



19.05.2023

Issue No: 1083

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Parent Survey – closes today!

My thanks to those families who have completed and returned the parent survey. The closing date for the survey is today so if there are some families who have not yet returned the survey please do so by the end of today.

This is your chance to let us know your views of the school and will inform our planning for next year. There is also an opportunity to put yourself forward to be part of our PTA or to be considered in the future for a Governor position.

Parents can access the survey on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/JB8JwcxjAG>

Curriculum Information

The communication of our curriculum and what is taught is important to us. I would like to draw attention to the letter Mr. Boyden sent out recently, setting out how our website has been updated to provide a lot of information and detail. Parents can access the curriculum page on our website via the link below:

<https://www.cdarwin.com/page/?title=Curriculum+Aims+and+Intent&pid=575>

Uniform

A reminder that over the coming weeks there will be a specific focus on uniform and I would refer parents to pages 5 and 6 of the student planner which sets out our uniform policy. In particular hoodies, sweat-shirts, trainers and jewellery are not acceptable.

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

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, there are no casual bookings of the 3G pitch at any time during term times.

Mr Burtonshaw

Reading Corner at Charles Darwin

On Friday 19th May 2023, a group of our Y7 and Y8 students are visiting Orpington Library to take part in a workshop with Joseph Elliott, author of the Shadow Skye trilogy. This week's recommendation is the first book in the trilogy, *The Good Hawke*.



In mythic Scotland, two unlikely heroes must make a dangerous journey to save their people.

Agatha is a Hawk, brave and fierce, who protects her people by patrolling the high walls of their island home. Jaime, thoughtful and anxious, is an Angler, but he hates the sea. Worse, he's been chosen for a duty that the clan hasn't required for generations: to marry. The elders won't say why they have promised him to a girl in a neighbouring clan, but there are rumours of approaching danger. When disaster strikes and the clan is kidnapped, it is up to Agatha and Jaime to travel across the haunted mainland of Scotia to Norveg...

Book Club

Come along to Book Club

Every Monday lunch time in the library with Mrs Pitt 😊



Sixth Form 5k Fun Run

Last week Year 12 and Year 13 students took to the field for their postponed 5k Easter Fun Run, raising funds for the Chartwell Children's Cancer Trust.

A great time was had by all, trying to catch the chickens! They raised just over £250, which is a fantastic amount. Along with the money raised on their O2 Climb, their fundraising total currently stands at £1949!

Well done to everyone who took part and donated.

Mrs Johnson
KS5 Pastoral Support Manager



History Stars of the week

Well done to 8X/Hi4 who have been working fantastically well in history this week. All of the students produced fantastic extended writing on Leningrad. Students were required to use their prior learning to produce an empathetic and historically accurate piece. In addition to this the class have worked collaboratively to find out why the USA joined the Second World War. I have been so impressed with their hard work, good manner, cooperation and the want to do well in their history lessons. I hope you keep this up!




Miss Zysemil

Exams Time

Please see below ideas for a healthy, fulfilling snacks.

This week's recipe for Cod Fishcake and Chips is attached separately.




SNACK RECIPES

TRY SOME OF THESE DELICIOUS AND REALLY EASY TO MAKE SNACKS TO TAKE A BREAK AND BOOST YOUR BRAIN POWER....

EDIBLE PLANT POT

150g cottage cheese
50g wholemeal croutons, buy them and blitz them to a powder in the food processor
your choice of vegetables; carrots, cucumber, things you can eat raw or lightly cooked.

METHOD:
Layer the cottage cheese into a glass, mug or even a clean plant pot, top with the crumb to make the 'soil'. Push in the veggies to make it look like a garden, simple! Pretty to look at and tasty to eat, plus it'll give you a boost!



SOFT BOILED EGGS AND MARMITE SOLDIERS

2 eggs
2 slices toasted wholemeal bread
Marmite


METHOD:
Heat a saucepan of salted water until it boils, add the eggs and set a timer for 6 minutes. Take your warm toast, spread with butter and Marmite and slice into 'soldiers'. Take the tops off the eggs and get dipping!



HONEY, FRUIT AND NUT GRANOLA BARS

Pre-heat the oven to 160°C.
100g butter, melted
200g porridge oats
200g mixed nuts and seeds, buy them already done to save time and money
100g bag mixed dried fruit, cranberries, golden raisins etc.
85ml runny honey


METHOD:
Mix everything in a large bowl, pour the mix into a baking paper lined baking tray and bake for 30 minutes, allow to cool before slicing.



COCONUT CHIA POT AND FRUIT COMPOTE

30g chia seeds
100ml coconut milk
Your favourite selection of berries, lightly dusted with caster sugar and left for about an hour to macerate (they will create their own syrup).
Toasted coconut shavings


METHOD:
Soak the chia seeds in the coconut milk for about 20 minutes. Arrange the fruit on a plate or top the chia seeds with them and finally top with the toasted coconut.



CINNAMON BAKED PLUMS AND APPLES, OAT CRUMBLE, CRÈME FRAICHE


2 ripe plums, stone removed and quartered
2 red eating apples, cored and 1cm diced
45g caster sugar
100ml water
75g porridge oats
15g butter, melted
¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
80ml crème fraiche

METHOD:
Preheat the oven to 180°C.
Boil the water and sugar until half of the water has gone, add the plums and apples, remove from the heat and leave for 5 minutes. Mix the melted butter and the oats. Put the apple and plum mix into an ovenproof dish and top with the oats. Bake for 15 minutes. Stir the vanilla extract into the crème fraiche. Spoon the crème fraiche on top of the crumble and get stuck in!



PEANUT BUTTER AND BANANA WHOLEMEAL TOASTIE

Toast 3 slices of wholemeal bread and make a triple decker, layering crunchy peanut butter with thinly sliced bananas.



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

Step Around Town

Thrive Dance Company perform at Step Around Town!

On Thursday 11th May, Thrive Dance Company performed at Forest Hill School for the Step Around Town event. Here, there were performances from Priory School, Townley Grammar, Forest Hill and Harris Girls' Academy Bromley. I was so proud of our students, they are such a strong performance group and they performed with such energy and love for this art form of dance. They danced to the song 'Joy' from Sister Act, and I can certainly comment that the audience felt as joyful as the dancers did. A massive well done for all of your hard work, it was wonderful to watch you on stage where you belong! Thank you to parents for your on-going support!

Miss Abbotts



Thank you PTA

I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation for the incredible support the PTA has recently given to the Mathematics department. Their generous contribution towards acquiring a set of scientific calculators has enhanced our teaching capabilities by allowing us to distribute these calculators to students who do not have access to one.

These tools are indispensable in teaching advanced mathematical concepts and problem-solving techniques, and thanks to your generosity, more and more students, regardless of their personal circumstances, now have the opportunity to utilize a scientific calculator during class and examinations.

We firmly believe that the PTA's support will continue to yield remarkable results. The scientific calculators will play a crucial role in enhancing our students' academic performance and nurturing their passion for mathematics. Your investment in their education is an investment in their future success, as it enables them to excel not only in their studies but also in their future careers.

Once again, thank you. Your contribution exemplifies the power of unity and collective commitment, and we are honoured to have such exceptional parents as part of our Charles Darwin School family.



Mr Ferguson



CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL PTA
**MONTHLY
DRAW**



WIN cash AND fundraise for our school

Card payments or bank transfers accepted

To join, scan here with your device camera:



Or add this text to your browser: <https://tinyurl.com/34ys3t3v>

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 12th May 2023.



7PDg/STi	100%
8RMo/STe	96.9%
9NKo	94.2%
10ADo/GJo	94.2%
11WCa/LWr	97%
12FSu	97.8%
13ARo/MMe	100%

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:

Ted Broder	Isobel Sandoe
Lola Hall	Noah Clarke
Emily Hartfield	Scarlett Stubberfield
Evan Williams	Amelia Sawyer
Kemp Brown	Alex Cumber

Thank you to our duties:

Sophie Mason	Lily Outrum
Vinny Tucker	Rukayah Bigby
Chris Panzi	Freddie Fuller

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



Dates for the Diary

May

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

14th June - Trip: Drama - Jack Studio Theatre, Brockley (Yrs 12 and 10)

16th -17th June - Trip: DofE Yr10 Bronze qualifying expedition

21st June - Rounders Tournament

20th June - Trip1: PE Year 10 Kayaking, Danson Park Lakes (GCSE practical grades)

21st June - Rounders Tournament

22nd June - Trip2: PE Year 10 Kayaking, Danson Park Lakes (GCSE practical grades)

27th June - Trip: Drama - Apollo Theatre (2.22 Ghost Story), Yrs12

28th June - Rounders Tournament

30th June - Sports Day

July

4th July - INSET 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