



19/5/2017

Charles

The Link Darwin

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Examinations

As many parents will know, the examination season is now upon us and students will be spending a great deal of time revising. We are continuing to run revision sessions, both in school time and beyond and extra revision classes are also being held over the half term holiday. A number of the students I have spoken to have said how grateful they are to staff for giving up their own time to support them at this important time. I am fully aware that students are working hard at the moment and are under a lot of pressure. My best wishes to all of them for those important exams.

Break with a Cake

This week I had break with a cake with the girls' U13 football team post their Bromley Cup win over Bullers Wood School. The team of talented young girls won the much coveted trophy with a hard fought 2-0 win after extra time. It was such a pleasure to meet them - I understood exactly why Miss Curwood is so proud of them and all they have achieved. **Sunil Chotai**



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

A range of summer enrichment activities will soon be available on ParentPay. When places are limited, you may miss out on something popular for your child if you have not activated your account in advance. Thank you.

WANTED URGENTLY

The art department is in desperate need of white or pale coloured sheeting style material. If you have any household linen you no longer use, please bring it in to Mrs Austin in art. Thank you

Year 10 EL Geography visit the Olympic site



On 10 May seven excited Year 10 geography students swapped their usual classroom for the Stratford Olympic site for the day. We visited six different locations around the area to have a look at the land use and consider why so many different land uses are found in this part of London in particular since the Olympics.

Students carried out a range of different fieldwork techniques and even completed some questionnaires with the local residents. It was a delight to have comments from visitors from as far afield as Canada as to how polite and well-mannered our students were. All the members of staff that attended were very impressed with the group and the enthusiasm with which they completed the fieldwork. It was a pleasure to see them really interested in the geography all around them in particular the electric car and the Boris bikes which it proved a challenge to get them to leave behind.

For the first time we did not see any stars while in Westfield shopping centre but all the staff agree the real stars of the day were the students that came with us, for their enthusiasm and impeccable behaviour which created such a good impression of the school for all the people we met. All in all a great day was had by all. Well done Year 10. **Mrs Gillespie**

Year 7 Race for Life - Tuesday 23 May 2017

All Year 7 students should have received a fundraising pack in preparation for the Race for Life event next week, in aid of one of their chosen charities, Cancer Research UK. The event will combine a sponsored run, charity fair and 20p tube donations. All Year 7 students will take part in the run, which starts at 1:45pm (during the normal school day) and Year 7 parents are invited to spectate (arrival from 1:15pm) but please be aware there is limited parking on-site.

Last year's event was very successful raising over £7,000.

"We have set ourselves a target to beat last year's total which will be a real challenge!" said Mrs Wheeler, Year 7 Transition Manager and event organiser. "So far this year the Year 7 students and families have been very generous with their contributions towards our charity work and I am looking forward to what I hope will be a successful, fulfilling and sunny afternoon on 23 May. Please support your child if you can. We look forward to seeing Year 7 parents there."

Sports update

Well done to the Year 7 girls who attended their first athletics event at Norman Park in Bromley on Tuesday 16 May. The girls were extremely nervous when they arrived but the nerves soon settled and the afternoon began. The team all performed well with Lakeisha Richards making the final of the 200m from her heat. Emma Spear came fourth in the 800m staying close to the first three runners. The next athletics event, taking place on Wednesday 24 May here at Charles Darwin School, will be for Year 7 and Year 8 students competing against other schools. Bromley Minors will be the next meet at Norman Park on Wednesday 14 June: this will include Year 7 and 8 boys and girls. If you want to be selected for this event you will need to attend athletics club on Wednesdays after school from 3:00pm to 4:15pm.

Congratulations to Kadelia Wilkins in Year 9 who became a national football champion last week with the rest of the members of the Kent Girls U14 squad. Kent won their national final against Lancashire in Birmingham last week. A phenomenal achievement and one to savour.

"I am proud to say that I am a champion along with my Kent team and that we are the best county in England," Kadelia told Miss Curwood. "Thanks for the support to help get me into Kent and for the advice—I really appreciate it: I owe it all to you and Charles Darwin School."



Congratulations to Ellie Burdis in Year 7 who took part in the Kent Schools Golf Championships at Bearsted Golf Club recently. Despite the competition being played under rules known as 'medal' which prevented Ellie from fully exploiting her potential, she achieved a remarkable third place with a score which would have won the tournament outright under the normal handicap rules which are known as 'stableford'. Ellie, who has recently turned twelve, played in the U13 competition against girls almost a year older than her, and she will qualify to play again next year; meantime we wish her well with her summer time programme around the county.

Congratulations to Jessica Doyle in Year 9 on being selected to play netball for Croydon at the London Youth Games. Jessica competed in these last year but had to re-trial for the event again this year. We are extremely proud of Jessica who currently plays for our Year 9 team. We wish Jessica luck with the event and hope she relishes the opportunity.

Netball:

Well done to all the students who competed this year in the netball leagues. We are extremely proud of all our students and have had fantastic results: Year 7 came third in Division 1; Year 8 came seventh in Division 1; Year 9 came second in Division 1 – narrowly missing out to Langley Park and Year 10 came third in Division 2. Three teams are still competing in Division 1 which is fantastic and these teams will remain in Division 1 for next season. Netball will begin again in September.

Friends Football Tournament raises £150

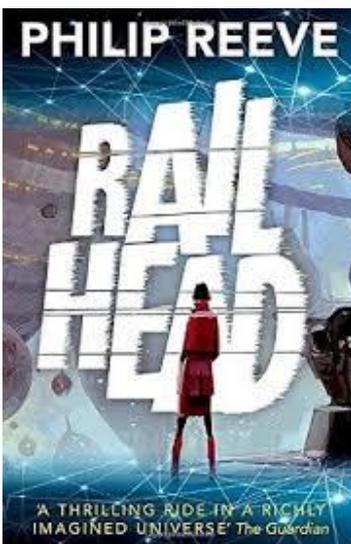
The weather was not promising on 20 March for the first Friends Football Tournament: the rain was scheduled to continue until after 4:30pm. However, just before the first match kicked off at 3:30pm the rain stopped and stayed away for the duration. Five teams each from Year 7 and Year 8 took part and each team was allocated a member of staff as a goal-keeper and played four games of football to decide the overall winner.

With each game comprising eight minutes one way the pace was fast and furious. The Year 8 winners were the blue team, ably assisted by Mr T Jones in goal. The Year 7 honours went to the red team with Mr Eckersall as their goal keeper.

The event was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all participants. The Friends would like to thank the members of staff and older pupils who gave up their time to participate and assist at this event. Their support is greatly appreciated. Over £150 was raised at this event and as always, all funds will be used to support the pupils.



Carnegie reviews—Railhead by Philip Reeve



Paula Szczyrba:

I found this book quite difficult to read because it is science fiction and the author developed new words to describe things. The start was especially hard to read because I was just getting to grips with the language and new words such as 'khoorsandi' and 'galaghash'. However, there is a glossary in the back if you get really confused. I really enjoyed the plot line though, with many twists so I would give this book

get discouraged and this book needs perseverance.

Interestingly, I would actually like to read the second book in this series because the ending was a cliff hanger and near the middle the book really pulled me in, I just wish the author had made the start better. This is why I normally dislike sci-fi, because the beginnings always are very long because the author must explain a whole new world, new rules and new words and/or languages.

Kayleigh Jennings:

This book is about a boy called Zen Starling, he was a petty thief until Raven required his help. Zen, Raven and Nova (a smart robot) succeed in stealing a valuable artefact. This book can be quite challenging as it is set in the future and the language is quite advanced and tricky. Yet this is solved by a glossary in the back of the book that has the meaning of the words.

3/5 stars.

Also, the language that the author used was very advanced and enjoyable like 'she was shocked, tearstained and weary'. I would recommend this to older teens because the language can be confusing and the book is hard to get pulled into, so some young teens may

As this book has a challenging vocabulary, so I would recommend it to advanced readers or anyone of the age of 15 and up. I would rate this book three out of five as it can be interpreted as a boring book until you get to the last twenty chapters. This book is a science fiction/adventure.

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 22 to Friday 26 May

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

25 May 2017 — DTP/Meningitis vaccinations for Year 9

26 May 2017 — Year 13 Leavers BBQ

Forthcoming events

5 to 16 June 2017 — Year 7 and 8 exams

5 June 2017 — Friends meeting at 7:00pm in the Sixth Form hub

8 June 2017 — Year 12 back on timetable

10 to 11 June 2017 — Silver DofE Practice/Bronze DofE qualifying expedition in Bewl Water

12 June 2017 — Deadline for Head Girl/Boy and Sixth Form prefect applications

12 June 2017 — Year 10 geography trip to the Olympic site

14 June 2017 — Year 9 Bromley Technology Challenge

14 June 2017 — Year 6 into 7 Induction Evening

15 and 20 June 2017 — Year 6 into 7 interviews

16 June 2017 — Year 10 geography trip to the Olympic site

16 June 2017 — Year 9/10 rounders tournament

19 to 30 June 2017 — Year 9 exams

20 June 2017 — Year 6 into 7 student and parent interviews

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending

12/5/2017

Callium Hain, Erin Williams and
Lisa Sayer from 8HCa/KSa

Mrs Mills

 **History Star of the Week** is awarded to Kye Teague in 9DLA. Kye has been working at his history in a conscientious and determined manner. In class he is always fully engaged, is invariably one of the first to complete the work set and makes excellent oral contributions to the lessons. Homework is always presented punctually and Kye is a joy to teach.

Miss Swinscoe

Thank you to the anonymous benefactor who kindly donated their 50/50 club winnings of £55 back to the Friends.

Gilliam Simons

Good luck to the Year 8 and 9 netball teams who will be representing the school at a netball tournament this weekend. The girls will be travelling to Condover Hall in Shropshire to compete against other clubs and schools. Thank you to Mrs Wray and Miss Curwood who will be taking the girls.

Miss Case

Student Services reminders

Absence

If you are ringing to report your child's absence, please do so **before 9:00am**, and leave a message on the Absence Line (press option 1).

If you have a query or want to report a future absence, please call **after 9:30am** when the office is less busy.

Many thanks for your help with this.

Uniform

We would be grateful for donations of any outgrown uniform in reasonable condition, especially boys' trousers, to keep as spares.

If your child would like, or has lost a jumper we have a pile that they can help themselves from.

Thank you.

This week's 500 Words story

Where's my glitter? by Thea D'Apice

It seemed like an ordinary morning in the glitter forest until Bob the blue glitter bunny looked in the pond to see his reflection. All he could see was a grey and dull blob.

Bob decided to go and see his best friend Toffee the pink glitter bunny, to see if he had any ideas on what had happened to all his glitter. But when he got to Toffee he found out that he had the same problem and didn't know what to do or what had happened.

"I know what we should do, we should go and sit on a mushroom," suggested Bob. The reason why they could sit on a mushroom is because they are glitter mushrooms and whenever you touch them they explode with glitter.

So that is what they did. PUFF went the mushroom but the glitter didn't stick. They were still grey and dull. They then tried eating a glitter berry, but that didn't work either.

Ten minutes of trial and error "Maybe we should go and talk to the wise old bunny Todd," suggested Toffee.

"Why didn't I think of that?" said Bob. But they had a problem. Todd lived on the other side of the forest. They knew they had to go on the very long journey because if a glitter bunny loses their glitter and doesn't find it in four days they will fade away and no one will remember them ever again. However the hop to the other side of the forest would take them one day so they would only have three days to do what they need to do.

One day after a very tiring hike When they got to

Todd's burrow he wasn't there. "What do we do now?" said Toffee. "We will have to go and search for him, he can't be far." They looked everywhere but they couldn't find him. But then Toffee realised that they hadn't looked at the pond behind Todd's home.

Bang! Bob walked straight into another bunny. When bob looked up he realised it was Todd.

"Finally we found you Todd! We have been looking all over for you," explained Bob.

"Well I was always by the pond," replied Todd.

"I knew it" said Toffee.

"Was there reason you were looking for me?" asked Todd.

"If you haven't already noticed we are grey and dull blobs can you help us please get our shine back?" said Bob.

"You just have to get a human to say 'I believe' three times in a row and mean it and with your luck there is a human not far from here," explained Todd.

"Thanks" said Bob.

"Where do you think the human...?"

"OW! What was that" interrupted Bob.

It was a human. Bob got straight to the point and asked the human what his name was and then to say the magic words. They found out his name was Gregg.

"I believe, I believe, I believe..." said Gregg

"Whoop! Whoop!" Toffee and Bob cheered.

"...Not!"