



21/11/2019

# Sixth Form Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## Welcome from 'Head of Sixth Form'

Congratulations to all of our current Year 12 students for their GCSE exam results. The year group have made a great start to life in the 6th Form, including taking on additional community service roles around the school, and we feel very positive and excited about their two years with us. It's particularly nice this year to have a larger group of external students and we warmly welcome them to our community. It is such a privilege for the staff who work closely with the Sixth Form to watch and guide our Sixth Formers towards their next steps.

Indeed many members of Year 13 are currently applying for their university choices via UCAS. The process is rather involved and requires students to write a 4000 character personal statement, matched by an academic reference of the same length provided by teaching staff. In order to narrow down their choices to just the required five, many students and families have spent a lot of time visiting locations all over the UK from St Andrews in Scotland to Exeter in the South West. Equally those who do not wish to pursue a degree course via university are beginning to look at apprenticeships and other avenues including the world of work. One member of the year group is likely to join the Fire Service and another the Royal Navy.

We are conscious that the term is almost behind us and that there have been many exciting events for individuals already including competing at national levels in sporting events and attending international conventions to name but a few. Opportunities coming up for our students include nominations for the Bromley Rotary Awards, the school production of Legally Blonde, acceptance of applications for our next Zanzibar visit and the forthcoming trip to China in February.

We are immensely proud of our students, the opportunities that they have in school and their largely extremely positive involvement in the local and wider community. Whilst academic success is of course ultimately very important we also want our students at Darwin to be well rounded, '3D' individuals ready and prepared for the outside world!

**Mrs Kearney**  
Head of Sixth Form

## Applications for entry to Sixth Form for 2020

**Applications with references  
attached will be accepted from  
Friday 22 November 2019.  
The closing date for  
applications is  
Friday 13 December 2019.**

## Recent graduates

**Congratulations** to Daniella Smith who graduated from the University of Southampton with a Degree of Bachelor of Arts with First class Honours in English and History.

**Congratulations** to Grace Beegan who graduated from the University of Leeds with a First Class Honours Degree in Diagnostic Radiography.

**Congratulations** to Beth Porter who graduated from Chichester University with a 2:1 in Physical Education in the Secondary Years. In September she started teacher training with PGCE to become a teacher.

**Congratulations** to Ellie Griffin who graduated from Canterbury Christchurch University with a 2:1 in Dance Education.

We wish them all well in their future careers.

**The Sixth Form Team**



## Welcome to Head & Deputy Head Prefects

Congratulations to our new Head Prefect Charlotte Brewster and Deputy Head Prefects Ben Reilly and Shanice Moore.

We look forward to working with them and the Senior Prefect team this year who have already been busy supporting functions such as Presentation Evening, Sixth Form Open Evening and Buddies Club.

Watch out for details of forthcoming charity events.

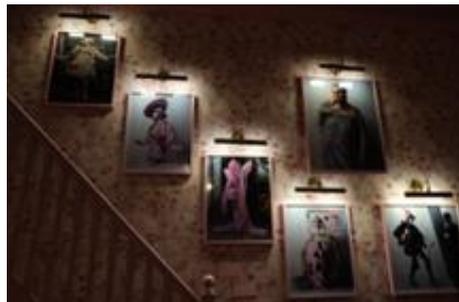
## TIM WALKER WONDERFUL THINGS

On the 21st of September it was the opening day for a renowned British Fashion Photographer known as Tim Walker. I was fortunate enough to acquire tickets to see the gallery and with my tickets in hand I booked a day off school with permission granted from Mrs Kearney.

Tim Walker is an idol of mine and I have always loved his work from a young age, being captivated by his elaborate imagery and unique style and even basing some of my Sixth Form work in Photography on him.



The first thing I saw when I walked into the gallery was a show of all his previous work from books such as "Storyteller" and even quotes from Tim personally. The room was a bright pearly white with large plastic sculptures running off the ceiling like wet paint. From this room it took me to the main exhibit, Wonderful Things. Wonderful Things is an exercise in bright colours and elaborate props, all of which were



hanging from the ceiling. Walker also displayed some of the negatives on show and in my opinion the negative looks far superior to the original image as well as captures Walker as a creative mind.

The whole experience was important to me as I one day hope to be a renowned photographer like Tim Walker and just from going to exhibits like this allowed me to grasp a new creative outlook towards my work.

Alex Alliston

## Charity fundraising

The Sixth Form has chosen to support Mind, Teenage Cancer Trust, and Age UK as our selected charities. These are all charities which we believe to have incredible devotion to their cause and each of them have worked tirelessly to raise awareness and



support. Mind is a charity that works to provide support and advice to those suffering from mental health problems. Age UK is a charity dedicated to helping improve the quality of life for the elderly, and Teenage Cancer Trust are the only UK charity who provide young cancer patients with the support and specialised nursing care they need. The Sixth Form charity committee therefore aim to raise as much awareness as possible, and the funds needed to support the incredible work these charities do. We have various events planned throughout the year and so far we have held two sweet sales, and have many greater things to come.

Ella Shaw

### Sixth Form as an External Student

I understand that transferring to a new school can be very daunting. Everyone knows everyone else, they know the layout of the school, they also know the teachers and the teachers know them. So being worried is not unusual but to be expected. My transition to Charles Darwin was smoother than I could have imagined it to have been.

The staff and pupils are very helpful and understanding. I've been here for two months now and I feel 'part of the furniture'. My studies at Darwin are going well and I'm enjoying the subjects that I have chosen. I can confidently say that I am glad to be a part of the Sixth Form here.

Nicola Damms

### The Extended Project Qualification

allows students to study anything that interests them as long as it produces a well-researched, academic mini dissertation/case study as a response. Currently 21 pupils in Year 13 are completing EPQs with wide-ranging topics including:

How doodling helps concentration; Do we need to commission new aircraft carriers for the armed forces?; Was Tony Blair guilty of War Crimes - the Chilcot Report?; How far does exercise have an affect on depression?; How do three separate authors treat the writing of a 'red room'?; Is the growth of Alzheimer's disease the major health concern of the future?; The colonisation of the solar system; Genocide in Bosnia and An investigation into the social effects of HIV on an individual's life.

## Zanzibar Trip 2019

Charles Darwin School has a successful partnership with a school in Zanzibar, Tanzania called Kijito Upele. We have been visiting the school since 2016 and working with them for the development of our students, and to provide more opportunities and resources for their students. The school has two halves, each attending for either the early day or the late day and each containing 3000 students in classes of 100-150 students. Classrooms are simple and don't have tables or chairs, and resources are scarce due to the open and unsecured nature of the site.

In July 2019, 12 students had the opportunity to explore Zanzibar and, with the support of Miss Candy, Miss Sales and Mr T Jones, were involved in the teaching of science, English, maths, ICT and geography, coaching sports, or building a perimeter wall for the school. The trip was definitely a case of work hard, play hard, as students prepared lessons well into the evening, and got up early to start a full teaching day in the blistering heat. This year we were really impressed with how the resources and work we did last year had been cared for and protected. Renovated classrooms had window grids and doors; other classrooms had new roofs, and staff were actively using the teaching resources we took to help their classes.



During our down time we visited beaches, had a tour of Stone town and a spice farm, went to a night market to enjoy street food, and enjoyed games each evening at the youth hostel. After our week of teaching, we headed out to an eco-lodge on the coast for some much needed R & R before we returned home.

The students who attended in 2019 were required to attend planning and admin sessions; learning about food, appropriate dress, some basic Swahili and Zanzibari history and culture; though nothing could really prepare us for the realities of the spice island. It continues to be the most fascinating and beautiful place, each time we return.

As a trip, Zanzibar 2019 was exciting, challenging, hard work, hot, life-changing, amazing, incredible and fulfilling. "I learnt that there are alternative ways of teaching, that some people you'll never win over and the fact that we, as a country, are very privileged. Also, we as a school are very privileged, the amount our teachers do to help us achieve grades and have a healthy and happy school environment is admirable" says student, Olivia Manning. We are really excited to be able to continue to offer this trip to Charles Darwin Students as we continue to build on our relationship with Kijito Upele and plan our return in 2021.

**Ms Candy**

### Life after Charles Darwin

Hi! I'm Kelly Allum, an ex Head Girl of Charles Darwin School. I've always had a passion for film and television drama and with Mr Archer's expertise during 6th form, I was soon on the road to fulfilling my ambition of working in the film industry. After leaving 6th Form in 2010, I attended Ravensbourne College of Art and Design where I graduated 3 years later with a Degree in Editing and Post-Production. Networking has played a huge part in my success. I have been very fortunate to move from one project to another enabling me to gain an immense amount of experience on a variety of projects. I have worked with incredible directors, producers, editors and of course actors.

Projects which I have worked on include Rogue One - A Star Wars Story, Grimsby, Wild Rose, Angel Has Fallen and Woman in Black 2, as well as BBC productions War and Peace and Gunpowder. Recently I walked the red carpet at Leicester Square in London and attended my first premiere for a film that I have recently finished working on. It's called The Aeronauts, starring Oscar Winner, Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones.

I hope you enjoy the film - it's in cinemas near you now!



### Key dates for 2019-20

#### November 2019

**21 November** - Sixth Form Open Evening

**27 November** - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening

#### December 2019

**04 December** - Christmas Concert at St Mark's Church

**05 December** - Year 13 Drama practical exam

**13 December** - Physics in Action Lectures

**13 December** - Christmas Jumper Day

**16 - 18 December** - Performances of the School Production

**19 December** - End of Term

#### January 2020

**13 January** - Sixth Form Finance Exam

#### February 2020

**10 February** - Dance Competition Final

**14 February** - End of Half - Term

**15 February** - Sixth Form German trip to Berlin departs

**24 - 28 February** - Year 12 Mock Exams

### Pupils for Praise

**Congratulations** to the following Sixth Formers for securing roles in the forthcoming school production of *Legally Blonde*:

**Lillie Squires:** Elle Woods

**Beth Taylor:** Pilar

**Jasmine Stephenson:** Niko and Elle's mum

**Lauren Kenton:** Pforzheimer and ensemble

**Hanna Blunt:** Brooke

**Heather Hannaford:** Paulette

**Jemma Dawkins:** Enid

**Sophie Witt:** Ensemble

The play will be performed from Monday 16 to Wednesday 18 December.

**Miss Currie**

### Reward Scheme

The sticker reward system for 6<sup>th</sup> Formers has got off to a flying start again this year. Competition is fierce for the Bronze, Silver and Gold badges and certificates. Prizes are also attached to the awards which include memory sticks, Amazon vouchers and a chocolate hamper each for the best boy and girl in Year 12.



The count of stickers is carried forward from Year 12 into 13 improving the chance to progress through the awards. The 2 pupils in Year 12 (so current Year 13) winning the hampers from last year were Lyle Endo and Kayleigh Sharp. Kayleigh has kindly donated her winnings of the chocolate hamper to raise money for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

**The Sixth Form team**

### Where are they now?



**Congratulations** to Grace Beegan who left Charles Darwin School in 2015 to study Diagnostic Radiography at the University of Leeds. She has recently graduated with a First Class Honours Degree and was lucky enough to complete her final hospital placement in the Philippines where she learnt about the medical care and culture of the country. Grace is now a Senior Radiographer at Croydon University Hospital.

**Congratulations** to Jordan Muir who Studied Business Studies and Travel & Tourism. He left Charles Darwin in 2014 and is now working at Beckenham Fire Station on the Blue Watch.

We wish them all the best in their future careers.

**The Sixth Form Team**

