



# Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

This week we have had a positive case of Covid-19 confirmed in our Year 11 bubble and as a consequence we have had to ask a significant number of Year 11 students to isolate. This is the third positive case identified in the school to date. We have been fortunate so far, other schools both locally and further afield have reported higher numbers of cases and the number having to isolate has consequently been higher.

I just want to thank parents and carers for their support whilst we have been dealing with the aftermath of a positive case being identified. Your positive messages have been very welcome.

It is also worth reminding all families at this point that:

**If someone in the family is showing symptoms of the virus the guidance is that siblings or others in the family residing together should not attend school. This is a measure designed to reduce the spread of this virus. Please can all families be mindful of this.**

In addition to the above this week we had a remote Ofsted visit and a Health and Safety Executive visit - all related to our management of the pandemic. These visits have been time consuming and on top of managing a complicated school picture have added to staff workloads. I am pleased to say that the outcomes of these visits were positive.

**Sunil Chotai**

## Remote learning instructions for individual students who are self-isolating

In the event that a student needs to isolate at short notice with symptoms of Coronavirus, whilst awaiting a test or having been told to do so by track and trace, teachers will aim to provide work for home learning as soon as they are able to do so. Sometimes however, this is not practical to do so straight away, such as the first day of isolation, as it is likely that they will be teaching the very classes that your child is absent from.

In the first instance, students should log onto the school website and identify the 'online learning platforms' icon on the home page or <https://www.cdarwin.com/page/?title=Remote+LEarning&pid=403>

This page of the website has a wide range of learning platforms that we use in school and for home study.

Students can access revision materials, videos, online assessments and subject material for each of their subjects that they can use to consolidate the learning that has taken place in the classroom, to revise and to deepen their subject knowledge whilst the class teacher is engaged in teaching classes in school. Students should also complete any work that has been posted on Show My Homework.

**Mr R Jones**

## Whole School Detentions

Now that students have had time to settle back into school routines, Whole School Detention (WSD) will be returning from Monday 23 November.

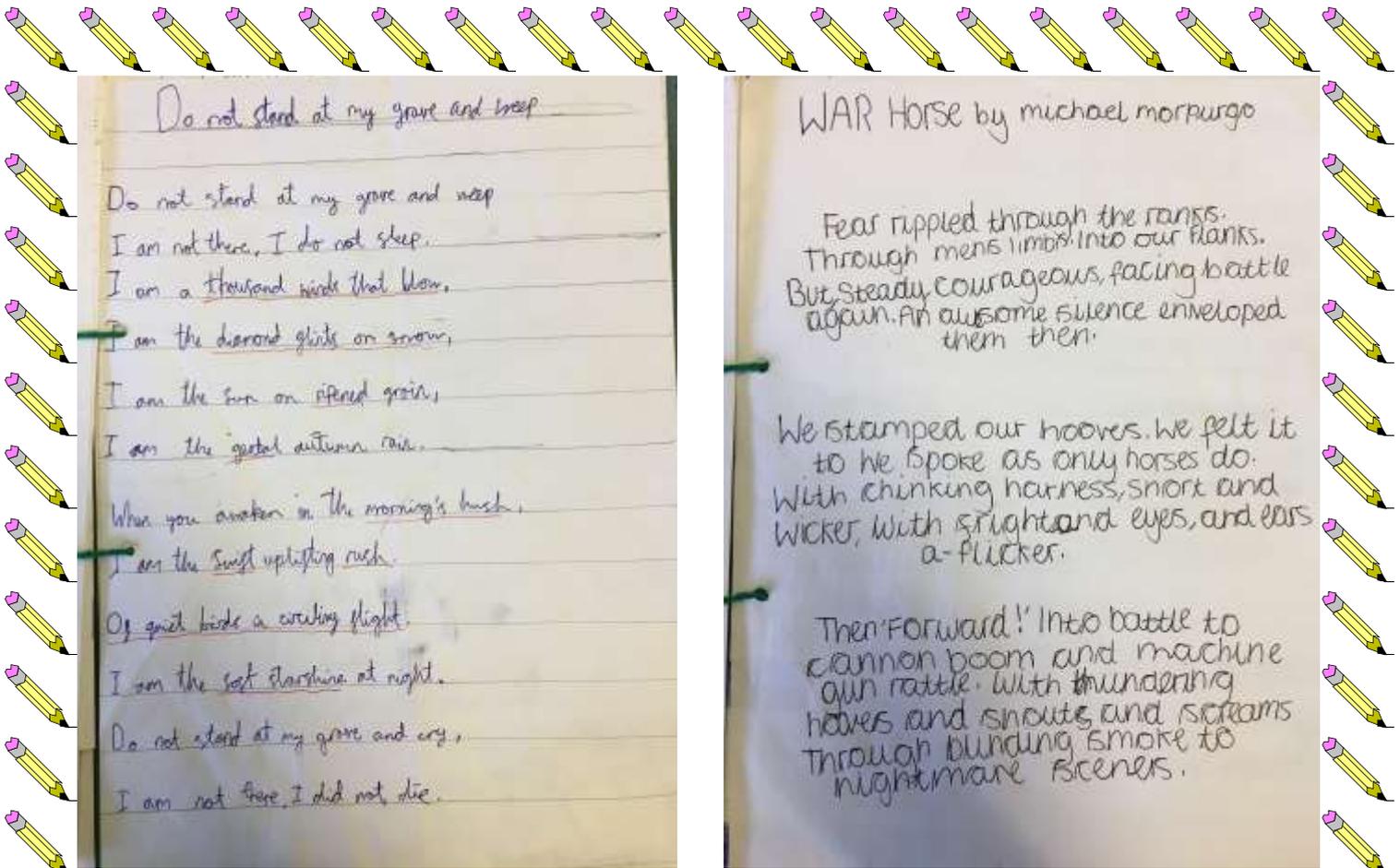
To any new families, and especially to the new Year 7 parents/carers, the detention runs across 4 nights most weeks (not Tuesday). Detention length is 40 minutes and then escalating to 1 hour for missing a WSD without a valid reason or for poor behaviour in a detention. Senior Staff detentions are also held on these same evenings, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. The entire teaching staff are involved in supervising WSD on rotation.

Any classroom teacher for Year 7-11 can issue a WSD, for low level disruption or for missing homework deadlines. Teachers will put a note in a student's planner at the time the detention is set. This serves as a reminder to the student and a notification to the parent/carer as to which teacher has set the detention and for what reason. Parents/carers will also receive a Call Parent text message the day before the detention so that they are reminded and/or are notified in advance.

If there is an issue with the date that the detention has been set, the Achievement Co-ordinator is the only person able to rearrange that detention. Any request for this must be done in advance as there is a set number allowed per session. Mr Wray in Student Services will manage this WSD system on a daily basis and will be following up with students to query absence to a detention and to reset.

**Mrs Rees**

**REMINDER** to check your emails and the school website [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) for all COVID-19 updates and information.

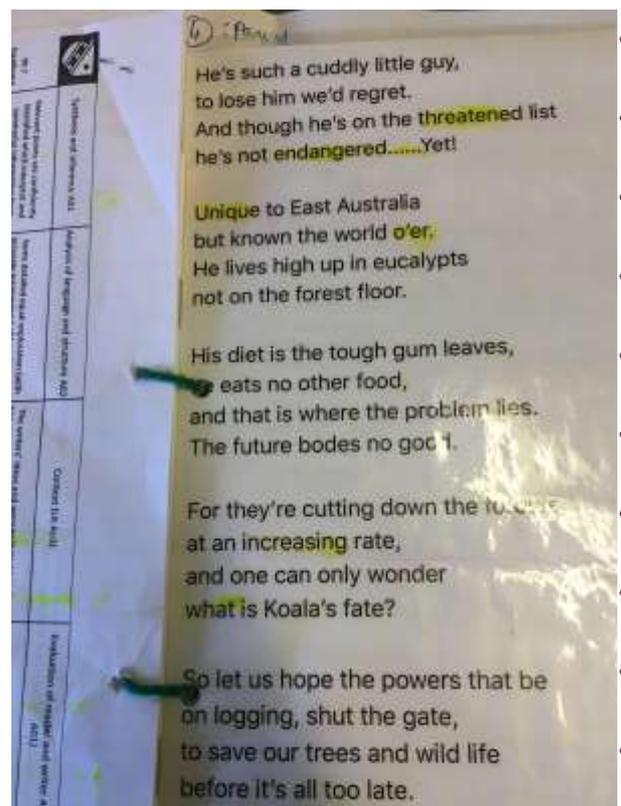
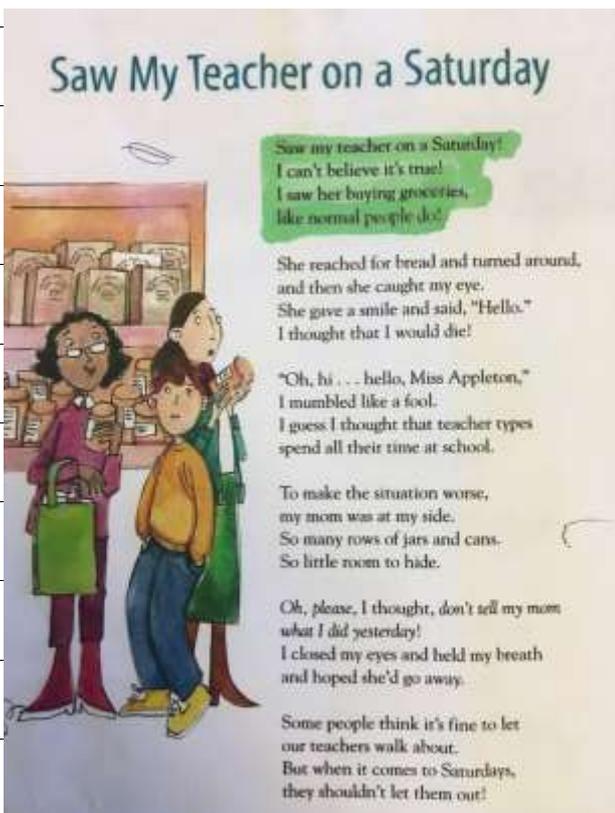


In 7SCu, we have been starting the new and exiting topic of ... Poetry!

The students were asked to bring in a poem that they had researched and enjoyed reading. In class, we had a 'Poetry Off!' where the students read their poems aloud and we discussed them as a class to see which ones we thought were the best.

There were so many brilliant entries, we had a lot of fun discussing their themes and imagery! Below are some of our favourites. Well done 7SCu, brilliant work!

Miss Playle



## The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award Update

Congratulations to Scarlett Towersey for achieving the Bronze Award! We are very proud of our first Year 9 student to achieve this award and cannot wait to see you achieve Silver!

It's also fantastic to see other students participating and they are not far behind Scarlett. If you missed my previous article on what this is about, please see below and do get involved!

This is an international programme that helps you develop digital, enterprise and employability skills. Through series of online challenges, students can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry-recognised Awards that help them stand out from the crowd. This works very similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award. There are four award levels, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. It's quite simple and easy, you get awarded badges for completing challenges which can be accessed on any device with an internet connection. You might discover a new talent, interest, potential career you didn't know about!

To sign up please contact Ms Elliott via email through your school email, [pel@cdarwin.com](mailto:pel@cdarwin.com) – there is a special code you will need to enter in your registration as well as being a part of our school on the iDEA page. This is currently aimed at Year 9 and 12 students, we are hoping to open to all year groups, soon. If you are interested but not in Year 9 or 12, please email me, [pel@cdarwin.com](mailto:pel@cdarwin.com)

GOOD LUCK!

Ms Elliott



Following Government guidelines, staff and pupils at secondary schools (Year 7 and above) must wear face coverings in communal areas outside the classroom.

Please can we ask all parents/carers to ensure that your child has a mask with them before coming to school each day.

We do have a limited amount of masks for emergencies, however, we have had an increasing amount of students requesting masks from us during the school day as they have forgotten them.

Thank you for your support.

**Student Services**

Attendance	
Winning Tutor Groups week ending 06.11.20	
TUTOR GROUP	ATTENDANCE
7SFe	100.0%
8GCu	97.2%
9JLa	98.5%
10EOI	97.6%
11FLf/LWr	98.6%
12IMr	100.0%
13ARu/MDi	97.4%

**It is important that if any household member develops symptoms of COVID-19 all household members, including students, must stay at home. Any household member displaying symptoms of COVID-19 should take a test and all household members must remain in isolation at home until the test result is received. If the test is positive the school must be informed and the student must not attend school. If the test is negative the student may return to school.**

## Term Dates 2020-21

**Autumn 2020**  
 Tuesday 1st September - Friday 16th October  
 Half term: Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October  
 Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 21st December 2020 - Friday 1st January 2021

**Spring 2021**  
 Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February  
 Half term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February  
 Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April

**Notes:**  
**Good Friday – 2nd April 2021**  
**Easter Monday – 5th April 2021**

**INSET Days** - School closed to students  
 Monday 4th January 2021  
 Friday 29th January 2021  
 Thursday 22nd July 2021  
 Friday 23rd July 2021

**Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:  
 Parents/carers must phone before 08:30 with a full reason on every day of their child's absence.**

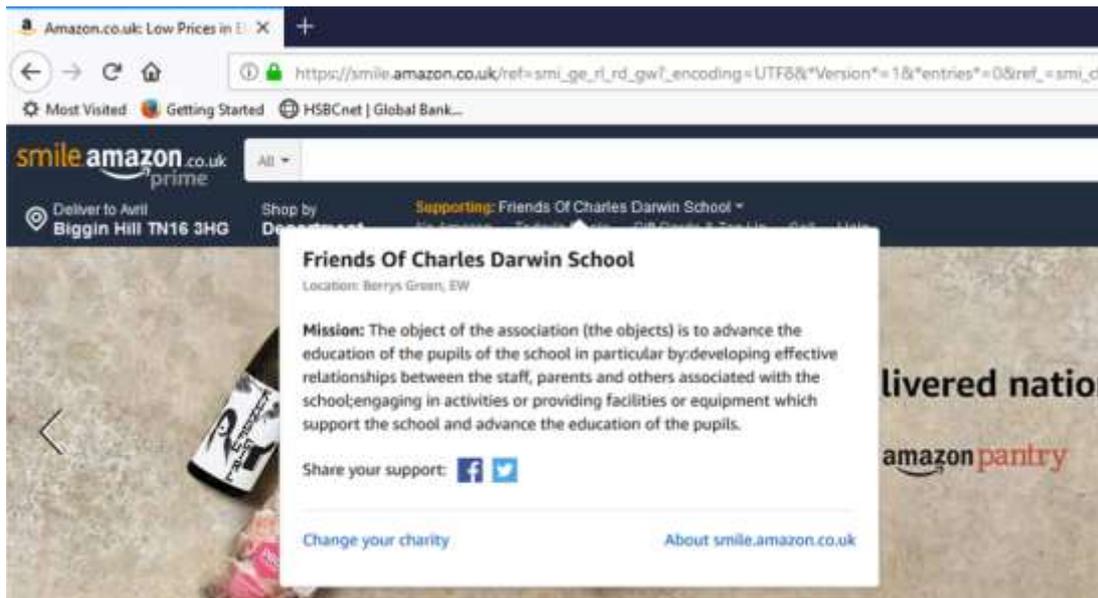


## Amazon Smile – Easy and free to donate to the Friends of Charles Darwin each time you shop at Amazon!

Amazon.co.uk has a designated site that you only link to once which will then donate a percentage of your amazon spend directly to a charity of your choice. The Friends of Charles Darwin have a set up a specific page and a very brief “how to” is shown here.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/charity/homepage.html>

Access the smile web page (this should bring up your home amazon page but with the addition of a “Supporting Link”) – here you will see Friends of Charles Darwin School selected. If a different charity is listed simply click the down arrow to the left of the charity name and then select [Change Your Charity](#)



This is a one-off procedure! From now on always shop at [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) (instead of [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)) and the donations will be raised automatically. With Christmas on the horizon there is no easier way to raise free funds for the school. All of your amazon account information will automatically be linked to the amazon smile site.

**THANK YOU**

### **Shopping by Phone? Amazon App users:**

*Unfortunately as yet you cannot use Amazon Smile with the Amazon App on the iPhone/Android. However, the good news is that you can set up a shortcut to the Amazon Smile website which gives a near identical experience to the app. It's very quick and easy to do.*

1. *If you have the Amazon App installed you should remove it. To do this, tap and hold the app icon until it starts to jiggle. Tap the cross at the top left of the icon and confirm that you want to delete it. Don't worry, this will not delete your Amazon account or any of your settings.*
2. *Now open your internet browser and go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk)*
3. *Tap the 'share' button  on the bottom of the screen.*
4. *Tap the 'Add to Home Screen' icon. You may need to swipe to the left to see this. Note: you can use the 'Add to Home Screen' option on android phones.*
5. *You will now have an Amazon Smile icon on your home screen which you can use in exactly the same way you used the Amazon App.*

*We hope as many of you as possible will subscribe to this site.  
Thank you*

*[Friends of Charles Darwin School](#)*