



28.02.2020

The Link

# Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

### Coronavirus

This week we issued a letter to all parents regarding the latest advice we have received from the government regarding Coronavirus. Parents should not be unduly worried about the possibility of our staff or students contracting Coronavirus and there is no reason why pupils should not continue to attend school as normal. We will continue to monitor holiday requests and absences and promote good hygiene including hand-washing and preventing the spread of germs. Parents are requested to ensure that the school is kept up dated of any concerns they may have by informing Student Services. We will, of course, keep parents informed of the latest guidance as we receive it.

### Support for our Examination Students

As part of our work with our examination students the Senior Team have been visiting Year 11 lessons across all subjects in order to establish in the minds of students the importance of this period leading up to the public examinations.

I myself have visited a number of Year 11 lessons and collectively as a Senior Team we have visited many lessons. The feedback suggests that in the overwhelming number of lessons the students have been working productively, with good purpose, listening and acting on the words of advice from staff.

Parents and carers will of course appreciate the importance of this time period for our examination students.

I would be grateful therefore if parents would reinforce and support the school's messages about needing to approach school work with determination and commitment so that the chances of success in the summer's crucial examinations are maximised.

Sunil Chotai



## WORLD BOOK DAY



World Book Day is celebrated this year on Thursday 5th March 2020 and, as in previous years, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be taking part in the Big Read next week.

Whatever the subject, teachers will start their lesson on Thursday by reading a specified section of a short story so that by the end of the day all of these students will have heard the full narrative.

“Staff have really embraced the Big Read over the last few years,” said Mrs Pitt who organises the event in school, “and pupils have fed back about how much they’ve enjoyed it. Ultimately, we want to encourage our students to read as much as possible so that their literacy skills improve and their vocabulary develops, helping them to access the curriculum in all subject areas.”

Students in Years 7 to 13 will also be given World Book Day tokens which can be exchanged at participating booksellers for one of the ten exclusive, new and completely free World Book Day books for younger readers. Alternatively tokens can be put towards one of the five full-length books for teenagers priced at only £2.50 each—that is only £1.50 with a £1 book token. Tokens are valid from are Thursday 27th February to Sunday 29th March.

Miss Pitt

## PARENTPAY ACCOUNTS

Please make sure you have activated your Parent Pay account. If you have misplaced your activation letter, please request a copy of this from the Finance Office. If you are having trouble activating your account please also contact the Finance Office.

We no longer accept cash or cheques, any trips, revision guides etc. will be allocated to your child on Parent Pay. The trips are often allocated on a first come first served basis, which could result in your child missing out on a place if you have not set up your account.

Many thanks

Finance Office

### RE M I N D E R YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING AND REPORT COLLECTION

Wednesday, 04 March 2020  
3.15pm – 6.15 pm

This is an opportunity for pupils and their families to come and speak to staff about their progress.

Governors will also be present on the evening.

Refreshments Available  
(courtesy of the Friends of Charles Darwin School).

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.

## Monday 2nd - Friday 6th March 2020

### Monday 02 March

8.30am Year 9 Assembly

### Tuesday 03 March

8.30am Year 7 Assembly

### Wednesday 04 March

8.30am Year 11 Assembly  
Year 9 Parents' Evening

### Thursday 05 March

8.30am Year 12/13 Assembly

### Friday 06 March

8.30am Year 8 Assembly

## Forthcoming Events

### MARCH 2020

**Monday 09 March** - Head Prefect Application closing date

**Thursday 12 March** - Year 8 Options Evening

**Wednesday 25 March** - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening

### APRIL 2020

**Friday 03 April** - Ski trip to Austria departs

**Friday 03 April** - End of Term

**Monday 20 April** - Summer Term starts

**Wednesday 29 April** - Year 10 Parents' Evening

### MAY 2020

**Thursday 7 May** - Year 7 Parents' Evening

**Friday 8 May** - Bank Holiday



**Minibus Driver (job share)**  
**£12.80 per hour – term time only**  
**3.5 hours per day**  
**(07.00 – 08.45 and 15.00 – 16.45 – alternate weeks)**

We are looking to appoint a Minibus Driver from April to transport students on a home-to-school route collecting children from the local area and to assist with the boarding and alighting of those students where required. The post holder will act as a point of contact for parents and teachers on matters relating to the transport of children and must have a professional attitude to work. Personal qualities such as good people skills and a smart appearance are essential criteria. Applicants must be in good health and have a full clean driving licence with category D1. A MIDAS training certificate would be an advantage.

This post is offered on a job-share basis and will require the successful candidate to work flexibly with our existing minibus driver to ensure that all school days are covered. The current working schedule is Wednesday – Tuesday alternate weeks. Some additional hours on an ad hoc basis may be available.

Application Forms are available on our website [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) and should be emailed to Julie Hodgkinson at [jho@cdarwin.com](mailto:jho@cdarwin.com). Please note CVs alone will not be considered.

Closing date: Friday 6th March 2020

*The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and full background checks.*

### Duty Pupils for Praise Week ending 28th February 2020

Many thanks to Austin McSavage, Izabelle Gunstone, David Hall, Ellie Berry, Kia Pritchard and Maddison Waller, Year 8.

Miss Payne  
Reception

### Top Attendance Week ending 14th February 2020

Year	Tutor group	Percentage
7	7SDa/WDa	97.9%
8	8RSh	96.9%
9	9NDy	98.9%
10	10FLf	97.5%
11	11ZPa	98.3%
12	12TJo	96.1%
13	13RPi	99.2%

### Parents Evenings 2020

Year 12: 25 March 2020 (2)  
Year 13: 25 March 2020 (2)  
Year 10: 29 April 2020  
Year 7: 7 May 2020

### History Star of the Week

**Alex Wilkinson, Year 10**



For a fantastic approach to GCSE History. He is constantly working hard in class and consolidating learning at home. He also went to see 1917 for his homework. A great Historian in the making.

Mrs Davies

### 50/50 Club Winners

The Friends are pleased to announce the December and January winners of their 50/50 club:

**December:** No. 4 - John Marshall who wins £48.50

**January:** No. 141 - L Ballack who wins £48.50

Congratulations and thank you for your continued support.

