

17th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Townley Bulletin – Friday 17th March 2023

As another eventful week at Townley comes to a close I would like to thank you all for your patience and support over the last few weeks whilst we have managed industrial action and varying schedules for our students. We have been pleased to facilitate a variety of external providers to ensure students across Y7-Y13 have continued to have provision this week – Y7 have had WiseUp and teambuilding, Y9-Y11 have had a walking talking mock in maths with an external examiner, we have had InvestIn come in to talk to Y8 and Y9 about their careers, and students across year groups have enjoyed a session with our motivational speaker, Action Jackson.

Prefect Appointments 2023-2024

We are delighted to announce that after a rigorous selection process we have appointed our prefects for the 2023-2024 academic year. Further information can be found in our Townley Bulletin linked below.

Covering Staff Absence & Recruitment

I would like to take a moment to address the issue of cover teachers and the challenges we face in recruiting specialised subject teachers.

You will no doubt be aware from local and national media coverage that there is a severe shortage of teachers in specialised subjects making recruitment extremely difficult in these fields. Indeed, with the severe shortage of trainee teachers pursuing these subject areas, recruitment has become significantly more complex for all schools. This is also highlighted as part of the ongoing industrial action affecting all schools in the country.

As a school that prides itself for providing high-quality education to students, we continue to endeavour and put in place the best provision. However, we are struggling in the same way as hundreds of schools across the country to recruit in shortage subjects with constrained budgets.

We appreciate that every parent/carers wants the best for their child, and I hope the information provided gives you more context around the national crisis with teacher recruitment and retention. Please be assured that we are doing the best we can under challenging circumstances.

To find out more information about the events and news for this week, please use the following link <https://sway.office.com/01iaoFIb9O6FrF8G?ref=Link> to review our Townley Bulletin. I hope to see many of you at our exciting production of 'Six' next week!

Yours faithfully,

Nevita Pandya
Headteacher