



08.03.2024

Issue No: 1114

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Year 11 PPE 2's

The Year 11's have now finished their second and final PPE's (Pre-Public Exams). Their conduct was excellent and they enjoyed a reward breakfast on Thursday. It is important to maintain momentum over the coming weeks and Easter in preparation for the forthcoming public examinations.

Road Safety

We continue to work with Bromley Council in the interest of safety of our students. This has included increased parking patrols and a plan to introduce enforcement cameras. Thank you for not stopping directly outside the school.

World Book Day

World Book Day was a real highlight this week and my Year 8's really enjoyed me reading to them as part of the "The Big Read". My thanks to Miss Pitt for organising. More to follow about how we celebrated World Book Day is in the newsletter.

Aston Smith

Parent/Carer Workshop



**Online parent/carers workshop on
Thursday 21st March, 6-7pm via Zoom.**

This session will be delivered by the **Breck Foundation**, a charity that Charles Darwin School have worked closely with in the past as part of our RSE curriculum.

Aim: to raise awareness and increase knowledge around online grooming and how to effectively support young people with navigating the digital world.

If you are interested in attending this session please email Miss Currie, at gcu@cdarwin.com.

The Zoom link will be sent out from Friday 15th March.

For more information on their work, please visit <https://www.breckfoundation.org/>

Miss Currie

A reminder to parents that as well as the LINK and the 'latest news' section on the website, you can follow the latest events happening in our school community on:

CDarwinSchool



CDarwinSchool



Mr Jones



Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Jail Lane
Biggin Hill
Westerham
Kent TN16 3AU
Tel: 01959 574043
enquiries@cdarwin.com

Learning Support Assistant 25 hours per week Monday – Friday, term time only (actual salary £15,761)

We are looking to appoint a Learning Support Assistant as soon as possible to join a well-established team supporting a range of students' needs in class, in small groups and/or specialised individual learning. Applicants should have good English and Maths skills (GCSE equivalent grade C or above) and be confident working with IT. Experience of working with secondary-aged students with a range of SEN and/or experience of working with students with ASD would be advantageous.

Further details and an application form are available on our website and should be sent to jho@cdarwin.com. Closing date: Friday 8th March 2024 (we reserve the right to appoint earlier should a suitable candidate be found). Please note CVs alone cannot 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 a DBS Enhanced Disclosure and full background checks.



Charles Darwin School

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Exam Invigilators £11.60 per hour

We are looking for suitable persons to join our dedicated pool of Exam Invigilators responsible for the invigilation of public and internal exams and tests. Invigilators will be present throughout the main summer exam season as well as at other times in the school year and may also undertake tasks such as checking registers against scripts and packing them at the end of exams.

Applicants should be available from 08.30 for the morning session and/or from 13.00 for the afternoon session. Training will be provided.

Closing date: 15th March 2024

Please note: all applicants must complete the Charles Darwin School application form which is available on our website: www.cdarwin.com (information/job vacancies). 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.

Support Mr Brown

I am taking part in a sky dive later this year in order to raise money for CASPA, an autism charity. Any donations, however big or small, would be greatly appreciated. You can donate using the following webpage:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/beth-grant-1702834026244?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fbeth-grant-1702834026244&utm_source=whatsapp&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp

Thank you in advance!

Mr. Brown

Red Nose Day 15th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Friday 15 March, Charles Darwin School will join thousands of schools up and down the country coming together to spread joy, have fun and raise money for those who need it most. Because there's nothing like Red Nose Day. Let's face it, we could all do with a bit of a laugh right now. So, let's come together and do something amazing. Let's make Red Nose Day the best day ever.



Here's some of the things we've got planned:

- * Year 8 Junior Bake-Off Competition
- * Cake/Bake sale
- * A Quiz competition

Please encourage your child to get involved and raise money for this amazing charity. It could be something they do together with their friends or it could be an individual activity (like tidying up, cooking dinner, sponsored silence, etc.)

We know there's a lot going on right now and for many people things are really tough. But if you can donate, every penny will add up to a life changing difference. You can donate via JustGiving or by dropping some pennies in the buckets on 15 March. Thank you for your continued support - you are amazing!

Please use the link below if you would like to donate via JustGiving:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd24-charles-darwin-school-ae67af7d-a438-4fe7-ac0c-c9b2f15886a0?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=rnd24-charles-darwin-school-ae67af7d-a438-4fe7-ac0c-c9b2f15886a0&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=f4f2f142e8964edf9c2afbda0f9ca0c

or scan the QR code:



Mrs Sharon Holloway
English Teacher & Head of KS3 English

Owen Asemota Year 8



All students are requested to leave the school site promptly unless taking part in supervised activities after school. For safety and security reasons no casual or recreational activities should take place without direct supervision from staff.

The Darwin Leisure Centre fitness gym is open to student paying members only between 3.15-4.30pm who must then leave the premises as quickly as possible; from 4.30-6.00pm only School/Club bookings are allowed on the 3G.

For students booking the astro pitch, bookings must be made in advance (no walk-ins) and a parent must be present on arrival. A limit of 16 students per booking applies.



Please see the MENU Week 2 for the week commencing 11th March 2024 by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.cdarwin.com/site/data/files/files/admissions/2F9F7A1B625432657219554C94079DB5.pdf>

PTA Update

We have just one request to our families and community this week and that is to enrol in EasyFundraising and add the donation reminder to your device - this means you can shop as normal and we still receive the donation.

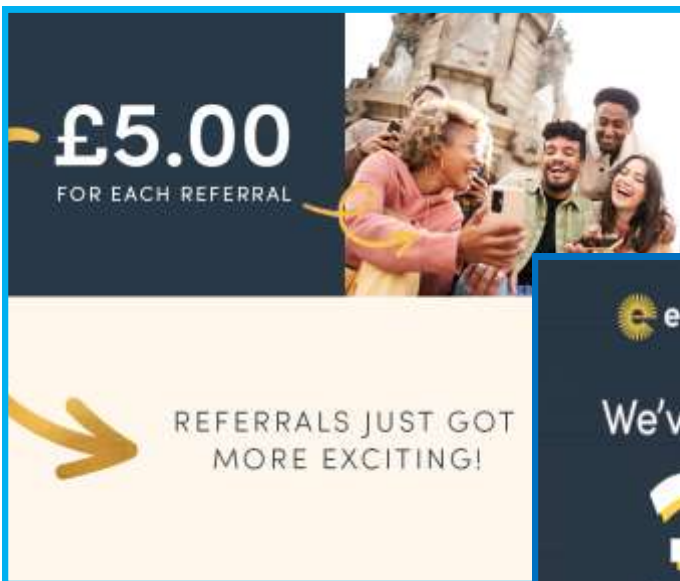
A current promotion applies to everyone who enrolls.

Thanks to the following for enrolling in the last week:
Rebecca W, Sandra F, Zoe W

And thanks to the following for donating this week via their shopping:
Caroline W, Georgie S, Oliver W, Helen H.

There are over 8,000 reasons to sign up to easyfundraising, but the main one is that you can help Charles Darwin School PTA - Kent for free. Turn your weekly food shops, birthday gifts, train tickets, holidays, and general online shopping at over 8,000 brands into free funding and support for us. Sign up to support us today, and we'll get a **bonus £5** donation as soon as you raise £5: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/charles-darwin-school-pta/graab1/c2s/6RCt7Elw/CE826/facebook/>

PTA



£5.00
FOR EACH REFERRAL

REFERRALS JUST GOT
MORE EXCITING!




easyfundraising

We've signed up

39

supporters so far

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/charles-darwin-school-pta/graab1/c2s/6RCt7Elw/CE826/facebook/>



Bromley
Borough
foodbank

Foodbank in Bromley is able to offer clients a choice of 3 days worth of food along with a supermarket voucher or 7 days worth of food. This is for **Bromley Borough residents only**. For out of borough residents they are able to offer 3 days worth of food. Please remember you can get help by contacting them directly on **ifo@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk**.



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
**Jack Petchey
Foundation**
Inspire • Motivate • Achieve

**IF THEY TELL US
THEIR AMBITIONS
FOR THE FUTURE
YOUR GROUP
COULD WIN
£500!**

By completing our **10 minute survey** they could win **£200** for themselves and **£500** for the youth organisation/school they are involved with.
Enter by 11.59pm, Saturday 16th March 2024



Thank you to Maggie McCarthy Year 8 for the generous donation of books to school's library.

Mrs Adams

Survey for 11-19 years old

Bromley Youth Council members have created a survey monkey to allow young people across Bromley, aged 11-19 years old to vote on what they think are the top 2 issues facing young people in Bromley today!

The aim is to give more young people a voice and voting access to tell us what the key issues are, and what they would like the Youth Council to do to tackle this issue.

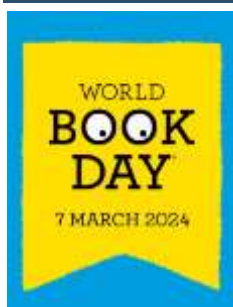
https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/BYC_2024

Voting will close at midnight on **Wednesday 20th March 2024**.

Thank you in advance

BYC Team

Reading Corner at Charles Darwin



On Thursday 7th March 2024 we celebrated World Book Day with our annual Charles Darwin event, 'The Big Read'.

At the beginning of all lessons, KS3 teachers read a section of a short story to their class. By the end of the day, everyone had enjoyed the same story. This year's story was 'The Man with the Yellow Face' by Anthony Horowitz.

We also had a variety of activities going on in the library at lunch time.

Thank you to our librarian, Mrs Adams, and all of the staff and students who thoroughly embraced World Book Day 2024.

Our focus on reading for pleasure does not stop there! All students are very welcome to:

- Take part in the Hundreds and Thousands Reading Club [see the school website for details or ask Mrs Pitt]
- Attend Book Club with Mrs Lamb every Thursday lunchtime

We will also enjoy our next DEAR [Drop Everything and Read] session on Friday 26th April 2024.

Thank you

Mrs Pitt

The mathematics department are holding revision classes after school on the following days from 3.15 to 4.15:

Higher Tier

Monday MA7 Mr Yerassimou

Wednesday MA2 Mr Watson

Foundation Tier



Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 1 March 2024.



7NYe	96.5%
8PDg	98.6%
9RMo	99.2%
10SFe	92.2%
11DNe	98%
12ACh	98.8%
13DWa	97.3%

As you are aware attendance is linked to a student's attainment and at Charles Darwin we work closely with the parents to keep students' attendance levels as high as possible. Please could we ask that if your child feels unwell in the morning (headache etc.) and they do feel better later on, that you send them in. This will benefit them as they will not miss a whole days learning.

Please can we also remind parents to call in before 8.30am for each day of your child's absence and not rely on receiving a text from us chasing their absence.

Thank you for your continued support.

Students Services Team

A reminder that pupils **should not** contact home if they feel unwell but should be seen and assessed by Mrs Booth, our Health Care Lead.

Parents should be aware that pupils will not be sent home without being seen by Mrs Booth in the first instance.

If your child contacts you directly, please phone the school to confirm whether they are unwell and have permission to go home.

Thank you

Student Services Team



Parents should be advised that the school does not provide students with Paracetamol unless it is a medical emergency.

We have a limited supply in school and prefer that medication wherever possible is administered at home.

Many thanks for your support.

**Mrs Booth
Lead First Aid**

Year 8 Duty Pupils

Lola Clarke
Lily-Lea Carey
Dylan Adams
Thomas Edmeads
Jason Panzi

Josh Catley
Dylan Rooke
Jason Panzi
Emily Whitby

Student Services Duty Pupils

Leo Currier
Thomas Hamer
Emily Hartfield
Shakai Henry
Freya Everett



They have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable.

Dates for the Diary

March

14th March - Trip: Science Live KS Emmanuel Centre, London, Year 8 & 9

19th March - 6th Form, UCAS EXCEL Conference

20th March - Year 9 Options Evening

21st March - Online parent/carer workshop, 6-7pm via Zoom

21st March - Trip: Y13 Booster A Level Business Studies Course

22nd March-24th March - Trip: Netball Tour, Liddington, Year 8, 9 and 10

26th March - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening

27th March - Trip: Y10 & Y12 Drama Trip to Greenwich Theatre

28th March - End of term

28th March - Trip: Iceland trip - Geography, Year 10 & 11

29th March - Trip: Austria, Ski Trip

29th March - Good Friday - School Closed

April

29th March - 12th April - Easter Holiday

15th April - Summer Term starts

16th April - Trip: IET Faraday Challenge, Science

17th April - Year 7 Parents' Evening

30th April - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean Year 10



2023-24 Term Dates

Autumn 2023

Tuesday 29th August – Friday 13th October

Half Term: Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December - Monday 1st January

Spring 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

Half Term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

Easter Holiday: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Summer 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

(Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday)

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

Note:

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Easter Monday 1st April 2024

INSET Days - School closed to students

Friday 28th June 2024 - INICIO Day (home learning for students)



JUNIOR PLAYERS WANTED AT WESTERHAM CRICKET CLUB

U13 (12/13 YEAR-OLDS) & U14 (13/14 YEAR-OLDS)

BEGINNERS OR EXPERIENCED

INDOOR TRAINING STARTS MARCH/APRIL 2024

KENT INVICTA JUNIOR CRICKET LEAGUE

More info and sign-up:

westerhamcc@stoneslive.com or call 07821 719818

8 TO 11 YEARS – DYNAMOS CRICKET

Tuesdays 21st May to 16th July

Info & book here: WWW.DYNAMOSCRICKET.CO.UK

5 TO 7 YEARS – ALL STARS CRICKET

Tuesdays 21st May to 16th July

Info and book here: WWW.ALLSTARSCRICKET.CO.UK

ECB QUALIFIED COACHES - LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:

Reminder – please can parents call the absence line each day of your child's absence before 8.30am. This ensures we know your child is safe and their absence is authorised where possible. Our Attendance Officer is having to spend an increased amount of time each day chasing for responses.
Thank you for your support.