



13.05.2020

Year 9 Newsletter

# Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## Key message this week - Communication is key

Dear Year 9 Students and Families,

Welcome to our latest Year 9 Newsletter. I am so proud to hear of many of the fantastic pieces of work that are being completed and sent back to teachers. Please remember that we are all here for you to contact – how to do this via email was in our previous Newsletter. We would rather hear from you, to ask questions, to let us know you do not understand than not at all. There are a few of you who I know will be working hard however teachers have said they haven't heard from you or received any work set - this surprises me. It is all about keeping in contact with one another. There is no excuse for not getting in contact regarding your work and the longer we are not in school the more important this becomes.

The effort you put into your work is the most important thing. Effort is a vigorous or determined attempt at work that is being set. You cannot do this if you do not understand what is expected of you. This is why I continue to stress the importance of communication between yourselves and teachers. You can only try your best and this is all we ask for.

It seems such a long time since we were all together in school, attending lessons, enjoying assemblies and mixing with our friends. I feel we can see light at the end of the tunnel now, although getting 'back to normal' will take a long time yet. I know I have mentioned on countless times that we are all in different circumstances and that the impact on some has been far greater than the impact on others; it is important that we remember this. Let us hope that when this crisis is over, this appreciation for the essential work that others do is continued.

This is a very strange situation for us all however, I am sure you are getting used to staying in and staying safe. It is important that we all remain alert and follow the social distances rules not just for ourselves but also for our loved ones and family. If you have a concern regarding your mental health or that of another student please email me: [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com) or Mrs Haywood: [jha@cdarwin.com](mailto:jha@cdarwin.com).

I hope to see you all soon,

**Ms Dobney**



The following students have got birthdays coming up this week. I want to wish you Happy Birthday and I hope you have the best day you possible can do in this situation. Although it may feel frustrating that your birthday has been during the lockdown - you will go down in history as an individual who had a birthday during this time... and remember we can always celebrate after the lockdown.

Harry Franklin, Jack Pow, Billy Stubley, Mollie Featherstone, Ryan Metson and Tom Hill.

## CLAP for Carers

I am sure most of you have got involved in the weekly clap for all our hard working carers - if not start this Thursday – stand outside of your house and make some noise for the hardworking people that are looking after and saving hundreds of people. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to any parents of children at Charles Darwin School who are still having to travel for work at this difficult time, key workers and any carers among us. THANK YOU from Charles Darwin School.

## Want to include anything in the Newsletter? This includes parents...

I want this communication to be a regular event, during the school term, so if any of you have anything to include (good films you have seen recently on Netflix? Good news about yourself or other pupils in Year 9, have learnt a new skill which would be good to promote to others e.g. cooking - any recipes the rest of us can try?) please do let me have this so I can include it in this Newsletter:

[ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com)

If you have a concern regarding your mental health or that of another student please email  
Ms Dobney: [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com) or Mrs Haywood: [jha@cdarwin.com](mailto:jha@cdarwin.com)

## The power of Communication

I have mentioned previously how important it is for you to communicate with your teachers (email addresses available on website - see previous newsletter). Please also take on board a little bit of advice below. Some teachers have commented that they have received emails sometimes which are not addressed or signed off appropriately.

When you finish School, College and maybe University you will begin life at work - when working, emailing colleagues normally becomes a big part of any profession. When emailing make sure you get into the habit of writing your full name at the bottom of the message so they know who the work is from. Email is not the same as a text message and the message doesn't have to be long but you should use formal language and start with Dear Mr X/Ms Y. This will also get you into practise for the future.

## Curious Learners

Do you want a challenge? As well as completing your school work for those that want an additional challenge – please see attached to this Newsletter our 'Critical Thinking' resource pack. This has been put together for all students but particularly for students who are predicted high grades at GCSE and that are curious learners. Learners who want to challenge and push themselves beyond the norm. The resources have a general audience of students who are ambitious and have curious minds, students who would be thinking about going on to sixth form and beyond, but is open to all students regardless of their future learning pathway. There is a rationale of why this way of thinking is important to learning and 10 free resources to explore. Students do not have to submit work but may choose to share/discuss with subject teachers.

Please do take a look and have a go at the various challenges.

## Free School Meals

If you are entitled to free school meals, just after the Easter break you should have received a voucher via your email that will entitle you to approximately £15 per week for food. There will be a code that you will have to scan. Hopefully it is quite straight forward and easy to navigate. If you have not done so already please contact our Finance Team as they may be able to back pay lunches for the two weeks we were closed for the Easter break [wev@cdarwin.com](mailto:wev@cdarwin.com)

## Bucket List

What do you want to do when the pandemic is over? What are you most looking forward to doing again when our lives return to normality - let me know on [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com).



## SMHW

Our records show that 85% of Year 9 students have logged onto SMHW in the last day – are you the few that haven't? if that's the case think about the impact this may have on your GCSE's. If you do not know your log in details please email myself or Mrs Haywood.

## Need some extra support?

Please see attached to this newsletter a set of useful contacts if you or your family need any extra support.



In some of your subjects staff are asking you to use the GCSEpod. This is a very powerful tool to support the work you are doing and to consolidate what has been covered. All of you received a letter about this, but just to remind you.... Parents can visit [www.gcsepod.com/parents](http://www.gcsepod.com/parents) where you'll find lots more information and resources. To activate the account follow the instructions below (most of you have activated this already).

1. Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) and click "Login" in the top right-hand corner
2. Click "New here? Get started."
3. Select "Student"
4. Enter your child's name, date of birth and the school name.
5. Create a username, password, and a password hint to help them remember the password.

The majority of you have already signed in and are working on this. If you have logged in but now forgotten your password you can request a password update, but only if you submitted a valid email when you initially logged in. Any problems please let me know.

**Notice from Staff and Tutors****Dear 9PDg/STi,**

Hi everyone, I hope you are all keeping well, managing to stay sane in the lockdown and have even managed to complete some of your work. Working from home has been nice, but does have its challenges. I'm balancing helping my 9 and 11 year olds with their work, whilst keeping on top of setting work and responding to my students. My wife is also working from home so it can be tricky to find the space and quiet you need to get on - hopefully you are all managing as best you can.

So far I have been spared the trauma of this illness in my immediate friends and family - my thoughts are with any of you who have been tragically affected. My sister is an NHS nurse working on a Covid ward in Birmingham so I hear first hand the true nature of this beast of a disease.

But we must try and be positive in these times. Two positives for me have involved getting out more (yes, I know, I always really needed to!). I have been out for a run every other day, something I rarely find the time for so I feel much better/fitter for that. Also, as a family we have been exploring our local footpaths at least once a week - we've lived here for 10 years but have found some amazing spots we didn't know existed - though we are lucky that we can walk to the countryside from our house and the weather has been amazing.

Bye for now, stay safe, look after others, and I look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible.

If you need any help with anything please get in contact [sti@cdarwin.com](mailto:sti@cdarwin.com)

Best wishes,

**Mr Tilley**

**Dear 9LWr/9CDu**

We hope you are all keeping well and managing to get up at a reasonable time and complete your school work to the best of your abilities. Remember if you have any problems or concerns please do email me: [lwr@cdarwin.com](mailto:lwr@cdarwin.com) or Ms Dunmore: [cdu@cdarwin.com](mailto:cdu@cdarwin.com)

We are here if you need us. Keep safe and be kind.

**Mrs Wray and Mrs Dunmore**

**Message from Ms Wood- Languages**

Why not watch a German TV show? It is both a fun and efficient way of improving and maintaining your German! Watching popular German TV shows online is an excellent way to gain cultural fluency while honing vocabulary and listening skills. Luckily for language learners (get your older siblings/parents involved too!), Channel 4 online has a whole section dedicated to foreign dramas/TV shows called 'Walter Presents'. You can browse through this to find programmes from various European countries, not only do I watch shows in French and German, but I do also love a good Scandinavian drama! Of course there are English subtitles too. I have got many of my friends and family into watching foreign shows, there is so much out there to discover!

Netflix and Amazon Prime are also quickly adding German TV series to their online catalogues, so have a browse through these too. Be sure to make sure the audio is in German so you can practice your listening skills and widen your vocabulary, and also it is never as good watching a show/film dubbed (not in its original language). You can click on the speech bubble in the top-right corner when the show is playing to change the language and you can have the English subtitles on too to help. Of course, do always check the age-rating of the programme first and also with your parents that it is okay for you to watch.

My personal favourite is the popular German series: Deutschland 83 (there has been a follow up series: Deutschland 86 and Deutschland 89 is set to air this year). It's a compelling thriller set in Germany in 1983, at the height of the Cold War. It's a fast-paced and irresistible cocktail of action movie, political drama and spy story.

Whatever your interests or German knowledge, have a browse through Channel 4 'Walter Presents', Netflix and Amazon Prime and I am sure you will find a German TV show that will take your fancy... and you're technically improving your German at the same time... win win!

As the talented director of the recent Oscar-winning film 'Parasite' Bong Joon-Ho said: "Once you overcome the one-inch tall barrier of subtitles, you will be introduced to so many more amazing films. I think we use only one language: the Cinema".

**Message from Textiles and Art**

I have had some beautiful pieces of work handed in for Art and Textiles, some of which you can see on page 8 however, there are still a large number of you who have not submitted any work yet. I would really love to see what you have been up to! Please upload onto SMH, Teams or email me your work.

**Miss Doughty**

**Busy Bee's**

Please let me know via email (ndo@cdarwin.com) what you have been doing to keep busy (apart from school work of course).

**Message from Mr Desai**

A message to all from me (Mr Desai) and my 81 year old mum, Masterchef as she has been teaching me to cook Indian whilst I have been looking after her, for all your lovely pupils and their families.

Peace. Good Health and Happiness to all. Take care.

**Ms Playle** - This week I discovered a new running route really close to where I live. It is about 10km long but it follows the river Thames all the way up to Greenwich and the Cutty Sark. I had a beautiful run all the way up to Lewisham about (6km of the route) so I really look forward to attempting my first half marathon when I run to Greenwich and back! How exciting to find something so wonderful right on my doorstep!

Well done Ms Playle, exercise during this time is so important for us all.

**VE Day Celebrations – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

I hope you were all aware that on Friday (8<sup>th</sup> May) we had a National Bank Holiday to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe. This day is celebrated to mark the day on which allied forces formally announced the surrender of Germany, which brought the Second World War to a close in Europe. It was a day for us all to be grateful to people who lost their lives in this war and that fought so we could live our lives today. I raised my cup of tea and did 2 minutes silence at 11:00AM to mark my respects.

Ms Candy had the right idea, she and her household had a VE day afternoon tea on their drive/front garden, socially distanced from their neighbours who all did the same. They had a lovely afternoon of 40's music, people in 40's dress and glorious sunshine. Thank you to Ms Candy who has shared this with us, what a lovely thing to do in memory and thanks to all those involved in the victory of Europe.

**Food Bank**

As you may have seen in Mr Chotai's letter sent home, we are collecting food to distribute to families who are vulnerable at this time. Thank you to all for the wonderful donations people have already made, please continue to bring items in as we will be distributing them on a weekly basis. So many families have been affected due to the economic implications of Covid-19 lockdown that this support is really appreciated by families who need it.

If you and your family are in a vulnerable position at the moment please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Haywood to have access to this Food Bank. It makes no sense for families to go hungry when there is food here at school waiting to be distributed!

I know that many of you and your parents have already been supporting your communities offering donations and volunteering your time to help support causes like these.



## Well Done from Staff and Tutors

### Mr Damoo

**Ben Witt** for showing an ongoing dedication, **Faye Grant** for displaying a positive growth mindset and a strong determination to succeed and **Benjamin Hughes** for showing self-discipline and consistency.

### Ms Mote

**Ryan Metson** for determination and dedication to his English work. **Emily Golby** for the amount of effort she is putting into her work. She is working incredibly hard and creating some very detailed and thorough work for me. Well done to you both. I am very impressed (again).

### Mr Dowlen

**Chloe Brett, Hannah Kenton, Aidan Williams** and **Lacey Morris**. Well done to those four for their Music work.

### Ms Abbotts

**Eleanor Benke, Amy Coop, Keira Dukes, Olivia Howe** and **Lola O'Sullivan** have been engaging regularly with the Dance work set and are making good progress with beginning their own choreography and have made motifs and sent video evidence to me which will put them in good stead for when they begin creating it! Well done, keep it up.

### Mr Dunn

I would like to mention **Reggie Fay** who has completed his Product Design GCSE. Outstanding work – completing virtually all work set to a high standard, closely followed by **Louie Hora** who is completing a lot of the work set. Well done both of you, keep up the hard work.

### Ms Wood

A few names for praise for sending me good German work. A special mention to **Maddie Broadley** for sending me an impressive piece of German writing. Also praise this week for **Grace Keohane, Mitchell Tappenden, Evie Williams, Josh Rea** and **Megan Walker**. Well done to all of you, keep up the hard work.

### Ms Candy

My two best students so far have been **Zayne Leacock** and **Rosie Middleton** (9Q/Sc5). They have both submitted lots of excellent quality work and are working really hard to keep on top of it. I am really proud of them!

### Ms Davies

**Harvey Bushby-Knight, Daisy Stevens, Tristan Kittoe, Keziah Adebisi, Aidan Williams, Niamh Kelly** and **Lemar McKoy** have kept to all deadlines as well as making a fantastic start on their Whitechapel unit of study. It is so lovely to see such dedicated students in this GCSE class. A massive well done.

### Ms Playle

Superstar worker **Megan Walker** for an outstanding commitment to the learning of An Inspector Calls. Megan has taken it upon herself to do some further studying around the play and I am incredibly proud of her commitment to the tasks. Well done Megan! Also names for praise are **Jack Lazarus, Keira Gardiner** and **Amy Strange** for sending me some work and keeping me updated on their progress!

### Mr Tilley

I'd like to mention the following from **9Q1** who have been particularly good in Biology - **Andrew Waddington, Adela Slegrova, Grace Keohane** and **Tristan Kittoe**. Please mention **Megan Walker** who has been really good. I've also had work from **Brandon Ratnage, Honor Welsh, Emily Golby** and **Dylan Shotton**. **Lewis Pridham** has been in touch to ask about the work set- well done for communicating.

### Ms Pitt

From **9y4** - **Ciara Bain, Alfie Dejonge, Alfie Farmer, Ben Griffiths, Ben Hughes, Tahira Kibuye, Sean McCarthy, Lola O'Sullivan, Jack Pow, Lewis Pridham, Katherine Quartey-Papafio, Tilly Silver** and **Lily Smithson** who have all sent An Inspector Calls work. Well done.

From **9x1** - **Sophie Alfarra, Harrison Burch, Amy Coop, Keira Dukes, Luke Fosten, Isaac Holden, Ruby Holmes, Olivia Howe, Niamh Kelly, Tristan Kittoe, Ben Reeves, Harley Smith, Gracie Varney, Andrew Waddington** and **Liam Wescott** for some excellent descriptive writing. Well done.

### Mr Yerassimou

Congratulations to **9Q1 Maths** for their hard work. Special mention to **Keira Dukes, Luke Bevan, Liam Wescott, Georgina Walker, Andrew Waddington, Evie Williams, Daisy Stevens, Adela Slegrova** and **Olivia Howe**.

**Mrs Holloway**

These students have either emailed me quality work or completed tasks on GCSEPod recently (all from 9xEn1). I am impressed with their effort and work (which will really help them during their English Literature GCSE). **Sophie Alferra, Sophie Brenton, Harry Burch, Amy Coop, Elizabeth Davis, Nyasha Dombojena, Keira Dukes, Polly Elliott, Jack Elston, Luke Fosten, Faye Grant, Isaac Holden, Ruby Holmes, Olivia Howe, Niamh Kelly, Tristan Kittoe, Kai Muller, Ben Reeves, Piper Roseman, Harley Smith, Paige Taylor, Gracie Varnie, Andrew Waddington and Liam Westcott.**

**Ms Kelly**

**Latifa Lutaya** and **Zayne Leacock** for good work completion and communication in RE. Well done, keep up the hard work.

**Mr Desai**

Star Maths Pupils from **9P2** are **Ben Griffiths, Amelia Moore, Shaquille Owusu-Junior, Liam Pitt** and **Tilly Silver**. Well done and keep being Math stars.

**Mr Lamb**

**Jack Elston** has done really well, after a slow start, to work hard at catching up with the work and ensuring a happy Mr Lamb receives the completed work. Well done Jack.

**Jacob Helps** and **Eve Cavanagh-Wood** have been doing really well to stay up to date with their work and to produce work of good standard. Mr Lamb is really pleased with their endeavours.

**Dylan Shotton** has been trying really hard to ensure that he gets his work to Mr Lamb. It has not been easy for Dylan to access all the work and yet he has persevered and done really well.

**Kiera Dukes, Olivia Howe, Macey Jones, Zayne Leacock, Brandon Ratnage, Hanna Warner** and **Evie Williams** - all these pupils have tried so hard to stay fully up to date with all their History work. They have met every deadline and consistently shown their commitment towards their History. Mr Lamb is delighted with their effort.

**Ms Roberts**

**Keira Flynn, Alfie Humphries** and **Liam Pitt** who have starting ploughing through the GCSEpods for An Inspector Calls - they're catching up with Matthew Gurney, though he is still the front runner! New pods and questioned published again this Monday. Also well done to **Matthew Gurney** and **Liam Pitt** who have sent me some great An Inspector Calls part b essays.

**Dr Piercy**

**Jack Cox, Jack Lazarus, Lola O'Sullivan, Keeley Danneau, Louis Crowhurst-Rance, Harry Franklin** and **Alfie DeJonge** all did really well in the latest HW quiz set - well done. In particular **Jack Cox, Lola O'Sullivan, Louis Crowhurst-Rance** and **Alfie DeJonge** all got better than 60% so I owe them a sweet each when we get back.

**Mr Goss**

**George Walker, Reggie Fay** and **Ben Foreman** for completing and sending some fantastic work. **Rosie Middleton** and **Liam Westcott** both clearly working hard and producing work of a good quality.

**Ms Currie**

**Millie Beswick** deserves a big shout out this week. She has come up with a fantastic idea for a Theatre in Education piece, where she has modernised Cinderella to engage a young audience, whilst communicating a serious message on being careful on social media.

**CONTACT US**

Please remember that myself and Mrs Haywood are here if you need help with work, everyday issues or mental health or just to say a general hello, we miss you popping into our office for a catch up. Our email addresses are:

Ms Dobney- [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com)

Mrs Haywood – [Jha@cdarwin.com](mailto:Jha@cdarwin.com)



As well as our school counselling service, please see access to a free online service available to students.



## Cooking Corner

It is good to try different foods from around the world – my thanks to Mr Desai and Mr Yerassimou for providing the recipes below.

### Mr Desai's Dry Potato Curry

Bombay Aloo in restaurants (which may be in a sauce)

#### Ingredients

- \* Potatoes - 2/3 medium size potatoes - Cut into small pieces size of your thumb nail
- \* Cooking Oil - 3 tablespoon
- \* Mustard seeds - 1 teaspoon
- \* Coriander - A small handful chopped
- \* 1/2 cup of water

#### These are your Spices

- \* Salt - 2 teaspoons
- \* Turmeric - 1 tablespoon
- \* Red Chilli Powder - 2 teaspoons, more if you want it spicy
- \* Curry Powder - 1 teaspoon
- \* Sugar- 1 teaspoon

#### Method

Put a Non stick pan on cooker, medium heat

Put in oil, wait for it to warm up a little bit

Put in mustard seeds, they will soon make a popping noise

IMMEDIATELY when the popping noise stops put your potatoes in pan, no water at this stage

Put your SPICES in pan

Stir it all

Put in your water

Taste a small bit and if you want to add anymore more spices to it then do so, but be careful not to put too much salt in it as it will ruin your dish

Put in your chopped Coriander

Turn down the heat and leave the pan on the cooker

Keep checking them until potatoes are soft

The beauty of this dish is you can enjoy it in many ways. In a tortilla as a wrap with salad filling, in a pitta bread with salad, make a sandwich, make it a toasted sandwich if you wish. Have it as a side dish with chicken/lamb or fish curry and rice or have it the traditional way with chapatti's, rice, dal, yogurt or raita

If you need a recipe for a Chicken Curry then please let your HOY know and I will happily speak to our Masterchef (my mum).

### Mr Yerassimou's simple Greek recipe for Bean Salad (Serves 2)

#### Ingredients

- \* 3 Large potatoes , washed and peeled
- \* 1 tin of cannellini beans drained and rinsed
- \* 3 Tomatoes
- \* Half a cucumber
- \* One small lettuce

#### Method

Chop the potatoes into chunks and put in a pan of cold, salted water

Bring to the boil and boil for 10 minutes

While the potatoes are boiling prepare the green salad

After 10 minutes of boiling add the rinsed cannellini beans into the potatoes and bring back to the boil

Simmer for 3 minutes then drain

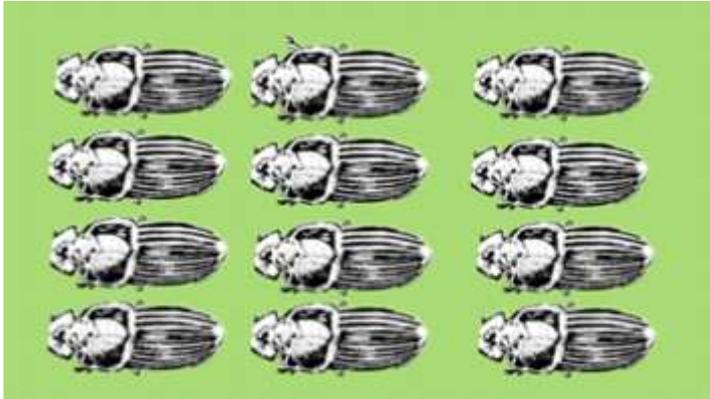
Add to the Salad and add olive oil, salt and lemon juice to taste

Serve with crusty bread

**Year 9 Art Gallery**

Please see below some of the fantastic work produced by Year 9 Art and Textiles students while they have been in lockdown. I am very proud to see your achievements. Ms Doughty has picked out some of the best bits for our Art Gallery.

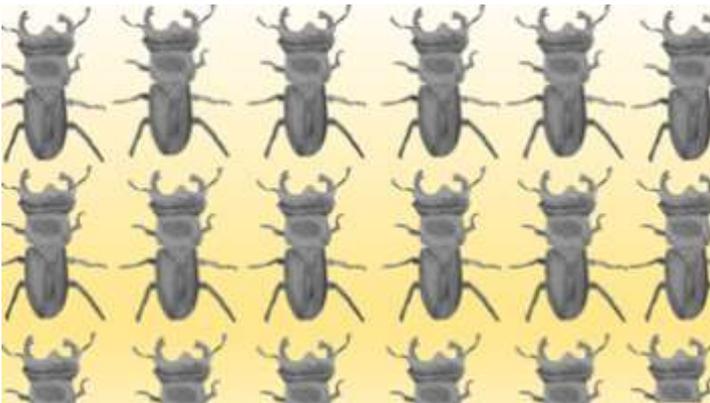
I can only wish I was as talented as you ....



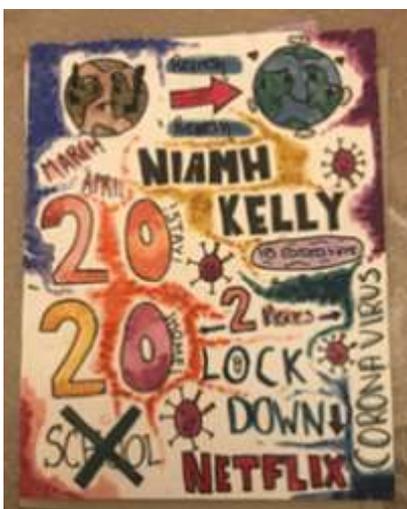
**Emily Golby – Textiles**



**Grace Keohane - Art**



**Eleanor Benke – Textiles**



**Niamh Kelly – Art**



**Emily Browning – Art**

Madeline Broadley has produced some stunning journal pages for her Art GCSE, keep up the great work!



Keira Gardiner has gone above and beyond creating a series of three beautiful tie dye tee shirts, I'm looking forward to her putting these skills into her Textiles work when we return to school.



### Brain Teasers- this week we have challenges from both the English and Math department

**English Literature – Can you fill in the missing words? The clue is that they are words and phrases that are great to ANALYSE!**

- 1) Birling: as if we were all mixed up together like \_\_\_\_\_ – community and all that nonsense.
- 2) Inspector: (*sharply*) Your daughter isn't living \_\_\_\_\_ She's here in Brumley too.
- 3) Mrs Birling: I'm sorry she came to such a horrible end. But I accept \_\_\_\_\_ at all.
- 4) Eric: (*almost threatening her*) You don't understand anything. You \_\_\_\_\_. You never even tried – you -
- 5) Inspector (*rather savagely, to Birling.*) You started it. She wanted twenty-five shillings a week instead of twenty-two and sixpence. You made her \_\_\_\_\_ for that.
- 6) Inspector: But just remember this. One Eva Smith has gone – but there are millions and millions and millions of Eva Smiths and \_\_\_\_\_ still left with us,
- 7) Inspector: We don't live alone. We are members \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) Inspector: And I tell you that the time will soon come when, if men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Sheila: (*tensely*) I want to \_\_\_\_\_ of this. It frightens me the way you talk.
- 10) Birling: (*pointing to Eric and Sheila*) Now look at the pair of them – the \_\_\_\_\_ younger generation who know it all. And they can't even take a joke.

## Math- Countdown Challenge

Using  $\times$  / + - only , and using each number only once, can you make a total of 521 from 100,10,5,4,3,1

### Last weeks answers



1. Brazil
2. Germany
3. Wales
4. Belgium
5. Canada
6. Chile
7. Finland
8. Thailand
9. Iceland
10. Seychelles
11. Oman
12. Madagascar
13. Estonia
14. Czech Republic
15. Tunisia
16. Hungary
17. Liechtenstein
18. Cuba
19. Turkey
20. Andorra
21. Peru
22. Iran
23. Panama
24. Bahrain
25. Georgia

*Keep Up the  
Good Work!*

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