

**TOWNSEND PARENTMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
**Friday 9th March 2018**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

'All you need is love' – Paul McCartney & John Lennon

**WORSHIP AT TOWNSEND**

Each month we have a different values focus for the school. For March our value focus is Awe and Wonder 'Dominion and awe belong to God; he establishes order in the heights of heaven' Job 25:2 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.

**YEAR 11 GCSE ACHIEVEMENT**

Year 11 will take their final trial examinations in English, mathematics and science on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. The Trial Examination timetable is attached. We are hoping that students work hard to ensure they are fully prepared for these critical examinations.

**YEAR 11 EXAMINATION TIPS**

Year 11 students should be well under way preparing revision notes for GCSE examinations! Please encourage your child to start to consolidate their class notes from years 10 and 11 to ensure they do not leave it until it is too late! Please see attachment.

**YEAR 8 GCSE OPTIONS EVENING - THURSDAY 15TH MARCH 7PM**

Please remember this essential evening is this coming week. The evening will consist of a talk about the options process and a subject fair where you can gather all information about the subjects and what they offer. Form tutors and members of the inclusion team will be available to offer guidance. Nicky Honeywell our YCHertfordshire Advisor (formerly Youth Connexions advisor) will also be available to provide guidance about potential careers and qualifications. Within school time, students have started to experience "typical" GCSE lessons to give them an insight into the changes from Key Stage 3 to GCSE as well as listening to talks about new subjects available to them. All students and parents/carers are required to attend this important evening and students should be in full school uniform. We look forward to seeing you Thursday  
Miss Reynolds

**PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Many apologies for the postponement of our last meeting. We would like to put forward another date for this term on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am and again at 6.30pm. This group is about sharing ideas and strategies for children with additional needs. Needs that could be learning related (ASD Autism ADHD etc) or around emotional needs and anxiety. Parents/carers of all years are welcome.

**THEATRE TRIPS - FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND**

Please see attached flyers for two exciting forthcoming trips to London. They leave school at 5pm and back to school around 11.30pm. Nothing could be easier for an enjoyable evening out. For anyone wishing to join the database or come off database please let me know. See you there. Jackie & Heather

**CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS DISPLAY AT ALBAN ARENA**

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 start time 7.00pm

All students involved have taken home letters which they need to return the permission slip from the bottom. Tickets are being sold every break time outside the large canteen. Adults £6 Children £4. Previous shows have been extremely popular and the students work really hard to perfect their performances. Do come along and support all their hard work.

## **CAREERS**

On Wednesday this week 48 students went to a careers event run by the NHS. The students found it to be informative, interesting and valuable in helping them find out more information about careers and career pathways in the area of health. We will now continue to support students with follow up sessions at school.

If your child is interested in any particular career (not just the NHS) and would like more information, please ask them to see Mrs Maguire or their form tutor.

There are a number of displays around the school to give your child a visual representation of the link between studying particular subjects and jobs. These are displayed in the Foyer, the Discovery Centre, in pupils Record of Achievement Books and in most of the classrooms for a particular subject. Please encourage your child to study these displays and discuss possible career/ jobs that they find interesting. It's never too early!

Mrs Maguire

## **SUBJECT INFORMATION**

### **GEOGRAPHY**

#### **YEAR 10 AND 12 FIELD TRIP TO SWANAGE**

##### **Parent's information evening**

Just a reminder that there will be a compulsory parent/carer information evening on Tuesday 20th March 2018 at 6pm in the school lecture theatre where you will gain information about what we will be doing whilst in Swanage and Health and Safety information for the trip. Also the final payment for this trip is due March 31st 2018. Many thanks. Miss Reynolds.

### **HISTORY**

#### **Year 7**

Students are currently studying Islamic civilisations and the Crusades. They will write an assessment on impacts of the Crusades on both Europe and the Middle East in the Middle Ages before or after Easter. A good starting point for further reading is [http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/history/the\\_wider\\_world/medieval\\_islamic\\_world/revision/2/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/history/the_wider_world/medieval_islamic_world/revision/2/)

#### **Year 8**

Students have been set their independent learning project for this half term and project checks are underway. Students are expected to work and complete this in their own time. Please refer to project sheet and SMHW for instructions and deadlines.

#### **Year 10 GCSE**

All Y10 GCSE History students are sitting their Paper 2 trial examinations in classrooms therefore it is important they revise and come in prepared. Revision materials have been uploaded on SMHW, in the school public folder and Hodder revision guides can also be purchased for further support. 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.

#### **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 the history trial examination. Your child has been given a lunchtime revision and lesson countdown as a guide based on requests made earlier in the week.

We encourage Year 9, 10 and 11 History students to buy Revision guides (includes key information, exam skills focus and exercises) for the Crime & punishment, American West, Elizabethan England and Weimar and Nazi Germany at £4 each. They may obtain these directly from their History teacher. 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)

### **ENGLISH YEAR 11**

Students in Mrs Bunyan's class and Mrs Harris' class have their Paper 2 Literature trial examination on Monday and their Paper 2 (Language) on Tuesday. Students in Ms Probyn's class have a Paper 1 (Language) on Monday and a Paper 2 (Language) trial examination on Tuesday.

Students in Mrs Bunyan's and Mrs Harris' class should have re-read the play of 'An Inspector Calls' and should be using BBC Bitesize and Mr Bruff to supplement their class notes. Students should be learning key quotations for the characters in 'An Inspector Calls'. Students should also be revising the poems they have studied from the 'Power and Conflict' collection.

On Monday night, all students should be focusing on Paper 2 Language skills and reminding themselves of exactly what skills are needed for each question.

The English Department

### **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**Revision Guides** for GCSE students are available to purchase from the School Shop for the price of only £2.75 each on Tuesday and Thursday at break time. If due to any financial difficulty you would like support to purchase these please do speak in confidence with Ms Sheppard or your child's Director of Learning.

#### **Commonwealth Service**

The students of Townsend have been invited to take part in the Commonwealth Service on Sunday 18th March 2018 starting at 11:15. This service will be taking place at the Abbey and Cathedral Church of St Alban and we invite all of you our parents and careers to attend to support your children.

This is an exciting opportunity for the school and the students to participate in great reflection for the community.

We would like your assistance with encouraging your child/children to see Ms Sheppard if they would like to participate and remind all those with consent forms to return them on Monday.

Please find attached your personal invitation to this community event.

Ms Sheppard

### **PE FIXTURES**

Year 7 district netball tournament - Tuesday 13th March at Sir John Lawes School  
3.30 - 6pm

***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.***

***Teach in Herts Teacher Recruitment Fair***  
*Hertfordshire Development Centre, Stevenage*

***Saturday 10th March 2018 – 10am to 2pm***

*If you are interested in a teaching role in Hertfordshire or considering a career change into teaching, come and talk face to face with schools or teacher training providers and attend inspirational workshops.*

*Please register for the free to attend recruitment fair at [www.teachinherts.com](http://www.teachinherts.com)*

***SPACE*** *is a charity supporting families in Hertfordshire with children who have Autism ADHD Related Conditions*  
*We meet up once a month (term time only) at each of these locations across Hertfordshire:*

*Bishop Stortford, Cheshunt, Hatfield, Hertford, Hoddesdon, St Albans, Stevenage, Ware and Welwyn*

*We have regular professional speakers, workshops, social events plus a library of books to borrow.*

*Come along to meet other Parents/Carers*

*If you would like more information about our charity please contact the SPACE team at the above email address.*

*Alternatively, check our website or find us on FACEBOOK under the name of SPACE*

### ***FASHION AND TEXTILE CHILDRENS TRUST***

*Grants for children with disability or additional needs*

*If you are a parent raising a child with a disability or additional needs, an FTCT grant could help with specialist equipment, therapies, sensory toys and more.*

*To apply, you must be able to answer yes to the following:*

- You are the parent or full-time carer for a child aged up to 18 years.*
- You or your partner works (or has worked) in the UK fashion and textile industry for a minimum of 1 year, within the last nine years.*

*The first step in applying, is to complete our online enquiry form.*

*If you are no longer in work, but you or your partner has worked in the fashion and textile industry for more than one year, (within the last 9 years) you can still apply for a grant.*

*<https://www.ftct.org.uk/grants-for-children-with-disability-or-additional-needs>*