



21.04.2023

Issue No: 1079

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to all students after the Easter break. I hope all students enjoyed the break and have returned refreshed for the summer term. A good number of students attended the Easter revision sessions and those who I spoke to were really appreciative of the staff who gave up their time to support them.

Industrial Action – 27th April & 2nd May

I wrote to parents earlier this week regarding the two days of industrial action planned by the NEU to take place on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. Having discussed the situation with staff union representatives the **school will only be open to Year 11 and Year 13 students, together with a small number of our most vulnerable students who will be contacted directly over the coming days.** NEU are keen to reduce the impact of strike action on these year groups and we have agreed here at Charles Darwin that **teachers of Year 11 and Year 13 students who are taking strike action will set work for their classes on Satchel One. Work will be directly related to the work they are currently doing.**

Year 11 students must be in school by 9.15am for an assembly at 9.30am ahead of lessons or where teachers are not in they will be able to work through the work set by their teachers on Satchel One in a computer room where appropriate support will be provided. **Attendance for Year 11 is compulsory and essential at this stage of their course.**

Year 13 students should be in the Hub for 8.50am. Students will attend lessons where teachers are in and for other lessons students will be supervised in the Hub while they work through the work set by their teachers on Satchel One.

School will be closed to students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. Teachers not taking strike action will be in school and will be leading live lessons via Teams or setting work via Satchel One. Students should access Satchel One at 8.30am to see the work for the day.

Full details of the arrangements are in my letter to parents which was sent out earlier today.

Please note that **the Year 12/13 Finance exam will be going ahead on 2nd May.**

Ski-Trip

My thanks to Mr. Doig for leading the Easter ski trip to Austria. Apart from the delays at Dover the trip was a great success and the students, and staff, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There are some fantastic pictures on our social media accounts if you wish to take a look.

Y10 Parents' Evening

Due to industrial action the Year 10 parents' evening scheduled for 2nd May will now take place on Wednesday 10th May. We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school to discuss progress and next steps at this important stage of their courses.

Government Emergency Alerts System

Some families will be aware that the government's new emergency alerts system is live and will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. The system will be tested nationally on **Sunday 23rd April at 3.00pm.** An emergency alert is a loud, siren-like sound with a message on mobile phones or tablet screens. To check an alert is genuine visit gov.uk.

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



Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

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

Assessment Secretary **36 hours a week, 40 weeks a year** **Actual Salary - £22,811**

We wish to appoint an Assessment Secretary to join our committed and friendly Administration team. The successful candidate will assist the school's Examinations and Assessment Officer and will be responsible for the input of statistical data, creation and management of assessment reports, the analysis of data and will support the school's Exams and Assessment Officer in all aspects relating to the setting up and running of exams.

Applicants should have excellent organisational and inter-personal skills together with experience of working in a pressurised environment. Applicants are expected to have strong IT skills, especially Excel, with a high level of accuracy and attention to detail. The school uses the SIMS Assessment Manager package and a working knowledge of SIMS together with Microsoft Word and Excel is essential. Previous experience of a similar role in a school would be advantageous.

Whilst this is a term time only role, the successful candidate will be expected to attend for four days in August for the examination results days.

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 11 Leavers Book & Hoodies

Year 11 Leavers Book & Hoodies

Orders for the Leavers book and hoodies need to be in by **Friday, 28th April**.

Anyone who would like to order a book/hoodie but would like extra time to pay, please contact Mrs Gater.

Thank you

Mrs Gater

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



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.

Charity Walk

Dear Parents and Guardians

I am contacting you to ask if anyone would like to sponsor me for a 54km charity walk that I am doing on Saturday 29th April. I've been training for a while by walking at the weekend and increasing the distance by 5km every week. On Saturday this week I did 35Km which was tough so doing an extra 19KM is going to be a struggle!

The charity I am raising money for is called Children with Cancer, information on the charity can be found here:

https://www.childrenwithcancer.org.uk/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMI5rm35Cz_gIVBltCh3J9A3gEAAAYAiAAEgKIYPD_BwE

I am raising money through Just Giving and any sponsorship would be fantastic and would be going to an amazing charity.

My just giving page can be found at the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nicolajtsang>

Thank you in advance and I will update you all on how I do the week after the event.

Kind Regards



Mrs Tsang

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 31 March 2023.



7RMk	97.3%
8ECs/RGe	94.3%
9LDa	94.1%
10ADo/GJo	93.6%
11PEI	94.3%
12FSu	99.5%
13GQu	95%

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:

Zac Cloud	Freddie Burns
Mason Furey	Millie Hatton
Ella Longhurst	Jemiah Gravesande-Brown
Lyam O'Sullivan	Jack Kadshaw
Riley Turnball	Connor McQuillan



Thank you to our duties:

Leo Day
Jack Stone
Isabelle Newbound
Keira Ricketts

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

Dates for the Diary

April

26th April - Year 7 Parent's Evening

27th April - NEU Industrial Action

28th April - Trip: Netball Tour, Liddington (28-30 April 10:00am-5pm (Yrs 7&10)

28th April - Trip: Science/IT - University of Greenwich, London - Robotics Challenge Library
(Yrs 7-9 7:30am-4:00pm)

May

1st May - Bank Holiday

2nd May - NEU Industrial Action

3rd May - Trip: 6th Form Climb the O2 ,Yrs 12/13

5th - 6th May - Trip: DofE Yr10 Bronze practice expedition

8th May - Bank Holiday

10th May - Year 10 Parent's Evening

29th May - Bank Holiday

29th May - 2nd June - Half Term

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

Blazers, school jumpers and PE kits needed!

Parents/Carers

We have had a quite substantial number of requests about school blazers, jumpers and PE kits. If you have any lying around that your daughter/son has outgrown, we would greatly appreciate donation of these.

All donations can be left at **Main Reception**.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Preloved Uniform Shop Team

A Night to Remember at Bromley Central library

Come and join us for an extraordinary evening at Bromley Central Library that will defy your expectations of what a library can offer!

We have an array of exciting entertainment planned, such as a cocktail masterclass, street food, silent disco, celebrity book readings, live musical performances, a gaming bus, adult-friendly Lego, craft activities, heritage walks, and access to unseen archives.

This event will take place on **Thursday 27th April from 6pm to 10:30pm**, and **admission is free for everyone!**

Our aim is to celebrate local storytelling throughout the event, whether it's by taking part in a guided evening walk with the Bromley Civic Society, exploring the Bromley Museum's exhibits, or being captivated by a celebrity book reading.

Keep an eye out for announcements about our special guests!

Book your tickets now for the **free behind-the-scenes tour of our archive store at Bromley Historic Collections!**

We'll be leading two tours of the store, housing our huge collection of records documenting the history of Bromley back to the 17th century. It's a must-see for anyone who's curious about history. Tours at 7pm and 8.30pm.





BR1 LATES

Great nights out in Bromley

presents

LIBRARY LATES

Silent disco
Cocktail master class
Street food
Lego for adults
Gaming bus
Celebrity book readings
Musical performances
and more!



www.bromley.gov.uk/BR1Lates



BETTER

YOUR BROMLEY

SUPPORTED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON



*Events subject to change

2023 © London Borough of Bromley A product of Strategy, Performance and Corporate Transformation
Stock Imagery by Freepik

Wellbeing Webinars

Please see attached to this weeks Link some free webinars led by Bromley Y on the following areas:

For parents:

Secondary : Managing anxiety (of child)

Secondary : Managing school Avoidance

Transition to secondary school

For students:

Managing my anxiety

Managing Low mood

Managing anxious thoughts

Managing exam stress





Places for these can be booked via the 'Bromley Y Eventbrite page'.



Spring/Summer 23

Universal Webinar Dates – Spring/Summer 2023

Primary Parent Anxiety Sat 22nd Apr @ 10am Thurs 18th May @ 1:30pm Thurs 15th June @ 10am Thurs 13th July @ 10am	Secondary Parent Anxiety Thurs 1st June @ 1:30pm Mon 3rd July @ 1:30pm
School Avoidance - Parents Tues 18th Apr @ 10:00am Sat 20th May @ 10am Wed 28th June @ 1pm	YP Anxiety Tues 25th Apr @ 4:30pm Mon 22nd May @ 4:30pm Thurs 22nd June @ 4:30pm Wed 12th July @ 4:30pm
YP Low Mood Thurs 27th Apr @ 4:30pm Wed 7th June @ 4:30pm Tues 25th July @ 4:30pm	YP Anxious Thoughts Thurs 11th May @ 4:30pm Mon 12th June @ 4:30pm
YP Exam Stress (Panic) Wed 19th Apr @ 4:30pm Tues 9th May @ 4:30pm	Transition - Year 6 Parents Wed 24th May @ 10am Sat 24th June @ 10am

 bromley-y.org  @bromley_y_  @bromley_y_  @bromleywellbeing

FREE FIVE-WEEK CREATIVE WORKSHOPS FOR 9-22 YEAR OLDS

Introducing **Peckham Sessions**: a range of free five-week mixed-disciplinary arts projects for young people aged 9-22. This exciting venture gives you the opportunity to work with West End stars, local artists and members of Mountview faculty. With four exciting projects to choose from, all partnered with inspiring professionals, there's something for everyone!

Participants will:

- Take part in weekly sessions, developing confidence, self-expression and transferrable skills
- Use their voice to create a piece of work focusing on a topic that they are passionate about
- Learn new skills in the arts and explore creativity in a mixed arts project

Share their work with the wider community at the Peckham Sessions Open House Event on Sunday 21 May

Read more here - <https://www.mountview.org.uk/whats-on/take-part/peckham-sessions/>

Choose from:

- Performing and Production Arts | Ages 9-12
- Stop Frame Animation and Podcasting | Ages 12-14
- Filmmaking and Magazine Workshop | Ages 14-18
- Illuminate: Scenic and Technical Production | Ages 16-22

All projects will run from 11am-4pm, 23 April-21 May.



ILLUMINATE: SCENIC AND TECHNICAL PRODUCTION | Ages 16-22

If you're aged 16-22, live in Southwark and want to explore what happens behind the scenes backstage, come join us!

In an exciting collaboration between Theatre Peckham and Mountview as part of the Illuminate initiative, we invite you to join us to explore the various behind-the-scenes activities that make staged performances, exhibitions and events come to life.

Join us to learn about lighting, scenic art, stage management and sound, and have a key role in the Open House event to put your new technical production skills into practice.

Get hands-on experience in:

- Scenic art and prop making
- Set painting
- Installations for exhibitions
- Sound and lighting
- Prompt books and show calling
- Co-ordination and project management of events and showcases



SCAN TO BOOK NOW A WORKSHOP



**PECKHAM SESSIONS
OPEN HOUSE**
SUNDAY 21 MAY, 1-5PM

Come and join us for the inaugural Peckham Sessions Open House on Sunday 21 May, with our theme 'Better Together'.

This is an indoor, face-to-face community event which will have art work and films exhibited created by the young people on the Peckham Sessions project. There will be a range of drop-in arts activities to participate in throughout the day for all ages – from children through to adults.

The day will conclude with a panel discussion with local artists working on Peckham Sessions, and a range of stalls showcasing local businesses, so come and celebrate with us, as we're better together!

Get in touch: JacOkody@mountview.org.uk

[mountview.org.uk/peckham-sessions](https://www.mountview.org.uk/peckham-sessions)

PECKHAM SESSIONS

EVERY SUNDAY
23 APRIL - 21 MAY
11AM-4PM

FREE



Photo by John Hunter at RULER

Come join us for a **FREE** and exciting five-week art project for people aged 9-22.

Over five Sundays, we invite you to explore a range of skills with a local artist in one of four mixed-disciplinary arts projects at our home in Peckham to grow their creativity, confidence and collaboration, working towards a final project. Each project ends with a community sharing at the **Peckham Sessions Open House on Sunday 21 May**.



Photo by John Hunter at RULER

PERFORMING AND PRODUCTION ARTS | Ages 9-12

Through creative sessions lead by Jac O'Kody, young people aged 9 – 12 will develop skills in dance, singing, acting and production arts and then devise a final project to present both digitally and live at our Open House Exhibition.

Learn how performance works from the initial idea to the stage!



Roadworks Media

STOP FRAME ANIMATION AND PODCASTING | Ages 12-14

Join Roadworks Media to develop skills in visual arts, animation and podcasting. Participants will blend physical and digital art with creative writing to explore diversity, inclusion, social harmony and unity.

Develop your creative voice, hone your skills and present your final project at our exhibition for the community.



The Palace of the Dogs

FILMMAKING AND MAGAZINE WORKSHOP | Ages 14-18

Led by creatives from The Palace of the Dogs, this project will culminate in the creation of a film and printed magazine. Participants will take their idea from page to screen and amplify then in a dynamic printed magazine.

Express your creative ideas and gain some industry skills.

MOUNTVIEW



THEPALACEOFTHEDOGS

THEATRE
PECKHAM