

TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER
Friday 9th February 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'This above all-to think own self be true, and it must follow, as night follows day, thou canst not then be false to any man' – William Shakespeare

WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For February our value focus is Love 'This is my commandment; that you love one another as I have loved you' John 15:12 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.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM BREAK

A reminder that the school will be closed to students for the half term break Monday February 12th – Friday February 16th
We look forward to students returning on Monday 19th February.
We wish you all a restful and safe break.

IMMUNISATIONS

Year 10 (and Year 9 students that missed the immunisations in January).
The school nurses will be in school on Tuesday 20th February to immunise Year 10 (and several Year 9) students against Meningitis ACWY and DTP. Consent should have already been given direct to school health via previous links. If this has not been completed we shall endeavour to get a paper consent form to outstanding students on Monday 19th February for return to school on Tuesday 20th.

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT DAY - Thursday 22nd February

All students will be participating in curriculum enrichment day on Thursday 22nd February - there will be no normal lessons. All students are to attend in school uniform and parents/ carers of Year 7-11 have had a letter to explain the different activities.

Year 7 will be taking part in 'Community Day' run by STEP and will provide year 7 with the skills and focus of being a community member. The outcomes will be for students to understand what is meant by community and to consider how to promote community in school, on a local level and global level.

Year 8 will be taking part in an Apprentice Day where small groups will be challenged to be creative in designing and marketing a product before presenting their prototype to the judges. The day looks to develop leadership skills, team work, budgeting and confidence as well as looking into creativity in design and marketing.

Year 9 will be visiting the Science Museum in London. This trip is linked to the Science and Maths curriculum and students will be given various tasks to do throughout the day.

Year 10 will be taking part in a day centred around 'My Future'. They will have the opportunity to hear from people in different careers, ask questions and start to think about their future plans.

Year 11 will be taking part in a day centred towards their upcoming GCSE exams. They will take part in 4 activities during the day, including a walk-through of an English exam paper relevant to their trial exam in April, a revision skills session, a session run by Hectors House on coping with exam stress and a tailored Maths session focusing on key exam skills and techniques.

Year 12 will be supporting the different year group activities, being given specific roles and responsibilities for the year group they are supporting and Year 13 will be given the opportunity to study at school or at home to prepare for their upcoming examinations.

Years 8, 10 & 11 will be able to get lunch from the school canteen as normal, years 7 & 9 will need packed lunches. Students receiving free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch.

We hope this will be an enjoyable day where your child gets the opportunity to take part in different activities that they would not normally have. Any questions, please contact your child's Director of Learning for year group. Thanks, Miss Gibbons

YEAR 9 BATTLEFIELDS PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Please could I remind you that there is a Parent Information Evening on **Tuesday 20th February** at 7pm in the School Hall for all pupils going to the Battlefields in March. Please could I request that you bring passport details for your child as we will need to send off a list of travellers in order to speed up the process at Border Control. Many thanks, Mr Armitage.

YEAR 11 EXAMINATION TIMETABLES

All students who are taking examinations this summer were given their individual timetables this week. The timetables should be checked carefully to ensure all personal details are accurate and that students have been entered for the correct subjects. Any amendments or errors should be reported to the examination officer immediately. Mrs Kovacevic

FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND (PTA)

A date for your diaries: Thursday 10TH May 2018.

Friends have been offered a Charity Fundraiser at the Abbey Theatre, St Albans.

The Production is "On Golden Pond" a touching, warm and witty classic drama.

The Abbey Theatre Drama Group have a reputation of putting on excellent productions, so please come along and support this Friends fundraising event.

Details will be out after half term.

Many Thanks, Friends

SUBJECT INFORMATION

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Recommended Languages Resources all students

It would be very useful for all students to have their own French/ English dictionary to use at home when preparing their homework. A school dictionary such as the Collins Gem French School Dictionary contains key vocabulary and verb tables and costs £4.99 from Amazon or high street bookshops.

Key Stage 4 Resources (Years 9, 10,11)

As you are probably aware, a new specification has been introduced for Languages GCSEs with the first examinations following this specification taking place in 2018. As part of the new GCSE, there is a greater emphasis on a secure grasp of French grammar. In order to help students develop their grammatical knowledge a new workbook has been created especially for the Edexcel exam board which we follow. I would like to request that all students in Years 9, 10 and 11 studying French purchase this grammar and translation workbook to help them prepare for the new exam. The workbook will be used for classwork, homework and is also an excellent

revision resource. The price is £5.99 and it can be purchased from Amazon or high street bookshops. Details as follows:

Studio Edexcel GCSE French Grammar and Translation Workbook

Publisher: Pearson Education

ISBN: 9781292132990

Price: £5.99

If any families are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to discuss possible financial assistance to purchase these resources, please contact Mrs. Livesey, Head of Languages or your child's Director of Learning for the Year group(in confidence) via the school office

Modern Foreign Languages Year 11 Revision Resources

As we are approaching the final part of the course for Year 11, I have been asked for details of revision books which will help students to prepare for the upcoming examinations. The following revision books are published by Pearson and are designed for the new 9-1 GCSE specification for Edexcel. The first is a revision guide which condenses and reviews the key vocabulary for the topic areas covered by the French GCSE. The second is a revision workbook with exam style practice questions and access to online audio files to practise listening questions. They are designed to be used together.

The RRP of each book is £5.99, but, if ordered through the school, each book can be purchased for a reduced price of £2.49. In the week after half term, I will be sending a letter home to parents of Year 11 students with a reply slip asking parents whether they wish to order one or both books through the school.

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) French Revision Guide

Publisher: Pearson Education

ISBN: 9781292132082

Price: £5.89 (£2.49 schools discount)

Edexcel GCSE (9-1) French Revision Workbook

Publisher: Pearson Education

ISBN: 9781292132013

Price: £5.99 (£2.49 schools discount)

If any families are experiencing financial difficulties and would like to discuss possible financial assistance to purchase these resources, please contact Mrs. Livesey, Head of Languages or your child's Director of Learning for the Year group(in confidence) via the school office

HISTORY

Women's Suffrage Centenary

February marks the Centenary of The Representation of the People Act (6th February 1918) which gave the vote to women over thirty. Activities and discussions will be held in school in both February and March. We encourage you to initiate discussions on the centenary and what this means to them today.

Year 8

Students will have their History extended learning project set for this half term on the week beginning 19th February. Students are expected to work and complete this on their own time. Please refer to project sheet and SMHW for instructions and deadlines.

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. Please encourage your child to attend these especially if you have received a letter recently regarding your child's underachievement in history trial examination. Your child has been given a lunchtime revision and lesson countdown as a guide.

Mrs Bailey is offering a fortnight revision session starting Thursdays after half term from 3.30-4.15 in HU8. If students are interested they must notify Mrs Bailey before Thursday 22nd February 2018.

We encourage Year 9, 10 and 11 History students to buy Revision guides (includes key information, exam skills focus and exercises) for the American West, Elizabethan England and Weimar and Nazi Germany at £4 each. They may obtain these directly from their History teacher. Please note that the Crime and Punishment revision guide will be available in February 2018. If your family has financial difficulties, the school may be able to assist in special cases. Please speak to your child's Director of Learning for the Year in the first instance to discuss the problem in confidence. Thank you for your support, Mrs Bailey (Head of History)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Results – the year 7/8 girls football team took part in the district 7-a-side football tournament this week. A tough start against Sandringham made the girls realise they needed to get going quicker and mark tighter, not panicking when they got the ball. Their performance improved throughout the tournament with draws in the last 2 matches against some experienced teams!

Fixtures

- Tuesday 20th February – yr 10 boys district dodgeball tournament at Marlborough School 3.30 – 6

- Wednesday 21st February – yr 9 girls netball match vs Loretto – away – 3.30 – 5pm

- Wednesday 21st February – yr 7 and yr 9 girls and boys district indoor rowing competition at Roundwood School 3.30 – 6/6.1

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.

WORLD WHEELCHAIR DAY

On Saturday 3rd March Watford FC are working with Herts Disability Sports Hub, London Titans and Aspire Powerchair football club to offer individuals aged between 9 and above to come along and try out Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Athletics and Wheelchair Football from 12pm – 1.30pm.

The event is free and individuals attending will have the opportunity to receive a free ticket to watch Watford FC V's West Brom at 3pm on the 3rd March. Spaces are limited so please sign up on the website if you are interested.

<https://www.watfordccsetrust.com/world-wheelchair-awareness-day>