

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER

Date 6th December 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

- 11th December – School Christmas Concert in the Hall 7pm
- 13th December – Save the Children Jumper Day (Christmas or other jumpers)
- 16th December – Senior Prize Giving 7pm
- 18th December – Christingle Cathedral Service 2pm
- 19th December – Term Ends 12.30pm

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2019

We welcome parents/carers to attend the free event at 7pm; the more the merrier! I look forward to seeing many of you in attendance to celebrate Christmas and the fantastic learning that has been happening in Music and Drama this term.
Miss Kirk, Head of Music.

CHRISTINGLE CATHEDRAL SERVICE

We would like to invite all parents to attend our special Christingle Cathedral Service on Wednesday 18th December from 2pm. Please be aware that space may be limited so you do need to arrive early if you want a seat! Wednesday is also market day in St Albans so parking may be limited and traffic is likely to be particularly heavy on this occasion. Do allow enough time to pick up your child at 3pm from the Cathedral. Students enter and leave through the West Gate. Romeland is the road that runs alongside this entrance.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 12 GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

We are halfway through our 'Reverse Advent Calendar' and still looking for donations to support a local Food Bank and Open Door (a local homeless charity). Items such as clothing, toiletries, non-perishable food items can be donated. Thank you for continuing to support such a great cause in the lead up to the Christmas holidays.
Miss Gibbons, Head of Sixth Form

THURSDAY 9th JANUARY - YEAR 9 PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION EVENING

Your child will have been given a letter with details of the upcoming Year 9 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening. It is important that the reply slips are completed to confirm your attendance and handed back to your child's form tutor on **Monday 9th December**. From Monday, students will be making appointments with their teachers. Please ensure that you have discussed an appropriate time slot with your child so that they can make appointments at your convenience. This Parent/Carer Consultation Evening is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress in their GCSE subject areas - identifying strengths and setting targets to address gaps or areas to

develop. We are expecting all our parents/carers to attend. If it is impossible for you to attend as parent/carer please can you arrange for another family member or close family friend to accompany your child to the evening.

Thank you.

Miss Scott, Director of Learning for Year 9

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Now that students have had a couple of weeks to browse the database, I am starting to allocate placements where appropriate. Students will bring home a job offer, consisting of a printout of the full job description; a medical form which must be completed; a parental consent form; a request for a contribution (£15 for Herts placements, £30 for those outside Herts). Please check the job details carefully before you sign the consent form. The signed form, along with the medical form and payment (cheques to Townsend School) should be returned to the school office as soon as possible. No placement is confirmed, and the employer is not notified, until these documents are received.

There is no deadline for applying from the database, but students opting for a private placement need to get their request forms handed in during January at the latest.

Margaret Wood

Work Experience Co-ordinator

NUMERACY TIP

A great way to ensure your child can see the importance of Numeracy for the future is to watch Martin Lewis Money Show on ITV. On the show Martin talks about how you can save money and often refers to different percentage rates or paying for phone bills over a course of time. You and your child can try and work out how much money can be saved if you applied certain deals to your own life.

Mr Timpson – Lead in Numeracy

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Please remind your child if they want to sign up to the auditions for the 'Beauty and the Beast' school production that this will take place on Monday 16th December at 1:25-1:55pm lunch time in the Drama Studio. Students can sign up for parts and will be added to the audition list. The auditions for the show are on Monday 13th January 2020 at 3:30-5:00pm in the Hall. Audition packs will be given out on the sign up day for students to practise over Christmas. Auditions are open to students in years 7-10 & 12-13 and we hope there will be a big turn out like last year. The show is a wonderful opportunity for your child to be creative and show dedication to a production with roles including on stage, backstage and technical. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs Coates.

Mrs Coates, Head of Drama

YEAR 7 & 8

YEAR 7 HISTORY

Students should be in the finishing stages of 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 which can be accessed on Show My Homework. We would be grateful if you can check in with your child to see how they are progressing with this project and encourage them to have it completed by the deadline date on Show My Homework.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY

Please note year 8 students have a trip planned on Tuesday 21st January (it is on the school calendar). Letters about this trip will be sent home this week. Please return the reply slip as soon as possible to the school office. If you have any queries, please contact your child's Geography teacher.

Many thanks,

Mrs Buckland, Head of Geography

YEAR 8 BASKETBALL

The year 8 Basketball team have a fixture Versus Beaumont School on Wednesday 11th December. The game will be starting at 4:15 and finish around 5:00pm.

Mr Brooks, Physical Education teacher

STUDENT WELLBEING

ATTENDANCE

We are excited about all the students who are still on 100% attendance in school. Congratulations and keep it going. Remember to keep encouraging your child to attend every day so that attendance sits above 95% as we continue through the year. Registration in school closes at 10.00am and after this your child will require an absence letter to explain their non-attendance.

We are particularly keen that students arrive on time in the mornings and once in school they arrive punctually to all lessons. Good attendance and punctuality are important skills that will be needed for any job our young people choose in the future.