



12.05.2023

Issue No: 1082

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Duke of Edinburgh Practice Walk

My congratulations to the students who took part in the Bronze practice walk last week. I understand that it was a great success and fortunately they avoided the heavy rainfall which had been predicted.

Parent Survey

A reminder to parents to complete the survey which was sent out last week. We are seeking your feedback on a wide range of aspects which are important to us at Charles Darwin School and you as parents. We would like as many parents as possible to complete the survey as this will enable us to have a full representation of views on 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 have until 19th May to return the survey.

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

Year 10 Parents' Evening

It was great to be able to welcome parents into school on Wednesday for the Year 10 Parents' Evening. It was so important to have this face to face event as these parents had not had a face to face meeting since their children were in Year 7. I spoke to many parents on the night and they were overwhelmingly positive about the way the school is supporting their children.

Acceptable Behaviour in the Community

This week we sent out a letter on behalf of TfL and the Metropolitan Police regarding acceptable behaviour on buses. Please can parents have a conversation with their child about what is acceptable behaviour and please make them aware that TfL, the police and local shops share CCTV with us and we will always take action. Thank you in advance for your support.

Uniform Reminder

As the weather is becoming warmer we have noticed that in some cases uniform is not as tight as it should be. 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, sweatshirts and jewellery are not acceptable.

Summer Exams

While I know that many exams have already taken place, I would like to wish all our Year 11 and Year 13 students good luck as the exam season gets into full swing from next week. Students have worked really hard, keep going. We will support you all the way. Remember – Aspire – Endeavour – Achieve.

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

KS3 Exams

Reminder – Key Stage 3 Exams

Parents/Carers should have received an email from the school on Wednesday regarding KS3 exams after half term:

Year 7 and 8 exams - Monday 5th June to Friday 16 June

Year 9 exams – Monday 12 June to Friday 23 June

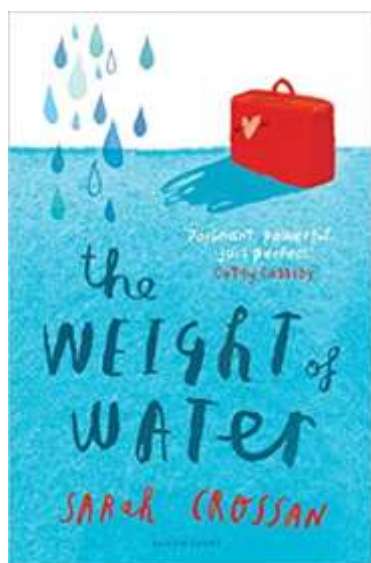
These assessments will take a variety of forms depending on the subject, and children will have explained to them in the next few weeks how best to prepare. Some lesson time will be given to support this, but the expectation is that revision and preparation will also be needed at home. Techniques on how best to revise are being covered during tutorial time in school.

Over the next 2 weeks, teachers will be telling their classes when their class exams will be so that this can be recorded in planners (page 98 and pages 99). This will allow organisation of revision before the relevant exam. Please can I ask parents/carers to encourage preparation for these assessments in the next weeks, including supporting revision over half term.

Mrs Rees

Reading Corner at Charles Darwin

The following book comes highly recommended by one of our ex-students who has now graduated from University. It was one of the first books she read as part of our Book Club in 2013 and, in a touching gesture, she came in last week to donate a copy to our school library.



The Weight of Water is a startlingly original piece of fiction. A brilliant coming-of-age story, it also tackles the alienation experienced by many young immigrants. Moving, unsentimental, and utterly page turning, we meet and share the experiences of a remarkable girl who shows us how quiet courage prevails.

If you would like to donate a copy of your favourite book to the library, we would be very happy to receive it – we can even give you a special dedication in the front of the book ...

Mrs Pitt



Book Club

Come along to Book Club

Every Monday lunch time in the library with Mrs Pitt 😊



History department Coronation Celebration

Well we had a brilliant time in the History Department celebrating the Coronation. It was amazing to see all the different entries showcased in the history Quad area. It was so difficult judging the best entries but we managed with a little help.

Well done to our worthy winners! Ms Davies will be giving you your prize next Wednesday Lunchtime please see her in Hi4.

Thank you also to the students who made the day so special it was lovely to see such a positive learning environment in History.



Ms Davies and the History Team



Best Coronation Cake



Best Coronation Cake



Best Coronation Canvas



Best Coronation Model



Best Coronation Cake Design



Best Coronation Badge

Coronation Celebration in the Canteen

Last Friday we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla in the canteen with a special barbecue menu and traditional picnic food along with coronation-themed cakes and biscuits. The bunting and Union Jack flags helped to add to the celebrations. As you can see, lots of students and staff enjoyed the special menu.

We hope to have more theme days later in the term.

Ms Kelly



Congratulations to Mia Stathopoulos in year 7 who has qualified for the British Show Jumping Association. Mia recently raced in the Badminton Horse Trials, and will be competing again in the May half term in the Suffolk County Show. Mia is also a part of the Shetland Pony Grand National and takes part in a race display team for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust.



Coronation Celebration in the Library



To celebrate the King's Coronation we had several activities arranged for Lunchtime in the Library including, Royal Word search, colouring in, Royal Bingo and stick the diamond sticker on the crown blindfolded! All year groups attended and fun was had by all!

Mrs Adams

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 2023.

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

Achievement Points

Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 01.09.2022 – 11.05.2023

Catherine Seidler	7RBr/RSi	224
Alexander James Hannaford	8JHd	189
Lucas Nagle	7RMk	185
Leo Currier	8HBu	169
Harriet Downer	8RMo/STe	166
Phoebe Vincent	8RMo/STe	164
Chloe Cocker	8RMo/STe	153
Hannah White	8GAn	151
Leo Nagle	7RMk	149
Jenson Ladd-Talbot	7Tmi	148



Top highest achievers per each year for the period 01.09.2022 – 11.05.2023

Catherine Seidler	7RBr/RSi	224
Alexander James Hannaford	8JHd	189
Deborah Chapman	9SCu	127
Tillie Bansel	10SAI	114
Chloe McGonigal	11KWu	120
Ciara Bain	12MCR/MMe	76
Abbey Leonard	13ARo/MMe	32

Exams Time

"Recipes to make students feel fuller for longer and prepared to perform. Good luck to all of our students in their up and coming assessments"

Miss Zysemil

Please see attached separately this week's recipe - Different Fish Finger Sandwich.



SNACK RECIPES

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

EDIBLE PLANT POTS

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 fraîche

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 fraîche. Spoon the crème fraîche 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.





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 5th May 2023.



7BDe/ZHa	100%
8HBu	97.5%
9LDa	98.1%
10GCu	94.2%
11PEI	96%
12FSu	98%
13GQu	98.4%

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:

Jack Kadshaw
Teddy Dwyer
Tristan Treasure
Zayn Rickett-Schulter

Dawson Bergmann
Molly Booth
Henry Selwood
Charlie Boost



Thank you to our duties:

Blake Bird
James Prudence
Natalie Radford
Harvey McPhillips

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

Dates for the Diary

May

17th May - Year 8 HPV1 vaccination
19th May - Trip: Orpington Library - Author Workshop - Yr7&8
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 practice qualifying expedition
21st June - Rounders Tournament
27th June - Trip: Drama - Apollo Theatre (2.22 Ghost Story), Yrs12
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

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



COVID-19 Spring Booster Monday 15 May 10am-4pm



Biggin Hill Children and Family Centre
Sunningvale Avenue, Westerham TN16 3TN

South East London

**Book your
place**



Walk-ins
subject to
availability

Adults
75 years
and over

People aged 5-74
with a weakened
immune system

Book on <https://my.drdoctor.co.uk/clinic/bromley-outreach>

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COLLEGES





IN THE PARK

Taking place in Memorial Gardens, Crawley

Saturday 20 May

11am - 4pm

Just turn up! Enjoy a **FREE** family fun packed day

Employers from various STEM industries and local businesses will be available to offer careers information and advice.

**Pop-Up
Planetarium**

**Solar
Powered
Car**

**Engaging STEM
Displays**

**Fly
Drones**

**Interactive
Engineering Rigs**

**Science
Shows**



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