

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 3rd November 2017

'THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK'

"Just don't give up trying what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong" Ella Jane Fitzgerald

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.

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND

Christmas fundraisers- once again we are holding our Annual Christmas Hamper Raffle. This is a good fundraiser and with our other initiatives makes money to purchase additional items and equipment for departments benefitting all students. Your help would be greatly appreciated if any parent/carers can provide festive items for the hampers please send them in to the school office eg bottles of wine and sparkling wine, chocolates, novelty festive items, crackers, tinned and boxed foods etc.

Christmas and Sponge Puddings sale - this was very popular last year. We have attached an order form to Parentmail. Please do try to support this fundraiser- the products are really good quality

Thank you.

Friends of Townsend

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 field trip - regeneration on in London

On Monday and Tuesday of this week we completed another successful field trip - this time in London. Year 13 students were gathering data to assess the perceptions of people about whether the regeneration in Stratford has had a positive influence and led to improvement in the quality of life for people in the area since the 2012 Olympics. As always the students conducted themselves in an excellent manner, worked hard and achieved great results.

Mrs Buckland and Mrs Gates

Year 11 sixth form taster day and open evening

On Thursday the year 11 students completed a day in the life of a sixth form student, attending various mini-lessons in A-Level and vocational subjects. This was followed by the sixth form open evening, which proved to be an informative and positive evening. We hope that students and parents found it useful and we thank you all for coming to the event to help make it a success. The Year 11 students were focused and engaged throughout the day and their feedback comments have been really brilliant. If anyone was unable to attend the open evening, please see us to collect the information pack and application form for the sixth form.

The application deadline for joining the sixth form in September 2018 is January 12th 2018.

Mrs Buckland and Miss Gibbons

Year 11 and 13 Trial Exams

These will take place for both year groups for 2 weeks beginning on Monday 20th November. Both year groups are aware of the examinations and teachers have been and will be advising students about revision and preparation for these exams. It is important that students take these exams seriously and use the time to prepare and revise at home. This will be the final chance students have to practice for the real exams before the GCSE's and A-levels are upon us in the summer.

Timetables for the exams will be issued on Monday.

Mrs Buckland and Miss Gibbons

YEAR 8 PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION EVENING

A reminder that this is on Thursday 16th November 5.00-8.00pm. Students should be making appointments using their Achievement and Record Books from Monday.

YEAR 7

Welcome back to Year 7 for their second half term at Townsend! Some facts and figures you may be interested in - 838 books have been taken out of the library, 1365 house points have been awarded, 89 students have 100% attendance and numerous home reward cards have been posted home. Year 7 students took part in Townsend's Diversity Day on the last day of half term. Please do ask your child about this if you haven't. Next week students in year 7 will be planting over 1500 bulbs around school, weather permitting! Students will be able to observe their plants proudly as they grow in various locations on the school site. Please do ask your child about this next week.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 7 students and the way that they have started at Townsend. We look forward to continuing with this success this half term. Thank you for your support.

Miss Scott and the Year 7 Tutor Team

LEGO

Help!! We are looking for donations to build a collection of Lego in the Learning Support room to help students communicate/interact with each other in a learning capacity. If you have any that you could spare please send it in to the office. Many thanks.

STEVENSON OUTFITTERS

We have been in touch with Stevenson's and for anyone who was trying to buy a new tie they have told us that they now have them in stock.

SUBJECT INFORMATION

MUSIC

SASSMA concert - 20th November

On Monday 20th November, the St Albans Secondary Schools Music Association will be putting on a concert at the Alban Arena. This will feature performances from nine schools, including Townsend. Participating students will be rehearsing at the Arena during the morning of the 20th, then performing in the evening. Students wishing to take part should come along to the next rehearsal on Tuesday lunchtime at 1:30.

Tickets are on sale for £5 (plus £1 booking fee) from the Box Office on 01727 844488 or online at aaboxoffice@ilife.co.uk

Christmas Concert - 13th December

As Christmas approaches we are starting to prepare for our end-of-term concert. This year it is being organised by the Year 10 GCSE Music group, who are being assessed for their planning of the event and their performance. The Year 10s have organised a meeting at Monday lunchtime in MU3, for any interested students to sign up to perform. We would love to give as many people as possible the chance to perform, and would love this event to be really diverse, so whether you are a singer, instrumentalist, actor, dancer or poet we hope you can come along on Monday and find out more.

New staff member - Liam Amner

We are delighted to welcome our latest member of our Music teaching staff. Liam Amner works for Herts Music teaching guitar, drums and music tech, and running Rock School and community projects. He will be teaching guitar and drums at Townsend on Wednesdays. Anyone interested in receiving lessons (on these or on any instruments) should contact the Music department or can sign up online at https://live186.paritor.com/p_web/04_001_192/2067

Thanks,
Mr Phelps

HISTORY

Year 7 Humanities Extended Learning Project: Autumn term This half-term pupils are learning, in History lessons, about the impact of the Norman Conquest in England. Therefore, the extended learning project is focusing on one way in which the Normans established their control within the country.

TASK:

Pupils are to **design, build and write a blog** on **medieval castles** that covers all of the steps below.

Pupils have up to **6 weeks** to do this and progress will be briefly checked every other week.

It is **the pupil's responsibility to see their teacher for help** if they are struggling with any part of the project.

Pupils are to submit their **castle and completed blog** by the **week ending Friday 15th December 2017**. **Your child's teacher will advise your child as to which day the work must be submitted.**

The castles will be judged in a class exhibition, with the best **five going forward to the whole school competition** in the Discovery centre. The winners will receive a certificate, house points and small prize.

Please note that this project will not be graded but will count towards a pupil's overall performance in History.

Instructions:

Step 1: Researching and planning your castle (weeks 1 -2)

There are three main types of medieval castles: motte and bailey, stone keep and concentric castles:

Pupils should **research** 'medieval castles' and **make a decision** on what type of castle you would like to build. This should be noted and explained in the blog.

Step 2: Building the castle (weeks 3 -4)

Pupils should start building the base, structure and include key features of your castle. Your child should **write a blog entry every time** they work on the project.

Step 3: Finalising your castle (weeks 5 -6)

Pupils should be putting the finishing touches to the castle.

A more detailed version of this instruction sheet has been produced for all year 7 pupils. Copies of the instructions and the blog templates can be found on Show My Homework

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Results

The year 7 netball team had their first game of the year against Beaumont on Thursday. It was definitely a learning curve for some who haven't played competitive 7-a-side netball before, with some great improvements throughout the game and a development in understanding of the rules and tactics. Unfortunately we lost 8-4, but will go forwards in training knowing what has to be done to improve. Player of match – Megan

The year 9 netball team showed that training hard really does pay off with their first win of the year beating Nicholas Breakspear 5-2! It was a very closely fought match with strong players running through both teams. But Townsend managed to pull away in the 2nd half by maintaining control and calmness. Player of match – Skye
The year 7 boys football team played against Beaumont on Thursday evening in a very close match, which they battled hard right through until the end drawing 3-3! Goals from Kipp (2) and Godfrey. Player of match - Tyler

Fixtures

- Wednesday 15th November – year 11 Netball Vs Beaumont – away – 3.30 – 5/5.20
- Monday 20th November – year 10/11 boys netball Vs Samuel Ryder – away 3.30 – 5/5.30
- Wednesday 27th November – year 7, 8 and 9 girls district basketball tournament at Oaklands college 3.30 – 6/6.20

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-SUPPORTING PARENTS/CARERS AND STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIARY

- Simple Solutions Workshops with Sally Glossop - Problem solving sessions for parents/carers of children and young people aged 0-25 with Autistic Spectrum Disorder Wednesdays 7-8.3pm St Albans Girls School AL3 GDB

Forum for parents and carers of students with SEND – next meeting November 29th 10.00am -11.00am St Albans Girls School .All welcome

To book any of the above - please ring 01727 853134 Ext244 or admin@dspl7.org.uk

SPACE St Albans Support Group – a charity supporting parents/carers of children with ASD ADHD and related conditions – second Friday of the month 10am-12.pm at St Albans Girls School .For more information check SPACE website contact SPACE by email or find us on Facebook

RENNIE GROVE HOSPICE CARE

Sunday 3rd December Waterend Barn St Albans Join Rennie Grove for a festive 1.5km or 5km fun run! To enter visit www.renniegrove.org/jinglebelljog or call 01727 731009

Jingle Bell- Open to over 10s. Aged 10-16 £10 Over 16s £16 Includes a Santa suit and medal

Reindeer Run Open to all ages Age 4 and under £5 Age 5-16 £10 Over 16s £16 Includes antlers and medal