



28.03.2024

Issue No: 1117

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Achievement Assemblies

Over the past week and a half, I have attended Achievement Assemblies. It has been a pleasure to share in so much success and to hear the numerous fantastic citations, as well as the number of certificates and achievement points awarded. It has been particularly pleasing to celebrate students who demonstrate our behaviour curriculum of SLANT/STEPS/SPACE, each and every day. The students should be very proud of themselves as we are of them. Well done!

Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening

On Tuesday I had the pleasure of attending the Year 12 and 13 Parent's Evening. I would like to thank the families for their commitment to attend these events, at what is an important time as students progress in the final steps of secondary school education and prepare for life and education beyond Charles Darwin School.

Merger with Inicio Educational Trust

All the required legal documents have now been signed and we are on track to merge with Inicio Educational Trust on 1st April. The new Trust will comprise Charles Darwin School, Biggin Hill Primary School, Bullers Wood School for Girls, Bullers Wood School for Boys and Chislehurst School for Girls.

It has been good to see that there are increasing working relationships with our counterparts in the other Inicio schools and after Easter work will start on looking at teaching and learning across the new Trust as a whole. Feedback from staff is that the meetings have been extremely useful and staff have appreciated getting to know their Inicio colleagues.

On behalf of all staff, I would like to thank the Trustees and Governors, past and present, for their contribution to the school and commitment to Charles Darwin Academy Trust. We now look forward to the future as part of Inicio Educational Trust.

End of Term

As we reach the end of a busy and productive term I wanted to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all staff who are committed to broadening opportunities and experiences for our students and who go above and beyond by organising and supporting a wide range of events and extra-curricular activities including day and residential trips and visits as well as running revision sessions for our Year 11 and 13 students, many of which are run in their own free time to make this possible. I can't wait to hear about the Geography students' trip to Iceland and the Austria ski trip when they return!

I wish you and your families a happy and restful Easter break, and look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 15th April.

Aston Smith, Headteacher



Charles Darwin School has been awarded the I Belong Champion for improving gender balance in Computer Science award from the National Centre of Computing Education!

The Programme aims to encourage girls to participate in the GCSE Computer Science course. This recognition underscores our commitment to championing girls' involvement in the field of computer science.

The I Belong Programme focuses on promoting inclusive practices and aims to address the issue of female underrepresentation in computing by empowering educators at all levels. As 'I Belong Champions,' we are dedicated to sharing and embedding these inclusive practices in our educational approach to create a more diverse and equitable learning environment.

This could not have been achieved without the support of the Computer Science team, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Nwoye. So massive thank you to them!

Ms Elliott

Red Nose Day - Final Count



Owen Asemota and the rest of the school raised **£224.21** for Red Nose Day.

A big thank you to everyone who got involved and/or donated.

We're be back next year – bigger and better!

Mrs Holloway

What we are learning in MFL

As we approach Easter the languages department has been busy completing speaking tests with all of our French and German classes in years 7-10. For many pupils this has been the first time they have done an official questions and answers test and they have found the preparing, practising and the actual test quite a challenge.

We have been very proud of pupils who have really listened carefully to our advice and taken time over a week or two to regularly learn, maybe practising with a family member or friend to be able to perform to their best. These pupils tended to remember more of their answers from memory.

Everyone has learnt something from the experience and we look forward to the next set of speaking tests in the summer term. Although this skill is a difficult one, it tends to be what people want to be able to do most when learning a new language, so a valuable skill to develop.

Culturally, pupils have been learning about the Easter traditions in France and Germany and producing creative work based on this.

8Y4 were treated to a German breakfast, sampling some foods that took them out of their comfort zone. It was lovely to see pupils encouraging each other to try new food items and finding out that they enjoyed it.

Mrs Kaye-Chubb
Head of Modern Languages



Foodbank in Bromley is able to offer clients a choice of 3 days worth of food along with a supermarket voucher or 7 days worth of food. This is for **Bromley Borough residents only**. For out of borough residents they are able to offer 3 days worth of food. Please remember you can get help by contacting them directly on ifo@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk.

Please be aware that Bromley Borough Foodbank warehouse and Centres will be **closed for Easter weekend**. This means **no sessions will run on Good Friday or Easter Monday**. Our client sessions will be as follows over the next 2 weeks:

Tuesday 26th March 11am - 1.30pm Bromley URC Church, BR1 1RY
Wednesday 27th March 11am - 1.30pm Oak Community Church, BR5 2LJ
Thursday 28th March 12.30pm - 2.30pm Bromley URC Church, BR1 1RY

Tuesday 2nd April 11am - 1.30pm Bromley URC Church, BR1 1RY
Wednesday 3rd April 11am - 1.30pm Oak Community Church, BR5 2LJ
Thursday 4th April 12.30pm - 2.30pm Bromley URC Church, BR1 1RY
Friday 5th April 12.30pm - 2.30pm Orpington Walnuts Centre, BR6 0TW

Please note our Penge Centre will not be open until Monday 8th April. Clients are able to attend any of our centres to collect food.

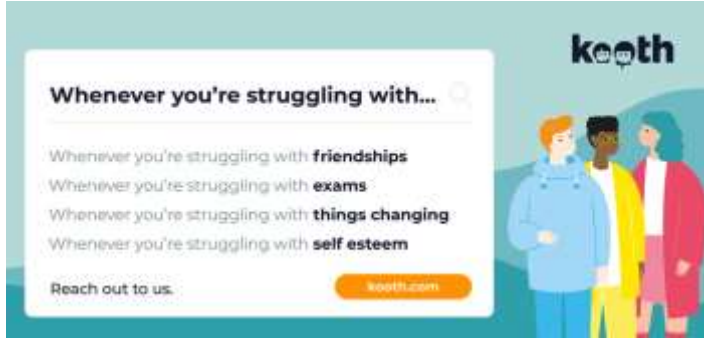
Our warehouse will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday.



As we approach the Easter holidays, we would like to remind you that **Kooth will be available for students to access throughout the Easter period.**

Kooth is a free online mental health and wellbeing service available to all young people in Bromley aged 10-25.

At Kooth, we offer free support with no waiting lists. Kooth is a safe and anonymous space for young people to talk about their wellbeing without the fear of judgement. We have clinical practitioners on hand to offer one-to-one support through text-based counselling, operating after school hours, on weekends, and during school holidays. Students can access the immediate help they need without a formal referral. Please see attached separately poster about how to sign up to kooth.



Achievement Points Leader Board

Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 01.09.2023 - 28.03.2024

Ivy Bird	7LMc	229
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	201
James Azzopardi	8ZHa	191
Leah Benwell	7SHu/CHt	184
Pallika Ramnath	7SMa	184
Samuel Young	8LBr	179
Sydney Daniels	7LMc	178
Jade St John	8RSi/RBr	178
Jimmy Johnson	7JWi	177
Daniel Assemien	8SHo	173



Top highest achievers per each year for the period 01.09.2023 - 28.03.2024

Ivy Bird	7LMc	229
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	201
Phoebe Vincent	9RMo	168
Jessica Dorsett	10ZPa	137
Khushi Sinha	11ADo	129
Danny Rufford	12GQu	86
Harry Burch	13DWa	69



School jumpers, PE kits and school bags needed!

Parents/Carers

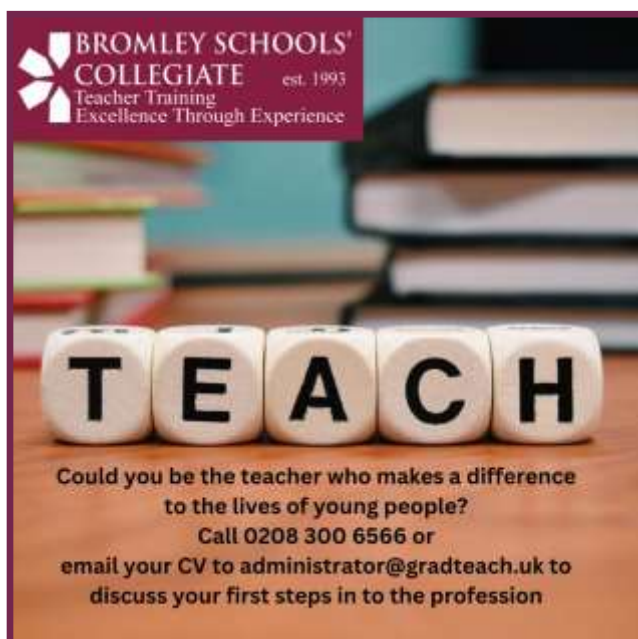
We need your help! We are specifically short of navy school jumpers, red and black PE hoodies, white polo shirts, red socks and school bags. If you have any lying around that your daughter/son has out-grown, we would greatly accept donation of these. We also welcome any other parts of school uniform like school and football shoes.



All donations can be left at **Main Reception**.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Preloved Uniform Shop Team



BROMLEY SCHOOLS' COLLEGIATE est. 1993
Teacher Training
Excellence Through Experience

TEACH

Could you be the teacher who makes a difference to the lives of young people?
Call 0208 300 6566 or
email your CV to administrator@gradteach.uk to discuss your first steps in to the profession

Do you want to find out more about stepping into teacher training with us in September 2024?

Are you looking for a local provider with guaranteed placements in excellent local schools?

We are currently booking 1:1 discussions with potential candidates that wish to join our September 24 intake of trainee teachers.

Book your slot via email administrator@gradteach.uk with a copy of your CV, dates/times available and your preferred subject or age range that you wish to teach.



All students are requested to leave the school site promptly unless taking part in supervised activities after school. For safety and security reasons no casual or recreational activities should take place without direct supervision from staff.

The Darwin Leisure Centre fitness gym is open to student paying members only between 3.15-4.30pm who must then leave the premises as quickly as possible; from 4.30-6.00pm only School/Club bookings are allowed on the 3G.

For students booking the astro pitch, bookings must be made in advance (no walk-ins) and a parent must be present on arrival. A



Easy fundraising

Just a reminder to sign up to Easyfundraising if you haven't already done so. You can log in using the link below or if you install the Easyfundraising App, enrol our school as your charity and then switch the online donation reminder, a proportion of your online shopping will automatically be paid to our fund. This is such a super source of funds for our school and requires us to do very little except shopping! The PTA team will have no visibility of where you have shopped but there is a league table of our biggest contributors which is quite exciting. During promotional periods, we receive a donation just for you installing the app and adding us as your charity so if you would be prepared to just do that, we would be very grateful. www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 22 March 2024.



7CMo	98%
8PDg	97.9%
9RMo	96.5%
10CO n	93.8%
11JBi	92.2%
12JDa	98%
13DWa	99.1%

As you are aware attendance is linked to a student's attainment and at Charles Darwin we work closely with the parents to keep students' attendance levels as high as possible. Please could we ask that if your child feels unwell in the morning (headache etc.) and they do feel better later on, that you send them in. This will benefit them as they will not miss a whole days learning.

Please can we also remind parents to call in before 8.30am for each day of your child's absence and not rely on receiving a text from us chasing their absence.

Thank you for your continued support.

Students Services Team

A reminder that pupils **should not** contact home if they feel unwell but should be seen and assessed by Mrs Booth, our Health Care Lead.

Parents should be aware that pupils will not be sent home without being seen by Mrs Booth in the first instance.

If your child contacts you directly, please phone the school to confirm whether they are unwell and have permission to go home.

Thank you

Student Services Team



Parents should be advised that the school does not provide students with Paracetamol unless it is a medical emergency.

We have a limited supply in school and prefer that medication wherever possible is administered at home.

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Booth
Lead First Aid

Year 8 Duty Pupils

Jack Davis
Bethany Humphries
Maisy King
Nathan Law
Luke McCarthy

Darcie O'Sullivan
Lilya Paul
Morgan Mitchell

Student Services Duty Pupils

Zak Brooks
Nicholas Browning
Elijah Clarke
Rain Downer



They have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable.

Dates for the Diary

April

- 29th March - 12th April - Easter Holiday
- 15th April - Summer Term starts
- 16th April - Trip: IET Faraday Challenge, Science
- 17th April - Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 20th April - DofE Year 9 Practise walk
- 26th April - Quiz Night, 7pm
- 30th April - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean Year 10

May

- 2nd May - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean
- 2nd May (evening)- 4th May - DofE Silver year 10 practise
- 6th May - **BANK HOLIDAY**
- 9th May - Year 10 Parents' Evening



As the weather is getting warmer please can all students bring in a reusable water bottle to school each day. The water bottles can be refilled at the canteen and near to Students Services at break time and lunchtime. We only have a limited supply of plastic cups for First Aid and for students who forgot a water bottle.

Thank you

Student Services Team

2023-24 Term Dates

Autumn 2023

Tuesday 29th August – Friday 13th October

Half Term: Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December - Monday 1st January

Spring 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

Half Term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

Easter Holiday: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Summer 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

(Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday)

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

Note:

Good Friday 29th March 2024
Easter Monday 1st April 2024

INSET Days - School closed to students

Friday 28th June 2024 - INICIO Day (home learning for students)

Monday 22nd July 2024




HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
AGES: 8 - 18 YEARS OLD
AND RECEIVING BENEFIT RELATED
FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

2ND - 5TH APRIL 2024
Spitfire Youth Club, Church
Lane Biggin Hill TN16 3LB

Activities Include:

- Baking
- Arts & Crafts Workshops
- Discovery Projects
- Team Sports & Games
- T-shirt making
- IT skills & fun

To see the dates, times & book a place please
scan the QR code or use the link below:
<https://www.Bromley.gov.uk/xfp/form/228>






 @BromleyYouthActivities
  @BromleyYouthActivities

 Department
for Education

**BROMLEY
YOUTH**
Support
Partnership

The mathematics department are holding revision classes after school on the following days from 3.15 to 4.15:

Higher Tier

Monday MA7 Mr Yerassimou
Wednesday MA2 Mr Watson

Foundation Tier

Monday GE2 Ms Harris"



Spring Holiday Fun

Bromley's Holiday Activities
and Food programme



To find out more and to book
Scan the QR code or go to the Bromley website

[www.bromley.gov.uk/
HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme)



Ticket purchases can be made via our website: <https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com>



The poster features a central speech bubble with the text "Quiz Night" in a mix of black and blue fonts, with three pink question marks below it. The background is a light blue and white marble pattern. Two circular PTA logos are at the top corners. A pink-bordered box contains the event details, and a QR code is on the right side.

Charles Darwin PTA
are delighted to host our popular

Quiz Night

FRIDAY 26TH
APRIL 2024

**SIXTH FORM HUB,
CHARLES DARWIN
SCHOOL**
DOORS OPEN: 7.00PM
TRIVIA STARTS: 7.30PM

£10 PER PERSON, TEAMS OF UP TO 8

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA TO
REQUEST TICKETS OR VISIT OUR ONLINE SHOP:
[HTTPS://FRIENDS-OF-CHARLES-DARWIN-
SCHOOL.SUMUPSTORE.COM](https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com)

Quiz teams, please bring your own drinks and snacks!



The poster has a pink and white background with a green wavy pattern on the left. It includes the NHS South East London logo, the Bromley Local Offer logo, and the Bromley Autism Partnership logo. A QR code is in the center-right. The text provides details about the group's meeting on Tuesday 16th April 2024.

Autism Parent and Carer Group

NHS
South East London

Tuesday 16th April 2024, 12.45 - 2.30am.
Committee room 5, Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR1 3UH.

Are you a parent or carer of an Autistic child, young person or adult or do you have concerns about your child's social communication?

Do you want to

- Know more about Autism
- Find out how and where you can get support
- Talk to other parents
- Share ideas to help improve your experiences

Please come along to our parent and carer groups, run as part of Bromley's All-age Autism Strategy Partnership.

If there are any specific areas, you'd like to have discussed, please contact:
colette.shrimpton@bromley.gov.uk

Bromley LOCAL OFFER.

BROMLEY AUTISM PARTNERSHIP

SEND
Bromley

Autism Young Person and Adults Group

NHS
South East London

When is it: **Wednesday 17th April 2024, 6:30 - 7:30pm on Microsoft Teams**

[Click here to join the meeting](#) or use QR code



The Bromley All-age Autism Board are organizing these subgroups to hear your views, wishes and ideas on the following areas:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of Autism
- Education and training
- Independence skills and employment
- Accessing health services and appointments

Please use the email below if you wish to attend or ask any questions:

colette.shrimpton@bromley.gov.uk

Autism Young Person and Adults Group

NHS
South East London

Come along and join other autistic young people and adults who often meet up.

Wednesday 17th April 2024 @ 12 to 1.30pm, Rhiannon's café, United Reformed Church, BR1 1RY.



The Bromley All-Age Autism Board are organising these subgroups to hear your views, wishes and ideas on the following areas:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of Autism
- Education and training
- Independence skills and employment
- Accessing health services and appointments

Please use the email below if you wish to ask any questions:

colette.shrimpton@bromley.gov.uk



Autism Parent and Carer Group

NHS
South East London

Teams meeting: Thursday 18th April : 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Please [Click here to join the meeting](#) or use QR code



Are you a parent or carer of an Autistic child, young person or adult or do you have concerns about your child's social communication?

Do you want to

- Know more about Autism
- Find out how and where you can get support
- Talk to other parents
- Share ideas to help improve your experiences

Please join our evening teams meeting for our parent and carer groups, run as part of Bromley's All Age Autism Strategy Partnership.

If there are any specific areas, you'd like to have discussed, or would like to receive a link to the meeting then please contact:

colette.shrimpton@bromley.gov.uk

