



03.02.2023

Issue No: 1071

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

50th Celebration

This year marks Charles Darwin School's 50th birthday and throughout the year we will be doing things to mark such a significant year for the school. One of the highlights will be a celebration on Saturday 8th July from 10.00am – 2.00pm (provisional time) which will take the shape of a traditional summer fete, exhibitions of work and historical artefacts, performances, good food and lots for the community to enjoy.

We are looking for volunteers to support planning and also on the day. If you are interested in helping us with this historic occasion please email the Friends PTA at friends@cdarwin.com.

We are also seeking donations and sponsors for the celebration event as well as activities throughout the year. If you can support us please contact Bea Szlachta at bsz@cdarwin.com.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

My thanks to all families who attended the parents' evening last week. It was great to see so many students and their parents keen to get feedback on how their child is currently progressing and how they can best support their child in the lead up to their up and coming PPE & GCSE exams. We apologise for the cramped layout and this will be resolved for future events by spreading across rooms. The majority of our Year 11 students are now attending weekly revision sessions after school and they are actively tracking their data to hopefully make more progress in their next set of PPEs.

Exam Invigilators

As we move closer to the exam season we are looking for exam invigilators to join our team. No experience is needed as full training will be given. Hours and days can be flexible. We pay £11.00 per hour and you will be supporting us in a very important role.

Please contact Julie Hodgkinson at jho@cdarwin.com if you are interested or require more information. Alternatively please see the details on our website: www.cdarwin.com.

Aston Smith

Reminder – school will close at the earlier time of 2.30pm on Thursday 9th February.

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 paying members only between 3.15-4.30pm and students are then required to leave the premises as quickly as possible; from 4.30-6.00pm only Club bookings are allowed on the 3G, there are no casual bookings of the 3G pitch during term times.

Mr Burtonshaw

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

Exam Invigilators £11.00 per hour

We are looking for suitable persons to join our dedicated pool of Exam Invigilators responsible for the invigilation of public and internal exams and tests. Invigilators will be present throughout the main summer exam season as well as at other times in the school year and may also undertake tasks such as checking registers against scripts and packing them at the end of exams. Applicants should be available from 08.30 for the morning session and/or from 13.00 for the afternoon session. Training will be provided.

Closing date: 10th February 2023

Please note: all applicants must complete the Charles Darwin School application form which is available on our website: www.cdarwin.com (information/job vacancies). CVs alone will not be considered.

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.

School Cleaners (£12.68 per hour)

We are looking to appoint a number of school cleaners to join our committed Site Team. Monday – Friday during term time. Some additional hours may be available during school holidays. Applicants should complete the non-teaching staff application form on our website (www.cdarwin.com) and return this to Julie Hodgkinson, Personnel & Administration Manager by 17th February.

Charles Darwin 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 a DBS Enhanced Disclosure and full background checks.

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.

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

Did you know we have a preloved uniform shop with a variety of nearly new school uniform and PE kits?

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

Please do not ever feel you must pay more than you think an item is worth, and likewise please do not feel you have to pay this amount (or at all) if times are tough – we are here for you.

If you are feeling generous and the item/s are of brand new quality we would never say no to a bit of extra cash for the children. There is NO OBLIGATION to pay the suggested amounts below:

£5 for a blazer
£3 for a logo navy jumper
£3 for trousers or a skirt
£2 White shirts/blouses
£2 for PE shorts
£1 for a Logo polo shirt
£5 for a logo red and black rugby top
50p for sports socks

For other miscellaneous items please use your discretion, all donations are greatly received as always, thank you for your support!



Please place your orders using our QR code or the attached link <https://forms.office.com/r/EYNuVcZpsa> to our order form or alternatively email us with your requirements (size, gender, specific item) to preloveduniform@cdarwin.com.

Payments can be made using PayPal on the QR Code below or Link as follows https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=YLY4A4L7E8E2S preferable but we do accept cash. Any money raised will go to The Friends of Charles Darwin School.



Canteen Updates

Food Hygiene Rating-Very Good

We are very pleased to report that our school canteen was given a food hygiene rating of 5-Very Good, which is the highest possible score, in an unplanned inspection last week. Well done to our catering manager and the kitchen team for their hard work in maintaining these high standards.



Year 7 break time provision

From Monday 6th February, Year 7 will be allowed to start using the outside food pod at break time to buy snacks to take back to the year 7 playground. Their form tutors will be explaining to them how much the break time snacks cost so they can make sensible choices about how to manage their daily budget in order to make sure they have enough money to buy healthy and filling food. If parents could also discuss this at home that would be very helpful. Remember parents can see what their children have been buying by looking at their Parentpay account. Any queries regarding this can be sent to charles.darwin@harrisoncatering.co.uk.

Ms Kelly

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 you 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 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

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 26 January 2023.



7BDe/ZHa	96
8SAr	94.6
9COn	94.4
10ADo/GJo	95.7
11PEI	98.4
12DWa	97.9
13ARo/MMe	100

Year 8 Duty Pupils:

Oliver Negus
Phoebe Vincent
Harry Stanford
Chloe Everett
Alan Ioannou
Chloe Cocker
Nehemiah Mensah
Jack Wilson

**THANK
YOU**

A huge thank you, you all have been super amazing.

Reception Team

Thank you to our duties, they have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable:

Josh Cole
George Hewitt
Tristan Sebry

Student Services Team

DOG HOUSE Channel 4

Is there space on your sofa for a rescue dog?

Do you want help finding your perfect pooch?

We're looking for people who can offer a lifelong home to a rescue dog, and would be happy to share their reasons for doing so. If this sounds like you, then [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](https://www.channel4.com/4viewers/takepart/the-dog-house).



The Dog House

4

**Could you
adopt a dog
like me?**

APPLY NOW
www.channel4.com/4viewers/takepart/the-dog-house

Keep going Ava!

We are so proud of year 7 student Ava Reilly as she takes on the Skipping Challenge for Cancer Research UK, and the huge amount of money she has raised for this wonderful charity in just a few days. Keep going Ava!

Miss Gillespie

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/avas-skipping-challenge-giving-page-10>

The screenshot shows a fundraising page for 'Ava's Skipping Challenge Giving Page'. At the top, it says '100 skips a day in February'. Below this, there's a section titled 'Ava's Skipping Challenge Giving Page'. A progress bar shows 'Total raised £1,360.00' with a note '+ £296.25 Gift Aid'. Below the bar, it says '1360% of the £100.00 target'. There are 'Share' and 'Donate' buttons. To the right, there's a 'Log in' button and a 'My Story' section where Ava introduces herself: 'Hi! I'm Ava and I'm 11 years old. I'm doing 100 skips every day in February to support my mum and everyone else who suffers with cancer. Please join me in the fight to end this horrible disease♥'. Below that, there's a 'CAUSE' section titled 'All Cancer Types' with a brief description of cancer survival rates and a link to 'Help Cancer Research UK improve results even faster'.

Charity run

Congratulations to 11Lbr for successfully completing their charity run.

The form with the support of students and staff raised £336.50 for Ewing Sarcoma.

Special thanks to Mr Brown, Samuel Hards, Harrison Witt-Morris, Javian Le Neveu-Scott, Cameron Edwards-Hann & William Curran.

I want to thank you all for helping us to make a positive difference.

Miss Zysemil



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

Dates for the Diary

February

7th February - Parents MADE Revision Information Evening (time tbc)

8th February - Year 8 Parents' Evening

9th February - Early Finish (14.30)

9th February - Year 10 History Trip to Auschwitz

12th February - Trip: Berlin A level , EKa,

13 –17 February - Half term

28th February - Year 9 Parents' Evening

March

2nd March - NEU Industrial Action

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

15th March - NEU Industrial Action

16th March - NEU Industrial Action

20th March - Year 8 Reward Trip

22nd March - Year 9 Options Evening , 6pm

29th March - Year12/13 Parents' Evening

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

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

INSET Days - School closed to pupils

Friday 27th January 2023

Tuesday 4th July 2023

Notes: Good Friday 7th April 2023
Easter Monday 10th April 2023

CDS INSET days:

Monday 31st October 2022

Friday 27th January 2023

Tuesday 4th July 2023

+ 2 inset days as twilights

Safer Internet Day 2023

Digital Wellbeing: Safer Internet Day 2023 Tuesday 7th February 2023

The theme of this year's Safer Internet Day is "Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online." Engaging students in conversations about the online world is vital. By giving children the confidence and language to discuss their behaviours and habits online, we can better help them understand how to safely navigate different platforms.

We have been focussing in our Key Stage 3 classes (years 7-9) this week and next week to encourage our students to have an open discussion about the online world in our Computer Science lessons. We would like to invite you to continue having these conversations at home with your child. Most parents frequently chat with their child about how things are going at school or what's happening in their friendship groups – but those discussions often don't extend to youngsters' online activities. In fact, National Online Safety conducted a recent survey which found that only slightly more than half (54%) of parents regularly talk to their children about staying safe online.

It can be an awkward topic to broach and, of course, it needs not to feel intrusive. However, just checking in with your child about their digital life can get them thinking about online safety and alert you to any issues they might be having. In support of Safer Internet Day 2023, the attached digital guide has some useful tips on potential ways to start those conversations.

In the guide you'll find a number of useful tips such as being as honest as possible, discussing how misleading the online world can be and creating a 'family agreement'.

Please see attached separately - Digital Lives Guide

Ms Elliott



Children's Mental Week In February

Please see attached an advert for students that attend a Bromley school or that live in Bromley an opportunity to attend on **Thursday 16 February (first 20 get food for free)** a Mental Health Munch at a Caribbean restaurant in Bromley.



MENTAL HEALTH MUNCH

£5 meal voucher for the first 20 attendees**

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 14 - 18 YEARS
ID MAY BE REQUESTED
(Bromley students and residents only)

COME AND JOIN US, EAT AND CHAT WITH SPORTS WELLBEING AMBASSADORS !

TRY SOME AUTHENTIC JAMACIAN FOOD

THURSDAY 16TH FEB 2023 1:30-3:30 PM

TO REGISTER CLICK HERE OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

SCAN ME

BROMLEY Y
Leading Young People's

**Meal vouchers are valid for the date and time of the event only. Excludes drinks. Pictures for illustrative purposes only.



Charles Darwin School PTA Monthly Draw

Enter for £1 per month.

Just fill in our online form to take part:

<https://forms.gle/XCHSgkZhyadTGspc7>

Scan here:



**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

Wrestling

To book the tickets please click on the link bellow:

<http://www.kapowwrestling.co.uk/event/live-wrestling-in-biggin-hill/>



KAPOW & SWF
PRESENT

WRESTLING

KIDS FOR £5
WITH PAYING ADULT - LIMITED OFFER
FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

BIGGIN HILL

CHARLES DARWIN ACADEMY - TN16 3AU
DOORS OPEN: 6.30PM | SHOW START: 7PM

TICKETS - FRONT ROW WITH MEET & GREET £16 | GENERAL £14 | CONCESSION £12 IF FAMILY OF 4 £48
FOR TICKETS SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [KAPOWWRESTLING.CO.UK](http://www.kapowwrestling.co.uk)

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA | CARD SUBJECT TO CHANGE | DASHING DESIGNS 2023

QR CODE

KAPOW! WRESTLING SWF