May. Revision guides are still available to purchase at £4 for each topic. 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. Thursday after school revision sessions can be organised in advance with Mrs Bailey.

ENGLISH REVISION

In addition to lunchtime revision sessions the English Department is running after school revision sessions. English Language revision is every Wednesday from 3.30-4.30, English Literature revision is every Friday 3.30-4.15. All students welcome.
The English Department

YEAR 10 GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE - MS PROBYN'S GROUP ONLY

Whilst it's vitally important that all students enjoy their work experience week, we also want to ensure they maintain momentum with their GCSE English Literature studies, especially bearing in mind their first exam is Tuesday 22nd May. Literature homework has been set for this coming week with exam questions for three of the four texts. These have been given to the class, but are also attached and are on Show my Homework. Around 45 minutes should be spent on each question and a minimum of 4 PEE style paragraphs should be written for each. It's important these responses are completed to the best of your son/daughter's ability so we can give them effective marking feedback. All three answers must be handed to Ms Probyn in the lesson on Tuesday 1st May.

In addition, the class need to be revising all four texts ('An Inspector Calls, 'A Christmas Carol', 'Macbeth' and the Power and Conflict poetry). This can be done using GCSEpod, SAM Learning, GCSE Bitesize or watching Mr Bruff videos. The school have also supplied study guides and notes in exercise books can be used. We hope they all have a very successful week. Many thanks for your continued support.
Ms Probyn

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GCSE

- Practical moderation - Wednesday 9th May @ Beaumont - timings and students involved TBC
- Paper 1 exam - Wednesday 16th May 9am
- Paper 2 exam - Friday 18th May 1.30pm

Results

We had some great successes in the Senior District Athletics match on Tuesday with many students gaining medals and some fantastic results including:

- Dara – 1st place in 100m
- Yasmin – 3rd place in Javelin
- Charlie – 3rd place in Shot Put
- Leo – 3rd place in 400m
- Yaw – 4th place in high jump

Fixtures

- Tuesday 1st May at Ware athletics track – 3.30 – 7pm
- Tuesday 8th May at Gosling Park, Welwyn
- Monday 14th May at Westminster Lodge, St Albans
- Thursday 24th May at Westminster Lodge, St Albans
- Tuesday 5th June at Stevenage athletics track
- Wednesday 12th June at Gosling Park, Welwyn
- All Day Champs – District Athletics Finals @ Woodside, Watford
- Thursday 14th June – 8.30am – 4.30/5pm

Rounders

- year 7 rounders match @ Townsend – Thursday 3rd May – 3.30 – 5pm
- year 7 rounders match @ Sandringham – Thursday 10th May
- Year 8 & 9 rounders match @ STAGS – Tuesday 15th May
- Year 7 rounders match @ Roundwood – Tuesday 22nd May
- Year 8 & 9 rounders match @ Townsend – Wednesday 6th June
- Year 8 rounders match @ NBS – Thursday 7th June

- Year 7 District tournament – Tuesday 19th June @ Townsend
- Year 9 District tournament – Tuesday 19th June @ STAGS
- Year 8 District tournament – Thursday 21st June @ SJL