

## **TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**

**Date Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 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**

#### **NOVEMBER - DATES**

Week beginning November 11<sup>th</sup> - Inter Faith week, Children in Need on Friday, Anti-Bullying Week and No Pens Day on Wednesday. A busy week!

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 11 6<sup>th</sup> Form Taster session for students

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 11 6<sup>th</sup> Form Information evening 7pm. Parents/Carers and students.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 9 Battlefield Trip leaves

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Non-school uniform day for the Children in Need charity

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Year 11 GCSE French Speaking Trial examinations

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - Year 10 Consultation Evening 5pm -8pm

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Year 11 & 13 Trial examinations begin

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE**

On Monday, all students will be invited to take part in a service to commemorate Armistice Day in the school hall from 10:50-11:05. This will include contributions from students involved in the Cadets, a musical item and two minutes of silent reflection. All students are welcome.

#### **INTER-FAITH WEEK**

As part of Inter-Faith Week, we have invited a Christian, Muslim and Humanist representative to take part in a discussion panel where students are invited to ask a range of questions on topics such as God, The Environment, Crime, Medical Ethics, etc. This will take place in the school hall on Wednesday between 1:25 and 1:55. All questions should be submitted to Ms Sheppard prior to the event.

Ms Sheppard, Head of Religious Education and School Worship

#### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON THIS WEEK**

This week the school will be marking Anti-Bullying, Inter-Faith and Children in Need Week with a number of activities throughout the week. The main theme of the week is 'Change Starts With Us'. Through all of the activities, we will explore a number of ways that everyone can make a significant change so that we can work more effectively as a community within the school and beyond. Please see the full timetable attached and encourage students to support such great causes. Monies raised will go to Children in Need. Thank you for your support.

#### **FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER - NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY FOR THE CHILDREN IN NEED CHARITY**

Townsend school will be raising funds throughout the week for 'Children in Need'. Students are encouraged to donate monies (that they can afford) for this important

cause and are encouraged to participate in the non-school uniform possibly, wearing something yellow for Children in Need or wearing odd socks for Anti Bullying week for a 50P donation. Students may just want to wear non uniform which is fine. Coloured hair through the use of hair dye is not permitted.

### **ICELAND TRIP**

Please note the deadline for reply slips, medical forms and deposits for the trip is Monday 11th November. We only have a few places left so if deposits are not paid in full by this date we cannot hold places as we have to pay for flights next week. If you are experiencing a particular financial hardship but your child is desperately keen to attend please do speak to Mrs Buckland or your child's Year head in confidence  
Many thanks. Mrs Buckland

### **NUMERACY TIP**

Please talk to your child about the fact that making mistakes in mathematics is not the end of the world. The important thing is not to ignore the mistakes but instead understand why they were made; otherwise they will continue to make the same mistake again and again. Tell them to take time to figure out the thinking behind a mistake, and figure out how to do it right. They can ask the teacher if they are unclear. Thank you  
Mr Timpson - Lead in Numeracy

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Our Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, with a vegetarian option available, at a price of £3.50. This must be pre-booked with the kitchen so that ordering appropriate amounts of food can be done. Bookings can be made direct with the kitchen staff with cash or enough money on Gateway so that money can be deducted by staff and a ticket will be given to confirm their lunch. This must be done by 29<sup>th</sup> November.

### **EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICE**

Parents and carers can speak directly to an Educational Psychologist through Contactline. The number is **01992 588574** and can be accessed on Wednesdays 2pm - 4.30pm.

### **YEAR 7 & 8**

#### **HISTORY**

##### **Year 7**

Students have been set 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. Information can also be accessed on Show My HomeWork (SMHW).

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

### **YEAR 9, 10 & 11**

#### **YEAR 11 TRIAL EXAMINATIONS**

Your child has already been given their trial examination timetable. Please do take the time to discuss this schedule with your child to support them during this important time. Examinations begin on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Mr Armitage, Director of Learning for Year 11

## **HISTORY**

### **Year 10**

Students are currently studying the American West and they can procure the revision guide at the cost of £4 from the History office at any point in the year. We will also offer these on the upcoming consultation evening. 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.

### **Year 11**

Thank you to all parents/carers who supported their child to attend the Whitechapel trip on London on Thursday. All were great ambassadors to the school and revisited a great deal of content and skills linked to Paper 1.

Please remind your child to attend Thursday lunchtime revision sessions starting at 1.30 in HU8. A revision programme can be found on History classroom doors or students can request a copy.

Students are currently studying Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany and the revision guide can be purchased at the cost of £4 from the History office. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in very special cases. Please speak to your child's Director of Learning for the year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence.

Advance notice that students will be sitting Paper 1: Crime and punishment for their History trial examination on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 therefore it is important for your child to start revising now. They should use their class notes, revision guide and GCSEpods as a starting point.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Mrs Bailey, Head of History

## **SIXTH FORM**

### **YEAR 13 TRIAL EXAMINATIONS**

Your child already has their trial examination timetables. Please do take the time to discuss these documents with your child to support them during this important year. Exams begin on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Miss Gibbons, Director of Learning for Sixth Form

### **STUDENT WELLBEING**

Sleep is especially important for children as it directly impacts mental and physical development. Young children need around 10-11 hours of sleep per night and older children around 9 hours.

Lack of sleep can make children irritable and can lead to mood swings, behavioural problems such as hyperactivity and cognitive problems that effects their ability to learn in school.

Here are The Sleep Council's top tips to help your child get back into a routine ready for school:

- Impress on them the importance of a good night's sleep
- Encourage regular exercise – outdoor play, bike rides or trampolining
- Reduce caffeine such as coke and other fizzy drinks, and even chocolate
- Try and get them into a routine – doing things in the same order before going to bed at night will help
- Make sure the bedroom is tech free, or alternatively zone it into sleep and play

areas

- Create a restful sleeping environment – a room that is dark, cool, quiet, safe and comfortable
- Make sure the bed is comfortable. Make sure it is still big enough for growing children.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

***Please note that although we are very happy to pass on information these are not Townsend sponsored or organised events.***

### **SUSTAINABLE ST ALBANS DOCUMENTARY SCREENING**

Sustainable St Albans is screening The Sequel, a new environmental documentary film, in Harpenden on 18th November. It is a very inspiring film which looks at positive community actions. See attachment for more information.