



HEADLINES

School Finance

As parents will be aware the financial situation for schools is extremely challenging at the moment, as has been highlighted a great deal in the media. As a school we have had to make considerable economies this year to balance the budget; the outlook seems as if we will need to do so in the future again. In common with many other schools nationally we are looking at ways of increasing the school's income from self-generated activities and from parents. In this context I would like to urge those families who have not already contributed to the School Fund to seriously consider this please. The money raised in this way is used to support activities beyond the scope of the classroom and is a vitally important part of our funding stream.

The School Fund directly benefits the students at the school and has been used to cover such things as the cost of leasing the minibuses, purchase of student planners, prizes and certificates, updating classrooms and supporting students participating in school trips, residential and national or international events.

Parents are asked to contribute £50 per annum towards the Fund and if every parent did so we could raise in excess of £60,000 which would help us enormously in the current financial climate.

Parents may contribute via cheque, cash or ParentPay; and whichever method is chosen, we will be extremely grateful.

Sunil Chotai

PARENTS EVENINGS 2017/18

- Year 12:** 30 November 2017
- Year 13:** 30 November 2017
- Year 11:** 18 January 2018
- Year 8:** 7 February 2018
- Year 9:** 7 March 2018
- Year 12:** 27 March 2018 [2]
- Year 13:** 27 March 2018 [2]
- Year 10:** 2 May 2018
- Year 7:** 16 May 2018

Meet the teachers

Introducing new and some returning members of staff who joined us this term

Miss Phillips, Drama



Hello! I am Miss Phillips, the new drama teacher. I am really excited to be working at Charles Darwin School and I look forward to meeting lots of new faces.

I also can't wait to start rehearsals for our school production of Beauty and the Beast and I hope lots of you will be coming to audition or watching the shows at Christmas! A few things about me, I like reading and going to watch bands and I love going to the theatre.

Miss Harris, Maths



What shall I say? Well, I have been teaching for some time. I did not realise quite how long until I met a former pupil teaching at the school. Needless to say I enjoy teaching; no two days are the same. I like sports and music and like to blow my own trumpet, whoops I meant play the trumpet. I am not very

good at it yet as my counting skills need improving or so my music teacher says.

Ms Baxter, MFL



I am Ms Baxter and I am very happy to be back after six years away in Spain and Malaysia. I will be teaching Spanish, French and German. I love travel, languages and learning about different cultures. I also like yoga, swimming and dragon boating - I took part in an international dragon boating festival. I'll need to get used to the cold before I look for a team here, though!

Mr Waller, English



After teaching here for five years way back in 2006, I'm very excited to be returning to the school.

LIKES - dark chocolate hobnobs, drinking coffee and spending time with my family—my eldest son has

continued overleaf

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 18 to Friday 22 September

18 September 2017—Sixth Form Steven Berkoff practical drama workshop

18 September 2017—Friends' cheese and wine evening — ALL WELCOME

20 September 2017—Y13 UCAS evening

21 September 2017—Year 11 parents information evening

Forthcoming events

25 September 2017—Student Voice meetings take place this week

25 September 2017—Sixth Form drama trip to see Wings at the Young Vic

26 September 2017—Year 9 finance workshop

29 September 2017—Early close for Open Morning

30 September 2017—Open Morning

2 October 2017—Late start for students

2 October 2017—Sixth Form drama trip to see Metamorphoses

2 October 2017—Friends meeting at 7:00pm in the hub—ALL WELCOME

3 to 6 October 2017—Open Week guided tours of the school

4 October 2017 —Year 10 geography trip to Stratford

5 October 2017 —Year 10 geography trip to Stratford

5 October 2017—Sports Awards

8 October 2017—Zanzibar fundraising walk

18 October 2017—Year 7 settling in tea

19 October 2017—Sixth Form Pink Day

19 to 23 October 2017—GCSE geography trip to Iceland

20 October 2017—INSET

23 to 27 October 2017—Half term

30 October 2017—INSET

1 November 2017—Darwin's got Talent

6 November 2017—Friends meeting at 7:00pm in the hub—ALL WELCOME

6 November 2017—Student Voice meetings take place this week

7 November 2017—Year 11 work reviews

16 November 2017—Sixth Form Open Evening

22 November 2017—Jack Petchey Award Ceremony at the Churchill Theatre

4 December 2017—Friends meeting at 7:00pm in the hub—ALL WELCOME

11 to 14 December 2017—performances of the school production

15 December 2017—Christmas Jumper Day

26 January 2018—deadline for Sixth Form Applications

1 March 2018—Year 8 Options Evening

7 March 2018—Year 9 Parents Evening

13 June 2018—Year 6 into 7 Induction Evening

14 June 2018—Year 6 into 7 Induction Interviews

15 and 20 June 2017—Year 6 into 7 interviews

Where are they now?

Congratulations to Paul Burgess who graduates from Hertfordshire University with a 2:2 in Aerospace System Engineering with Pilot Studies. Paul is currently a Production Engineer graduate at Kenard in Dartford.

Sixth Form Team

Open Morning 2017

Saturday 30 September

9.45am—12.30pm

Headteacher's talks at

9.45am and 11.30am

Open Week:

Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 October

A daily guided tour of the school in action at 08.40am followed by a Headteacher talk at 09.30am.

Reminder:

On Friday 29 September the school will close at 12.40pm so that staff can prepare for Open Morning on Saturday. Pupils eligible for free school meals should collect sandwiches from the canteen at break.



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

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just started primary school this term.
DISLIKES – peanut butter and FC Barcelona (for trying to take Philippe Coutinho away from Liverpool).
I'm looking forward to meeting you over the coming terms.

Ms Ollier, English

Hello! I am so pleased to be working at Charles Darwin School, as over the years I have heard so many positive comments about your school.



It will be my fifteenth year teaching English and I am still as passionate about my subject as when I first started.

It is very important to me to instil a love of learning in my students and enable their confidence and understanding to grow.

I live locally and am married with two fabulous children. My favourite pastimes are going to the theatre, sculpting and walking my dogs.