



24.02.2023

Issue No: 1073

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Industrial Action

Parents will be aware from my letters this week that the next day of industrial action by the NEU will take place on Thursday 2nd March. After assessing the risk of the situation based on anticipated staff numbers, the **school will only be open for students in Year 11 and Year 13, together with a small number of our most vulnerable students who will be contacted directly over the coming days.**

Year 11 students should be in school from 9.30am when they will have an assembly in the hall ahead of lessons or where teachers are not in they will be able to work through a range of independent study materials 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 school from 11.10am where they will attend lessons where teachers will be in and for other lessons they should be in the Hub for supervised study. A limited number of students will be invited into school for Period 1 where we know teachers are in school.

School will be closed to students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. Teachers that are not taking strike action will be in school and will be leading live lessons via Teams or setting work via Satchel One. Please ask your child to access Satchel One at 8.30am to see the work for the day. All of the information for lessons will be provided on Satchel One as a first port of call. Staff who are hosting live lessons on Teams will publish instructions via Satchel One. To access a live lesson, students should open their Teams calendar and click to join the live lesson at the start. Students should have their camera off at all times and turn on their microphone when instructed to do so by teachers. Any work that needs to be submitted should be done by following teacher instructions during the lesson.

Students can also access a range of web-based resources that support the curriculum which can be found on our website through the 'student independent learning' tab or by accessing it here <https://www.cdarwin.com/page/?title=Student+Independent+Learning&pid=403>

Teachers that are taking strike action are withdrawing labour and are therefore under no obligation to set any work, although some may choose to set work for their Year 11 or 13 classes.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with mutual respect.

Auschwitz Trip

My thanks to Mrs. Davies for leading the half term trip to Auschwitz. 40 GCSE and A level History students visited the various sites to learn about the history of the Polish people and visit Auschwitz, the largest concentration camp for mass killings in the town of Oswiecim. Whilst the students all had a great and memorable time, the lessons learnt from the visit to Auschwitz are hard hitting and will remain with all who visited for many years. My thanks also to Mr. Lamb, Ms. Silk and Mrs. Ruth who accompanied the trip.

Friends PTA meeting

On Wednesday evening I joined the Friends PTA for their meeting at The Crown, in Leaves Green. At the meeting we discussed a number of ways the Friends can support the school and also some ideas for the school's 50th Birthday celebrations this year. The aim is to create a fete for the community to attend which will include stalls, food, sharing of student work, games etc. It is going to be a very exciting time.

Aston Smith



The proud school uniform suppliers for Charles Darwin School



School Uniform Update – Spring term 2023

Following a whole school uniform review in the autumn term involving parents, students and teachers, there will be changes to the current uniform and PE kit from September 2023

All current House ties and badges are on **SALE** through the school reception for £2.00 whilst stock last!

The new school tie and badge will be on sale from June ready for September 2023

PE Red Game Sock with 'CDS' **SALE**

<u>Size</u>	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Sale Price</u>
2-5	£7.50	£5.00
6-9	£10.50	£5.00
10-13	£10.50	£5.00

PE socks available to purchase in store, through our website or directly through school's main reception.

PE Hoodies **SALE**

<u>Size</u>	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Sale Price</u>
26/28	£26.00	£23.40
30/32	£26.00	£23.40
32/34	£26.00	£23.40
34/36	£26.00	£23.40
38/40	£34.00	£30.60
42/44	£34.00	£30.60

Following the outcomes of the uniform review, we have worked tirelessly with the school to try and reduce the cost of your school uniform and can now offer the following to help with this:

Blazers update

We have sourced a new eco blazer made by a manufacturer called One&All. Starting price will be £25.00; this is a saving of £6.50 against the very popular David Luke eco blazer that we currently sell. You will be available to purchase this from June 2023 alongside the David Luke blazer.

Skirt update

We will now be offering two skirts, both of the same style. We have our current navy two-side pleat skirt made in the UK by a company called London Schoolwear which has been very popular for many years now. However, we can now also offer you an alternative navy two-side pleat skirt made in South Africa from Eco polyester, viscose and elastane, made by David Luke; this gives the skirt an element of slight stretch and the material is lighter. The starting price of this skirt is £15.00 which is a saving of £10.00. Again, these will be available for purchase from June alongside the London Schoolwear skirt.

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

World Book Day

The redemption period for World Book Day 2023 £1/€1.50 book tokens is from **Thursday 16 February until Sunday 26 March 2023.**

You can redeem your World Book Day £1/€1.50 book token at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookseller
- Asda
- Blackwell's (selected stores only)
- Morrisons
- Sainsburys
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith



Please check with your local store before you visit to see if they stock the £1/€1.50 books.

Thank you

Mrs Pitt

Thanks Jack Petchey!

On Friday 10th February students from Year 7 up to Year 13 had a fantastic opportunity to take part in a contemporary dance workshop lead by Andrew, who is a dancer from the famous contemporary choreographer Sir Matthew Bourne. He performed as a swan in Bourne's version of Swanlake! A GCSE student awarded the dance department the Jack Petchey funding and it was fabulous to have this opportunity for students to be taught technique, creative tasks and repertoire from a current choreographer. The students put in so much effort and their enthusiasm shone through. Andrew even said that their improvisation task was the best he'd seen at all the other schools he'd been to! This made me a very proud teacher. Well done to all!

Miss Abbotts



Each year schools are asked by Bromley Rotary Club to nominate students who go above and beyond in working outside of school on a voluntary basis, be that as a Young Carer, sometimes managing challenging circumstances at home, supporting community initiatives, raising money for charity etc. Darwin has supported this for a number of years now and winners are invited to attend a glamorous ceremony with the mayor.

It is always a particularly lovely occasion and we were very pleased to have four winners this year:

Millie Hatton
Jack Stone
Emmanuel Berkoh-Prince
Chardney Prata-Neto

Congratulations to our winners!

Mrs Kearney

Bromley Rotary Clubs Youth Awards 2022-2-23

“Uplifting and joyful” says Bromley’s Mayor

On Friday, January 27 about 250 proud parents, relations and friends, local MPs, and teachers filled the auditorium at the Langley Park Performing Arts Centre to celebrate the achievements of 32 young people who had each, in their own way, made a significant contribution to their community.

Too often nowadays young people are seen in a poor light but Bromley Rotary Clubs showcased how pupils, aged 11 to 18, from ten Bromley Secondary schools have unselfishly given up their own time to make a real difference to their families, their communities and local and national charities. Bromley Mayor, Cllr Hannah Gray presented each winner with a certificate and gift voucher and declared that this was one of her most uplifting and joyful appointments of the year.

This was the eighth year of the Bromley Rotary Clubs Youth Awards which has grown year on year from four participating schools to sixteen in 2022.

Winners had all done something special outside school: some, as young as 11, were caring for sick or disabled family members, others had raised considerable sums for charities or pitched in with local charities. Ethan regularly works in a local food bank and helps serve and distribute it. Millie and four colleagues work with adults on the autistic spectrum at a tree centre and on a gardening project. Abigail is a young carer for her disabled brother and has raised over £2000 for the charity that supports his condition. Sofie and her brother set up a small business to source and market environmentally friendly products.

The award winners section concluded with the first presentation of The Stuart Jack Trophy. This award commemorates one of the Bromley Rotarians who initiated the scheme and died last year. It goes to the award winner who, in the opinion of the judges, best embodies the scheme. This year it went to Abigail Jones from Harris Girls Academy Bromley.

The ceremony followed a presentation of cheques to local charities which had helped Bromley Rotary Club’s Sleigh Collection raise £14,000 just before Christmas. The Sleigh partners were: St Christopher’s Hospice, St Vincent De Paul Beckenham, the RNLI, the Maypole Project, 23rd Bromley Scout Group. Greener and Cleaner Bromley and the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Award winners were: Israel Akinuoye, Emmanuel Berkoh-Prince, Eleanore Boussie, Ruairi Carey, Ethan Chan, Millie Choi, Amelia Coombs-Organ, Zahraa Dhahi, Mali-Grace Doran, Lilly Egan, Ashanti Feurtado, Jasper Gee, Ayush Ghosh, Anaiya Greaves, Alex Hamblin, Millie Hatton, Abigail Jones, Eleanor Lovell, Dev Mehta, Talia Moore, Matthew Neal, Samuel Oredin, Tanvi Peddamallu, Sfie Petersen, Chardney Prata Neto, Bethan Pritchard, CXhloe Samuel, Jack Stone, Olivia Taylor, Megan Tomlin, Rocco Whitten, Sofia Wilson.

They came from the following schools: Bromley High, Charles Darwin, Darrick Wood, Harris Academy Beckenham, Harris Girls Academy Bromley, Langley Park School for Boys, Farringtons, Buller’s Wood Girls, Buller’s Wood Boys and St. Olave’s Grammar School.

If you are interested in finding out more about Rotary (or The Youth Awards) please check our website at www.bromleyrotaryclub.org.uk or email Adrian@BromleyRotaryClub.org.uk.

Details submitted by John Bruce, Bromley Rotary Club – john_bruce@ntlworld.com

Photos by Andrew Dunsmore, Picture Partnership.



Bromley Rotary Clubs Youth Awards 2022-23 – All the winners

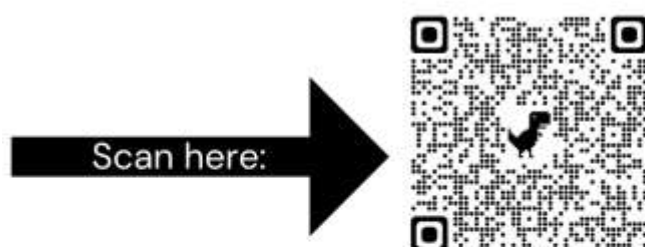


Charles Darwin School PTA Monthly Draw

Enter for £1 per month.

Just fill in our online form to take part:

<https://forms.gle/XCHSgkZhyadTGspc7>



**Why not share
with friends
and family too?**

**WIN WIN: Half the winnings to our lucky winner
and half towards fundraising for our school!**



friends@cdarwin.com

Trip to Krakow

"For the dead and the living, we must bear witness" Elie Wiesel

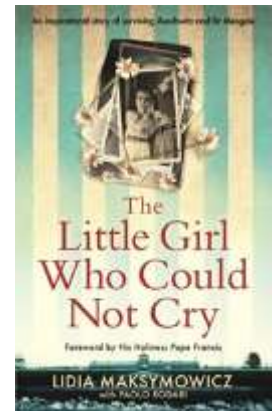
We took 40 GCSE and A level History students to Krakow for a 3 night stay on the 9th of Feb 2023. Learning about the history of the Polish People and visiting Auschwitz the largest concentration camp for mass killings in the town of Oswiecim.

After landing we embarked on a walking tour of Krakow. Poland had surrendered to the Germans on the 28th of September 1939 honouring the partition of Poland with Russia. Our walking tour truly explained the horrors of occupation, over 100,000 Polish intelligentsia were mass shot to prevent resistance and German authorities began to persecute the Jews of the city.

On the walking tour we also saw some of the locations where Schindler's list was filmed in 1994 and the Jewish Quarter. In 1939 Poland had 3.3 million Jewish living there. At the end of the war approximately 380,000 Polish Jews remained.



On the second day we visited Oskar Schindler Factory and the Jewish Museum – Having a tour detailing the atrocities that had happened in Poland. Possibly the most poignant part of the trip was meeting a Holocaust survivor. We were expecting a relative however we met Lidia Maksymowicz, who was three years old on her arrival at Auschwitz and was in the Dr Mengele experiment Block. She had survived eighteen months of hell. Her mother secretly visiting her ensured her survival, and this was her only contact with humanity. Lidia was adopted on liberation, thinking her birth parents were dead. However, in 1962 she discovered that her birth parents were alive, living in the USSR



On day 3 we visited Auschwitz, walking through the gate and seeing the words "Arbeit Macht Frei" (Work sets you free). What the students saw here will stay with them for a long time. Exhibitions and memorials in every barracks. We also saw the extended Auschwitz camp of Birkenau and the railway line that took many Jews to their death in the Gas Chambers. In just over four-and-a-half years, Nazi Germany systematically murdered at least 1.1 million people at Auschwitz. Almost one million were Jews.





On our final day before our flight home, we visited the Wieliczka Salt Mines entered in 1978 on the UNESCO World Heritage List. There are 245km of galleries, the deepest points being 327 Metres deep underground dating back from the Middle Ages.

A Big thank you to the History Staff who accompanied the Auschwitz trip, Mr Lamb, Ms Ruth, and Ms Silk. The students all had a great and memorable time that they will not forget. The lessons learnt from the **visit to Auschwitz** are clear: hatred has no place in the human heart.



Mrs Davis

First Aid

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**

ATTENDANCE

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



7BDe/ZHa	100
8SAr	92.6
9HCa	91.4
10ADo/GJo	92.1
11NYe	95.2
12FSu	91.5
13GQu	96.3

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 day's learning.

Please can I 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:

Harley Lloyd	Jake Bussy
Olivia Klin	Lennon Mitchell
Dhru Wells	Freddy Terry
Katie Winter	Finley Graham
Hannah White	Raff Hollinshead



Thank you to our duties:

Emily Brooker	Zachary Reddish
Freya Stalley	Jamie Wade

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

Dates for the Diary

February

28th February - Year 9 Parents' Evening

March

2nd March - NEU Industrial Action

9th March - Trip: London , Tate Modern/ Borough Market

14th March - Trip; Bromley Central Library, Year 12/13

14th March - Trip: Cyklopark Gravesend, Year 11, GCSE

15th March - NEU Industrial Action

16th March - NEU Industrial Action

16th March - Trip: Cyclopark Gravesend, Year 11, GCSE

20th March - Year 8 Reward Trip

21st March - Trip: Cyclopark Gravesend, GCSE Practical grades

22nd March - Year 9 Options Evening , 6pm

23rd March - Trip: Cyclopark Gravesend, GCSE Practical grades

28th March - Trip: UCAS Conference Excel Centre London, Year 12

29th March - Year12/13 Parents' Evening

29th March - Trip: Austria, Saalbach, Ski trip

30th March - Trip: Churchill Theatre Bromley, Year 11

31st March - Trip: Geography—Stratford (Urban Fields) , Year 12/13

31st March - End of Term

April

17th April - Summer Term start

Term Dates 2022 - 23

SPRING 2023

Wednesday 4th January – Friday 10th February

Half Term: Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February

Monday 20th February – Friday 31st March

Easter Holiday: Monday 3^d April – Friday 14th April

SUMMER 2023

Monday 17th April – Friday 26th May

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

Monday 5th June – Friday 21st July

Notes: Good Friday 7th April 2023

CDS INSET days:

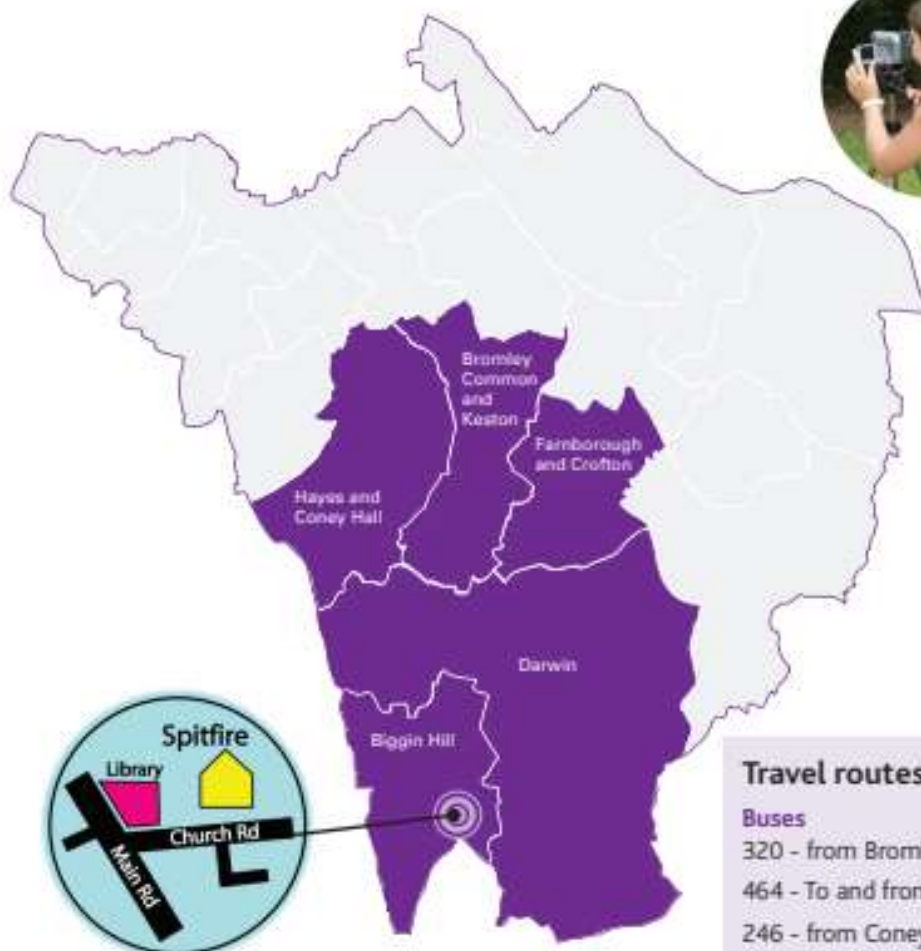
Tuesday 4th July 2023

+ 2 inset days as twilights

South Hub
@Spitfire
Youth centre

BROMLEY YOUTH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Be ACTIVE Be INSPIRED Be INVOLVED Be INFORMED



Travel routes: South Hub

Buses

- 320 - from Bromley North to Biggin Hill and return.
- 464 - To and from New Addington
- 246 - from Coney Hall to Biggin Hill to Westerham and return.
- R2 & R8 - Orpington to Biggin Hill and return.

Contact details:

Spitfire Youth Centre, Church Road, Biggin Hill, Kent, TN16 3LB
Tel: 0208 466 3080 www.bromley.gov.uk/youthsupport

South Hub
@Spitfire
Youth centre

BROMLEY YOUTH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

What's on and when

TUESDAY

7.00pm - 9:30pm: Seniors youth group for
School Yrs 9 +

WEDNESDAY

6:00pm - 8:30pm: Inters youth group for School
Yrs 6 - 8

THURSDAY

6.45pm - 9.15pm Young People with Disabilities
Session for Phoenix youth group School Yr 11 -
age 25

Bromley Youth Support Programme through its South Hub can help you if you want something to do or need extra support.

For more information contact:

0208 466 3080 | www.bromley.gov.uk/youthsupport

Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/BromleyYouthActivities

