

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

**THOUGHT FOR WEEK** – Respect for ourselves guides our morals; respect for others guides our manners – Lawrence Sterne

**WELCOME BACK TO THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR**

A great start to the year at Townsend. We have welcomed students back and caught up with all their summer news and we have met all of our new students. A full year group has started in year 7 which is very exciting. Our summer examination results are being celebrated and we are all joyful at the success of individual children who have some great results to be very proud of. Students have had a good first week and we look forward to the rest of the year working together to improve achievement still further while living together using our Respect for All code as our guide to everyday life. The school is expanding again and we have therefore been able to increase our staff with new teachers in English, mathematics, physical education, history, geography, modern languages, design technology, psychology, religious education, special needs and student well-being, and two new colleagues have joined our office team. All but two of the new teachers are very experienced and are moving to us from other schools with two colleagues starting the exciting journey of teaching following completion of their training. These are good times at Townsend and we hope to continue to improve so that your child has the best possible opportunities to achieve well and to have increased their life chances because they were a student attending Townsend.

Best wishes  
Mr Wellbeloved  
Head Teacher

**EARLY REMINDERS AND INFORMATION**

- When **dropping off and picking up** children please do use Toulmin Drive Car Park in Toulmin Drive at the end of Flint Way. The children only have a short walk (about 200 metres) from the school entrance on a footpath to the car park. We have already had two residents complaining about parking on the verges and blocking drives and by using the Public car park you will be helping both local residents and the school by reducing complaints and protecting our reputation in the community. When the police and parking enforcement officers make one of their regular surprise visits it will also prevent you from getting into trouble!
- **Respect for the community** - please can you talk to your child about taking care not to drop litter on the ground, put it in hedges or in gardens and to be respectful of the local community particularly while waiting for buses at public buses stops or walking along local roads.
- **Open Evening September 27<sup>th</sup>**. We are hoping a large number of students will be supporting us at this important event and would welcome your support with both transport and perhaps volunteering yourself to help in the evening. A reminder that school will be shut at 1.30 on this day to help with preparations. If you can help please do leave a name and contact number with the school office for Ian Graham

- **Dedication Service** .This is on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. A reminder students will need collecting from St Albans Cathedral at 3pm. Parents/Carers are welcome to attend.
- **Uniform** – on the whole students are looking really smart, so thank you for your support with this. Our one concern remains around the length and style of some of the girls skirts – particularly in years 10 and 11. Students will be required to change to trousers or change their skirts if they are a non-uniform style or too short. We are giving children the weekend to sort this issue out!
- **Safeguarding** – we will continue to share important safeguarding and well-being support with parents/carers through parentmail on a regular basis. This remains a priority for us at Townsend and we can only protect the students with your support. The Senior Designated staff for Child Protection are Miss Lingwood Miss Gibbons and Mrs Brooks should you have any concerns or wish to discuss anything regarding safeguarding.

### **WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND**

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For September our value focus is Respect "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you" Luke 6:31 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.

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

The final version of the school calendar has been put up on the school website. The dates of some trips may be subject to change however all other dates are fixed and will not change.

### **FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND (PTA)**

Welcome back to a new term

There is a Friends of Townsend (PTA) meeting on Monday 18th September 7pm in the meetings room. All present members of the committee are welcome to attend and we particularly welcome any new volunteers from all years.

**Year 7 parent /carers** are particularly welcome to attend. Please join us if you want to help in any way. The outline of our activities for 2017-18 will be discussed at the meeting

#### **Open Evening**

We need parent/carer volunteers to help at our open Evening on Wednesday 27th September. You are very valuable in our recruitment of new students for September 2018. If you can help us on this evening, even just for an hour, that would be valuable and most welcome. Please send in a note to reception asap or telephone our school reception to add your name to our Open Evening helpers/supporters list

Many thanks FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND (PTA )

### **SIXTH FORM**

#### **School Fair**

Next Friday 15th Sept the sixth form are running a school fair at lunchtime for all students to raise funds for charity. There are a number of stalls and games that students can enjoy, a raffle, competitions and make your own lemonade! Some stalls and competitions are free, some have a small costs (20p, 50p). Students may bring in money for this event should they wish. We hope it will be an enjoyable event for all. Please advertise to all year groups in form time. Mrs Buckland

### **Year 12 Induction**

A reminder that all of Year 12 students and their parents are invited to the induction evening on Monday 18th September at 7pm. Students should attend with their parents. We look forward to seeing you there. Miss Gibbons & Mrs Buckland

### **Year 12 Learn to Live presentation**

Year 12 students are bringing home a letter regarding the Learn to Live presentation on 22nd September. We would encourage all year 12 students to attend, and reply slips will need to be returned. Thanks, Miss Gibbons & Mrs Buckland

### **SHOW MY HOMEWORK**

As part of our drive to improve achievement, we really want all of our students using Show My Homework regularly. Therefore, could I ask parents/carers to remind your child to check SMHW to see what homework has been set this week.

Also parents/carers, you too can check on what has been set by just logging in using your PIN number. If you have lost or forgotten your PIN number, you can let us know by leaving a message at reception and we will get another one to you.

Alternatively, you can just go onto the Townsend website and you can go into SMHW which shows all homework set for all year groups and you can look at all homework set.

The new Year 7 students will be receiving their pin numbers early next week.

Thank you Mrs Maguire

### **HOMEWORK CLUB**

Homework club will start again next week and be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school between 3.30-5.00pm in inclusion/Learning Support. Members of staff are there to help if needed.

### **SUBJECT INFORMATION**

#### **Year 11 Triple Science**

Some year 11 pupils will be resitting their Science mock exam if they did not achieve a grade 4 in their summer exam. Pupils are aware of what exams they need to take and should have been revising for these over the summer.

The dates for these will be as follows:

Biology- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Chemistry- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

Physics- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September

All Triple Science pupils will also be sitting a C4 Chemistry exam on either the 21<sup>st</sup> September or the 22<sup>nd</sup> September depending on which class they are in.

Please support your child with their preparation for these exams.

#### **Sixth Form Science**

Pupils studying Biology, Chemistry or Physics A level have been given a letter this week detailing information about the textbooks they will receive this year to support their studies and the deposit required for these. Please support us by returning the reply slip and any money required on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **Year 13 Biology**

As stated in the letter given out at the end of last year, the second instalment of £109 for the Biology Field trip is due. Please could you ensure that this is returned to the office by 15<sup>th</sup> September. If you have any issues with this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs McNeillis

## **Physical Education**

Results:

The year 7s took part in their first interform competitions this week with interform 'End zone' games – an adapted version of netball.

1<sup>st</sup> – Norwich

2<sup>nd</sup> – Canterbury

3<sup>rd</sup> – York

4<sup>th</sup> – Exeter

5<sup>th</sup> - Durham

Fixtures:

- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Year 7 Cross Country Race at Sandringham School 3.30 – 5/5.20pm
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September – District Cross Country Race at Townsend 3.30 – 5pm
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September – year 8 Netball match vs STAGS at Townsend 3.30 – 5pm
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September - District Cross Country Race at STAGS School 3.30 – 5pm

## **Sports Clubs**

Attached is a list of all the sports clubs running this term.

Students are encouraged to take part in as many as they can, all free of charge, if they want to join a team, they just turn up to the sessions, you do not need to sign up.

For lunchtime clubs students need their trainers, full PE kit for after school. If a student is wanting to take part in Swimming club at lunch time they will need to go to the pool at the very start of lunch and will leave 20minutes early to get lunch, or can bring a packed lunch in for the day. They will need to bring their swimming kit and a towel for this.

## **PE Kit**

A reminder that students need to bring their PE kit in to every lesson. They will be given a list of which activities they will be doing throughout the year in the first week so they know whether to bring indoor or outdoor kit.

In the winter months if the weather is poor they will need to bring appropriate warmer/waterproof clothing – only Townsend or plain black trousers and jumper / sports rain jacket will be allowed in lessons.

## **GCSE PE**

All students taking part in GCSE PE – year 9, 10 and 11 should be taking part in at least 3 clubs in school over the year and at least 1 club outside of school to maintain regular high levels of competition.

GCSE revision and support club is on a Wednesday lunchtime in LA3 – all students are welcome, however some year 11s will be directed to specific sessions they will need to attend.

Revision guides can be purchased from Miss Pennifold at a discounted cost of £4 – please see your PE teacher for more information. If you would like financial support with this guide or would rather take a guide out on loan please do contact Mrs Pennifold.