



4 November 2016

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Darwin has got lots of talent

On Wednesday evening I had the pleasure of attending Darwin's Got Talent. It was a super evening during which our students performed in front of what must have seemed like a formidable panel of judges and an audience of friends and family. This year the vast majority of the performances, from students across Years 7-13, involved singing. The quality of these vocal performances was superb, in many instances they were so good that I could imagine them not being out of place in a professional setting such as a regional theatre. Evenings of this nature take a lot to organise and prepare. My thanks to the Expressive Arts team and particularly Gemma Currie for her super organisation of this evening and my congratulations to the students who had worked so hard preparing for the night – you were all amazing. My thanks too to all families who supported the event.

Sunil Chotai

Annual Dance Competition 2017



The final of the annual dance competition for Years 7 to 13 will take place on Monday 6 February 2017.

Anyone interested in taking part should attend a meeting at lunch time on Tuesday 8 November 2016 to hear further details and collect an entry form.

The Friends of Charles Darwin School were at the Year 7 setting in Tea before half term. See overleaf for further details.

Workshops have an impact for Year 8



On Tuesday before half term all Year 8 students took part in the annual 'Impact Factor' Day involving representatives from all the emergency services, as well as other groups offering advice and guidance on issues affecting young people.

During the day, students were involved in six different workshops and had the chance to learn about emergency incidents, try on fire-fighting clothing and equipment and learn emergency first aid skills. The sessions are designed to pass on important information and focus on some of the different challenges and decisions young people may face as they grow up.

The day was a real success, with all pupils fully engaged, actively participating in the different workshops and each taking away some new found knowledge from the day. Thank you to the outside agencies who came into school to run these thought-provoking and educational sessions: the London Fire Brigade, the Metropolitan Police, the Youth Offending Service, Battersea Dogs Home, London Ambulance Service and Respectful Relationships.



Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 7 to Friday 11 November 2016:

- 7 November 2016—X-Tol dance company weekly rehearsals start
- 8 November 2016—Dance Competition 2017 information available in the main hall at break
- 8 November 2016—Year 11 work reviews
- 10 November 2016—Year 11 Oxford Pathways day
- 11 November 2016—ICT in Action Conference

Forthcoming events

- 17 November 2016—Sixth Form Open Evening
- 18 November 2016—Year 12 photography trip to London
- 18 November 2016—Year 7 choir to perform at Polhill Garden Centre
- 23 November 2016—Chemistry in Action Conference
- 24 November 2016—Computing in Action Conference
- 26 November 2016—Senior choir to perform at Biggin Hill High Street
- 30 November 2016—Christmas Concert at St Mark's Church
- 20 December 2016—End of term



With a little help from the Friends

The Friends of Charles Darwin School were at the Year 7 Setting in Tea before half term when parents had a chance to meet form tutors and the Year 7 Student Voice sold cakes in aid of charity.

It was great to meet so many parents and thank you to all those who signed up to the 50/50 club. We gave out over 120 applications. To all those who took them away, please make sure you

hand them back in ASAP so that you can be included in the next draw.

The 50/50 club is a great fundraising scheme with a cash prize for one lucky winner every month. You pay £1 per month to enter and each month we draw a winner who will receive 50% of whatever is in the pot. So if we have 100 people playing you could win £50. If we had 1000 people playing the prize would be £500, so it really is a case of the more the merrier. An application form is attached to the Link this week if you would like a chance to win.

The remaining 50% is donated to the school to help fund additional items not covered by the school budget.

September's winner was Sue Langford and October's winner was Miss Miller. Congratulations to them both. The next draw will take place on 7 November. You have to be in it to win it.

Gillian Simons, Chair of the Friends



Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending 20/10/2016

Nathan Baird and Kaya Bird
from 8MGr/ CZy

Mrs Mills

★ **Geography Star of the week** is awarded to Lauren Kenton. Her thorough preparation for the end of unit assessment exemplifies the standard of her work through the last half term.

Miss Partridge

Well done and good luck to all our students who are competing in the Bromley Schools Trampoline Competition on 4 November.

Year 7: Erin Hartley, Abbey Parker and Matilda Dryden; Year 8: Kelsey Pullin, Jemma Noble, Gemma Read and Lizzie Whitlock; Year 9: Nyah Clark and Kayleigh Weaver; Year 10: Lucie Monk, Amelia Porter and Holly Clark; Year 11: Sasha Strange and Chloe Ardley and Year 12: Cassie Marshall.

Mrs Wray

★ **History Star of the week** is awarded to Saskia Hobbs in Year 8. Saskia works incredibly hard, she works independently in class and produces fantastic home work. Saskia is enthusiastic and keen to learn making her a fantastic student to teach. She tried really hard in her deep learning activity and is making excellent progress.

Miss Zysemil

Congratulations to the U13 girls football team who finished third in the EFL Cup this week, narrowly losing on penalties in the semi-final after excellent, strong performances early in the tournament. The girls are also through the Round 3 of the Kent and National Cup. Overall a fantastic start to the season.

Miss Curwood

PARENTS EVENINGS 2016/17

Year 12: 24 November 2016

Year 13: 24 November 2016

Year 11: 19 January 2017

Year 8: 9 February 2017

Year 9: 9 March 2017

Year 10: 26 April 2017

Year 7: 3 May 2017