



05.05.2023

Issue No: 1081

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

King Charles III Coronation

A lot of things have been going on this week and more so today to mark the King's Coronation. Whatever people's views, the Coronation will be a very memorable occasion and I am grateful to staff for their efforts in bringing a Coronation thread to lessons. On Wednesday I visited the Library and it was great to see the special activities which Susan Adams had planned. Our catering provider, Harrisons put on a special Coronation themed menu and the canteen was decorated with bunting.

Year 11 and Year 13

I am incredibly impressed how our Year 11 and Year 13 students have conducted themselves in the run up to their public examinations. If parents can also congratulate them on their attitude and mind-set it would be most appreciated. We are doing all we can to support them through what is always a stressful time.

Congratulations

Huge congratulations to all those who successfully climbed the O2 on Wednesday. Fortunately, the weather was kind and they all had a brilliant time, raising a fantastic £1,652 for the Chartwell Children's Cancer Trust. Thanks also to everyone who donated to this wonderful cause.

Parent Survey

In the next week or so we will be issuing a parent survey, based on Ofsted's Parent View. Please do keep an eye out for this direct communication and thank you in advance for taking the time to contribute. We would like as many parents as possible to complete the survey to enable us to have a full representation of views on the school. Responses will be used to inform our planning for next year.

And finally ...

As we approach another bank holiday weekend, this time to celebrate the King's Coronation, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable time.

Aston Smith



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



Update from Charles Darwin PTA

Thanks to everyone who attended our quiz night in March. We had a super evening and raised over £600 for our school. We look forward to sharing a date soon for our next one, which we hope to arrange before the end of this term.



Monthly Draw

Congratulations to the following winners:

March: Mel L

April: Natasha Brooks

May: Andrew Cook

If you would like to take part from just £1 per month, you just need to complete a brief form and then pay for your tickets by bank transfer or card: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHVaGNo3iWxP57CZXWdJCIHUHQYYWXN1hUehgt3RNU5e_2_A/viewform?fbclid=IwAR1mruNRcL9VcjPqNIV_I5F95iLsX7Wg9xURQTZP5eo5EITB5513BSBusLI

Easyfundraising

Did you know your everyday online shopping can benefit our school? So far, we have raised over £100, just by shopping!

We've joined easyfundraising, the online cashback site that turns your online spending into free donations. It's simple - when you shop with over 7,500 well-known brands, a percentage of what you spend is shared with us - for free! easyfundraising is a great way for us to fundraise for what our school needs and an easy and free way for you to support us.

You can sign up here: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=graab1&char=304171&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=educationnewsletter-2023&source=newsletter

If you add the browser extension when you sign up, you don't need to shop through the app and all your donations will track straight away.

Big thanks to the following for already raising money for us: Elaine F, Mel L, Jason H, Sarah H, Sam K, Helen H, Chris L and Abbey P.

PTA Team



Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

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

Art & Textiles Technician **25 hours a week, 40 weeks a year** **Actual Salary - £15,336**

We wish to appoint an Art & Textiles Technician to be responsible for the organisation of materials, equipment and resources in our popular and successful Art and Textiles Department. Working closely with the Head of Department the successful candidate will support staff in the department and help and promote good quality display across the school.

Applicants should be creative and have artistic flair with ideally a background involving the arts.

For further details and an application form please visit our website:
www.cdarwin.com (information/job vacancies). CVs alone will not be considered.

Closing date: Monday 8th May 2023 – we reserve the right to appoint prior to this date if a suitable candidate is found

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.

Year 10 Mock Interviews – Industry Recruiters

We hold this event every year as an important part of our senior pupils' education, giving them the chance to see how they will be expected to behave in order to be successful in securing an offer of a College or University place or to be successful in the job market and encouraging them to think about a career path they may be interested in after their GCSEs.

We are looking for volunteers to take part in the Year 10 Mock interviews this year.

If you are available on Thursday 20 July 2023 to interview some of the Year 10 students or know of any industry recruiters who will be able to assist with the interviewing process please contact Mrs Franco on tfr@cdarwin.com by 22 May

Thank you

Mrs Franco

Hay Fever Season - Medication for Students

Hay Fever and the symptoms for children studying at school can be very uncomfortable, please ensure that if your child suffers with Hay Fever that they take any relevant medication/antihistamine before school. The school is unable to provide this medication to students.

Thank you

Mrs Booth

Sixth Form raise over £1600 for local charity



On Wednesday 3rd May, a group of staff and students from the Sixth Form took on the challenge of climbing the O2 in London to raise money for local charity, The Chartwell Children's Cancer Trust.

The group, made up of 17 students, 6 members of staff and 3 members from the charity, embarked on the 52-meter climb to the top of the iconic O2 dome. With stunning views of London as their backdrop, the group braved the climb and successfully made it to the top.

The aim of the climb was to raise money for The Chartwell Children's Cancer Trust whose mission is to improve the lives of cancer and leukaemia patients and oncology communities by making a real difference to cancer care throughout London and the South-East.

The students and staff involved were determined to reach their fundraising goal and the sense of achievement was palpable as they reached the summit, knowing that they had conquered the challenge and raised money for a worthy cause.

The Head of Sixth Form, Mrs R Kearney, says "I am extremely proud of the efforts of the staff and students involved. "It's wonderful to see our students and staff come together to support such an important cause. They have shown great determination and teamwork throughout this challenge and should be commended for their efforts,".

There is still time to donate at our JustGiving page. On Friday 12th May, Sixth Form students will be taking part in their postponed 5k Easter Fun Run! Please help us reach our £2000 target for Chartwell Children's Cancer Trust!

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/cds-staff-students-1681990342225>

Overall, the climb was a fantastic achievement and a great way for the Sixth Form community to come together to make a positive impact. Congratulations to all involved!

Mrs Johnson

Netball Tour

Year 9&10 Netball tour to PGL Liddington April 28th to 30th

All the girls took part in a Netball tournament over both mornings with some great performances from each and everyone of them.

Year 10's came 3rd overall with a great Team spirit, while the Year 9's came 6th over all in a very competitive group. Outdoor and team building activities were the afternoon's entertainment with the Giant swing being the highlight for many. The girls were a credit to themselves and our school, getting fully involved in all activities and making new friends.

Mr Bidwell and I really enjoyed the weekend and hope you all will keep the memories for a long time.

Thank you for being such good company.

Mrs Wray



HPV1 vaccination for Year 8

Polite Reminder – All Year 8 Students

The Bromley School Age Immunisation Team will be visiting our school on Wednesday 17 May 2023 to carry out HPV 1 vaccinations for **all Year 8 students**.

Please see the email sent out to all year 8 parents on Thursday 30/3/23, this had an attached NHS letter which **includes the link for the electronic parental consent form** along with a QR code for a direct link to the consent form .

Please do not fill out another form if you have already.

Parents **must** complete the form using this link whether they are **consenting or declining** the vaccine. **Verbal/email consent responses are not acceptable.** The link will close on **Thursday 11 May**.

If you have any enquires please contact the Bromley School Age Immunisation team on:-

HRCH.ImmunisationTeamBromleyMailbox@nhs.net or Tel: 020 3903 3375.

Thank you

Mrs Booth

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 28 April 2023.



7PDg/STi	100%
8HBu	93.1%
9COu	97%
10ADo/GJo	94.6%
11ORo	94.1%
12DWa	100%
13GQu	97.5%

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

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.

**A huge thank you, you all have been super amazing.
Reception Team**

Year 8 Duty Pupils:

Lollie Sleight
Olivia Daley
Tallula Horsey
Kayleigh Jones

Thank you to our duties:

Bobbi Buttle
Henry West

**They have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable.
Student Services Team**



Dates for the Diary



May

8th May - Bank Holiday

10th May - Year 10 Parent's Evening ,3.45pm

11th May - Trip: Dance performance (Step into Dance) at Forest Hill School, Lewisham, Yrs7-13 2pm-8:15pm

19th May - Trip: Orpington Library - Author Workshop - Yr7&8 (Bus 11:00am-3:30-pm)

25-26 May - Trip: DofE Yr9 Bronze qualifying expedition

26th May - Year 13 Leavers' BBQ

29th May - Bank Holiday

29th May - 2nd June - Half Term

June

6th June - Trip: UCAS Conference , Excel Centre, London ,Yr12

7th June - New Year 7 Induction Evening,7pm

13th June - Trip: Bournemouth, NEA Fieldwork (Geography), Yr12

30th June - Sports Day

KS3 Exams Dates

Year 7 and 8 – Monday 5 June – Friday 16 June

Year 9 – Monday 12 June to Friday 26 June



Term Dates 2022 - 23

SUMMER 2023

Monday 17th April – Friday 26th May

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Monday 5th June – Friday 21st July

CDS INSET days:

Tuesday 4th July 2023

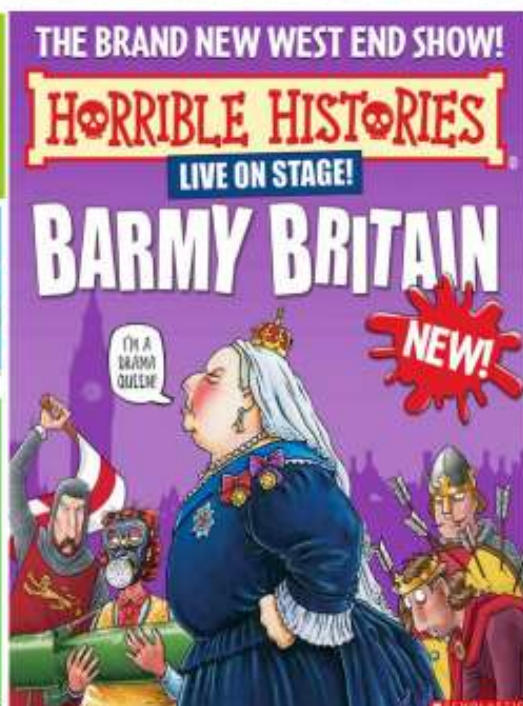
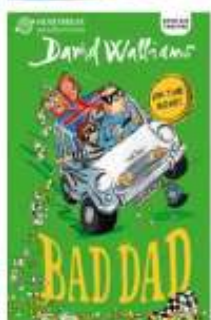
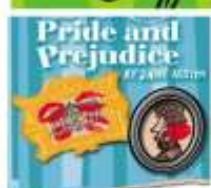
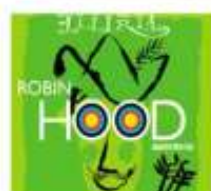


As the weather is getting warmer please can all students bring in a reusable water bottle to school each day. The water bottles can be refilled at the canteen and near to Students Services at break time and lunchtime. We only have a limited supply of plastic cups for First Aid and use of students who forgot a water bottle.

Thank you

Student Services Team

Please find attached the details of the family shows coming to The Festival Theatre at Hever Castle between May and the very last day of the holidays in August 2023.



AND, FOR THE 1ST TIME EVER, CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE TOO!

BOXOFFICE@HEVERFESTIVAL.CO.UK

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge in Bromley Libraries will be from **Sat 8th July-Sat 2nd Sept 2023.**

We are going to recruit SRC volunteers to help with the Summer Reading Challenge this year and will now start recruiting. Anyone showing an interest will need to email srcvolunteers@gll.org and we will send them an application form and information.

The closing date for applications is Monday 26th June and we will be in touch with you to let you know how many volunteers you will be having. There will be awareness sessions organised by the Children's Team held at Central Library before the Challenge starts on the 8th July.

Applicants will be expected to volunteer for a minimum of 20 hours over the holiday and will not be asked to volunteer for more than 4 hours a day.
If they complete 20 hours volunteering we will give them a certificate and a reference if they require one.

Kind Regards

Bromley Children's Team

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Aged 14—18?

Can you spare 20 hours this summer?

Could you talk enthusiastically to children about books?

Be a Summer Reading Challenge volunteer in Bromley libraries

Ask at your local library or email srcvolunteers@gll.org

Election Staff Required

The Elections Team at Bromley Council are looking to expand their staff database with people interested in working on elections.

Roles include:



Polling Station Staff

Opening Postal Votes



Counting Ballot Papers

Please note the next scheduled elections in Bromley are on
2 May 2024

For further information and to register your interest, please go to

www.bromley.gov.uk/ElectionStaff

