



13/1/2017

# The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

### Year 7 Intake September 2017

We have recently received information from the LA about the number of parents that have named Charles Darwin School on their preference list for a secondary school place for September 2017. This year a record number of families (nearly 500) have named Charles Darwin School on their Common Application Form. The increased number of families listing Charles Darwin School as one of their options this year is pleasing, particularly because it continues the trend of growth and improvement that we have all worked hard on and is a vindication of our progress. The actual allocations will be made public as usual in March.

### Your Choice Your Voice

On Thursday morning Year 9 students took part in Your Choice, Your Voice, a range of workshops which dealt with sexual health and substance misuse. The students were attentive and valued the various sessions covering such important topics.

### Snow Closure

As parents are aware, on Friday we took the decision to close the school due to the adverse weather. A decision to close the school in adverse conditions is only made if there are concerns regarding the welfare and safety of staff and students. The school site was inaccessible and the walkways were treacherous. Thankfully all the snow and ice has now melted and we are up and running as normal.

Sunil Chotai

### IMPORTANT:

#### Year 8 Parents' evening

It has become necessary to change the date of the Year 8 Parents' evening which will now take place on

#### Wednesday 8 February

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

## 15 second portraits from London

Photo by Adam Nicholls, Year 12



Before Christmas, Year 12 photography students visited London to take 15 second portraits against the backdrop of our vibrant capital city. A range of these will be featured in the Link over the coming weeks. The first of these, taken by Adam Nicholls, captures an archetypal London figure.

## Have your say

The youngest child in each family will bring home a Kirkland Rowell questionnaire today for parents to complete. If you would like to fill in an additional survey on a child in another year group, spare copies will be available from main reception.

We need as many replies as possible so please take this opportunity to let us know what you think as the results are essential to help the school develop further and also to recognise what we have done to improve over the last 18 months. All returns, please, by Friday 20 January.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mrs Rees

## Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

**Monday 16 to Friday 20 January 2017**

16 January 2017—Year 11 Science ISA day

### Forthcoming events

24 January 2017—X-Tol compete at London Youth Games Dance competition

25 January 2017—Year 13 Work Reviews

25 January 2017—Year 12 Drama trip to “Colder than Here”

26 January 2017—Deadline for Sixth Form Applications

27 January 2017—Year 8 and 9 reward trip to Jump Giants

6 February 2017—Dance Competition 2017

7 February 2017—Year 10 Oxford Pathways taster day

8 February 2017—Year 8 Parents' Evening

9 February 2017—Year 9 National Enterprise Competition

9 February 2017—Year 13 history lectures on Arab-Israeli conflict

10 to 13 February 2017—Sixth Form photography residential to Paris

27 February to 2 March 2017—Sixth Form geography trip Dorset coast

2 March 2017—Year 8 Options Evening.

1 March 2017—Year 12 English trip to The Great Gatsby study day

10 March 2017—Year 13 History conference

13 and 15 March 2017—Dry slope skiing lessons prior to ski trip

31 March 2017 to 8 April 2017—Ski trip

15 May 2017— Start of written public examinations

17 May 2017— HPV2 vaccinations for Year 8 girls

19 to 21 May 2017— Year 8 and 9 netball tour

## Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending

6/1/2017

Daisy Allen and Jack Longbottom  
from 8ZGi

Mrs Mills

 **Geography Star of the Week** is awarded to Kaya Gok (7SAr). He has improved his effort this week and shown good understanding of the UK's weather. We might even be looking at a new weather forecaster!

Mr T Jones

**Congratulations and well done** to 7X/Dr5. You all made a brilliant start with our new topic.

Well done for coming up with some great ideas and for working in such a focused way.

Miss Currie



If you have not already done so, please ensure you activate your ParentPay account.

A range of items will be available on ParentPay including trips, revision guides and workshops. When places are limited, you may miss out on something popular for your child if you have not activated your account before you can book.

Thank you.

Finance Department

## X-Tol to perform at the London Youth Games

Well done to the following Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 members of X-Tol who have all worked hard devising a piece to perform at the London Youth Games on Tuesday 24 January: Daisy Green (7JSn), Abbey Parker (7CSd), Evie Dyer (7XSd), Scarlett Smith-Lee (7RBn), Lily Ash (7FLf), Rachel Barnes (8AMi), Jessica Barton (8ZGi), Natasha Swanson (8RMa), Annelise Persson (9ARu), Emily Wilson (9DLA), Nikita Taylor (10RPi), Kennice Palmer (10VMA), Chloe Ardley (11SHo), Katie Nolan (11SPi) and Courtney Hopper (11FEV).

We wish them all the very best of luck in the competition which will be judged by experienced professionals against a range of key criteria including concept, soundtrack, choreography, floor use, performance skills and overall impact.

The winners will go on to represent Bromley in the London finals on Wednesday 8 March at The Copper Box.

Miss Abbotts

## Your choice your voice

All Year 9 pupils took part in the Your Choice Your Voice (YCYV) programme on Thursday 12 January. YCYV is a specialised programme, comprising four separate workshops run by Bromley Healthcare's Nurse Team, Health Improvement Service and Bromley Young Persons Alcohol and Substance Service.

The aim of the YCYV programme is to raise awareness of sex and relationship issues.

By helping Year 9 students develop the skills necessary to assess risks and understand potential consequences, the programme allows students to make informed choices and keep themselves and others safe.

Mrs Tsang

## PARENTS EVENINGS 2016/17

**Year 11:** 19 January 2017

**Year 8:** 8 February 2017

**Year 9:** 9 March 2017

**Year 10:** 26 April 2017

**Year 7:** 3 May 2017

## YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING AND REPORT COLLECTION

**Thursday, 19 January 2017**

**3.15pm – 6.15pm**

This is an opportunity for pupils and their families to speak to staff about their progress.

Oz Schoolwear will be present selling school uniform and PE kit.

Governors will be present conducting parent consultation so please respond to the questionnaire if you can, either on the night or later by email.

Refreshments will be available courtesy of the Friends.