



07.09.2018

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Welcome back

Welcome back to everyone and of course a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 students who seem to be settling in very well indeed.

The summer seems to have gone very quickly and I do hope that families had an opportunity to relax and enjoy some quality time. The last year was a particularly challenging year in education as we grappled with the much discussed wholesale changes at KS4 and KS5 in a reduced financial climate. Despite the challenges we had some excellent examination performances and my congratulations to those students and departments.

The Ecology Garden

Over the last six months, the disused and unsightly bit of land behind the science block at the back of the school has been developed into an impressive Ecology Garden. The development, led by Mr. Burtonshaw through his own hard work and with some input from Mr. Smith, our groundsman, and some Year 10 students, is a welcome and striking addition to our school.

My thanks to all those who have donated to this project and particularly to the Friends of Charles Darwin School for their contribution.

Sunil Chotai



If you have not already done so, please ensure you activate your ParentPay account.

A range of items will be available on ParentPay including trips, revision guides and workshops. When places are limited, you may miss out on something popular for your child if you have not activated your account before you can book.

Thank you.

Finance Department

Students celebrate exam successes



In Year 13 students of all abilities took A Level and equivalent examinations across a broad range of subjects. The overall school pass rate was 98%, of which 15% of the grades were at A*-A and 70% were at A*-C.

"This strong set of results has ensured the majority of students secured their university place of choice. My congratulations and best wishes to all of them," said Headteacher, Mr Chotai.

In Year 11 207 pupils took GCSE or equivalent examinations of which:

- 67% achieved five 9 to 4 grades
- 62% achieved five 9 to 4 grades including at least a (standard pass) grade 4 in English and maths;
- 81% achieved grade 4 and above (standard pass) in English
- 72% achieved grade 4 and above (standard pass) in maths

"Although schools report percentages, it is important to remember that these results represent individuals and as always, there were many which indicate superb personal performances," continued Mr Chotai.

In the Sixth Form particular congratulations go to **Phoebe Bellfield** [A* A A A* in Art, English, History and an EPQ] who has secured a prestigious and highly sought-after place at the world famous Courtauld Institute to study the History of Art; **Jemma Sergeant** [A, A A and A* in Maths, Chemistry, Biology and an EPQ] who will study Marine Biology at Southampton University; **Frankie Harrison** [D* D* D Level 3 BTEC Sports, equivalent to two A*s and an A at A Level] who will study Physical and Sport Education at St Mary's University London and **Jack Lineker**: [A A A A in French, English Literature, Finance, and an EPQ] who will study International Management with Modern Languages at Bath University.

In Year 11 a special mention for **Ciara Fleming** and **Susanna Whitlock**, who both achieved outstanding results in all their subjects including four grade 9s whilst **Nikolas Kontos**, **Ben Reilly**, **Emma Frith**, **Owen Cornelius-Rumsey**, **Luc Henri Hickman**, **Alex Morgan**, **Faye Shillito**, **Ella Shaw**, **Alfie Brown**, **William Child**, **Casey Champion** and **Charlotte Brewster** all achieved at least five grade 7s and above.

"The results are a tribute to the hard work and commitment of both students and teaching staff in a year that has seen much-publicised difficulties with the A level reforms and the more demanding assessment regime," said Mr Chotai. "We are very pleased for all the students who have passed these important examinations, which provide them with the ideal platform to move on to their next stage of education here at Charles Darwin School or at university, training or employment."

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 10 to Friday 14 September

- 10 and 14 September 2018 — Year 7 Ready to Learn induction
 11 September 2018 — Year 7 photographs
 12 and 13 September 2018 — Auditions for the school production
 13 September 2018 — Year 9 finance workshop
 14 September 2018 — Year 7 Student Voice elections

Forthcoming events: autumn term

- 19 September 2018 — Thrive Dance group auditions
 19 September 2018 — UCAS parents information evening
 21 September 2018 — Year 12 finance workshop
 26 September 2018 — Darwin's got Talent auditions
 26 September 2018 — European Day of Languages
 28 September 2018 — Early close for Open Morning
 29 September 2018 — Open Morning
 1 October 2018 — late start for students
 2 to 5 October 2018 — Open Week tours of the school
 8 to 12 October 2018 — Year 7 penny collection
 8 to 12 October 2018 — Year 10 inter form football
 9 October 2018 — Year 10 geography field trip to Stratford
 10 October 2018 — Year 10 geography field trip to Stratford
 11 October 2018 — Year 7 Settling in tea
 15 and 16 October 2018 — Healthy relationships workshops [selected Year 8s]
 18 October 2018 — Presentation Evening
 Friday 19 October 2018 — INSET
 22 to 26 October 2018 — Half term
 Monday 29 October 2018 — INSET
 31 October 2018 — Darwin's got Talent
 7 November 2018 — Year 7 Growth Mindset
 7 November 2018 — Year 11 Parents' evening [1]
 9 November 2018 — Launch of annual Dance Competition
 12 to 18 November — Anti-bullying week
 14 November 2018 — Year 9 Your Choice Your Voice
 15 November 2018 — Sixth Form Open Evening
 23 November 2018 — Year 9 and 10 Stand Against Violence
 28 November 2018 — Year 12 and 13 Physics in Action trip
 28 November 2018 — Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending
 13.07.2018

Erin Hartley, Ruby Mitchell from 8SAr
 and Lucy Rooney and Ben Seaton
 from 8FLf

Mrs Mills, Reception

Thank you to Tayler Jefferies, Tyler Morris, Aimee Lineker and Kadelia Wilkins for their help on the Year 10 Mock Interview day at the end of the summer term. Between them they ran errands, collected the lunch for the interviewers and served coffee. Their support helped to make the day run smoothly. Well done.

Mr Simpson

Open Morning 2018

Saturday 29 September

9.45am—12.30pm

Headteacher's talks at
 09:45 and 11:30

Open Week:

Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 October

A daily guided tour of the school in action at 08.40 followed by a Headteacher talk at 09.30.

Presentation Evening

Thursday 18 October

The Year 11, 12 and 13 students from 2018 and their parents are cordially invited to attend this celebration of exam results and academic achievement.

House Point totals

2017/2018

| | | |
|-----|----------|------|
| 1st | Henslow | 8917 |
| 2nd | Lyell | 8797 |
| 3rd | Grant | 8307 |
| 4th | Wedgwood | 8086 |

Congratulations to Henslow House

PARENTS EVENINGS 2018/19

Year 11: 7 November 2018

Year 12: 28 November 2018

Year 13: 28 November 2018

Year 11: 24 January 2019 [2]

Year 8: 7 February 2019

Year 9: 6 March 2019

Year 12: 27 March 2019 [2]

Year 13: 27 March 2019 [2]

Year 10: 2 May 2019

Year 7: 8 May 2019



Sixth Form students on results day

Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:

Parents/carers must phone before 8:30am with a full reason on every day of their child's absence.