



17.11.2023

Issue No: 1101

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Remembrance Ceremonies

My thanks to Miss Mace for leading our school Remembrance Service last Friday. It was a very moving occasion which was well-observed by the students. Miss Mace's rendition of The Last Post and the reading of the Act of Remembrance added a particular poignancy to the occasion.

On Sunday, along with Lara Bell and Amy Coop, I attended the Biggin Hill Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, to lay a wreath on behalf of the school. This is always a big event in Biggin Hill and it was great to see staff, students and their families supporting the various community organisations. Lara and Amy were both absolutely fantastic and great ambassadors for our school.



Sixth Form Open Evening

Our Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday was well attended by both our current Year 11 and students visiting from other schools. Staff were available across subject rooms to welcome visitors and answer questions. The quality of work on display and the enthusiasm of our student helpers presented our Sixth Form admirably. Particular thanks to Bobby Yeats, Year 12, Pascaline Akas-Chukwuoha and Amy Coop in Year 13 for their contribution to the main address in the hall; they were amazing.

Visitors from Mauritius

On Tuesday I met with two teachers from Rodrigues (Mauritius) who spent a couple of days here whilst on a trip to England to look at the British educational system. The visit had been arranged by Mrs. Mears and it was really interesting to hear how the educational system in Mauritius is based on our own National Curriculum.

Aston Smith

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.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Parent and Carer workshop 20/11/23

You are invited to a special meeting on Monday 20th November from 6-7pm ONLINE via Teams. The meeting is with Miss Sampson, Mrs Rees and Miss Currie.

In this session we would like to share with you and hear from you. The themes are:

- **How Charles Darwin School gained Healthy Relationship Champion School status from Tender**
- **Understanding the changes to the Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum**
- **Exploring the challenges facing you as parents and carers**
- **Understanding what additional information you might need to support your young people to have healthy relationships**

Email me to register your interest and for the meeting link: ksa@cdarwin.com



Football Coach Wanted

We are looking for someone 15 and over who is interested in helping us each week on Monday nights teach football to children.

The session is 6-7pm at Charles Darwin sports centre.

The age range we teach is 4-10 year olds.

We pay £12.50 for the hours class.

Boys and girls are welcome to join us.

We also run holiday clubs so more work will be offered.

Its a great opportunity for someone who is confident, ambitious, who knows football and who is happy helping small children.

The candidate will work alongside myself and my 2 other coaches.

If anyone is interested then please contact me below:

DAVID SIMMONS

07969669153

danddfootiefocus@live.co.uk

www.danddfootiefocus.com

Part Time Gym Set up Assistant

Part Time Gym Set up assistant required for our Wednesday and Saturday classes at Charles Darwin Leisure Centre in Biggin Hill.

Hours:

Wednesday: 4.14pm - 4.45 pm and 7.15pm - 7.45pm

Friday: 7.00pm - 7.30pm

Saturday: 12.15pm - 12.45pm

Hourly rate: £7.49

Please send CV to enquires@gymclub.org.uk



Achievement Points Leader Board



Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 01.09.2023 – 17.11.2023

Jade St John	8RSi/RBr	77
Jack Wilson	9RMo	75
Alan Ioannou	9RMo	69
Phoebe Vincent	9RMo	69
James Azzopardi	8ZHa	68
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	66
Daniel Assemien	8SHo	65
Leah Benwell	7SHu/WCa	65
Charlotte Bateman	7STe	64
Olivia Gabbadon	9SAr	64



Top highest achievers per each year for the period 01.09.2023– 17.11.2023

Leah Benwell	7SHu/WCa	65
Jade St John	8RSi/RBr	77
Jack Wilson	9RMo	75
Erin-Marie Cosgrove	10Nko	45
Tillie Bansel	11SWr	46
Emmy Vince	12PEI	20
Georgina Walker	13FSu/MEd	20

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Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 10 November 2023.



7JWi	99.7%
8LBr	96.3%
9EKa/CAh	94.2%
10COh	92.4%
11SDa	98.1%
12GQu	99.4%
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

Jessie Osbourne	Kamara Porteous-Ellington
Andrew Nobrega	Jeremiah Weah
Edie Plinston	Liv Sartori Lambert
Simon Roe	Alice Boyd
Oliver Rutter	Jamie Wheeler



Student Services Duty Pupils

Jack Kadshaw
Caroline Knight
Triston Treasure Patel
Dani Tomkinson
Olivia Klin

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

THE CHRISTMAS PE FUN RUN 2023

FOOD BANK FUNDRAISER

This Christmas during one PE lesson, students will take part in a "PE Fun Run" in order to support our 2 local food banks.

Rather than donate money, students have been asked to donate items to our appeal.

Each year group have been allocated a recommended list of items to donate, listed as urgently needed by the food banks.

Please can students hand in donations to their form tutor or PE teacher **before Friday 1st December 2023.**

Thank you!



**Donations will be shared
between 2 local food banks
that serve our community:**

Bromley Foodbank

New Addington Foodbank

Recommended donations

Year 7

Treats (chocolate/sweets, hot chocolate, pringles, sponge puddings, desserts and Xmas goodies)

Year 8

Essentials (sanitary products, toilet paper, baby's nappies, long life milk and household items)

Year 9

Essentials (tinned foods, sauces - ketchup, jars of sauces, biscuits and tinned soups)

Year 10

Toiletries and Cleaning Products (cloths, foil and cling film, washing up liquid, washing up powder, shampoo and conditioner)

Year 11

Tinned items (tinned fruit, long life juice, tinned vegetables, tinned ham/salmon and jars)

6th Form

Toiletries and Cleaning Products (tinned items, washing up liquid, washing up powder, shampoo and conditioner)



**THE FUN RUN WILL TAKE PLACE DURING ONE PE LESSON
DURING THE WEEK COMMENCING 20th NOVEMBER!**

Harrison Catering

Please see below MENU Week 1 for the week commencing 20 November 2023

WEEKLY MENU				
Charles Darwin Week 1				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Korma with Rice	Lasagne & Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Pie & Mashed Potato	Fish & Chips
Vegetable Curry with Rice	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Shepherdess Pie	Chilli Bean Wrap & Salsa	Vegan Sausage Roll with Chips
Mac'n'Cheese	Tomato & Basil Penne Pasta	Vegan Jambalaya	Tuscan Style Tomato & Bean Pasta	Vegetable Samosa with Chips
Green Beans or Sweetcorn	Carrots or Broccoli	Cauliflower or Green Beans	Peas or Carrots	Beans or Peas
Apple Pie & Crumble with Custard	Chocolate Brownie with Chocolate Sauce	Jam & Coconut Sponge	Fruit Sponge	Apple & Berry Oat Bar with Custard

See our daily

Salad Potatoes and Salad for available Daily

HARRISON
food with thought

CHARLES DARWIN PTA PRESENTS

ONLY £1

OWN CLOTHES DAY

FRI DEC 8TH

FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOL PROJECTS, INCLUDING ENHANCING OUR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL AREAS

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS OPTIONAL

Pay your £1 entry to your form tutor.

In partnership with...

FALCON FLYING GROUP
Biggin Hill's longest established resident company, Falcon Flying Group who has supported the community since 1977.

PTA Silent Auction
CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL

AUCTION LOT: ONE HOUR FLYING LESSON

Our generous partners at Falcon Flying Group are offering a one hour introductory flying lesson with EFG Flying School, based at Biggin Hill Airport.

The lucky top bidder of this incredible donation will experience a typical first lesson format with the emphasis on the winner taking the controls and flying!

To place your bid for a one hour flying lesson, please e-mail friends@cdarwin.com
Auction closes @ 20:00 on Friday 17th November 2023

(Some flying lesson restrictions may apply)

Dates for the Diary

November

22nd November - Year 13 Parents' evening

24th November - Trip: Art & Textiles Alexander McQueen and V&A Trip, Yr12 & Y13

27th November - Trip: National Theatre, 'The House of Bernarda Alba' - Drama, Yrs 12 & 13

27th November - DofE Celebration Evening

29th November - Christmas Concert, St Mark's Church

30th November - Sixth Form Presentation Evening

December

1st December - Trip: German Christmas Market - MFL, Yrs 9, 10, 12&13

1st December - Year 7-11 Flu Vaccinations

8th December - Own Clothes day (£1 donations to go to form tutors)

11th December - School Production

12th December - School Production

13th December - School Production

13th December - Year 10 Award Trip

13th December - Trip: Supreme Court and Somerset House - History & Politics, Yrs 12 & 13

15th December - End of Term - Early Close

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 – Thursday 18th July

Note:

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Easter Monday 1st April 2024

INSET Days - School closed to students

Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Friday 26th January 2024



The Shrinking Santa Suit

**Friday 1st December @ 6pm
Saturday 2nd December @ 4pm**

**At
The New Life Church**

A fun-filled original Christmas play with gifts
from Santa for all attending children under 11

Sponsored by Biggin Hill Residents Association

All tickets £10 each

**Available from Blundells FSL (Jail Lane)
On The Beach (Main Road) and
Café Isabella (Main Road)**

