



CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL

Year 7 Induction Evening for Parents

Welcome

Mr A Smith – Headteacher

ASPIRE



ENDEAVOUR

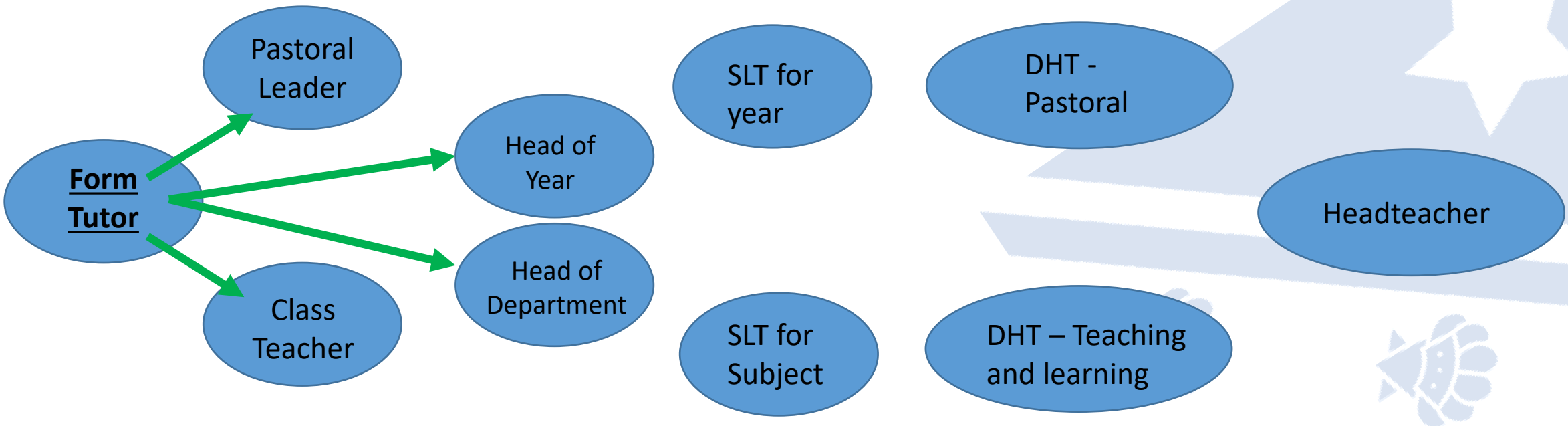


ACHIEVE

It's normal to be a little apprehensive...

Parents and students

- The students settle very quickly
- Communication is key – **use form tutor** in the first instance – it will lead to the quickest resolution.



Form Groups

- The most important person – **Form Tutor**
- Class will be called after the tutor **eg 7ASm for Mr A Smith**
- Registration in the morning and after lunch
- Form tutor will help them settle in
- Form tutor will be the first person parents contact if there is an issue
- Your child will make new friends and will be in a Form made up of children from many different primary schools



Other important staff for Year 7

Year 7 Achievement Co-ordinator
Ms R Monk



Year 6/7 Transition Manager
Ms G Quinn



Mrs Rees (Deputy Headteacher)
Senior member of staff assigned to Year 7



Mobile Phones



Never Seen Never Heard

Anywhere in school between
8.30am and 3.00pm.

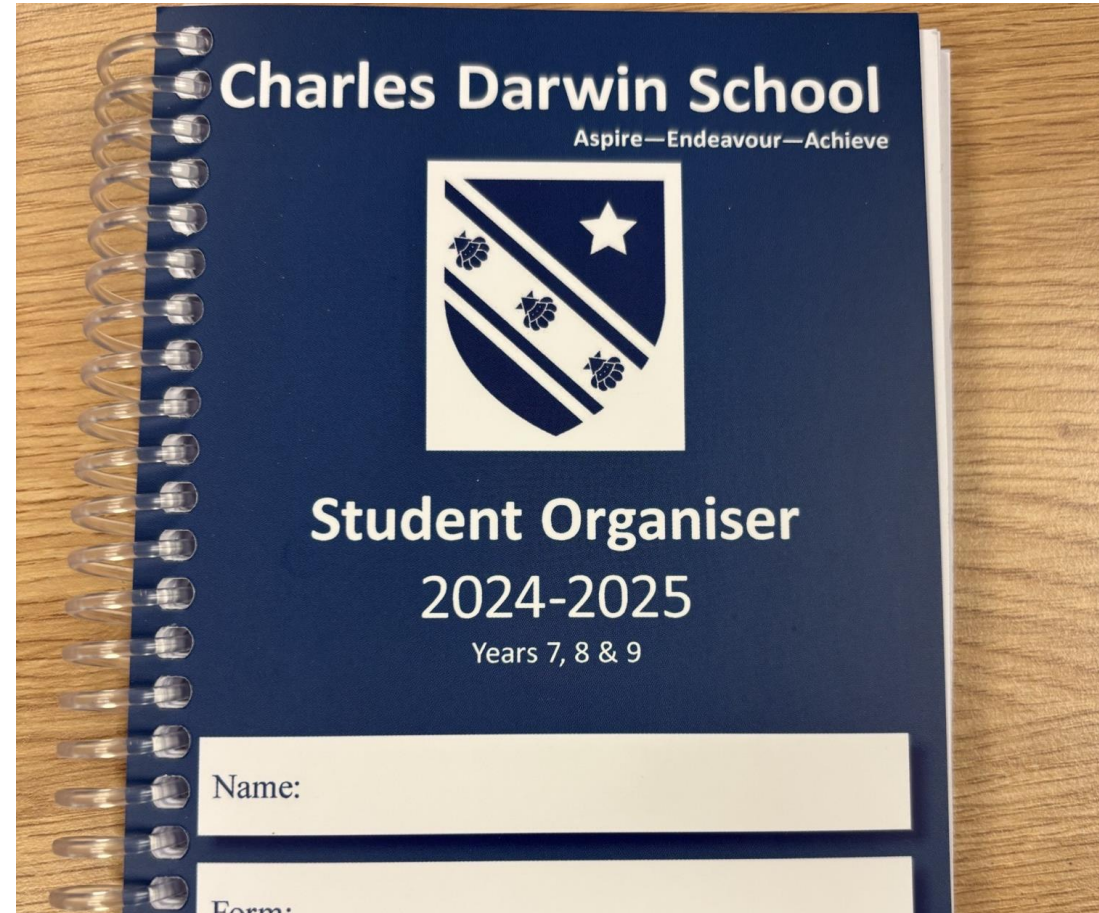
This applies to lessons, lesson
change over, break and lunch.

Social media and mobile phones



Student Organiser

- Must have organiser with them in every lesson
- Organisation tool – reminders, notes etc
- Students must ask parent/carer to sign it every week



Homework



- Homework **is not an option**
- Satchel One- online App where all homework and helpful documents are posted by teachers
- Agree a routine and space for homework with your son/ daughter
- Advisable to do H/W on the night they get in.
- Satchel One – parent information video will follow. Also used for Achieve points and Behaviour points
- Talk to your child about their homework and school day.
- Try to find that balance of assisting but encouraging them to be independent.



Cognitive Ability Testing Dates

CAT, reading and spelling tests will be sat online this year.

Maths will be paper based – No revision/special preparation required!

- Friday 13th June for Bromley/Kent/Surrey primary schools
- Monday 16th June for Croydon and Oaklands
- **Please bring snacks, drink and a pen.**

08:00 – 08:20	Children arrive (dropped at school gates and escorted to computer rooms)
1:30	Parents and carers meet their children at the front of school and depart together

Parent Information

A link will be available on our website for parents to view a presentation made by our staff on:

- Satchel One – ‘Homework and Achievement/Behaviour points- Logging in and using the app’
- Online Safety
- Settling into Year 7 and expectations for the first half-term

The presentations be available by the time children come in for CATS and need to be viewed by September

The school day

- Registration at 8.30
- Period 1
- Period 2
- Break
- Period 3
- Period 4
- Lunch
- Period 5
- Finish at 3.00
- After school activities

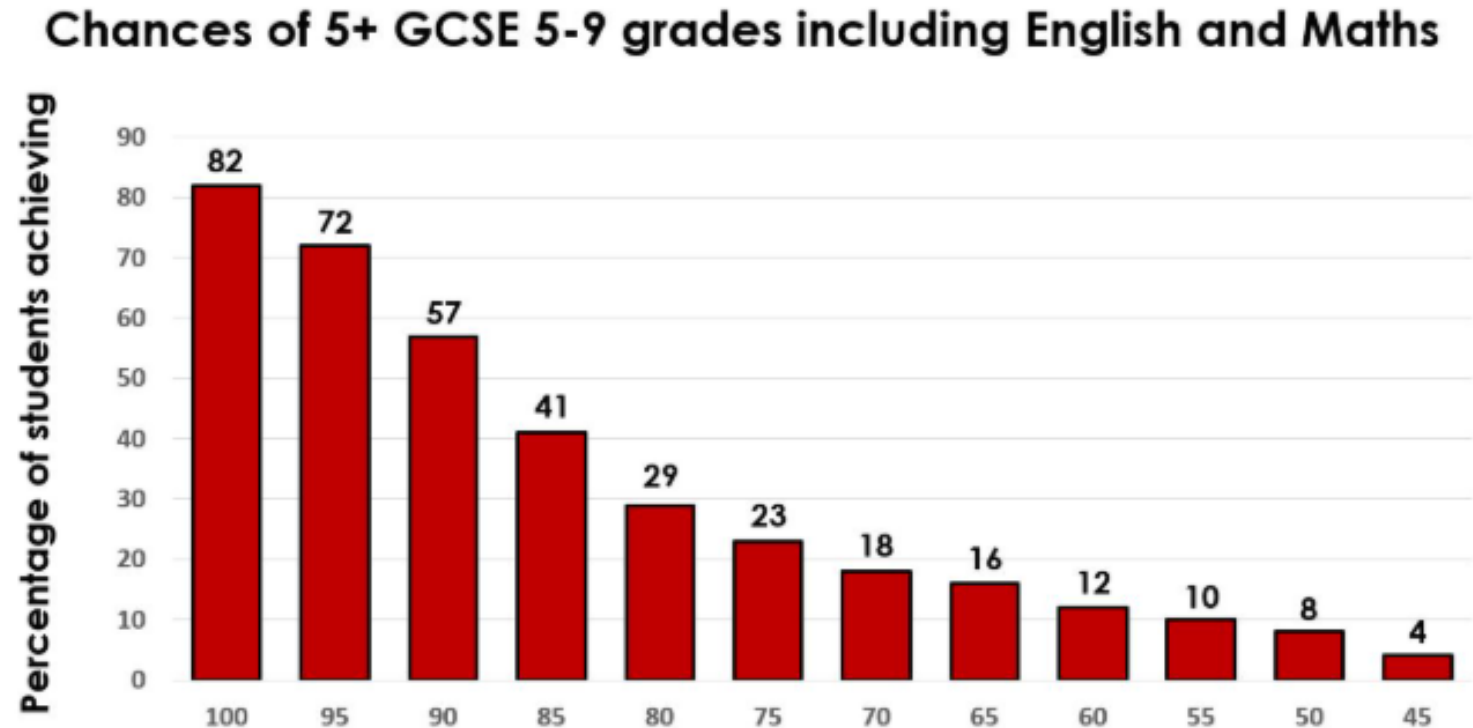
Be in school by 8.15



Attendance - Every Day Counts

95% - minimum

Parents should call the absence line before 9am every day their child is absent.



First day at Charles Darwin School

- Arrive 8.45 on **Wednesday 3rd September** finish 12:00
- Students will be directed to the main hall
- Full school uniform (remember – no jewellery), school bag (No PE kit needed).
- Introduction to tutor and find out who will be in your tutor group
- First day – introduction to secondary school. Expectations and making new friends.
- **Bring water in a refillable bottle and snack for break**

Timetable

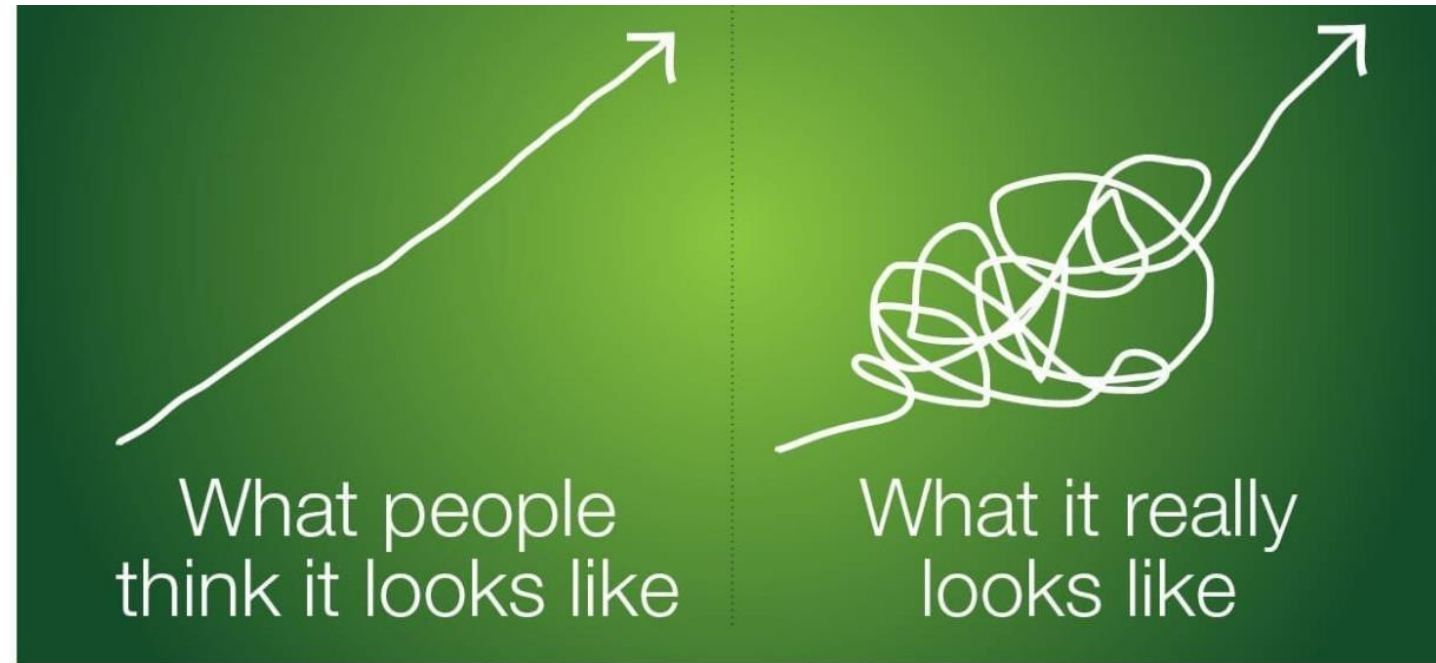
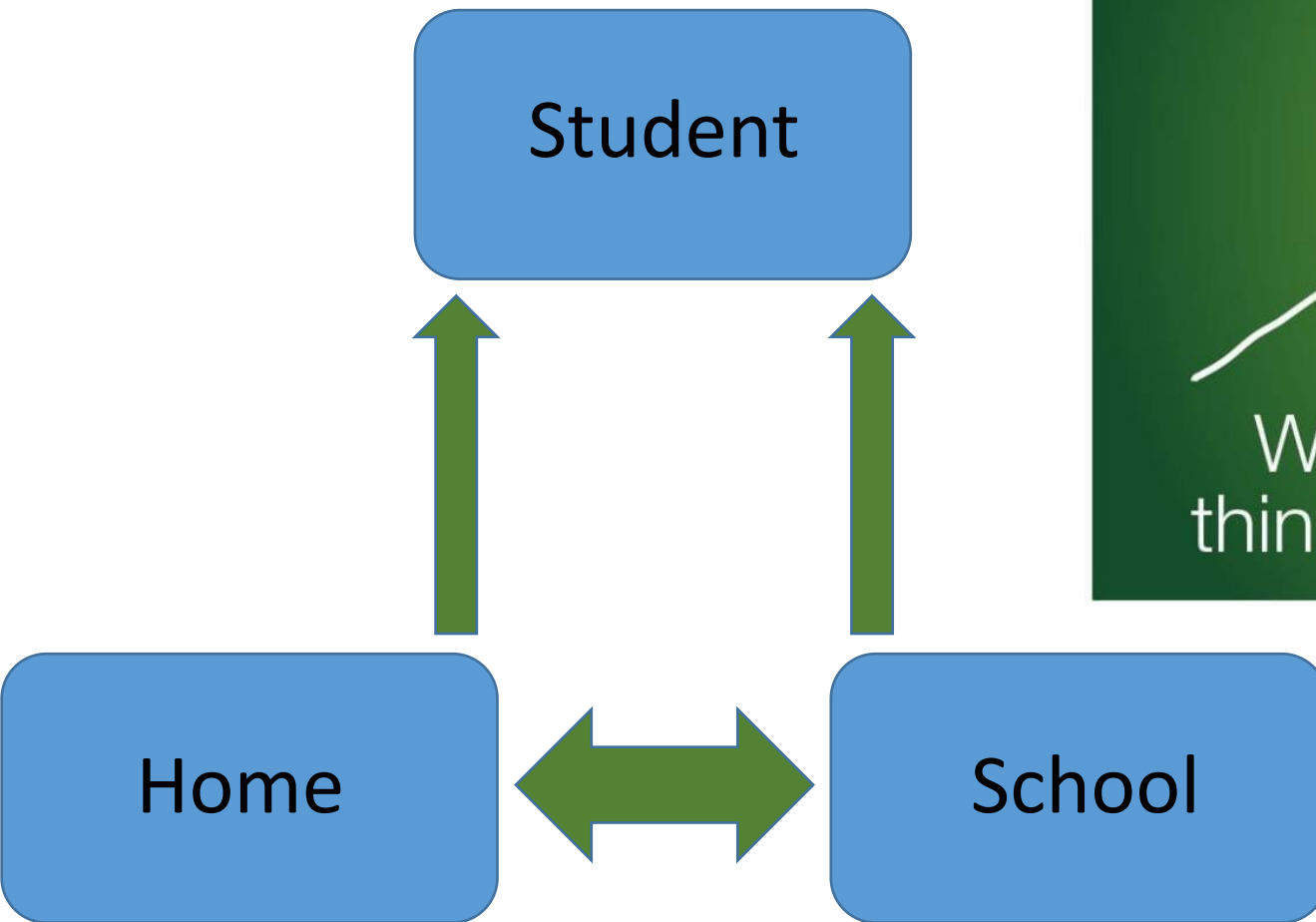
- Very different from primary school – different room every lesson.
- In ability groups for Maths
- Those with the highest academic ability are taught together across English, MFL , History ,Geography and Science
- We have a small group that helps those that need to catch up or that need additional support
- Sets are based on academic performance at KS2, CATS, and Primary records
- Fine tuning throughout the year and throughout the rest of time at school
- Form groups will be mixed ability

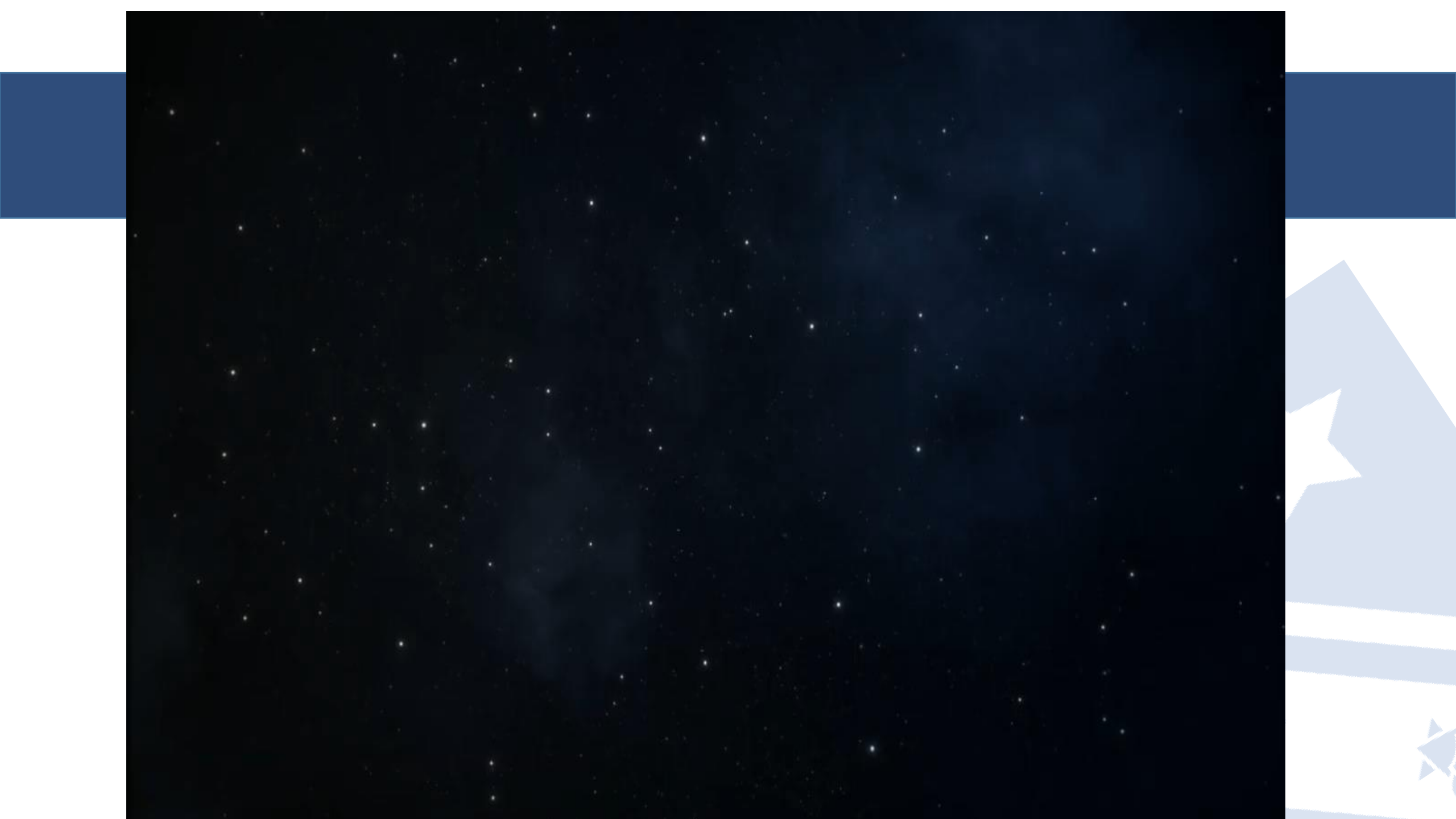
Monitoring progress

- Data collected 3 times per year
- Reports sent home via parents evening
- Analysis of effort, attainment and progress
 - Effort ladder
 - Attendance ladder
- Literacy progress
 - Reading book... essential



Success





Developing good habits – growth mindset/grit

- The habits and routines developed in Year 7 are often those that will stay with students throughout their secondary schooling
- Resilient/ Gritty
- Organised/hardworking
- Growth Mindset
- Caring and Kind

I can't do it...yet



Encourage your child to embrace everything CDS has to offer

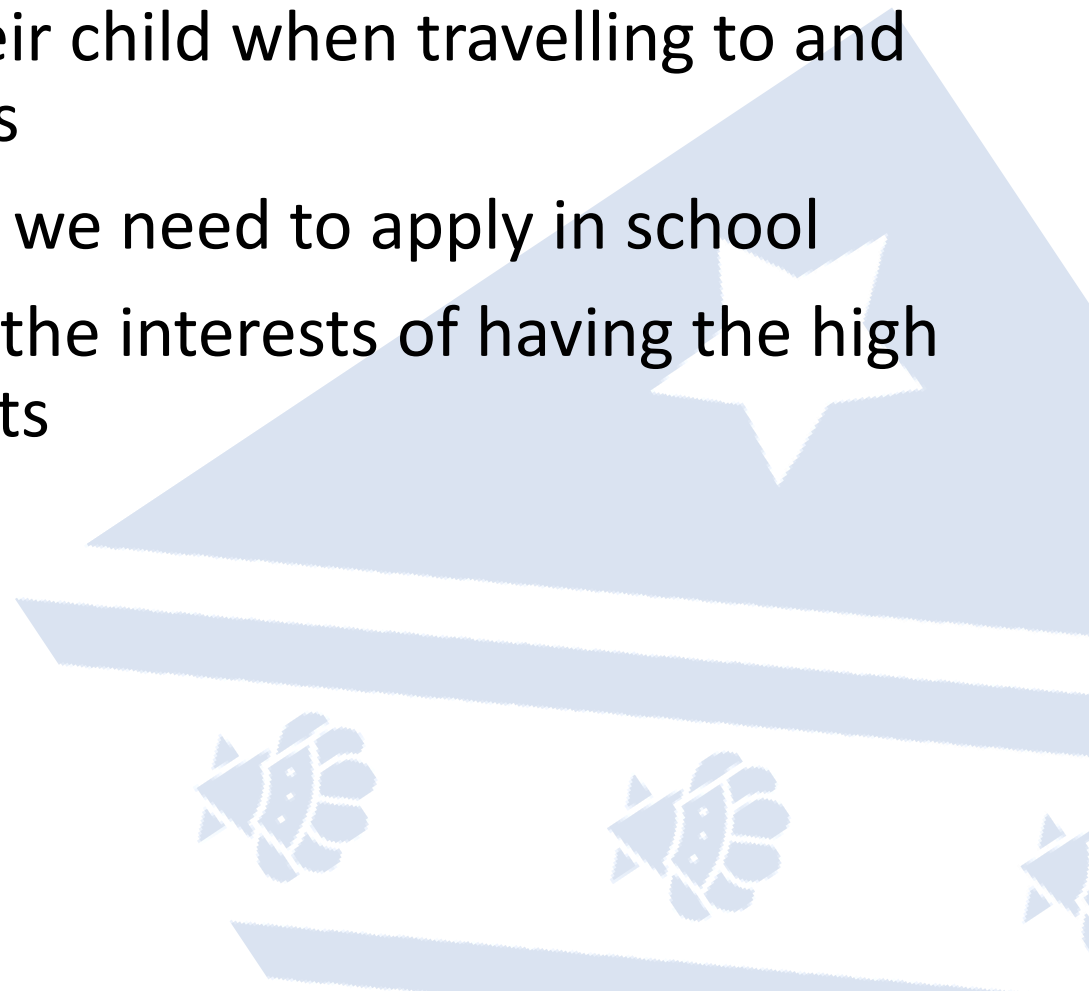
*Every child has talent and
Every child can achieve*



Behaviour

A culture based on Mutual Respect

- We need parents to take responsibility for their child when travelling to and from school, evenings, weekends and holidays
- We need parental support with any sanctions we need to apply in school
- We expect to be able to work with parents in the interests of having the high standards of behaviour our community expects
- No aerosols (deodorants or hairspray)
- No energy drinks
- No nuts





Concentration habits for the classroom...

S**Sit up Straight****L****Listen****A****Answer and ask
Questions****N****Never Interrupt****T****Track the Teacher**

**Knowledge isn't free. You have to
pay attention!**



How we talk to adults...

S**Speak and Smile****T****Thank You****E****Etiquette****P****Please****S****Sorry**

**We are polite to you - you are
polite to us**



Corridor Routines...

S

Stay on the Left

P

**Prompt and
Purposeful**

A

**Always use an
Indoor Voice**

C

**Courtesy and
Common Sense**

E

Example

**Every lesson change over, every day
and every week**

The expected behaviour of
everyone in our
community is based on

Mutual Respect

Students - Staff - Parents



Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Uniform

A few reminders

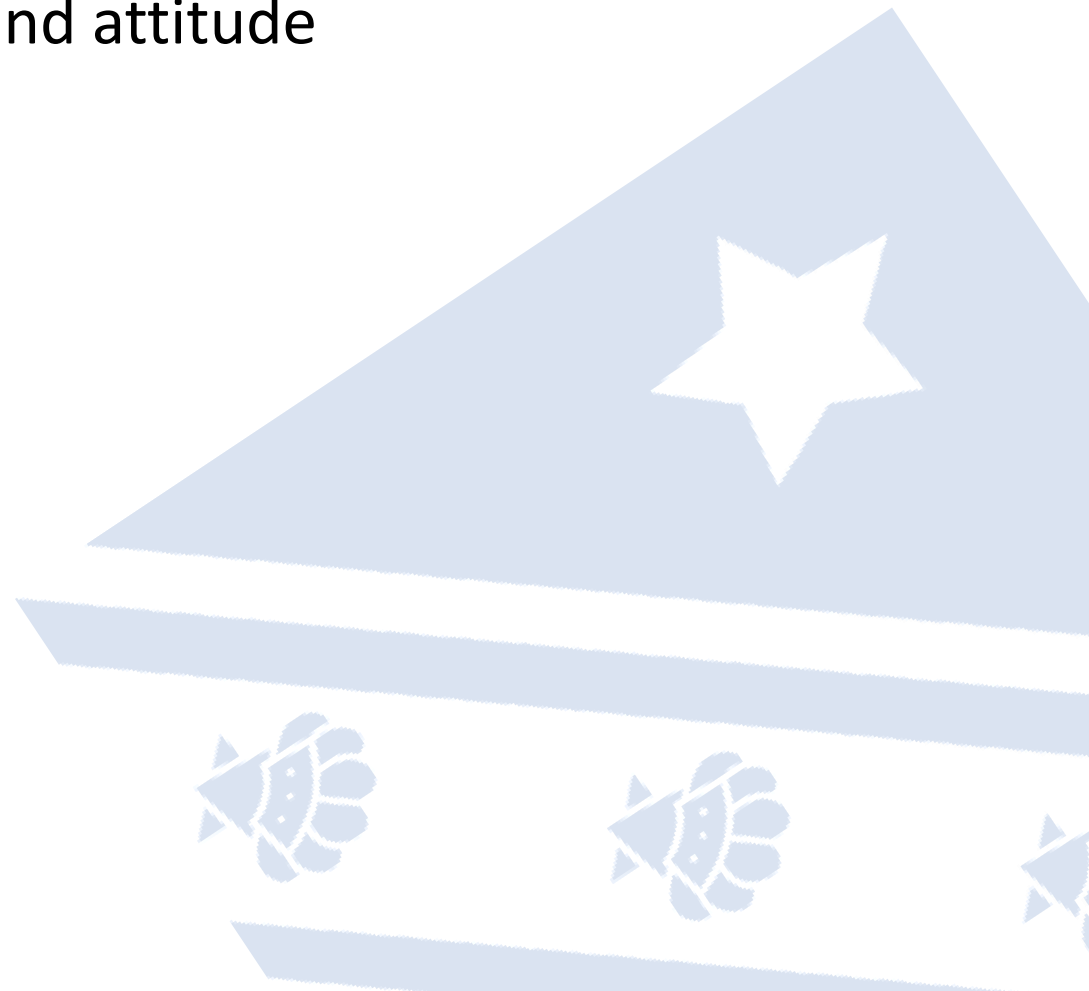
- No trainers (other than agreed medical issues)
- No hoodies
- Blazer is needed every day
- No jewellery including nose studs...not even clear plastic ones
- No hats or bandanas

These are our rules, and we will not make exceptions



Rewards

- Aspire Endeavour Achieve points for good work and attitude
- Data (3 times a year)
- Attendance
- Jack Petchey
- Progress Pens
- Praise in The Link
- Letter home via subject
- Letter home via Achievement Co-ordinator
- Reward trips
- Prizes for a variety of achievements



Ready to Learn Induction:

Charles Darwin Staff and Students will support the new year 7 students. They will help with things like....

- Finding their way around, locating classrooms, toilets, student services, canteen playground etc
- How to move around school, line up outside classrooms, enter classrooms
- Developing organisational skills, using lockers, carrying equipment etc
- Presentation of classwork and homework
- Using our ICT facilities, setting up your school email and Satchel One accounts
- Own play ground
- Lessons start on day 2. Taken to lessons until the end of the second week.

Parent Voice

- Opportunity to provide input through surveys
 - Parent Forum
 - Parents evenings
 - Email
-
- Feedback used to inform our School Improvement Plan and the everyday running of the school. For example, 2024 feedback helped to create new look (cheaper) PE kit for September 2025



The Link

Headlines

End of term message

As we come to the end of term, I want to thank you all for your support and hard work. It's been a busy few weeks, full of learning, achievements, and positive moments across the school.

Our Cultural Day on Thursday was a lovely way to end the term. It was a fantastic celebration of our school's diversity, with students and staff coming together to share food, traditions, a poster competition, and a multilingual quiz - reflecting the rich cultural backgrounds within our community. Thank you to Mrs Kaye Chubb, Mrs Tigoue and Mrs FitzGerald for organising.



I hope everyone enjoys a safe, relaxing break and returns refreshed for the term ahead.

Aston Smith, Headteacher

Water Pipe Replacement – Main Road, Biggin Hill

A reminder that the Thames Water work will begin on Tuesday 27 May and therefore your child may need to allow more time for their journey to and from school. A letter from Thames water is attached with further information.

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



Headlines

It's been an exciting and busy start to the term, with so many fantastic opportunities taking place across the school. On Thursday, a group of Year 7 and 8 students took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. Our GCSE PE students also enjoyed trips to Cyclopark, putting their skills into practice. 40 of our Year 9 students are taking on the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions today and tomorrow around Bewl Water. We're incredibly proud of our Year 11 and 13 students, who are approaching their formal examinations with determination — we wish them all the very best of luck!

Across all year groups, it's inspiring to see our students living our values, *Aspire, Endeavour, and Achieve*.

Year 7 Parents' Evening

It was fantastic to welcome our Year 7 parents to their first parents' evening on Tuesday. Your involvement at this early stage of your child's time at Charles Darwin School is hugely important. Parents' Evening provides a valuable opportunity to discuss how students are settling in, celebrate the positive start they've made, and begin building the strong home-school partnerships that will support them throughout their journey with us. We really appreciate your time and commitment, and we look forward to working closely with you in the years ahead.

Mutual Respect in the Community

We have high expectations for behaviour not just in school, but also within the wider community. With a long weekend coming up, we would appreciate it if parents could take the opportunity to discuss what mutual respect looks like in the community during evenings, weekends, and school holidays.

Parent Survey

A reminder that the parent survey will be open until Monday 12th May. Thank you to everyone who has completed it so far. Your feedback is really important to us. Here is the link again [Click here to take the survey](#)

Wishing you all an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

Aston Smith, Headteacher



A huge well done to Tillie Brown 10JHd who has competed at the ICU world championship competition April 2025, representing her country Team England in the Youth All Girl Advanced division.

They were in 2nd place after Day one, and finished in 2nd place overall on Day 2 just coming in short behind Team USA.

We couldn't be more proud of Tillie coming home a Silver Medallist representing her country in a sport she absolutely loves. Congratulations Tillie, what an incredible achievement!

Headlines

Year 13 Leavers BBQ

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to the Sixth Form team for organising today's Year 13 Leavers BBQ. It was a wonderful opportunity for students and staff to take a moment, enjoy some food, and reflect on how far our Year 13s have come as they near the end of their time at Charles Darwin School.

Our school values — **Aspire, Endeavour, Achieve** — have been more than just words for this year group. They've been at the heart of how they have approached their Sixth Form journey.

They have **aspired** to be their best, **endeavoured** through challenges, and are now on the cusp of **achieving** something remarkable.

As we enter these final few weeks, we encourage all our students to stay focused. Every bit of effort now is an investment in their future, and we are here to support them every step of the way.

VE Day 80th Anniversary

As we marked the 80th Anniversary in school this week we took time to remember the crucial role Biggin Hill played during WW2. We would like our community to support the local celebrations being held at Biggin Hill Airport and memorial this Saturday 10 May. [VE Day 80 Celebration – May 10th – RAF Biggin Hill Museum & Chapel](#)



Parent Survey – closing date 12 May

A reminder that the parent survey will be open until Monday 12th May. Thank you to everyone who has completed it so far. Your feedback is really important to us. [Click here to take the survey](#)

Aston Smith, Headteacher

HARRISON
EST.1994



FOOD WITH THOUGHT

Charles Darwin School

WELCOME TO YOUR CATERING SERVICE



HARRISON FOOD OFFER

- Our approach, wherever possible is to use fresh, quality, sustainably sourced seasonal ingredients.
- Menus are created with a wide variety of choice and include meat free options. All are delicious and full of flavour.
- Please speak with us if you have a food allergy or intolerance.



During the summer..

- Learn how to tie a tie to the correct length
- Buy some books or go to the library. You will need to bring a reading book into school every day
- Bring £10 for locker rental
- Book a time with Oz School wear if you don't purchase tomorrow or Tuesday.
- Remember my 'Who am I?' booklet on the first day back (summer homework)



During the summer..

- Buy a suitable school bag and separate one for PE kit
- Order zip/oyster card if planning to travel by bus. Perhaps travel the route
- Buy a water bottle
- **Those in receipt of free school meals will need to re-apply before September via Bromley website – Details are in your pack**



Music at Charles Darwin School

Miss V Mace
Curriculum Leader of Music



Next steps

- Interview Friday 6th June or Monday 9th June (parking off site) – 20mins.
- Remember to bring the reply slip for the 2 day Summer School to the interview.
- Uniform and PE Kit – order and collect with Oz Schoolwear
- Stationery with everything you need, is available for purchase (cash only)



CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL

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Thank you for listening

Mr Aston Smith – Headteacher

ASPIRE



ENDEAVOUR



ACHIEVE