



05.05.2020

Year 9 Newsletter

# Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

**Dear Year 9 Students and Families,**

I hope you have settled back into your working routines. Routines really are an important thing for us all during this lockdown - still set an alarm and still get up at a decent time (apart from weekends of course). This means not only you can focus on work during the day but that you can still relax in the evenings. During the week of course you still need to be going to bed at a sensible time. After speaking with my tutor team this week they very much enjoyed speaking with students and their families – I am so pleased to hear the vast majority of you are focused and realising the importance of this work for your GCSE's. This phone call was not just to check you were working but also to check that you and your families are coping with the lockdown as it is a very strange situation for us all to be in – please do remember to contact myself or Mrs Haywood whenever needed.

I want to revisit a point I made last week about independent working and how hard this is even for a lot of A Level and Degree Level University students - we are asking you to do this now. This means you will have questions about the work and you may be unsure on work we have set - if this is the case please contact me/your teachers. I have included a section within this newsletter on how to retrieve email addresses of any member of staff - I hope this helps. The best thing to remember is that we would rather hear you are stuck than you just bury your head in the sand and not give the work a go. All we are asking during this time is that you try and your effort levels are high - do not be scared to get things wrong or ask questions - remember no question is a silly one.

I hope to see you all soon,

**Ms Dobney**

P.S I am so proud to hear from teachers about all of your hard work and effort – the emails I have received with the vast amount of names makes my week and makes me smile. Keep up the hard work.



The following students have got birthdays coming up this week. I want to wish you Happy Birthday and I hope you have had/have the best day you possibly can do in this situation. Remember we can always celebrate after the lockdown!

James Botton, Keira Dukes, Ruby Mazouz, Megan Wood, Eleanor Benke, Olivia Howe, Shaquille Owusu-Junior and Sid Broadbent. Also a big Happy Birthday to Mrs Haywood who celebrates her birthday this week.

## Busy Bee's

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



Please see what Billy has been up to. I would love to see more evidence of this among our Year 9's. I know many of you have been taking part in gardening, art projects and building projects and I would love to see some pictures. Billy has built his own planter for the garden which is currently now growing tomatoes. I am so proud to see my Year 9 students taking part in skills and projects like this, as although school work is a top priority, now is a time where you can learn life skills which you may not have had the opportunity to do otherwise. Thank you to Billy and his mum for providing these photos.

Have you got any more ideas? Can you share with us how you have been keeping busy? Photos would be great too. Please email to [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)

## 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).



## 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)

## Notice from Staff and Teachers

### 9SHo

I hope you and your families are well during this strange time. You won't believe me, but I am missing you all (really I am). Hopefully, you have found a new hobby to get excited about or you have had more time to devote to existing hobbies. I hope that you are not getting too stressed about school work - try to do your best when you can. If you want any help or advice (or just say hello!), please drop me an email at [sho@cdarwin.com](mailto:sho@cdarwin.com). I hope to see you all soon. Best wishes, **Mrs Holloway**.

### 9ADo/GJo now 9MCr

It has been nice talking to your parents this week. I am looking forward to seeing you all again. I am impressed with how well you are all doing adjusting to learning at home. Keep up the hard work, remember to take breaks and get your daily exercise. Just to confirm that I am now your form tutor again and you can contact me anytime on [mcr@cdarwin.com](mailto:mcr@cdarwin.com). Stay safe and well, **Miss Crawley**.

### 9NDy

It was lovely to be able to talk to some of you last week when I rang home. I was really glad to hear how well you are dealing with lockdown, doing school work and helping at home with such maturity. You should be really proud of yourselves! It is also lovely to know that in my form I have great bread makers, chefs, gardeners, carers and coders (you know who you are, well done!). Some of these are new lockdown skills. Keep looking after yourself and your family and stay safe! Love **Miss Doughty**. PS. There are a few students who need to work a little harder - Remember to take responsibility for your learning. You can do it!

### 9LWr/9CDu

We hope you are all keeping well and managing to complete the work set for you. We know these are very strange times and it is really hard to work at home with all the distractions around you. Set yourself goals each day of work to complete. Don't be too hard on yourself but do try your very best. We are thinking of you all and hope to see you all soon. Keep safe and be kind. **Mrs Wray and Mrs Dunmore**.

## Shout out to MS Wood's German classes

From Frau Wood....

9B & 9D: Hallo die neunte Klasse! Ich hoffe es geht euch und euren Familien gut und ihr bleibt alle sicher und gesund zu Hause.

I have some cultural German suggestions for you whilst at home that you could try out! Why not try and get hold of some Bratwurst (Lidl do some nice ones!) the next time you/your family do the food shop (of course please don't go out to the shops unnecessarily). You could have the Bratwurst with a simple yet delicious Kartoffelsalat (German potato salad) - there are lots of simple recipes online (in English & German), I love mine with some bacon thrown in! For a veggie option, Lidl also do packs of spätzle you could buy. German Spätzle are like pasta, little noodles made from basic ingredients (flour, eggs, milk). Just add lots of cheese and any vegetables you like, mushrooms are good!

## Ms Wood – Word of the Week

Whether you are a German student or if you didn't take German this year- I think this Word of the Week from Ms Wood is good for us all....



## Mental Health - Kooth Free online Counselling



As well as our School Counselling service, Kooth offers a free online service available to students. Please see attached document on how to sign up for free online mental health support.

## Kooth.com

### Online support for young people

We would like to remind you of the availability of our online service to support the **wellbeing** and **resilience** of young people.

Kooth is a web based confidential support service available to young people. Kooth provides a safe and secure means of accessing mental health and wellbeing support designed specifically for young people.

Kooth offers young people the opportunity to have a text-based conversation with a qualified counsellor. Counsellors are available from 12noon to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm to 10 pm at weekends, every day of the year on a drop-in basis. Young people can access regular booked online counselling sessions as needed. Outside counselling hours' young people can message our team and get support by the next day.

When young people register with Kooth they will have support available to them now and in the future. Support can be gained not only through counselling but articles, forums and discussion boards. All content is age appropriate, clinically approved and fully moderated.

**To find out more visit [kooth.com](http://kooth.com) where young people can register and others can find out more about the service.**



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.

## 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)

## Well Done from the Teachers

### Mr Nunn

**Sean McCarthy, Jack Pow, Ben Griffiths, Lily Smithson** and **Alfie Dejonge** for producing some excellent work for me over the past few weeks.

**Harrison Tubbritt** - producing excellent work in Media every week. Really great effort.

**Ben Griffiths** - great creative story and work so far in English.

**Alfie Farmer** - weekly work is very detailed and a fantastic creative story. Great work effort in English.

**Tilly Silver** - a great speech in English written.

### Mrs Pitt

Fantastic work from **Tilly Silver** and **Katherine Quarthey-Papafio**.

**Sean McCarthy** is sending lots of high quality work in English.

**Alfie Farmer** and **Ben Hughes** are continuing to complete and send work regularly.

**Lola O'Sullivan** has sent some nice work.

**Lewis Pridham** has sent me some good work this week.

**Lily Smithson** has sent me some good work this week.

### Ms Mote

I just wanted to say how pleased I've been with the amount of work that **Rosie Middleton** has been producing during the lockdown. **Emily Golby** and **Zoe Sadik** have also produced some amazing work.

### Ms Dunmore

**Evie Williams, Grace Keohane, Louie Hora,** and **Maddie Lovarini** for regularly completing their English Literature work to a high standard.

### Mr Lamb

**Kiera Dukes** has been an absolute star. Every piece of work produced has been exemplary and I now owe her a bundle of house points. She has really impressed me.

**Brandon Ratnage** has invariably been the first pupil in the class to hand in his work and then has patiently waited whilst I mangle my IT skills to find the work and return it! He has proved himself keen, hardworking and conscientious.

**Olivia Howe** - every piece of work has earned her a 1 for effort - she is owed lots of house points when we return to school.

**Evie Williams** - so reliable with presenting her work and meeting all the deadlines.

### Mrs Gardner

**Aidan Williams** – well done for completing your English work and having the motivation to complete all tasks. Also **Jacob Helps, Hannah Kenton** and **Gracie Watton**. All of these students are working on pieces that are quite tricky if you are not in a classroom environment and I am impressed.

### Ms Doyle

**Josh Rea, Alfie Farmer, Adela Slegova, Fay Grant** and **Andrew Waddington** for getting History work in – special mention to **Alfie** and **Andrew** who have made a tremendous effort in catching up when they fell behind with the work - well done.

### Ms Currie

**Evie Williams, Isaac Holden, Millie Beswick, Kezia Baah, Daisy Stevens, Emilie Browning, Sophie Alfara, Amelia Turner** and **Daisy Pluck** all for handing in excellent quality Drama work consistently. You are all making maximum effort and have done some beautifully presented research. **Lily Smithson** who has handed in some fantastic work this week and has come up with lots of great ideas for a theatre piece for Primary school students. I look forward to seeing what idea she goes with!

### Ms Bailey

**Piper Roseman** has been completing all of the work to a high standard, well done Piper. **Keziah Adebisi** has been putting lots of effort in recently and sending me lovely work - well done to her.

### Mrs Tsang

**Hayden Bakewell, Harry Burch, Andrew Waddington, Georgia Beaumont, Ben Griffiths, Amy Strange, Harley Smith** and **Tilly Silver** all for completing fantastic work.

### Music

**Emilie Browning** who has submitted the outstanding work from last week.

**Ms Hurding**

**Brandon Ratnage** who is the stand out Film Studies star - he is really engaged with the work and is messaging me frequently to ask questions and is even getting a head-start on watching some of the films required for the rest of the course.

**Ms Mackay**

**Zoe Sadik** has been working really hard to complete tasks this week .

**Dr Piercy**

**Harrison Tubritt** for continuously sending through fantastic work and **Jack Lazarus** for trying really hard on a difficult piece of Physics work.

**Ms Wood**

**Evie Williams, Emilie Browning, Josh Rea, Louie Hora, Emily Golby, Daisy Pluck, Tahira Kibuye Jack Lazarus, Tyler Skinner, Kiera Gardiner, Megan Walker and Adela Slegrova** For sending some great German work.

I want to personally say a big 'Welcome back' to Ms Crawley who will be back with her tutor group when we return.

**Contacting Teachers and Members of Staff**

If you are stuck on any work, behind or have any questions the best way to contact teachers is through email. As a teacher we really appreciate you emailing us if you do have any questions, concerns- we would rather you do this rather than just not do the work.

Please see below a step by step guide to finding email addresses:

**STEP 1** - Visit the Charles Darwin website and click on the Menu Tab at the top (circled)



**STEP 2** - Click on 'CONTACT US'

**STEP 3** - Click on ' Staff'

**STEP 4** - Click on the option you would like to see... for example teaching staff or if parents have a question about parent pay or finance they may click on Admin Staff.

**STEP 5** - find the email address you need

**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.

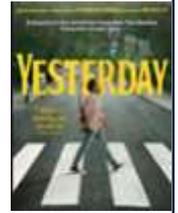
THANK YOU from Charles Darwin School.

**SMHW**

Our records show that most 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 (see above for email addresses).

**Film Recommendations**

'Yesterday'. I watched this film yesterday (ironically) - it's a great easy watching film which portrays a great message. Please send any recommendations you have to: [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com).

**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)

**Cooking Corner**

Have you cooked or baked a meal/cake? Please let me know via [ndo@cdarwin.com](mailto:ndo@cdarwin.com). I am not sure I would call this recipe 'A Bake' however great for a last minute movie snack.

**Cake in a mug****Ingredients**

35g plain flour  
2 tbsp cocoa powder  
¼ tsp baking powder  
2 tbsp granulated sugar  
Pinch of salt  
60m milk  
2 tbsp vegetable oil  
1 tbsp Nutella or mini chocolate chips

**Method**

- \* Mix dry ingredients in the biggest mug you have (sports direct ones are great)
- \* Mix in wet ingredients till there are no lumps
- \* Drop the Nutella/chocolate drops on top in the middle
- \* Put in microwave on high for 70 seconds
- \* Enjoy!

**Brain Teaser**

What countries do these emoji's represent?

1. 🇨🇦 🇨🇦 🇨🇦
2. 🇨🇦 🇨🇦 🇨🇦 🇨🇦 🇨🇦 🇨🇦
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**Last weeks answers**

**Oppo - Cities – which UK Cities could these words represent (the word 'opposites' becomes very important when trying to figure these out):**

GoneTunnel – Cambridge  
Shower - Bath  
Pleasantwasp- Grimsby  
Nutoff – Bolton  
WhiteFreeze – Blackburn  
North Swords – South Shields  
Writing – Reading

**Inspector Calls - Answers**

- 1) Mr Birling is the first character to speak at the beginning of the play.
- 2) The play is set in 1912
- 3) It is set in Brumley
- 4) Sheila is getting engaged to Gerald Croft
- 5) Edna lets the Inspector in
- 6) This (above) is important as a working class character allows in the character who represents socialism.
- 7) Gerald and Eric leave the house at different points (the Inspector leaves in the middle of Act 3)
- 8) Mrs Birling was the chairperson at the last meeting of The Brumley Women's Charity Organisation.
- 9) Mr Birling and Sheila both quote the Inspector near the end of the play (though with very different attitudes).
- 10) Mr Birling is the last character to speak at the end of the play.