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THE TOWSON PRIDE

On a bi-weekly basis, we acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our staff and students. We encourage our staff to submit accolades for recognizing the dedication of others. The accolades appear on the first pages of our newsletter. As contributing members to Towson High School, we represent 5 STAR Generals.

We appreciate our staff and students for demonstrating leadership, citizenship, scholarship, and integrity. If you would like to submit an accolade for one of our students/staff members for the great work that they do within our community, please submit the information to cdmino@bcps.org and cc dlauten@bcps.org. Help up recognize the outstanding efforts of our students and staff.



Dear Towson High School Families,

This past year has represented the most challenging academic year for educators, students, and families. We have been challenged to think and act differently in response to a variety of circumstances. Our students, staff, and families continue to excel beyond tradition. As we embrace the start of a New Year, we are reminded of the daily sacrifices that our families, students, and educators continue to make for others. Each day, we experience happiness from the encouragement and compassion of supportive staff, students, and families.

We are so grateful for the daily contributions of our leaders within our school and community that refuse to give up. We understand that happiness is not an absence of problems, but rather happiness can result when we work together to solve problems. We commend our staff, students, and families for their resilience during this time.

On behalf of the staff and faculty of Towson High School, we wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season!

Principal DiMino

Message From BCPS

Dear Team BCPS families and staff, our <u>tech support help desk</u> is now open from Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. through 4:15 p.m. The phone number is 443-809-4672.

We hear your questions about report cards, but due to the ransomware attack, we cannot provide report cards and transcripts at this time. Staff are working hard on a solution. For now, parents can log into Schoology through your child's account to view grades.

Device Distribution Schedule for Juniors and Seniors

Wednesday, December 23, 2020 (2 hour early dismissal for students) - Juniors and Seniors that need to exchange their device should report to:

George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology 938 York Rd.

Between 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

As a reminder, please know that our teaching schedule appears on page 3

Please note:

- If your current device is broken, you should enter a service ticket. Broken devices will not be replaced onsite.
- If you were not issued a device, please enter a service ticket. Devices will not be provided to students or staff members without a device.

TOWSONOLABOKAFLOD 2020

Towsonolabokaflod is Towson High's nod to Iceland's Jólabókaflóð—"Yule Book Flood." Iceland publishes more books per capita than any other country. On Christmas Eve, Icelanders gather with friends and family, exchange gifts of books, and spend the evening reading.

For Towsonolabokaflod, National English Honor Society, under the direction of Ms. Flynn, helps flood Towson High with books and reading and RELAXA-TION!

Towsonolabokaflod 2020:

Wednesday December 23, 2020

(the last school day before Winter Break)

DURING CLASS!

Schedule Wednesday, December 23, 2020

Our final instructional day of the 2020 school year is this Wednesday, December 23, 2020. Our **synchronous** schedule is as follows:

- Period 1:9:00 AM -9:30 AM
- Period 2:.....9:30 AM- 10:00 AM
- Period 3:.....10:00- AM- 10:30 AM
- Period 4:.....10:30 AM- 11:00 AM

Schedule For Last Week of January, 2021

	Monday 1/25 Final Exams: Periods 1 & 2	Tuesday 1/26	Wednesday 1/27 Final Exams: Periods 3 & 4	Thursday 1/28 Final Exams: Make-Up Day	Friday 1/29 Final Exams: Make-Up Day
8:00-9:00	Independent Work Time		Independent Work Time	Independent Work Time	Independent Work Time
9:00-9:50	Period 1 Final		Period 3 Final	Period 1	Period 1
10:00-10:50	Exam		Exam	Period 2	Period 2
10:50-12:10	Independent Work Time & Lunch	PSAT Day Asynchronous Day	Independent Work Time & Lunch	Independent Work Time	Independent Work Time
12:10-1:00	Period 2 Final		Period 4 Final	Period 3	Period 3
1:10-2:00	Exam		Exam	Period 4	Period 4
2:00-3:00	Independent Work Time		Independent Work Time	Independent Work Time	Independent Work Time





CLASS OF 2024 APPAREL SALE!

ONLINE STORE LAUNCH: DECEMBER 18TH

ONLINE STORE CLOSE: JANUARY 10TH

Support your Class of 2024 and *elevate* your closet with some new THS gear! Great for holiday gifts and these cold winter days!

Items will be available for shipment to your home or pick up at the Time Out for Sports warehouse (9716 Belair Road, Nottingham MD.)





More items online...check it out!





Get yours Now!



Towson High School Music Department



The Music & Theatre Department is busy preparing for the upcoming virtual performances in January 2021! As directors, we have all become studio musicians, arrangers, audio and video editors, and professional producers during this time of remote learning!

Follow this link for a brief introduction of our department members: Meet the Directors

Virtual Winter Concert

We are excited to invite you to the Virtual Winter Concert on Thursday, January 21st at 7:00 p.m. This is a virtual production that will be shared with you to enjoy! I hope that you and your family will be able to attend the virtual event.

Music Classes and Extracurricular Activities

Under the direction of Mr. Rhen, the GT Jazz Ensemble is studying jazz harmony, improvisation, and concert literature. GT Wind Ensemble is practicing technical skills and is also practicing and preparing concert music.

Special recognition goes out to junior band member Yiyun Li who has qualified for the All National Honors Ensemble! This is an amazing accomplishment. She will play a 1st clarinet part in the All National Honors Band. Follow this link to see the official announcement: <u>Yiyun Li Article</u>

GT Chamber Orchestra and Guitar classes are going well under the direction of Mr. Olin. Guitar classes are learning new skills including PIMA fingerpicking technique and bar chords. This is a challenge that the students are rising to meet. The GT Chamber Orchestra class is hard at work on a combined virtual ensemble with the GT Wind Ensemble called "In C Dorian." Students are analyzing 16th note counting systems and patterns to achieve musical excellence through performance.

Piano classes are progressing through a rigorous course of instruction. The percussion ensemble classes are also preparing music for the concert in January. The after-school Percussion Coalition is also preparing more difficult literature for performance under the direction of Mrs. Ferrell.

The choral program is alive and well and there is an after-school program headed up by our vocal director, Mr. Jackson. Way to keep it going maestro!

THS Marching Generals

The Towson High School Marching Generals have been meeting twice a week (or more) since September! It is a wonderful time to socialize, review marching technique, and prepare music for the upcoming virtual concert. The show entitled "The Best Of" will be presented at the production.

MD All State Auditions

Many of our students in the performance ensembles have auditioned for MD All State Ensembles and we are awaiting the results. Stay tuned! (Get it?)

BCPS Composer Project

All Music and Audio Technology students are working hard to complete their compositions for the BCPS Composer Project. The BCPS Composer Project allows BCPS students to showcase their own original musical compositions. All entries are reviewed by a panel of judges and previously, several THS students have been recognized for their work. Last spring, Brandon Yoon's entry "Play it Cool" received honorable mention and Makiah Jennings' song titled "The Confidence of Being Bold" was determined to be exceptional work. Stay tuned for results in the spring.

Vella Silver Recital Finalist

Please congratulate senior Grace Null on being a Vella Silver Recital Finalist! Grace performed two challenging songs on the Peabody virtual recital that showcased her technical ability. Grace has applied to Michigan State University, Indiana University, Towson University, Westchester University and the University of Maryland and plans to major in Vocal Performance. Two other Towson High musicians also participated in the virtual recital on December 2nd: sophomore flutist Claire Shi and senior pianist Alan Mao. Congratulations to all of you!

THS Music Boosters

Interested in being more involved in THS Music? Consider joining THS Music Boosters! Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. To attend the virtual Music Boosters meeting, you will need to log into Google Meets with your child's BCPS log in credentials, similar to how the child attends regular class. The google meet code for the Music Booster Club Meeting is: towsonhighmusicboosters.

Theatre News

Students in Ms. Marks' Theatre 3/4 class have just completed writing, rehearing, and producing 10-minute plays set for a children's audience. Please reach out to Ms. Marks if you have any interest in viewing the productions.

Students in Theatre Arts 1 are in the rehearsal process of comedic partner scenes that will be performed live in class. Students in Technical Theatre will begin working on their set model project this week. The project requires students to design and create a set model for a show of their choice.

Virtual Theatre Production

The after-school production, *The Bullying Collection*, is set to be released on Thursday, January 28th. The production features over 30 THS students in the roles of actors, technicians, and directors. Look out for streaming information in the next newsletter! All are welcome!

THS Theatre Boosters

Interested in being more involved in THS Theatre? Consider joining THS Theatre Boosters! Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30 p.m. To attend the virtual Theatre Boosters meeting, you will need to log into Google Meets with your child's BCPS log in credentials, similar to how the child attends regular class. The google meet code for the Theatre Booster Club Meeting is: towsonhightheatreboosters.

COURSE REGISTRATION

During the month of January, students will register for courses for the 2021-2022 school year at Towson High School using online resources. Additional information will be forthcoming once available.

To ensure that students are able to successfully register online for their 2021-2022 courses, we have curated materials on our Academic Planning website which can be accessed using this link, https://towsonhs.bcps.org/cms/ One.aspx?portalId=244436&pageId=66716261, or by visiting our website, https://towsonhs.bcps.org, and selecting 'Academic Planning 2021-2022' under 'Announcements' on the homepage.

The academic planning materials on our website include:

- Grade-level presentations to learn about courses and graduation requirements that are specific to students' grade level next year.
- Department-based presentations and handouts to further explore our course offerings and course progressions.
- Grade-level course planning guides to assist in course selection.

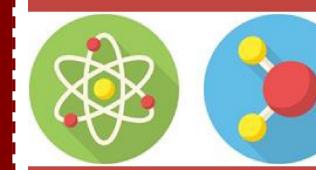
- Contact information for our School Counselors and Department Chairs who are available to answer specific academic planning questions.
- Step-by-step video and written directions to register for courses.
- A link to request a 1-1 appointment with School Counselors.
- A link to the Course Request Correction form.

School Counselors are available throughout the registration window to meet with students via two options. First, students can informally drop-in to the School Counseling Registration Google Meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., 10:50 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.. The Google Meet join code for these drop-in sessions is THSCounseling1. Second, students can schedule a 1-1 appointment with their school counselor using the request link on our Academic Planning website (see link above).

Academic planning and student registration are pivotal processes in helping us to achieve our vision of preparing our students to become lifelong learners and productive global citizens, and we thank you for partnering with us in these processes.

Every Tuesday & Thursday! From 2:15-3:15

SNHS TUTORING!







Do you need help with any science class?

Sign up for Science National Honor Society

tutoring!

Meeting code: thssnhstutoring

Email or talk to your science teacher to have them sign you up!

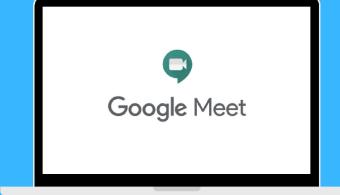
NEED TUTORING FOR ANY SUBJECT?

COME TO...

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY TUTORING!

EVERY FRIDAY FROM 3-4PM STARTING OCT. 23RD

GOOGLE MEETS CODE: THSNHS2020TUTOR



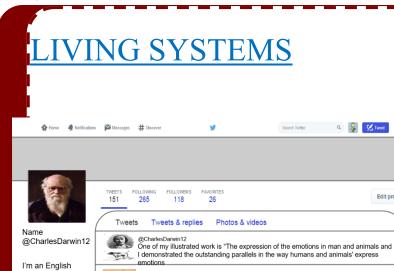
naturalist/biologist

/geologist and I

Shrewsbury, UK on February 12 ,

was born in

1809



@CharlesDarwin12

@CharlesDarwin12



In this work, it revolutionized our understanding of life on earth. In my work

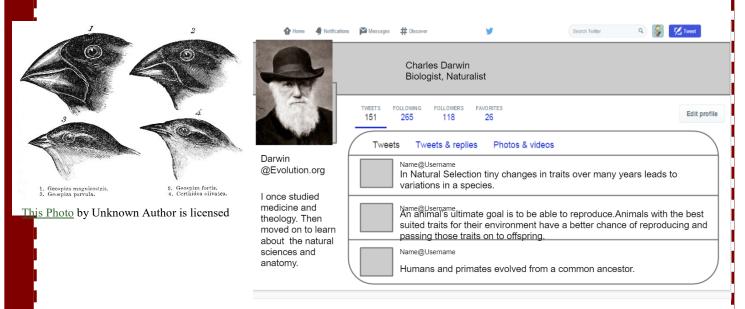
In this theory it explains how an advantageous trait will be more frequent in future

I bring evidence to show that living things change over time

generations represent "survival of the fittest"

Students in Mrs. Schrader's Living System's class created Twitter Profiles to describe the life and work of Charles Darwin. Students created their profiles using a Google Template and were able to explain the role Darwin played in the development of the Theory of Natural Selection. Check them out!

Q 👔 🔀 Tweet



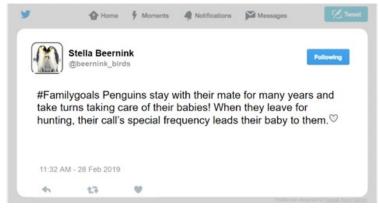
Q 📳 🔀 Tweet

AQUATICS

Students in Ms. Damon's Aquatics classes created tweets and Instagram posts about penguins as part of their lesson on aquatic birds. These submissions are from the following students: Stella Beernink, Evan Wohltmann, Helena Grimm, Aslynn Gorkos, Amani Smith, Eden Jenkins, and Helena Gleason.









EARTH SYSTEMS

Students in Earth Systems classes collected data for Citizen Science by participating in Project Feeder Watch. They monitored their own backyard feeders or their teacher's bird feeders to collect data on the types of species arriving to the feeder and their local populations. This data will be used by Citizen Science and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to track climate change's effects on local and global songbird populations.



9th grader Holden Cuno's counts and identifies birds at his own backyard birdfeeder

Species	Estimate Number	
tufted titmouse	4	
Carolina chickadee	3	
northern mocking bird	2	

Species seen during the 15-minute data collection session



Mrs. K's birdfeeder, it was a rainy day.

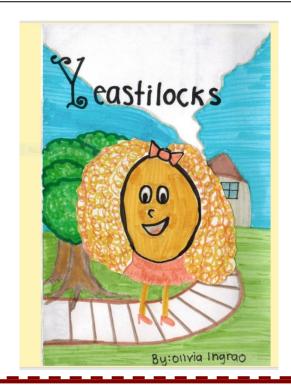
AP Biology!!



8th Annual THS AP Bio Yeast Book Festival Goes Virtual!

Students in AP Biology submitted their original children's books based on their research of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae*, the model organisms of Cell Communication. On Festival Day, students remotely met in judging groups to provide peer review and select class winners for Best Yeast Books. Eight students received Certificates of Excellence and kudos from their classmates and Ms. Drake!





SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department would like to recognize the following students for their participation, collaboration, and hard-work in their science classes.



Congratulations!!!

Week of November 30, 2020 through December 9, 2020

Nick Dance	Living Systems (Schrader)			
Jason Le	Living Systems (Schrader)			
Lydia Lee	Living Systems (Schrader)			
Logan Handy	Forensics (Hanford)			
Kiebron Kuflom	Living Systems (Goldberg)			
Kimaya Young	Living Systems (Goldberg)			
Ellie Townsend	Zoology (Goldberg)			
Andie Aloi	AP Physics C (Jochmans)			
Maya Connealy	IPC (Jochmans)			
Alice Kerns	Honors Physics (Jochmans)			
Catherine Connolly				
Natalie Gimignani	AP Environmental Science (West)			
Josh Valeza	AP Environmental Science (West)			
Mukta Sangar				
Mia Cohen	AA Living Systems (Damon)			
Caroline Orbin				
Karla Barrios	3A Aquatics (Damon)			



Spreading holiday cheer, The **One Love Club** at Towson High School made holiday cards for the employees and patients of GBMCs Safe unit. The SAFE & DV Program at GBMC is committed to providing compassionate and confidential medical, forensic, and crisis counseling to Sexual As-

sault, Domestic Violence and Child Abuse victims to improve their safety, health and well-being, across the individual's lifespan. The cards will be



mailed to the unit for distribution and the students of One Love really enjoyed being able to participate in such a wonderful service project. The holiday cards will bring comfort, joy and strength to the patients and staff.





It's been a rough year for our teacher & staff member heroes and THS Educators Rising thought they could use some positive reinforcement and celebration. Spreading some holiday cheer to the teachers at Towson High and surrounding schools, Educators Rising and TAM created cards to send to teachers & staff to let them know they are doing a spectacular job!





Senior Group

Please make sure that you are signed up for the **Senior group** on Schoology. We frequently post updates on colleges and scholarships and there is important information in the Resources folder. The Senior group is called "Grade 12 THS School Counseling." If you need information on accessing the group, please contact Ms. Wright at swright7@bcps.org.

FERPA

Please complete the FERPA waiver form so that we can send out your transcripts to colleges. The FERPA waiver form is available on the Grade 12 THS School Counseling Schoology page. Click on the 'Resources' folder and click on the 'FERPA waiver form' folder. When complete, send your FERPA form to Ms. Wright at swright7@bcps.org

College Visits

Colleges are virtually visiting Towson most days of the week. Please make sure to check Naviance regularly for college visit updates. Sign on to BCPS ONE, click on the Naviance button, click on Colleges, scroll down to College Visits.

Ms. Wright and Mr. Briggs are available on Wednesday afternoon for Seniors to drop into our College Google Meet group. Seniors can stop by and ask a question and receive support with their college applications. Check the Grade 12 THS School Counseling Schoology group for information about meeting times and the room name.

We have a Senior sign-up sheet that is available on Schoology should you need to meet with your counselor individually regarding your college applications.

We are here to help and support you! Please reach out to us if you have any questions.



Do you have questions about how to use Naviance to request transcripts and letters of recommendation? Please check out this Powerpoint presented by our College Counselor, Mrs. Wright, that will answer many of your questions.

https://bcpscloud-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/swright7_bcps_org/ EdgifieS_HpBu4IeotfwSgEBJ-ZUMZIEg-FiOSwbYvvCMQ

We know that many of you have additional questions around Naviance and college applications. The School Counseling Team want you to know that we're here for you!

We will host a Google Meet Session each Wednesday at 1.30pm-2pm for Senior college help. To access the room go to **thsseniorcollegecounseling**

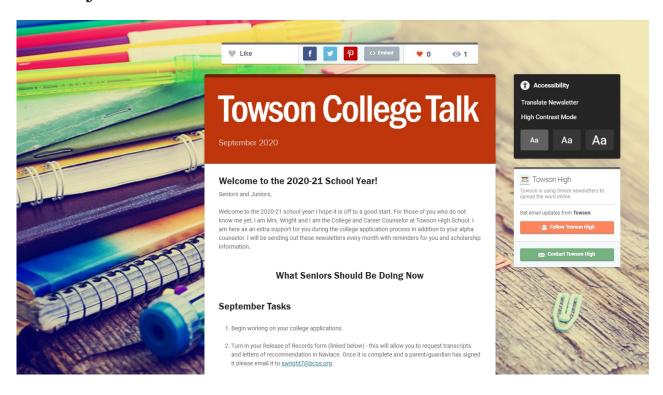
Also, colleges will be visiting Towson High School virtually this fall to meet with our Seniors. We will send out information about college visits on Naviance and Schoology.

The School Counseling Team



Towson College Talk September 2020

Ms. Wright has created a "senior/junior college newsletter" on Smore with lots of links and info for seniors and juniors.



This is a great resource for the college application process and support. Check it out!

Here is the link: https://www.smore.com/gw8p2



BLACK HISTORY ORATORY COMPETITION

ATTENTION ALL MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

Choose One of These Quotes and Describe "What It Means to You" in 600 Words or Less

"We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

"If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves and allow those responsible to salve their conscience by believing that they have our acceptance and concurrence. We should, therefore, protest openly everything... that smacks of discrimination or slander." - Mary McLeod Bethune

"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

Shirley Chisholm

The students with the highest-scored essays will be invited to record a video of themselves performing their original speech to compete for scholarship prize money!

The top speeches will be broadcast on WJZ News, and for the first time in BHOC history, the winners will be announced on TV!

Email Typed, Double-Spaced Essay and Application to <u>Oratory@wjz.com</u> by 11:59pm on JANUARY 31, 2021.

Official Rules Will Be Posted On Our Website WJZ.com/Oratory

Questions? Email Oratory@wjz.com











WJZ-TV, the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Toyota Financial Services, Morgan State University and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture present the

2021 Black History Oratory Competition

APPLICATION FORM (Please Print)

Student's Name (Print Clearly)		Age		
Address				
City		State	Zip	
Phone (home)		(cell)		
Email				
	Winners wi	II be notified by WJZ-TV		
All written, video/audio entries be on-air and off-air publicity and pro			tries may be used at WJZ-TV's discre	etion for
Employees of WJZ-TV, CBS, the F. Lewis Museum of Maryland At not eligible to enter the contest.	Enoch Pratt Free Library, M rican American History & Cul	organ State University, Toyota Fin ture and their families or persons	ancial Services and the Reginald iving in the same household are	
Signature of Student			Date	
Signature of Parent/Guard (If Student is Under18)	ian		Date	
		have this application signed		

Scanned applications and/or digital photos of application are acceptable.

Please send your typed, double-spaced, 600 word or less Essay & Application Form to:

oratory@wjz.com

All entries must be received by January 31, 2021 by 11:59pm

Official Rules Available at WJZ.com/Oratory

UPCOMING EVENTS

December, 2020

24-31 Winter Holiday

January, 2021

- 4 Schools Reopen (Remote Learning)
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Observed Schools and Office Closed
- Winter Concerts
- 28 Theatre Production
- 29 Second Marking Period Ends All Schools Close 3 Hours Early for Students



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Towson High School

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