

Have a safe & restful festive holiday

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The second half of this term has been a demanding one for our school community. Despite this, I continue to be inspired by the way in which our school continues to uphold the Townley values. This newsletter is a testament to how our students and staff have been resilient in their efforts to continue the provision of academic, extra-curricular and wellbeing support under the most challenging of circumstances.

The Townley values are at the core of this term's message, whether it is students and staff earning their place on the Muse Board, students receiving Jack Petchey Awards or the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors being awarded the Community Action Badge; it is humbling to know that our community has social conscience at its heart.

It has been heart-warming to read all the messages from parents/ carers over the course of the term; your support and words of encouragement have been instrumental in lifting the spirits of our staff community in what has been the most extraordinarily challenging term.

As I take the time to pause and reflect, I would like to emphasise how I have been continually humbled by the resilience and perseverance shown by our staff and students since September. I am also exceptionally proud to say that we have not allowed COVID to interrupt our usual practices and have therefore ensured that all calendared events have taken place, albeit virtually. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate our Townley@home provision; this has grown from strength to strength, with significantly higher levels of engagement and interactivity as well as a sharp increase in the technical skills adopted by our staff body. Although the end of term may lack some of the festivities that we are used to, the community spirit has continued virtually, with Christmas jumpers being worn in Google Classrooms, students creating some wonderfully creative gingerbread houses and tutors delivering end of term celebrations via Google Meet.

I would like to thank staff and students involved in the organisation and running of these events, all of them taking place virtually for the first time. Our virtual Open Events have been very well received with excellent feedback from prospective parents and students alike.



Townley@home, our virtual learning platform, continues to thrive with both the pastoral and extra-curricular hubs being a hive of activity. Do take a look in this edition of the newsletter to see the finalists and overall winner of Townley's very own Bake Off!

Plans and arrangements for after the school holiday have already been communicated. Please do take the time to read the information and continue to access the school website for updates - there are a number of actions required by parents so it is particularly important that this communication is read carefully.

As we move into 2021, it is important to celebrate all we have achieved and reflect on positive messages of support, care and appreciation for each other. I hope the break allows for much needed respite for our school community.

I wish you all a safe and restful winter break.
Merry Christmas & a very Happy New Year!



Nevita Pandya,
Headteacher



TOWNLEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

From here it's possible

NEWSLETTER

TOWNLEY ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT, DA6 7AB

020 8304 8311

ADMIN@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR.ORG.UK

CHARITY / FUNDRAISING

TOWNLEY GIVES

Townley's students uphold the value of social conscience

On Friday 13th of November, Children In Need was celebrated and fundraised for by the whole Townley community. The entire Sixth Form dressed up in their amazing and extravagant costumes, displaying their creative ideas and group outfits, and the lower school also got involved as they actively participated in our inter-year competition based on this day. Leading up to Children in Need, the whole school felt the collective spirit of an amazing cause that Townley has raised money for, for many years. Despite the setbacks we faced due to the pandemic and we want to thank everyone who donated and raised money for Children In Need. All the donation and funds raised go towards charities that help disadvantaged children and young people around the UK and we are extremely proud as a community to be reaching out to help others at a time where it is most important.



BBC

Children in Need



CONNECT WITH



@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR



TOWNLEY GIVES

Social conscience, one of Townley's key values is at the heart of our Sixth Form.

Our sterling Prefect team are trailblazers in this and would like to share with the school community some of their achievements this half term.

Two initiatives students have accomplished, in extremely trying times, include raising money for charities at a time when the sector is struggling for funds. The Sixth Form team are incredibly proud of our students.

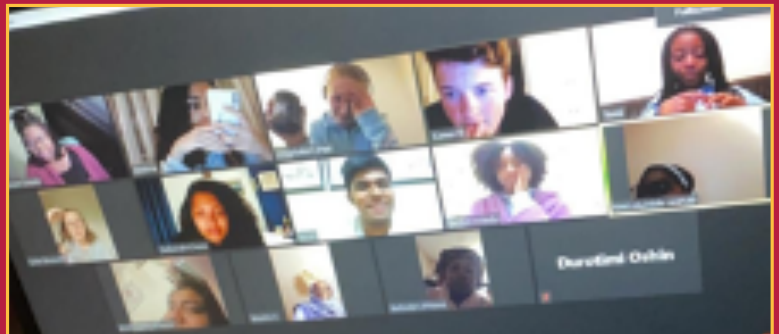
Mrs Shetty, Head of Sixth Form



Stay Up Challenge

In October, Townley's Senior Prefect raised almost £1000 (including gift aid) after they decided to undertake the challenge of staying awake for over 24 hours in order to raise money for the charity Centrepoin. Centrepoin is a charity that aims to end youth homelessness through the provision of food, housing and education. After a long week of school, the prefects woke up on Friday morning and were not allowed to go to sleep until late Saturday morning. They stayed awake by having a marvel marathon, early morning baking, dancing, general knowledge quizzes and lots of caffeine. In the morning, they had a heartfelt conversation about how much harder this would be for the young people their age that have to stay awake every night in the cold due to more threatening situations. It was an eye-opening experience, one that allowed the team to understand just how lucky they are to have a place called home.

Miriam T 13.7





COMMUNITY SPIRIT

No matter the circumstances, our community has compassion at its heart

What a tremendous effort. Townley students have risen to the challenge despite all years not being in school and we collected over 1,330 items for Greenwich food bank which is only 3 miles from Townley and covers a large area of south east London.

Especial thanks to Kate D and Adele P for instigating this.

To Mrs Olszowka for driving us in the minibus

To year 7 for collecting 426 items

To Year 11 for collecting 322 items

Most items collected - 7 Artemis - 133 and 10 Artemis 118

However more than that. Every single item donated will be used to help those who need it most and help provide a means to support families this Christmas.

Ms Cox



Please purchase one or more item(s) from this list and donate to the boxes in your form rooms
Thank you

- Baby Food** (Tinned or Bottled)
- Baby Milk** (Powdered)
- Biscuits or Snack Bars**
- Cereals**
- Cooking Oil**
- Fruit Juice** (Carton)
- Instant Mash Potato**
- Jam**
- Milk** (UHT or Powdered)
- Pasta Sauces**
- Rice Pudding** (Tinned)
- Soup**
- Sponge Pudding** (Tinned)
- Sugar** (500g)
- Tea Bags/Instant Coffee**
- Meat/Fish** (Tinned)
- Fruit** (Tinned)
- Sanitary Products**
- Tomatoes** (Tinned)
- Toiletries**

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income and because of Covid. We provide a minimum of three days' emergency food and support to people experiencing crisis in Greenwich.

Company No. 8257431 Charity No. 1152007



COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Staff uphold Townley values of resilience and spirit

Rowing challenge for charity

Mrs Greener is rowing 5km for 50 days to raise £500 for Mental Health.

She has decided to set herself the challenge to row 5km for 50 consecutive days to help raise £500 for mental health.

Into Lockdown #2, Mrs Greener decided to turn to the rowing machine as her form of exercise to help her physical and mental wellbeing during this time. Mrs Greener had spoken to a couple of friends who were struggling and finding it all much harder this time around and also witnessing the impact all this has had on many of the students, decided to use her rowing to help others.

Speaking to her form about her idea; they suggested some charities that would be good to row for. The chosen charities are Mind Bexley, a local charity that help people with mental health and Childline, a wider charity that help many children day to day who are struggling.

Mrs Greener hopes that this can make a difference, however small!

If you would like to donate towards one of the charities please use the link below:

MindBexley:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/row5kmfor50days>

Childline:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/row5kmfor50daysforchildren>



#MentalHealthMatters
#BelieveinYourself

YOUR mental health MATTERS

1 am Rowing 5km for 50 days

believe in yourself

Any support that you can give to these charities would be much appreciated:

mind IN BEXLEY for better mental health.

ChildLine 0800 1111



TOWNLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Supporting our community during the festive season

In light of a very difficult year, we want to use the festive season to give back to our local community and do what we can to help others. Please help us support these 3 incredible charities during this Christmas season

**Crisis
at Christmas**

Give someone a Crisis Christmas

2020 has shown us how much we need and depend on each other for connection and support in difficult times. It has also shown us how important our home is. More than ever, people who are homeless need to know that we care.

Please help us support Crisis by:

- donating via the JustGiving page, you can access with this QR code
- sending a goodwill message to the people Crisis will be helping at Christmas via this Cognito form:



<https://www.cognitofrms.com/OdysseyTrustForEducation/CrisisAtChristmasMessage>

Share a Christmas Message

Instead of buying and writing christmas cards this year Townley Grammar School will be donating to local hospice charity, Demelza House.



You can donate via the JustGiving page accessed with this QR code and post a Christmas message to your friends, teachers and support staff.



Demelza

Hospice Care for Children



Christmas Jumper Day

Wear your festive jumper on Friday 11th December (at school or at home!) and help us raise money for Save the Children by donating £1 via your squid account.



From here it's possible

**TOWNLEY
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL**



TOWNLEY MUSES

Townley students and staff earn their place on the Muse Board

Townley Muse Board

The Townley Muse Board is a recognition of members of our community's achievement both in and outside of school. Every term students and staff are carefully chosen in recognition of them showing true Townley values, such as confidence, resilience, integrity and compassion. They are a source of inspiration for the other students and staff in the school.

The following members of our community have been selected as Townley Muses for the Spring Term 2021.

Congratulations to you all. **Ms L Butler Assistant Headteacher.**



Aavni and Liberty 7.Demeter. Faridat, 7. Athene for their ability to inspire. These students spoke exceptionally during the Virtual Open Event.



Sacha, 8. Hera for showing resilience by persevering through a difficult period of health but not giving up and catching up with all her work successfully.



Zara, 9 Hestia for showing spirit. Zara created a lovely video, celebrating the diversity in 9 Hestia, to feature in the Cultural Showcase.



TOWNLEY MUSES

Townley students and staff earn their place
on the Muse Board



Olivia, 10 Hestia following discussions about Period Poverty, was proactive in organising and led the form to distribute sanitary products and top-up supplies in each toilet around school. A true example of working kindly and supporting our school community!



Adwoa, 11 Hera for her ability to Inspire by arranging a wonderful farewell speech & gift from 11 Hera to their Form Tutor, who had been at Townley for 15 years.



Nathan, 12.3 for showing compassion. Nathan's behaviour is exemplary, he is popular for his kindness and he helps other understand tough concepts. Nathan is very polite to his peers as well as teachers, and is always willing to contribute.



Natasha, 13.6 for her social conscience. Natasha volunteered for both the cultural showcase and reviewed the Black History Month events. She has a fantastic sense of community.



TOWNLEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

From here it's possible

NEWSLETTER

TOWNLEY ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT, DA6 7AB
020 8304 8311 ADMIN@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR.ORG.UK

TOWNLEY MUSES

TOWNLEY MUSES

Townley students and staff earn their place
on the Muse Board



Miss Avery



Miss Ford



Miss Greener

SCHOOL
VALUE

*Ability to
Inspire*

These three members of staff are nominated for demonstrating the ability to inspire, resilience, courage and compassionate care for students without a second thought.

We are extremely grateful to have them as part of our school community.

CONNECT WITH



@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR



THE DIANA AWARD / JACK PETCHEY AWARD



THE DIANA AWARD

Students awarded Community Action Badge

The Diana Award, a charity set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales and her belief that young people have the power to change the world, awards students with special recognition for their community spirit.

This term, our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were awarded with the Community Action Badge. The message from the Diana Award Team is here:

"We were overwhelmed with how much thought and effort you've put into the community focused anti-bullying activities. It seems like all of the activities have had a great impact on the students in your school and their parents. Thank you so much for sharing all this evidence. We've really loved looking over it all.

Congratulations, we are awarding you the Community Action Badge! What a fantastic achievement and a true testament of your hard work as a team."



JACK PETCHEY AWARD



Congratulations to the Jack Petchey winners this year (which were delayed until September). These students received £250, a certificate and badge and will (hopefully) get to attend an award ceremony at some point to receive their medal.

Caitlin C 11. Aph won for being a fantastic all round sports woman who has represented Townley in indoor athletics, netball, athletics, leadership and rounders/cricket. She also plays Hockey to County level as well as playing Regional Hockey for the first team at Burnt Ash. Caitlin is determined to do her best in every aspect of PE and always encourages and supports her peers. During lockdown, she kept herself fit and motivated running 3 times a week, building up to her longest run of 12km and gaining a 10km pb of 48 minutes and she is now focusing on training to break the 23minute barrier for a 5km. Caitlin is an absolute delight and a role model to all her peers and team mates.

Kacie S 12.2 was awarded her Jack Petchey because whilst in Year 11, she demonstrated great resilience. Kacie achieved great academic success with her GCSE results. She continues to be involved widely across the school community in fact Kacie has been awarded joint Hera House Captain for this academic year. She continues to support her friends with academic and pastoral support.

Bola R 13.2 received her award for Services to the Computing department – Bola has been a Sixth Form student who has helped the Computing department enormously. Examples include: attending a Year 8 Trip to AWS Offices to help with the students, helping the students present a Year Group assembly about the trip and giving up her time to coach the students. On Safer Internet Day she ran a stall and helped with running the

event, attended Year 9 Parents Evening and Year 12 Open Evening. She put together a video about studying computing for our Virtual Year 12 computing welcome event in the summer and we have just asked her to help with filming for the Open Day Event. Anything we throw at her to do she does, always with a smile and always happy to help out.

Conor D 13.2 was presented with the JP certificate because he was a House Captain last year and he is Head of Silver

Ties this year. Since joining Townley he has really thrown himself into the community and student body here and has tried to give back to Townley. Always enthusiastic and positive, he did Yoga & meditation exercises during lockdown. We are just really impressed with his can do attitude and he is always supporting his peers.

Mrs J Greener, PE Teacher



ENSURING CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

Senior Leadership Team visit during Tutor Time

The Senior Leadership Team visited tutor groups during November to provide a message to students about Townley values. Each member of the Senior Leadership Team spoke to students with a clear and positive message about rights and responsibilities. Townley invites parents to also engage with the message written here.

Here at Townley your wellbeing is central to everything we strive to do- we want you to experience a brilliant education and for you to feel comfortable and happy in our school community. Feeling comfortable and happy may seem a little ambiguous to you right now, given what is going on globally, nonetheless this is key to you being able to learn and flourish at Townley. Our school values are rooted in fairness, equality, respect and responsibility. Townley is a wonderfully diverse community and we strive to be inclusive. Indeed, over the last 10 years the school has made significant changes and developed. None of you will be fully aware of these changes and we will help you understand the journey better.

You can see from our school values which hopefully make clear to you what I am talking about and what we aim to focus on getting even better at during this year. We are a strong school community and at our best we are unstoppable- think of what we have achieved together and can do together. I feel immensely proud of you all for taking everything in your stride with such good humour, positivity and care for one another. Townley students and staff never fail to deliver- thank you.

Having said that, we know that sometimes life can be unfair and sometimes you can feel like injustice and unfairness dominate society and perhaps even life at school. Any type of discrimination is not tolerated at TG.

Our Values

To encourage all pupils to have an open mind, a desire to be challenged and a respect for learning, each other and our environment.

To encourage in pupils a sense of dignity, integrity, responsibility and self-esteem.

To educate students to be mature, confident, articulate and caring individuals who grow into responsible citizens with a social conscience, able to lead others and act as change agents for a better society.



ENSURING CHANGE FOR THE BETTER / TOWNLEY REMEMBERS

This year we have a particular focus on racism, we will make this focus even clearer over the next months - we have a zero tolerance for the use of any racist language and treatment as we do of all other forms of discrimination and prejudice. The world outside our walls can be turbulent and we cannot control other people's words or actions so it is up to us to act as role models for the rest of society showing the content of our character matters more than anything else.

We thus have high expectations of ourselves, we need to be the best we can be. It is natural to disagree with people over some issues- the line we draw is when

behaviour crosses the line into insults and disrespect. Respect is a simple notion- we know instinctively what it means. Respect for others, their opinions, values and way of life. Respect for neighbours, respect for the school community which means caring about others and self-respect which means giving as well as taking- trying to be the best version of ourselves each day.

Along with our universal human rights and freedoms, we do have responsibilities. It is important we voyage on this journey together. We are united as one TG community, students and staff should work together and understand each other better.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(Research from the United Nations Convention of Child Rights)

Responsibilities go alongside Rights – with rights come responsibilities.

For example:

If every child is born free and equal, then they have a responsibility to treat other people as free and equal.

If each child is entitled to their own thoughts and ideas then it follows that they should respect the thoughts and ideas of others, and treat others in the same way as they wish to be treated themselves.

It is important students have respect for the community and everyone within it. Recently it has been apparent that at times some have fallen short of our values and expectations in their interactions. Unless we can establish a set of fair ground rules and foundations we cannot journey together. We should not take to social media to call out other students and staff, we should not disrespect each other with insults or labels that can cause personal distress and damage someone's

reputation irreparably. We should not behave in a way that is destructive of our school and all we stand for with behaviour that marginalises and separates. We will leave no student, nor staff member behind. So, this is a clear message to everyone, we will work together in a respectful way to make Townley an even better community.

Mr F de Fabiani, Assistant Headteacher



TOWNLEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

From here it's possible

NEWSLETTER

TOWNLEY ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT, DA6 7AB

020 8304 8311

ADMIN@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR.ORG.UK

TOWNLEY REMEMBERS

TOWNLEY REMEMBERS

Townley community held a virtual remembrance assembly and raised £122.27 for the Poppy Appeal

This year we held a virtual remembrance assembly in our school community. As in previous years, our School Officers paraded the flags and lay a wreath in the school hall.

The theme for this year was commemoration of VJ day and students found out more about the war in the Far East - not only some of the key events but also more about some individuals. Our School Officers explained about the role of the Commonwealth nations.

Britain and the Commonwealth's principal fighting force, the Fourteenth Army, was one of the most diverse in history - over 40 languages were spoken, and all the world's major religions represented. The descendants of many of the Commonwealth veterans of that army are today part of multicultural communities up and down the country; a lasting legacy to the success and comradeship of those who fought in the Asia-Pacific. This year we remembered the contribution of all Commonwealth and Allied Forces, without whom victory and the freedoms and way of life we enjoy today would not have been possible.

Part of our assembly also recognised the stories of individuals such as Rajindar Singh Dhatt who was living in pre-partition India and had almost finished school when the Second World War broke out. He had hoped to go to college, but his family couldn't afford to send him so he joined the British-Indian Army.

Joseph Hammond, now 95, who was at school in Ghana when the Second World War broke out in 1939. Having always wanted to join the Army, he signed up as a driver mechanic straight from school and Joshua, who was 19 when he joined the army in the Gold Coast - now Ghana - and went on to serve in the Far East campaign.

As a focus we also considered the role of the soldiers in the Far East and part of the service also involved the reading of the poem.



One will never know the price they paid
Suffering themselves, a sacrifice they made,
When all was lost, didn't give in
Often lost hope and couldn't win,
They gave of themselves, desperate to survive
A frantic effort to keep their mates alive,
What finer glory could they achieve?
Their courage against adversity we must
honour and believe,
What faith in those, for those that despaired
The gentle strength of those who cared,
Love has no equal one man for another
They are entwined brother for brother

Win Rainer – A Fepow's Wif

CONNECT WITH



@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR



TOWNLEY REMEMBERS

Having asked the school community for any stories related to family members, we also heard about Frank Harvey, the grandfather of one of our year 8 students, 'who volunteered for the RAF Volunteer reserve in 1942 when he reached the age of 18. He was trained as a Wireless Operator and could understand Morse Code with ease. He served in Iceland and then in England (he was based at RAF Bircham Newton in Norfolk on D Day). He was then posted to an AMES unit - Air Ministry Experimental Stations - which were radar units - initially in India and was promoted to Leading Aircraftsman. This unit was part of the planned invasion of Malaya (Operation Zipper) which was due to take place in September 1945, but the Japanese surrendered in August 1945 after the dropping of the two atomic bombs, and the "invasion" went ahead as an unopposed landing at Port Swettenham (Operation Tiderace). He continued to serve in the Far East until he was demobilised in September 1946. I recall him talking about Operation Tiderace - as although the Japanese had

surrendered, until the forces landed they were unsure whether local units would obey the surrender order, or would continue to fight. Fortunately, they followed the surrender, and there was no opposition when they landed on the beaches.'

A local resident Vivian Radcliffe Matthews who fought in both World Wars and served with the Royal Artillery in Hong Kong when it was captured by the Japanese in December 1941. His story is fascinating (as is the battle of Hong Kong) surviving both capture in Hong Kong and the sinking of the Lisbon Maru, a ship used by the Japanese to transport POWs to Japan. He sadly died in a captivity in February 1943 and is buried on in a war grave in Japan.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Senior Officers for their role in the assembly and also for selling poppies to our school community.

Mrs M Franz, Senior Assistant Headteacher

GERMANIC CLUB

Students from all ages joined the virtual Germanic Club at the beginning of the year to explore the German-speaking world and its culture through a different lens and beyond the classroom walls.

So far, students learned about "Martinstag" and created their own "Laternen". Moreover, students baked their own "Weckmann" and "Pfefferkuchenhaus" following German recipes. In December, the club learned about the world famous choral "Stille Nacht-heilige Nacht", it's history, content and popularity across the world followed by the famous Sainsbury's advert from 2014. Lastly, students learned how to write Christmas Cards in German which was a particular challenge for those who had just started the language in September. We are so excited to continue this adventure with many more members in January 2021.



by Frances OT in 10 Athene



LANGUAGES WEEK

Languages Week is a tradition at Townley which aims to celebrate the multiculturalism of the world, whilst also appreciating the diversity and multitude of languages spoken within our school community. We aim to ignite an enthusiasm for languages in all students and to promote their importance in the modern world.

This year Languages Week was held virtually, but this didn't stop the Languages Department from going above and beyond. We were all a bit nervous about how successful a virtual Languages Week would be but to our pleasant surprise the outcome was fantastic! The number of students willing to participate in activities ranging from a photography competition to the MFL parody challenge, and even a Hogwarts Latin Spell challenge, was phenomenal!

Despite the current global circumstances, we can confidently say that Languages Week this year was a

huge success and as a department, we would like to congratulate the following students who have been selected as the winners of the various competitions:

- Yonger X in 7 Artemis, Hikmah A in 7 Persephone, Anshika K in 7 Dem , and Eleanore P in 8 Artemis for the Photography challenge
- Sharinni S and Mirsha P in 8 Hera for the Languages Bake Off
- Hikmah A in 7 Persephone for the Comic Strip Competition
- Shruti K in 9 Artemis for the MFL parody challenge
- Ariana R in 9Hestia and Arya K in 11 Hestia for the Languages Praise card challenge

Bravo!



Hikmah A Comic strip winner



Arya K Languages Praise card winner



unter Mutter Natur

Yonger X Photography winner



Bake off winner picture



Eleanore P Photography winner



Anshika K Photography winner



Ariana R Languages Praise Card winner



Hikmah A Photography winner



ENGLISH - BLACK HISTORY MONTH / BEXLEY WOMEN'S AID

BLACK HISTORY MONTH COMPETITION

The English department were thrilled to receive so many excellent entries for the Black History Month competition we ran in October. The KS3 responses to the Dean Atta's novel 'Black Flamingo' were super inspiring and a joy to read/watch!

Congratulations to:

Year 7 - Avani A (7Aph)

Year 8 - Kirstin 8Dem

Year 9 - Sukhjot 9 Hera

Highly Commended entries go to:

Fareeda S (7 Hera) - painting

Eleanore Phillips 8 Artemis - poem

Sara Nika 7 Hestia - painting

Karina (7 Artemis) - painting

Aavni (7 Dem) - animation

At KS4 we looked at some work by deaf poet Raymond Antrobus and once again we could not help but be inspired by the number of thought-provoking entries we received. High praise goes to Priya in 10. Athene who wrote this poignant response...

The Echo (Priya 10Ath)
 An echo, but not just any echo-
 The Echo, communicating with those who are unknown to the
 Hearing World.
 Like one particular enthusiast of words,
 Raymond Antrobus,
 Warm, warm, blue and welcoming words;
 Like Castro flowers from Aunt Beryl.
 Able to sweeten bitter with his heart and years of closure,
 Trying to figure out how the sound machine operates.
 You can't imagine, for even Laura Bridgman warns Helen
 Keller,
 for Jesula Gelin, Vanessa Previl and Monique Vincent and
 especially
 Mother remembers...
 He projects every wavelength of every sound of every word of
 every phrase and every ode with his conversating words,
 In the Perseverance of the dementia of the mechanism of speech.
 Give him a round of applause! Louder! Louder!
 An ode for being Jamaican British, an ode for his hair, an ode
 for that useless sound machine.
 He can cry in his closure and not hear himself weep.
 He can write for Samantha or write with his heart and not hear
 himself wince in pain.
 He can see two guns in the sky pointing up high and not hear
 the bullet accelerate.
 But he can hear an echo, not just any echo- The Echo- The
 Goddess of Noise,
 She talks to him and he listens, being like a hotep, in his warm,
 warm, blue and welcoming words,
 Preaches the silent words of The Echo.

BEXLEY WOMEN'S AID

We had a speaker from Bexley Women's Aid come to our school to teach us various skills for the future. The speaker taught us about domestic abuse and how it affects many people in the world. 2.4 million people were affected by domestic abuse in March 2020.

We were also taught the different types of domestic violence and we were nurtured about how to can spot this violence in a relationship but also how to shield ourselves from situations similar to these. We also

had a lesson on consent and coercive control which helped us understand how to review situations in our futures and prevent the worst from happening.

Our school was very mindful about how students should understand that people around the room may experience situations like the ones we discussed and can be very sensitive to some issues presented.

I thought these lessons were educational and very important for the future. They helped us

understand as teenagers, how to react to such situations and created awareness for us to identify and prevent situations in the future.

Unfortunately, we had come into self-isolation as a year before our 3rd assembly but I know that these lessons that we have had were full of knowledge and were crucial things to take into consideration for the future.

Varshi 10. Aphrodite



HOUSE CAPTAINS BIOGRAPHIES



Megan D

Hello! I'm Megan and I am one of Aphrodite's House Captains. My role is to encourage our house to display compassion, ambition and pride in work in our daily lives. I'm currently studying French, English Literature and Government and Politics A-Levels, all three of which I have grown to prodigiously appreciate as I further journey through these courses. I am very excited to be a House Captain this year as I believe that we can emphasise the positivity and sense of community virtually, by epitomising and embodying compassion; an essential trait that we have recently learnt to value. Throughout the year, I hope to mobilise and encourage our house to engage with (potentially virtual) school events, including charity events for our house charity, SHP. These opportunities are valuable chances to exhibit our passion for developing and improving the local community and entering the benevolent and charitable world. With Christmas Jumper Day and World Book Day this term, I believe that our house can immerse ourselves in the embellishments and festivities of these animate event, and contribute considerably to the causes for which they take place. I hope the first term this academic year has been an enjoyable one and the next the same, if not better!

Rosanne C

Hi everyone! I'm Rosanne and I'm one of the House Captains for Aphrodite this year. This role is really exciting for me as we get the opportunity to organise house events such as prize-giving and assemblies, as well as promoting the importance of Aphrodite's house values- compassion, ambition and pride in work. If I had to choose which of my A-Levels was my favourite, between German, chemistry or biology, I honestly could not tell you because it changes every time I step out of a lesson! I love German because it is so interesting to learn about a new culture, biology because it is fascinating and so relevant in our day-to-day lives, and chemistry because I thoroughly enjoy the challenge of problem-solving. Thus in the future I am hoping to study either biology or biochemistry at university, possibly with the addition of German and aspire to become a teacher or work in the healthcare sector through biological research- I am still quite undecided! I am really excited to get to know all of you in Aphrodite and strengthen our connection as a house, as well as emphasise the importance of kindness outside and within our community.



HOUSE CAPTAINS BIOGRAPHIES

HOUSE CAPTAINS BIOGRAPHIES



Giovanna L

Hello! My name is Giovanna and I'm a co-captain of Artemis. Though it's only been a couple months, I would definitely say that A-levels have been a whole new world. I took English Lit, Classical Civilisations and Philosophy, which essentially means I'm a big fan of words. Essays galore. It's perhaps a little early for a favourite subject to emerge, though I've always had an appreciation for annotating books in English. As for my aspirations beyond sixth form, they're not vocational so much as a personal goal; one day I'd love to write a book. In my role as House Captain, I'd love to place a special interest on the goddesses themselves and their mythology, being that I've always had an avid fascination with the Pantheon. And no, I have not read Percy Jackson but I'm working on it.

Lacshan R

My name is Lacshan and I am one of the new year 12 House Captains for Artemis, I would like to say a big thank you to the previous House Captains last year and appreciate their efforts during the Coronavirus pandemic as they were unfortunate to not take part in certain events such as the awards assembly and the Sports Day which are key aspects of the house system and moments that can be cherished upon. Comparing the house values of Artemis - competitiveness, confidence and independence; the idea of competitiveness is not focused enough, therefore, we want to develop and improve the house system and make it the most engaging year yet, especially during these tough times we want to innovate new ideas which will immerse the whole school especially Artemis in particular, to compete amongst one another.



Sofia

Hi everyone, my name is Sofia and I am one of your House Captains for Athene this year. The subjects I currently study in Sixth Form are History, Politics and Philosophy and Ethics, and my academic goal for the near future is to go to university to study Law. As part of my role, I attend weekly meetings to discuss new ways to improve the house system to benefit all the students in Athene and then I feedback these ideas to you. This year, I'm looking forward to seeing more students getting involved in the school community and working together to channel the team spirit in our house! I'm excited to meet new faces in Athene, even if this is virtually, and to not only hear your ideas and suggestions but to also showcase all the amazing talent and skills we have in our house. Together, I'm certain that we can turn this uncertain year into an enjoyable one for everybody.

Mia

Hi everyone, I'm Mia and I'm one of the House Captains for Athene alongside Sofia. At a level I take biology, art and Spanish, I chose subjects I am passionate about and that I enjoy as I think that's very important.

I like to think that I'm an approachable and friendly person and am always around for anyone that has questions to ask. The thing I'm most excited about being House Captain is that I'll be able to be a part of a team that's helping peoples voices being heard and change being made within the school. My aspirations for the future are to maybe go to art college and definitely to carry on learning Spanish by living in Spain for a while as I love the culture and would love to be bilingual.



Wonu

Hi, my name is Wonu and I am one of the House Captains for Demeter. You can think of me as one of the go to people for all things Demeter related. I'm looking forward to meeting as many people in Demeter as I can - virtually - and helping Demeter win the House Cup. I take physics, maths and computer science. I like all of my A-Level subjects which may come as a surprise to all of you. But I definitely prefer computer science the most because knowing how to code and create programs and solutions from scratch is really intriguing. Hopefully I'll be able to go into software development in the future.

Ellen

Hi, my name is Ellen, and I am one of the Demeter House Captains this year. I hope that we will win the House Cup together and do our best to support the Stephen Lawrence Trust. I study English Literature, French and Maths for A-Level; since I spend a lot of time reading, English would definitely have to be my favourite. I am looking forward to working with you all this year!



HOUSE CAPTAINS BIOGRAPHIES



Kacie

Hi! My name is Kacie and I'm one of this year's Hera House Captains. I have been a part of Hera since year 7 and I have always been extremely passionate about Hera's house values; eloquence, excellence and self-respect. Therefore, I'm so excited for the opportunity this year to be House Captain and to over the year support my house and to encourage house spirit. I take English literature, Philosophy and ethics and sociology for my A level options and I'm loving them all at the moment. In the future I hope to study criminology at university as it is a passion of mine and would love to go into a career involving police investigation.

Maria

Hi! My name is Maria and I'm one of the House Captains of Hera. The subjects I currently study are English literature, French and sociology. Although I love all 3 of my subjects, my favourite is probably English because I find it's the most thought provoking and interesting. I'd like to go on to study it in university. Although I'm not certain what I want to do after that I think I am most likely to go into journalism/ TV presenting because I love to write and speak in public.

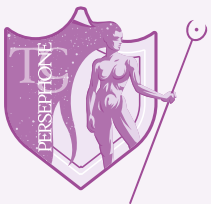


Diamond D

Hi everyone. I'm Diamond and I am this year's House Captain of Hestia alongside Aisha. I'm currently studying biology, chemistry and maths for A-Level and I hope to study medicine at university. My favourite subject at the moment is chemistry as it offers a deeper understanding and appreciation of the materials building our world and is a central science so it is a bridge between other physical sciences. I believe this is the year to revive the house system by having more inter-house competitions, more events which celebrate individual and house achievements, and by putting a lot of energy into helping our local community which is also one of the reasons why Hestia's chosen house charity this year is Evelina London Children's Hospital. I am thrilled to be working alongside all the other House Captains to make these exciting changes happen. This year, I think we should all aim to embody Hestia's house values of charity, consideration for others and industry while we pioneer through this unconventional year.

Aisha F

Hi everyone! My name is Aisha, and I am one of this year's Hestia's House Captains. I am so excited to be working with you all this year and cannot wait to help reignite our passions for the house system and encourage more active involvement. I take maths, further maths, economics and biology. Economics is by far my favourite subject and it is what I hope to study at university in the future. I then hope to get a job in the financial sector- ether investment banking or accounting. I love economics because it covers a broad range of topics and has real many life applications.

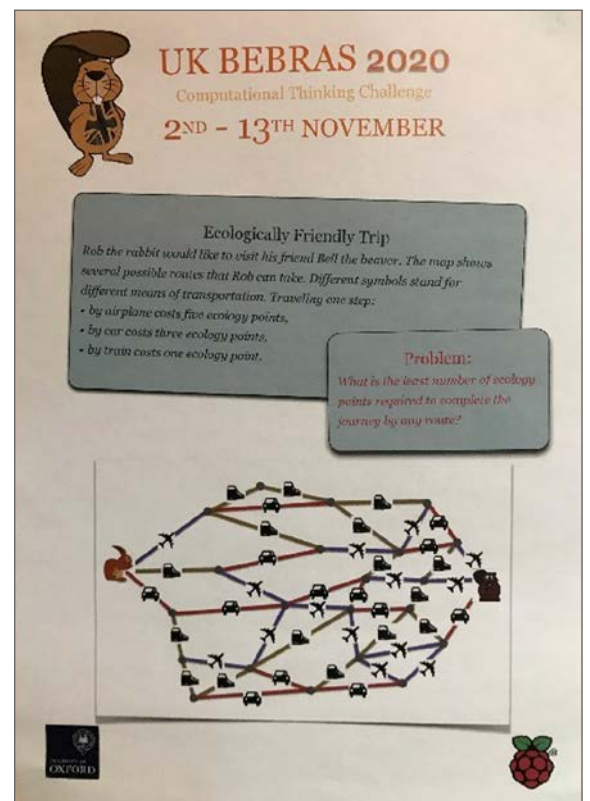
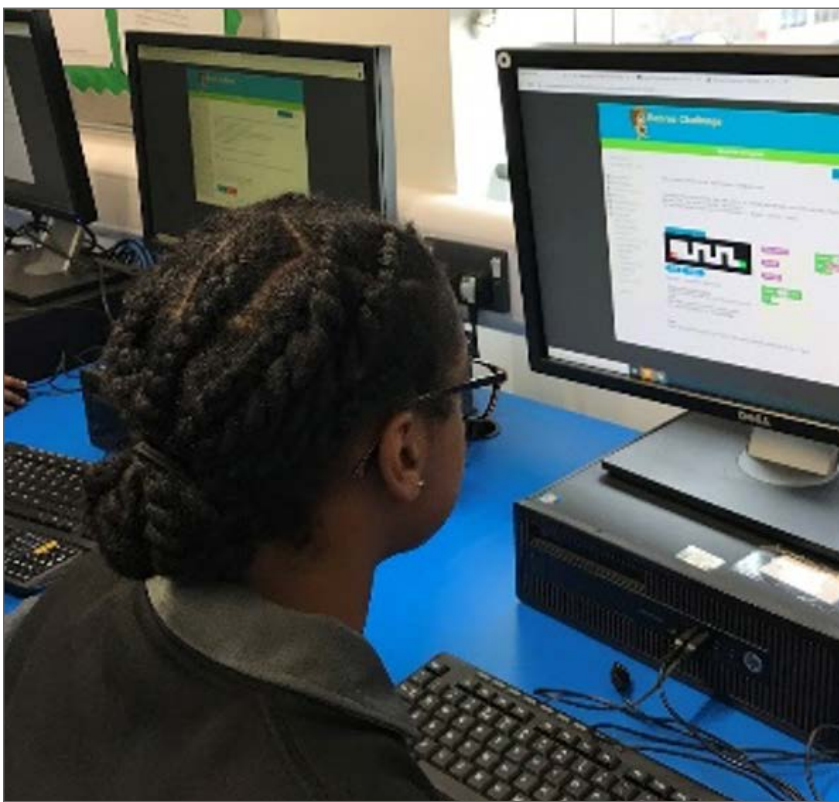


Suraby

Hi everyone, I'm Suraby, one of the House Captains of Persephone this year. For those of you new to Persephone, whether you are in Year 7 or Year 12, Persephone is a great house and we hope to win many competitions this year, in particular The House Cup, and we hope to excel at Sports Day. I have been in Persephone since Year 7 so I'm extremely excited to be one of the House Captains of Persephone this year. Our House Charity this year is the Dyslexia Association of Bromley, Bexleyheath, Greenwich and Lewisham. This year we are hoping to donate more than last year to our house charity and are looking forward to all the charity events.



BEBRAS COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CHALLENGE



Almost 800 students entered the BEBRAS Challenge, an annual competition run by the University of Oxford. Students from over 50 countries compete in this challenge and it is known for developing student computational skills and boosting their problems solving skills.

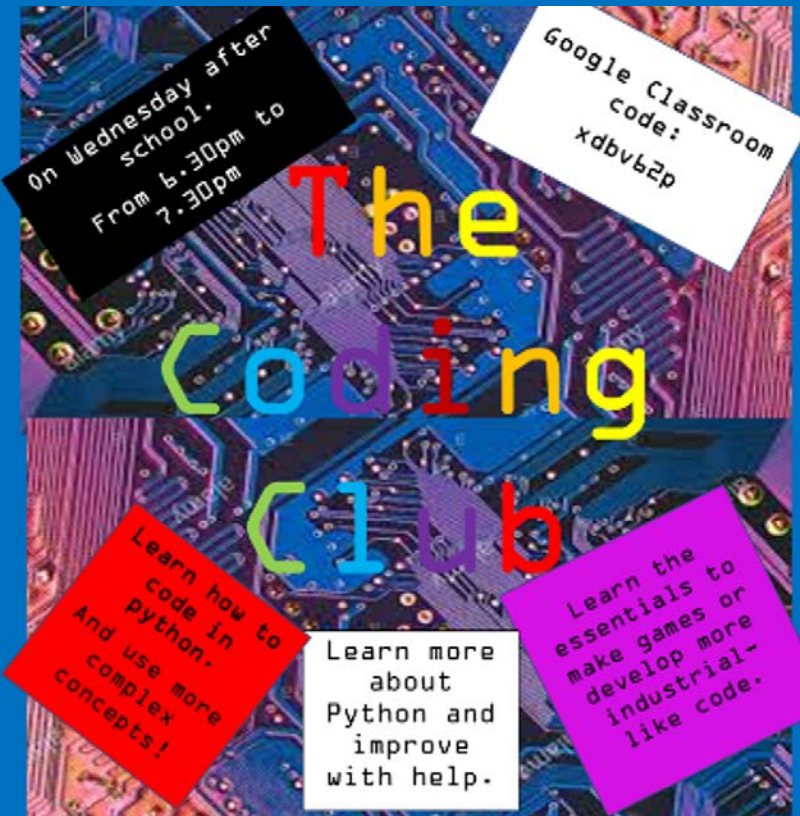
BEBRAS has awarded students with certificates and a number have obtained Gold Status, this is only awarded to the students who achieved in the top 10% nationally. These students will be invited by BEBRAS to compete in another challenge aimed to produce programmed solutions to computational thinking problems, the provisional dates are Round 1: 22nd - 26th February and Round 2: 18th March 2021. If you receive a gold certificate then please prepare for this challenge by trying out some of the resources on: www.oucc.uk

We would like to congratulate everyone for taking part and well done!

Certificates will be distributed soon and thank you for participating and making Townley proud!



CODE CLUB



The Computing department organised a Code Club again this year, which has been running weekly after half-term on a virtual basis. Our sixth form computer science students Michael and Ben have been delivering engaging sessions and teaching a range of students from year 7 to 9. The live lessons hold the most participants ever and the content delivered has ranged from basic programming statements and Loops in Python to Binary conversions! Students have been having lots of fun while learning complex skills. Ben and Michael have also encouraged students to participate in recent department events like the Hour of Code activities during Teach Computer Science week.

TEACH COMPUTER SCIENCE WEEK AND THE HOUR OF CODE



Computer Science Education Week December 7 - 13, 2020

Is your House the best at coding?

WATCH TUTORIALS
hoursofcode.com.uk



CODE EXCITING PROJECTS



WIN AMAZON VOUCHER



Join GC with a code S7xskp

The Computing department ran Hour of Code again this, during the week beginning 7th December for Teach Computer Science week, coordinated by Miss Kopycinska. Students in year 7 and 8 had a week of live mini lessons across a variety of topics such as training an artificial intelligence and designing apps. Year 9 and 10 had the opportunity to explore coding activities related to some of their favourite franchises and even how coding has helped run experiments on the international space station.



YEAR 10 PROGRAMMING SUPPORT

Students from our new GCSE cohort attended programming support led by Mr Easterbrook, one of our new teachers. Students were extremely happy with the delivery and clarifications provided.

These sessions will resume in January.



BINARY XMAS CHALLENGE

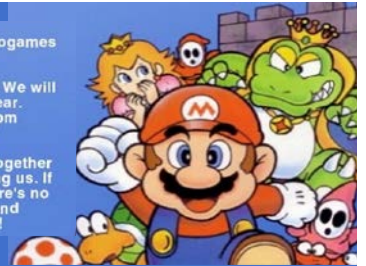
Some Xmas cheer was brought to some of our Year 8 Computing lesson this term, the classes on Wednesday paused their AWS App Project to help decorate the Computing Department's Christmas tree in the foyer of the Ada Lovelace Computing Suite. Developing their computational thinking skills, students were asked to make a decoration for the tree and write a cheerful Xmas themed word on the decoration using their binary skills. Thank you to all the students who participated and we are looking forward to developing the activity for one of our future STEM days. The decorated tree certainly added some festive cheer to the Ada Lovelace Suite.



Townley Grammar School Virtual Videogames Club

Welcome to anyone year 8 and above! We will be having the club virtually this year. When? : Thursday Evenings, 6-7pm Where? : Our discord server!

What will we do? : Play videogames together such as Smash bros, Minecraft, Among us. If you don't have a console or a PC, there's no need to worry- there will be free and accessible games for everyone!



E-SPORTS CLUB

The Computing department has re-launched the E-Sports gaming club for the 4th year running as a virtual club. The club runs weekly sessions for year groups 8 - 13, which are all looked after by Emily in year 13 who expertly runs the club, which we hope to evolve into teams competing for the regional finals that take place in March. During November, the year 13s found this time every Thursday evening to be a welcome break from their Mock exams. Since then students from a range of age groups have been enjoying playing a variety of games and using the E-Sports club's discord server. The club will be resuming in the new year, students who enjoy gaming must check your Year Group hub for the joining details.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL CREATE A GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Here is my gingerbread house. I have made it with my own gingerbread recipe. Here are the steps to what I have made.

I have created a unique gingerbread recipe with a golden syrup glaze. I have also made a chocolate cake with a chocolate ganache and kept this to help structure my house. I have cut the cake into shape and I had made gingerbread house templates using a cereal box as I didn't have a metal cutter. I also created a chimney for the gingerbread house. Then I had assembled my house using royal icing and I carved my cake in the shape of the house to prevent the house from falling and added goodies onto my house and used a vanilla bean buttercream to add on decorations. I have also created a gingerbread man. I had created a pathway with jelly. I added two Santa men on the edges to give a Christmas hint. I added smarties in on the roof to give a joyful look. The royal icing had helped me add the window and door and then I had finally put my own touch of super fine icing sugar to act as snow. This is how I created this house. It took me two days to create and I have never made a gingerbread house so this is my first time and I am pretty proud of my masterpiece.

Varshi 10 Aphrodite





Townley Bake-In



I picked a theme for my creation which I wanted to include at least one thing from. My topic was one of my many favourite musicals - 'Dear Evan Hansen'. To incorporate this theme, I added a gummy bear (representing a person) waving through a window, which is a reference to one of my personal favourite songs in the musical, 'Waving through a window'.

I added icicles with icing and glitter spray to make it look like winter time (my favourite season). The main sweets I used to decorate my gingerbread house are M&M's and gummy bears.

Evie 7 Athene



I tried to bake a gingerbread house from scratch for this bake-in. Even though it cracked on the front, making this was a lot of fun.

Everyone at home also loves how it tastes!

Christabel 10 Persephone





TOWNLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

From here it's possible

NEWSLETTER

TOWNLEY ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT, DA6 7AB

020 8304 8311

ADMIN@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR.ORG.UK

Townley Bake-In



Here are my gingerbread house photos :)
Pearl 7 Demeter



CONNECT WITH



@TOWNLEYGRAMMAR



Townley Bake-In



This is my first time making a Gingerbread house (it was a bit difficult as it was vegan) this is my entry! Hope you like it.

I made a mini vegan gingerbread house (first attempt), with two gingerbread men beside it and icing sugar on the ground and a roof - like effect! As royal icing typically contains eggs, i made a stiffer vegan chocolate to act as glue to hold it all together.

Romani 9 Aphrodite



Karman 7 Hera

How to reach out...



Do you have concerns? Want to know who to speak to?

Outside of school

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE

101

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

You should use 999 if:

- A crime is happening right now.
- Someone is in immediate danger, or there is a risk of serious damage to property.
- A suspect for a serious crime is nearby.

Very rowdy on 11pm train to Berryford. Please send help!

Teens vandalising Eastbridge station Platform 12

Man drunk on Carriage B. Due in Plainfields in 5 mins

text BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE 61016

Report crime or incidents on your train - discreetly
let's make a difference

At school

Speak about your concerns with:

- Someone at home
- A teacher
- Your House Tutor
- Your Learning Manager or Assistant Learning Manager
- Student Services

Whisper Tool

Students can also report issues anonymously via SMS by texting:



TOW + their message to 078600 21584

If using the whisper tool and you want individual guidance you must leave your name, the more explicit information you give, the easier you will make it for us to help/support.

This can be completed using this link:
<https://swgflwhisper.org.uk/report/TOW>

School Nurse
Bexley 0 to 19
Children's Public

THE MIX
themix.org.uk

When life is tough, we're here to listen

SAMARITANS

Call us free 24/7 on
116 123
samaritans.org

IMAGO
.community

METRO
Embrace Difference
Metrocharity.org.uk

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS
actionforhappiness.org

YOUNGMINDS
youngminds.org.uk

ChildLine
0800 1111
childline.org.uk

myh muslim YOUTH helpline
myh.org.uk

kooth
kooth.com

0300 123 3393
text 86463
mind
for better mental health
mind.org.uk

NHS choices

Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families
annafreud.org/on-my-mind/youth-wellbeing/
nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/improve-mental-wellbeing/

REMEMBER, YOU CAN REPORT ANY CONCERNS DIRECTLY TO SOCIAL MEDIA SITES



Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead Miss Totty	Deputy Safeguarding Lead Ms Mitchem	Deputy Safeguarding Lead Mr de Fabiani	Deputy Safeguarding Lead Ms Butler	Family Liaison Officer Miss Avery

Designated Safeguarding Officer Mrs Shetty	Designated Safeguarding Officer Mrs Hawkey	Designated Safeguarding Officer Mr Rouse	Designated Safeguarding Officer Miss Singh	Designated Safeguarding Officer Miss Sohal	Safeguarding Support Officer Mrs Shanks




Kooth.com Online support

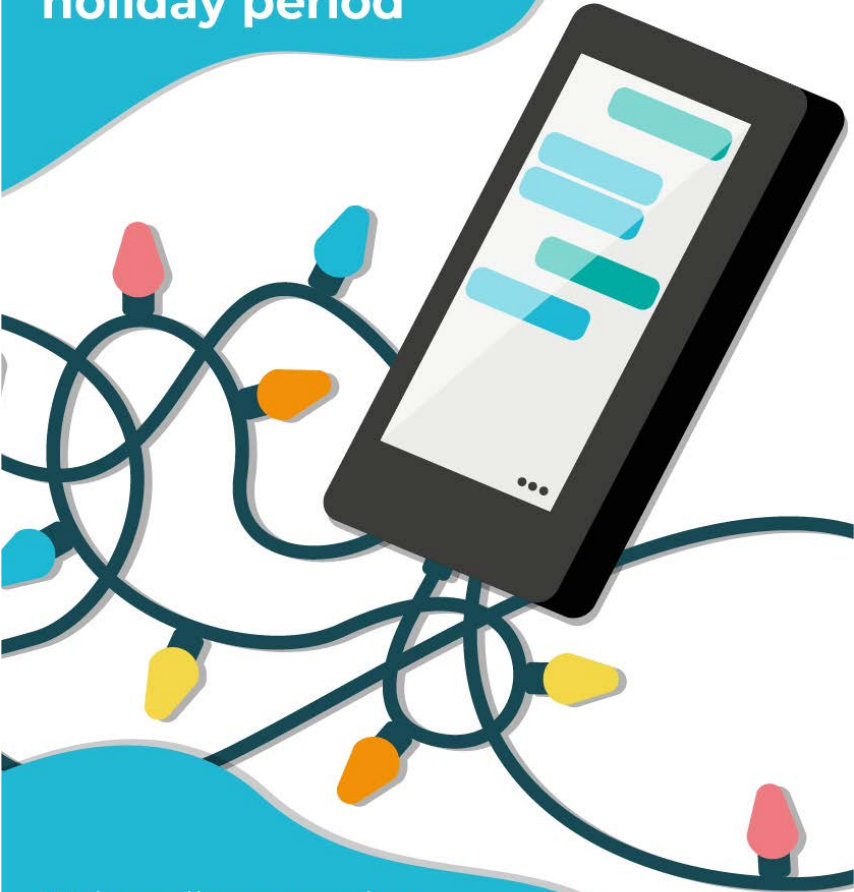
We would like to make you all aware of a service called Kooth. Kooth.com is a confidential support service for all young people in South East London. It is a safe means of accessing mental health and wellbeing support.

Counsellors are available from 12noon to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm to 10 pm at weekends, every single day of the year. Outside counselling hours' you can message our team and get support by the next day.

When you register with Kooth you will have support available now and in the future. Join the Kooth community and you can also read and post articles, forums and discussion boards too.



You can still access support over the holiday period



We're online every day including **Christmas Day**
Sign up for free at **Kooth.com**

To find out more visit www.Kooth.com Registration only takes a few minutes.

Here's a short video that explains more: <https://vimeo.com/318731977>