



## HEADLINES

### Residents Survey

This week I had the pleasure of meeting with two representatives from the School Council, Maciej Szczyrba (Year 11) and Mollie Harris (Year 13) who fed back to me the results of the recent survey of our local residents.

As anticipated one of the major concerns of our local residents is the traffic congestion in Jail Lane and the occasional inconsiderate parking by some parents who block their driveways.

It was great to talk with Maciej and Mollie who had done a super job in collating all the information returned by those residents who took the time to respond. All in all the feedback was interesting, the local residents are very supportive of the school; they would however like us to communicate with parents and pupils the following concerns:

1. Parking and traffic congestion – could parents please be more considerate when dropping off and picking up children. Please do not park in front of driveways.
2. Please be more mindful of litter – the bins are not emptied as regularly as they should be – so everyone please be more thoughtful about litter and how to dispose of it.

As a school we shall be discussing this with our pupils. I would be grateful if parents/carers could also take note of the above and help. Thank you.

Sunil Chotai

### IMPORTANT REMINDER: 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.

## Feeding Britain's Future



*The Institute of Grocery Distribution [IGD] runs Feeding Britain's Future, a nationwide schools programme that brings volunteers from across the food and grocery industry together to support young people at the very start of their career planning. The aim is to inspire and inform pupils, so they understand how to translate their education into skills for work while learning about the wide range of food and grocery careers available.*

This week 20 of our more able Year 9 students took part in an IGD Feeding Britain's Future workshop led by five professionals from the food services industry.

Students do not always make a connection between what they learn in school, the skills they develop during extra-curricular activities and the qualities which employers and universities want.

The workshop focused on developing communication skills and professional working relationships. Students were given advice and guidance on how to communicate in a confident and concise manner. The workshops also gave them the opportunity to reflect and improve on their own communication skills.

"It is really important to draw attention to the skills and experiences that students gain through extra-curricular achievements and participation in clubs," said Mr Jones, Assistant Headteacher. "These complement a good set of GCSE and A level results when applying to university, apprenticeships and the world of work."

### Have your say

Due to the snow closure last Friday, the Kirkland Rowell questionnaires were sent home on Monday this week with the youngest child in each family for parents to complete. If you have not yet had a chance to fill in your questionnaire, please find time to do so over the week-end and return this on Monday.

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.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mrs Rees

## Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

**Monday 23 to Friday 27 January 2017**

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

**25 January 2017**—Year 13 Work Reviews

**25 January 2017**—Year 10 reward trip to Gojumpin

**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

### Forthcoming events

**1 February 2017**—Year 7 reward trip to Canary Wharf Ice Rink

**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

**13 to 17 February 2017**—Half term

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

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

**2 March 2017**—Year 8 Options Evening.

**7 March 2017**—Drama trip to the Taming of the Shrew at the Globe

**8 March 2017**—Year 13 Drama trip to A midsummer Night's Dream at the Young Vic

**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

## Health matters

### Year 9 vaccinations

Due to a world shortage of the BCG vaccine against TB [tuberculosis], this is now only being given to infants who are thought to be at risk of contracting the disease and not to school age children.

Here at Charles Darwin School the students are at a very low risk of contracting TB.

Year 9 students had been scheduled to have the skin test on 22 May and vaccinations for those found to need one on 25 May. The skin tests will not now go ahead.

Year 9 students will be having their DTP (diphtheria, tetanus and polio) and meningitis vaccinations on Thursday 25 May.

Miss Robertson

## PARENTS EVENINGS 2016/17

**Year 8:** 8 February 2017

**Year 9:** 9 March 2017

**Year 10:** 26 April 2017

**Year 7:** 3 May 2017

## Darwin Leisure Centre New Year, new you?



**Gold membership: £25 per month**

Offering unlimited use of the gym and member discount on other facilities and bookings

**Free inductions [normally £10] for the month of January**

**A variety of private classes, facilities and pitch hire is available**

Enquiries to 01959 540606 or email: aad@cdarwin.com

See school website  
[www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com)  
for full details

## Pupils for Praise

**Duty pupils of the week ending**

**13/1/2017**

Abbie Clements, Matthew Kenton, Carys Cloud and Courtney Barnett from 8ZGi

Mrs Mills

### ★ Geography Star of the Week

is awarded to Nicole Ingleby in Year 8 for her consistently excellent work and effort both in class and with homework as well as her excellent organisation.

Ms Kelly

### ★ History Star of the Week is

awarded to Leila Ladger in 7CGr. Leila has worked extremely diligently in her history since starting back in September. Her most recent piece of work, which was a mock trial of King John, was thoughtful, persuasive and well written. She always tries her best and as a result of this is making fantastic progress.

Mr Lamb

## Summer enrichment

A few places are still available on the summer enrichment trip to PGL Liddington from Monday 17 to Wednesday 19 July: Open to all Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, PGL is a reputable educational trip provider and you can access the company online at [www.pgl.co.uk](http://www.pgl.co.uk). During the weekend the pupils will be able to experience a wide range of activities such as abseiling, zip wire and raft building. Letters giving full details are available on reception.

## YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING AND REPORT COLLECTION

**Wednesday, 8 February 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.