

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 29th March 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"You really can change the world if you care enough" – Marian Wright Edelman

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For March our value focus is Awe and Wonder. 'Dominion and awe belong to God; he establishes order in the heights of heaven' Job 25:2. 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.

EASTER BREAK

May we wish all our parents/carers young people and friends of Townsend a restful and peaceful break. We know for many families these two weeks may well be focused around public examination preparation and we do wish those involved with this good studying! However it is also the time for a recharging of batteries to start a long Summer Term relaxed and rested.

We are aware that the last few weeks of this term have been quite unsettled within a number of French lessons. Mrs Livesey our new Head of Foreign Languages unfortunately has been very poorly including a period of hospitalisation so we have had to use various cover teachers. We do thank Mr Grzesiczek for his support through this period and wish Mrs Livesey well through her recovery period. When we have more information about this situation we will let you know. Thank you for your understanding.

YEAR 11

Students have been given a pack of information today including a revision schedule for the exam period. Students should be using the Easter holidays effectively for revision. Exams start on 14th May!! We have attached the information your child received. Thank you for your ongoing support. Miss Gibbons and Mrs Buckland

YEAR 10: WORK EXPERIENCE

All students have been reminded that they need to arrange their preliminary interview during the Easter holidays, so please support them in this. They have been given advice and tips on how to approach the interview. Even when no interview is required, it is important that they make contact with the placement.

A couple of students who submitted late private placement applications are still waiting for these to be processed and approved. In these cases it would be wise to have a reserve from the database in mind, in case the original is unsuccessful.

M Wood Work Experience Co-ordinator

YEAR 10 EXAMINATIONS

Year 10 Pupils will have end of year tests/assessments at the following times.

- Mathematics, English & Science) Wednesday June 27th - Friday June 29th.
These exams will take place in the gym under public examination conditions so that students can start getting the 'feel' for the formal GCSE examinations.
- Non-core subjects will hold their exams in lesson times during the week commencing 18th June.

In most subjects past GCSE exam papers will be used to give the students a thorough and rigorous GCSE standard test. Pupils should be thinking about a devising a revision timetable themselves, and preparing as thoroughly as possible. Individual subject staff will be able to give guidance and support to pupils in preparing for these examinations. Any questions please contact the individual subject teacher. Thank you for your continued support through year 10. Mr Still

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND

Abbey Theatre Charity Performance 'On Golden Pond' Thursday 10th May 8pm. -Support our local School !

Tickets are on sale at £12 each to include a welcome drink for Thursday 10th May 2018 8pm at The Abbey Theatre St Albans.

Do come along with friends or other family members to see 'On Golden Pond'- a family saga suitable for students of all ages. The Abbey Theatre is next to Westminster Lodge and we are sharing the charity night with the Hands Together Project, a charity that helps 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.

Easter Gift Shop

Many thanks to all those that supported and donated goods in any way. We raised over £150. Happy Easter!!

TOWNSEND SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Come and join us for this year's whole school production 'The Wizard of Oz' which will be performed in the school hall on the 12th and 13th July 2018 at 7pm. The cast are already working their socks off and had great success at the Alban Arena showing 'Merry Old Land of Oz', tickets for the show will be available from the school reception after the Easter holiday £5 adult or £3 concession.

IMMUNISATIONS YEAR 7

We received this notification regarding Year 7 Immunisations and have attached the appropriate documents you need.

March 2018

Dear Head teacher

We would be grateful if you can assist us with forwarding the attached document to parents/guardians of all children in year 7.

If you have any parents who are not contactable by e-mail, I would be very grateful if you could support us in providing a paper copy.

A member of the school nurse team will be in touch from 7th May with a date to collect any returned BCG consent forms.

Yours faithfully,

Diane Carrington Team Leader, School Nursing Hertsmere, St Albans and Harpenden

You will also find attached to this week's parentmail an information booklet created by the Hertfordshire School Nursing Service titled The Healthy Child Programme. This contains useful information and contact details around a young person's health.

BEING SAFE

As we start an Easter break it is important that all our young people remain safe and well over the holidays. Inappropriate social media use continues to be a concern for us in school and while students are away from filtered IT systems this remains a risk for children. We would urge you to check security settings and monitor your child's

use of social media at home so that you are certain there is appropriate use going on and that your child is not accessing inappropriate websites or involved in online communications that are unsafe or malicious. We again would remind you of useful websites your child can access if they need immediate health or well-being advice.

<https://kooth.com/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/> <https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/>

SUBJECT INFORMATION

MEDIA STUDIES

A Level Media Studies

All A Level students will be working on their video or print products over the holidays. Please do speak to your child about what they are producing.

Year 11 GCSE Media Studies

Over the Easter holidays, all Media GCSE students in Year 11 should aim to spend at least five hours revising for their exam, using the online Media GCSE revision system at www.erevision.co.uk.

Students have been given their own logins and passwords. They also need to input the school postcode - AL3 6DR (including a space between the first and second halves) to log in.

The Media GCSE exam pre-release material, which gives students instructions on what they will need to produce in the June exam, is released on May 7th.

Year 10 GCSE Media Studies

After the Easter holidays all students will be starting their coursework. Students will be completing coursework during lesson time and this will continue for a number of weeks. All students have now been issued with a choice of briefs that they will need to choose from. Coursework is worth 30% of the final mark at GCSE. Please do encourage your child to discuss their work with you.

Miss Scott

HISTORY

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. Advance notice: students will sit Paper 3 in lessons after the Easter break therefore they must revise for this mock examination.

Year 7

Students are currently studying Islamic civilisations and the Crusades. They will write an assessment on impacts of the Crusades on both Europe and the Middle East in the Middle Ages after Easter. A good starting point for further reading is

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/history/the_wider_world/medieval_islamic_world/revision/2/

Mrs Bailey

MATHEMATICS CHALLENGES

Well done to the Year 7 team which has made it through to the final of the Hertfordshire Maths Challenge. The team will compete against 12 other schools on Friday 27th April, we wish them good luck!

Two more teams from Year 8 are taking part in the regional heats on Monday 30th April at Astley Cooper School, Hemel Hempstead, we will be hoping to get another team in to the County Final.

Mr A Still

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fixtures

Athletics

- Senior Champs (yr 11, 12, 13) District Athletics finals @ Westminster Lodge –
Wednesday 25th April 2.30 – 6.00/6.30pm
- Tuesday 1st May at Ware athletics track
- 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
- 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