



10/3/2017

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Meeting with Council Leader

Last week I joined a small group of Headteachers to meet with the Leader of Bromley Council, the Chief Executive and some Council officers. We had requested the meeting to outline our concerns about the critical state of school finances and funding and to enlist their support in putting a case to national politicians.

It was a good meeting where all sides agreed that the financial challenges in schools are considerable and that the particular case for Bromley schools is strong enough to take forward to those who make the national decisions. The elected local politicians pledged to support the schools in this matter. Whilst the likelihood of getting an immediate financial solution is probably zero it is still well worth raising our concerns forcefully regarding the current state of affairs.

Options Interviews

This week has been very busy for the Year 8 tutor team as they have engaged in options interviews with students and families. This is an important occasion for our Year 8 students who seem excited and enthused by the opportunity and responsibility that comes with making their option choices. My thanks to all families for their participation in these meetings.

Sunil Chotai

Year 11

Holiday Revision Classes

Holiday Revision Classes will run in the Easter and May half term holidays and all Year 11 students have been given a timetable. The timetable has also been emailed home to parents. The sessions are designed to give an extra boost to students' preparations for the GCSE examinations. There are limited places on some sessions, so please make your payment promptly via ParentPay to secure a place. Thank you.

Ms Kelly

Al Jazeera hosts careers day for Year 10



More Able Year 10 students with a particular interest in English or the media took part in a careers day in journalism, communication and TV production at the Al Jazeera 24 hour news studios.

Two of the students gave this account of the day:

On the sixteenth floor of the Shard building resides the news broadcasting team of Al Jazeera, which thirteen Year 10 students were invited to tour on Wednesday 22nd February.

We began the tour in the main control room, where video feeds are sent in and out of the London HQ. Al Jazeera's main headquarters, however, are in Doha and most of the news presented is from outside the UK. It was exciting to hear about the different stations they have across the globe, and all the different places some reporters travel to and broadcast from.

Over the day we met many employees including cameraman Otto who allowed us to broadcast film to the main control room. What I found particularly interesting is that, compared to just a few decades ago when news vans were needed to transport and broadcast from remote locations, now it is common for some reporters to go live using just a mobile phone and a selfie stick. Technology has really advanced, that's for sure.

The main event of the day, for us, was by far the news room itself. To be behind the desk where millions watch news anchors report on a daily basis; to see the enormous cameras, the remote-controlled spotlights... it was all so amazing. It felt as if you were actually on the news.

We also enjoyed the fact that we were treated like adults. We were invited into a conference room and three high-profile employees from different departments within Al Jazeera each held a conversation with us about the details of their fields. From daily news, to design, all the way to programme development: we had a better view of the variety of jobs there are in just one line of business. It broadened my mind to all the opportunities available to me.

Thank you to Al Jazeera for letting us visit your amazing headquarters: it has definitely inspired me to go forward in my career prospects. And thank you to Mr R Jones and Mr Archer for organising the day. I hope more students from our school will be fortunate enough to go on this truly insightful and inspiring trip in the future.

Ciara Fleming and Ella Shaw, Year 10

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 13 to Friday 17 March 2017

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 3:15pm—4:15pm in the Hub

16 March 2017 — Bromley Youth Manifesto event

16 March 2017 — BBC School Report



London Youth Games Dance Competition Final

Well done to all the members of X-Tol who performed in the London Youth Games Dance Competition Final on Wednesday 8 March 2017 at the Copper Box Arena in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

"They performed confidently in front of so many people," said Miss Abbotts, Head of Dance. "The judges loved the students' technique and commented on how committed they were to the performance."

Many of the pieces were street-based and X-Tol's style was unique in the competition, coming twelfth out of 23 schools.

"It was a long day but the girls took it all in their stride and everyone enjoyed the experience. A big thank you to Mr Griffiths for driving us to Stratford which was a feat in itself both for negotiating the traffic on the journey and subsequently trying to park the mini-bus on arrival," concluded Miss Abbotts.

Current vacancies

Exam Invigilators: £8.50 per hour

Our dedicated pool of Exam Invigilators is responsible for the invigilation of public and internal exams and tests. The main exam season runs from 15th May – 30th June and applicants should be available from 08.30am for the morning session and/or from 13.00pm for the afternoon session. Training will be provided. Closing date: Friday 17 March 2017

Minibus driver: £11.00 per hour – term time only 3.5 hours per day (job share 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. Closing date: Friday 10 March 2017

Full details and 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.

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

3/3/2017

Paris Shoemith and Jack Roney
from 8 MGR

Mrs Mills

★ **History Stars of the Week** are awarded to Benjamin Reilly, Morgan Farquharson and Callie Iley. Well done on your outstanding hard work, effort in class and amazing results in your mock exam.

Miss Zysemil

★ **Geography Star of the Week** is awarded to Lucy Vowles in 8X/Ge2 for a consistently high standard of classwork and homework and always pushing herself to extend her knowledge and understanding

Ms Kelly

A HUGE thank you to Keira Ardley Nicole Ingleby and Emmanuel Obeng-Boateng who were excellent ambassadors for the school and the art department in particular this week.

They gave a group of visitors from the British Council a tour of the department and spoke in a confident and proud manner for a long period of time about their art experiences. Well done and thank you for your support.

Miss Miller



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 in to 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

Monday 13 March: deadline for return of Year 8 options preference forms