



3/3/2017

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Options Evening

My thanks to all families who attended Thursday's Year 8 Options Evening. This year we changed the format a little – there were two parental talks from Mr. Boyden instead of the usual one - a change that seemed to make the evening flow much better. The evening was very successful with a positive, purposeful and business-like feel evident around many of the departmental stands. Next week as part of the options process Form Tutors will be holding individual parental meetings to discuss, advise and confirm the final option choices.

World Book Day

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day with The Big Read. The story itself was somewhat spine-chilling and I know that many of our Key Stage 3 students thoroughly enjoyed hearing the different chapters being read out throughout the day and were keen to get to Period 6 to listen to the ending. At lunchtime we held a number of events to raise funds to purchase a class set of Carnegie books to shadow the reading competition again this year. The new books will then be donated to the library for all to enjoy.

Break with a Cake

Also on Thursday I had the absolute pleasure of sharing my break with our Year 10 boys' football squad, who were accompanied by their coach Mr. Ramsey. As many parents will be aware, the boys have reached the final of the Kent Cup, the biggest competition in county schoolboy football. A total of 108 Kent schools entered the competition and to reach the final is a fantastic achievement. It was great to spend time with this fine collection of young men.

Sunil Chotai

Reminder: Year 8 Option Preference Consultations take place from Monday, 6 March onwards.

Year 9 students hear about current research at GCSE Science Live! conference



On the Friday before half term three members of staff had the pleasure of accompanying Year 9 students to the GCSE Science live! conference. This event allows students studying GCSEs to see and listen to five leading scientists about their field of science and their most recent projects.

The pupils were lucky enough to hear Dr Kate Lancaster talk about the nuclear fusion project building a star-like reactor on Earth. This area of science has the potential to solve future energy issues if nuclear fusion can be used in this way. Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock, host of 'the sky at night' discussed her quest to get into space and how scientists are exploring exoplanets around distant stars. Professor Lord Robert Winston discussed his years of work in the field of IVF and the advances that have occurred in genetic testing to prevent babies from being born with, sometime life-threatening genetic disorders. He also discussed the impact of genetic engineering and how that can produce unexpected characteristics. Professor Andrea Sella caught the students' attention setting off dramatic chemical reactions on stage looking at states of matter and how materials behave under pressure. The last scientist of the day was Professor Steve Jones who also works in the field of genetics, looking at nature versus nurture and why although some individuals inherit genes making them more likely to have a condition this may not be the only contributing factor.

Pupils were able to take away booklets with information about the scientists they had seen and the other scientists that present at GCSE Science live!. This will give them the opportunity to explore the different areas of science and the people who are working on various projects.

Thank you to the students for being great representatives of our school and to Miss Jones and Miss Crawley for their support on the trip.

Miss Mackay

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 6 to Friday 10 March 2017

6 March 2017 — St John Ambulance first aid training for Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh award

6 March 2017 — Friends meeting at 7:00pm in the Sixth Form hub

6 to 10 March 2017 — Year 8 Option preference consultations

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

8 March 2017 — X-Tol competes in the London Youth Games dance competition final

8 March 2017 — Duke of Edinburgh training from 3:15pm—4:15pm in the Sixth Form Hub

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

9 March 2017 — Year 13 Government and Politics conference

10 March 2017 — Year 13 History conference

Forthcoming events

13 March 2017 — Deadline for return of Year 8 Options Preference Form

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

15 March 2017 — Duke of Edinburgh training from 3:15-4:15 in the Hub

16 March 2017 — Bromley Youth Manifesto event

22 March 2017 — Year 11 and 12 Work reviews

22 March 2017 — Duke of Edinburgh training from 3:15pm—4:15pm in the Sixth Form hub

24 March 2017 — Friends Race Night in the Sixth Form hub

29 March 2017 — Duke of Edinburgh training from 3:15pm—4:15pm in the Sixth Form hub

31 March 2017 to 8 April 2017 — Ski trip

18 April 2017 — Duke of Edinburgh orienteering through Cudham and Downe

20 April 2017 — Year 10 Your Choice Your Voice

20 April 2017 — Year 13 PE trip to Aquasports in Merstham

24 April 2017 — Bromley Sharing dance performances

Vacancy—Minibus Driver

**£11.00 per hour – term time only 3.5 hours per day
(07.00 – 08.45 and 15.00 – 16.45 alternate weeks)**

Minibus driver wanted to transport students on a home-to-school route from the local area. Professional attitude to work, good people skills and a smart appearance essential. Applicants must be in good health and have a full clean driving licence with category D1. A MIDAS training certificate would be an advantage.

This post is offered on a job-share basis. The successful candidate will work flexibly with our existing minibus driver to ensure that all school days are covered. The current working schedule is Wednesday – Tuesday alternate weeks. Some additional ad hoc hours may be available.

Application forms are available on our website www.cdarwin.com and should be emailed to Julie Hodgkinson at jho@cdarwin.com. Please note CVs alone will not be considered.

Closing date: Friday 10th March 2017

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and full background checks.

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending

10/2/2017

Jamie Simpson and Megan Tokarski
from 8 SCU

Mrs Mills

Duty pupils of the week ending

24/2/2017

Lauren Anderson and Cameron Gifford from 8SCu who were particularly helpful during a period of staff absence.

**Mrs Marshall and
the staff in the main office**

 **History Star of the Week** is awarded to Kelsey Pullin in 8RMa who has developed into a fantastic historian. Her written work is very detailed, with a strong argument supported by historical evidence. She always participates in the lesson, showing great understanding of the topic and asking very focused questions. Well done Kelsey.

Mrs Ruth

 **Geography Stars of the Week** are awarded to Lucy Harrison, Yasmin Taylor and Faith Harrison. They have all shown good commitment to their revision: regularly attending revision sessions. This is an improved attitude and I hope it continues.

Mr T Jones



We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers again so if you shop in Sainsbury's anytime before Tuesday 2 May please take the vouchers offered and send them into our collection box in main reception.

We have been able to buy a range of equipment for the school in the past and we hope to be able to do the same again this year.

Please help us to collect. Thank you

Miss Case