



TOWNSEND
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Townsend Church of England School - Edition 5 / Autumn Term 2023

Weekly Newsletter



TOWNSEND
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carer

On Tuesday Year 7 had the pleasure of attending the Vineyard Church for a performance of Bible stories by the Riding Lights Theatre Company. It was a fantastic start to the week and one we very much hope to be able to attend again.

Please can I remind that I am hosting two information evening in the next few weeks. The theme of these is for me to share our vision for Townsend. There will also be presentations from Mrs Gibbons on Online Safety and from Mrs Llewellyn on how to support you child with their learning. There is no

need to book and will take place from 7.00pm – 8.00pm in the Hall. **Monday 16th October** (Y7 to Y9) and **Wednesday 1st November** 2023 (Y10 – Y13).

I am sure you will have noticed our increased presence on social media since September as we look to showcase everything that is fantastic about Townsend. This month we will be appearing in the Hertfordshire Life magazine schools section. Please look out for us if you are a regular reader. If not, I have attached a copy of the article they have written about us.

The school Governing Body plays an integral role in the continued success and future progress of Townsend. We currently have two vacancies for Parent Governors. Please see attached to this newsletter a letter from our Chair of Governors, Mrs Helen Quenet for further details.

Headteacher commendations this week are for:

Year 9: Jewel R

Year 13: Aaron R

Year 11: Jasmine O’G, Lydia L

Have a great weekend

Mr Anthony Flack

Headteacher Townsend School

'Where everyone is welcome and everyone succeeds'



Prayer:

Dear God,

We thank you for our many talents and skills

As we celebrate National Poetry day

We thank you for the gift of poetry and

for our teachers who encourage us to use our own imaginations.

Amen

Bible Verse:

'For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.'

Romans 15:4

The school's Christian vision is taught through the parable of the **Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:25-37), teaching people to **'love your neighbour'** and practising the values of respect, love, wisdom, hope, stewardship and awe & wonder, all of which can be seen in this story. Our Bible-based vision supports our long-standing school ethos of 'respect for all, achievement for all'; look after one another, and you can all achieve together. Our ethos comes from wholly Christian principles.

Achievement for All, Respect for All

Year Group Notices

On **Tuesday 3rd October** year 7 students attended the Vineyard in St Albans for a RE trip. The student's behaviour was impeccable, and they thoroughly enjoyed the play throughout the afternoon.

Thursday this week, some students visited Oaklands College in St Albans to participate in a range of fantastic team building exercises where they develop their communication skills, confidence and self esteem. All the students really enjoyed the experience and took a lot from it.

Within English lessons this week, students have been writing a letter to their Primary school teachers inviting them in on **Wednesday 18th October**. Students will have the opportunity to show them around the school, talk about how well they have settled down into secondary school and introduce them to their form tutor. The Primary School visits will take place from 3:45pm - 5:00pm.

Our good news Friday winner for this week was **Jenna W-T** for her excellent effort and attitude to learning. Jenna was nominated by her form tutor, Miss Hill.

Regards,

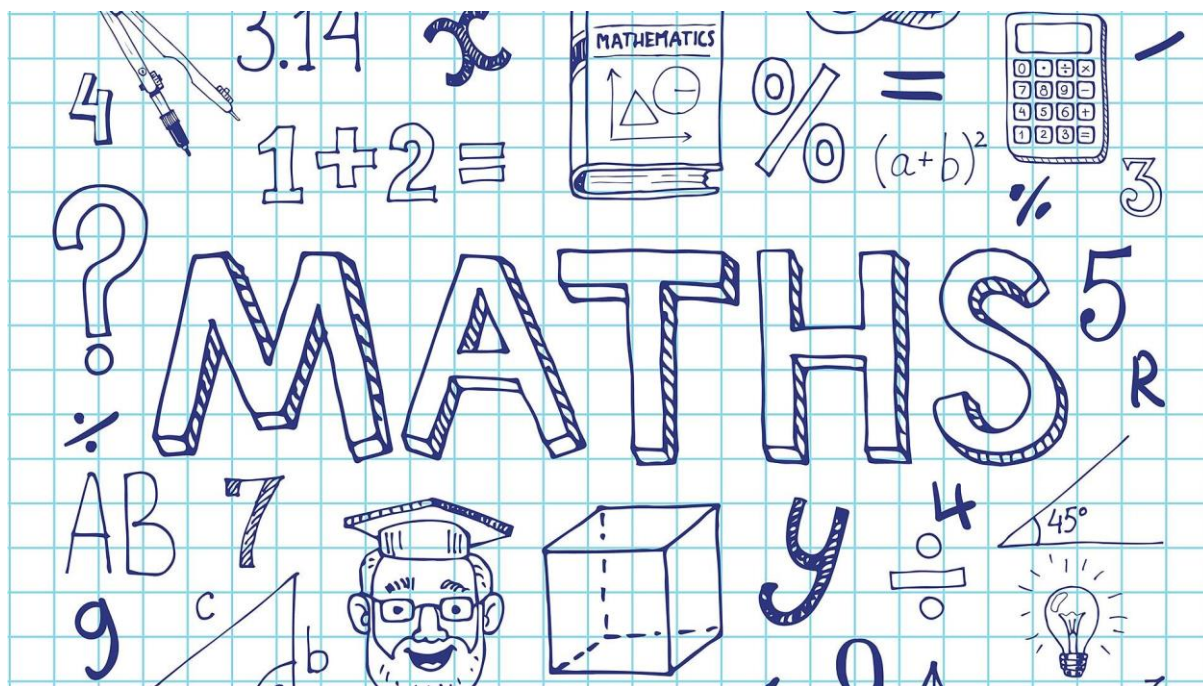
Mr Brooks

Head of Year 7





Subject Spotlight



Mathematics

Year 7:

This half term Year 7 will be focusing on Algebraic Thinking focusing on Sequences and Algebraic Notation and Equality and Equivalence. We began the term with a Smarties project and looking at all the different Mathematic skills we can use just from a box of Smarties. This included creating Frequency Tables, Tally Charts, Representing Data and Estimating. Classes should be receiving one piece of homework each week, which should last 30 minutes.

Year 8:

Year 8 have started the academic year in sets for the first time since being at Townsend. The students will applying their skills gained from Year 7 to new units, which they have never covered before such as Ratio & Scale, and Proportion Problems in the first half term. This will be the focus of their first assessment, which will take place on the W/C 16th October.

Year 9:

Year 9 have made a bright start to the academic year where the focus on the first half term will be Reasoning with Algebra. The year group have explored how Straight Line Graphs are formed, understanding about Gradients and Y-Intercepts, and then using these skills to find the Equation of Line. As we move onto Forming and Solving Equations, the year group have understood the links between both units. This will be the focus of their first assessment, which will take place just after half term.

Year 10:

Year 10 have begun the year with great focus and understanding of the importance this year brings. The focus on the first half term is on Geometry and Year 10 are able to understand the difference between Similarity and Congruence in shapes and triangles with the Higher Tier able to apply Similarity to Area and Volume. We have now moved onto Trigonometry and 10x1 are developing their knowledge to Trigonometry at Further Maths. The year group will now take assessments which are used from previous GCSE papers and will be assessed using GCSE grades. Their first assessment will be on W/C 16th October.

Year 11:

Year 11 have returned to school with excellent attitude in Maths with many students attending extra intervention and revision sessions already. There is a bigger focus on application to exam style questions this year and a lot of the year group are working very hard to achieve the best possible grade they can achieve. Year 11 were given Summer Homework and were assessed on one of the papers as we returned to school with 3 students achieving 100%. Well done Year 11!

Sixth Form:

Yet again Mathematic has proven to be a very popular subject choice in Year 12 and 13 and the start they have made with the transition from Year 11 and Year 12 respectively has been noted by their teachers at A-Level. In Core Maths Year 12 and 13 are understanding how Maths is used in the real world and other subjects as we focus on how companies use Standard Deviation and Averages and will move onto Financial Maths next term.

Student of the Month:

Year 7: Evie O

Year 8: Kushane N

Year 9: Divine B

Year 10: Natalie C

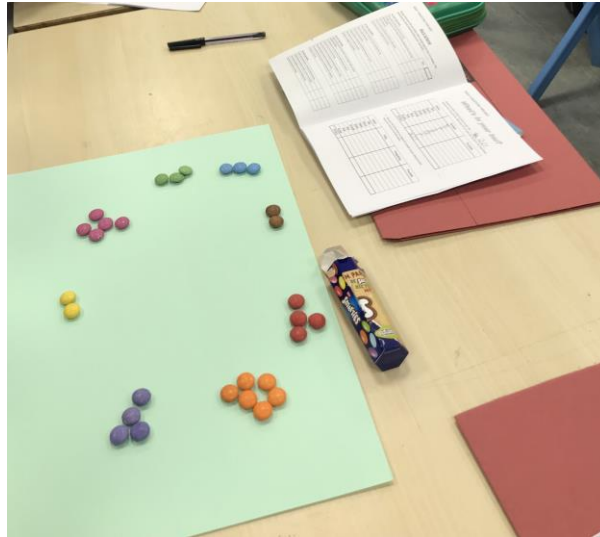
Year 11: Hayley F

Year 12: Amelia H

Year 13: Arianna P

Mr Timpson

Head of Maths



Townsend's Book Machine!

If you have been into school recently, you may well have noticed our new book vending machine in the main foyer, we are very excited about it!

This is a new reward scheme for our students, for those who have done something totally amazing, with schoolwork, enrichment, helping others or doing something for our school community. Any student who receives a golden book token can use this in the vending machine to choose a book to keep (it is tokens only; you cannot use cash in the machine). In order to keep the books topped up, for all our students to access, we have set up a wish list with Books on the Hill (independent bookshop in St Albans) so parents and member of our community can choose a book to donate to the school. If the vending machine is full, we will add the book to our library in the Discovery Centre for students to borrow.

If you would like to donate a book to Townsend for our students, please click on the link below which will take you to our wish list. You can then choose the book you would like to donate, pay for it online, and the bookshop will deliver it directly to us. If you click the tabs at the top of the wish list it takes you to the different collections we have chosen. Link: <https://www.books-on-the-hill.co.uk/townsend> Password: Townsend

Thank you so much for your help and support of this venture if you are able to donate. We are really very grateful and excited to be able to offer such a lovely opportunity for our students.

Mrs Buckland

Assistant Headteacher







Attendance

Attendance - does your child struggle to attend school due to anxiety? Hertfordshire have produced a parent's guide to Emotionally Based School Avoidance and you can read it here. School staff use this guidance to support families and pupils where feeling anxious about attending school is causing low attendance.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/Local-Offer/Media-library/Documents/Emotionally-Based-School-Avoidance-Parent-guidance-PDF-642kb.pdf>

Miss Gibbons

Assistant Headteacher



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

Here are some places you can get in touch with for help:

The Sandbox (<https://sandbox.mindler.co.uk/>) The Sandbox is an online NHS-funded service to support children and young people in South Staffordshire and Hertfordshire with their mental health and well-being.

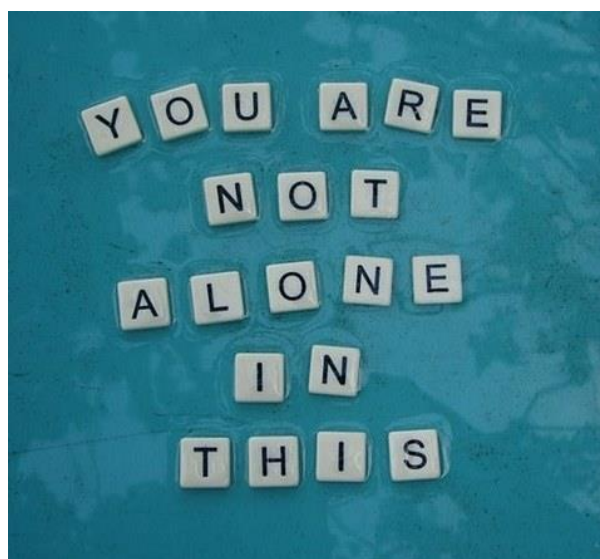
Kooth.com (<https://www.kooth.com/>) provides free, online support Mon – Fri 12pm – 10pm and Sat & Sunday 6pm – 10pm, 365 days a year.

Shout provides free confidential support via text 24/7, just text SHOUT to 85258.
<https://giveusashout.org/>

Childline provides free 24hr counselling service call 0800 1111 or go to
<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/1-2-1-counsellor-chat/>

For Me App: <https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me/> A free app from Childline. It offers counselling, group message boards, and advice.

MeeTwo App: <https://www.meetwo.co.uk/> A safe forum for teens including advice from experts on any topic that is difficult to talk about and built in signposting.



1 - If you're struggling emotionally with anything please drop me an email to well-being@townsend.herts.sch.uk and I will try to signpost you to additional support. Kate Barron

Safeguarding



Any of our Team can be contacted through the school office – by telephone or by using email to safeguarding@townsend.herts.sch.uk

Please find the quick link below for reporting any incidents of bullying at the school

[Bullying Report Form](#)

There is a lot of information about safe practice with regards remote learning and use of the internet – please do access what you can so children remain safe while using lap tops and PCs at home.

Two particular websites that support schools are CEOP and Think You Know

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Do have a look at both for tips and advice.

Do you know how to keep your children safe online? Take a look at the UJ Safer Internet Centre's guides to parents and carers to ensure you children are safe online.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Can we remind all parent/carers the designated safeguarding leaders in the school are;

Mr M Armitage- Assistant Headteacher

Ms K Barron - Student and Family Wellbeing Lead

Mrs K Brooks - Assistant Headteacher

Miss L Gibbons - Assistant Headteacher

Miss E Gordon - Director of Learning for Year 8 and Head of Key Stage 3

Mrs G Llewellyn - Deputy Headteacher

Miss A Philpott- SENDCO

Mr R Potter - English Teacher and Year 9 form tutor

Mr M Tominey- Director of Learning for Sixth Form

Stay Connected:

Facebook- @townsend.cofe.school

Instagram- @townsend.cofe.school

Twitter- @townsend_school