



09.02.2024

Issue No: 1111

The Link

# Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

## Headlines

### Safer Internet Day

It was safer internet day on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. My assembly this week with Year 10's focussed on exploring the theme for this year of "change and influence of the internet". We considered how much the internet has changed our life over the last 10 years. The power of the internet, the benefits it brings to our lives but also the negative sides. We reflected on how we are influenced by the internet in our thinking, the need to fit in, setting expectations on society as well as its public nature. I introduced the term moral compass to steer us with our decision making when doing anything that is internet enabled. Safer internet is celebrated in 190 different countries with the joint ambition of working together to make the internet a safer and better place for all, but especially for young people. Students were reminded of where to go for help if they feel unsafe online. Please take some time over the half term to have those valuable safer internet talks with your child and check those security settings.

### Letters home

After the half term we will be trialling sending certain letters home to parents/careers via email rather than posting a copy. This is the start of further work to move towards reducing costs associated with postage, reducing our negative impact on the environment and improving efficiency. Please can you ensure that you keep us updated of any changes to your contact details.

### Half Term

This has been a very busy and demanding half term. I do hope that students and their families get a chance to rest and return refreshed for the second half of the spring term. Although I know this will be a careful balance of revision and rest for the Year 11 and 13's as they approach the final weeks before exams start. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

*Aston Smith*

## Teacher Training with Bromley Schools' Collegiate

Do you want to find out more about stepping into teacher training with us in September 2024?

Are you looking for a local provider with guaranteed placements in excellent local schools?

We are currently booking 1:1 discussions with potential candidates that wish to join our September 24 intake of trainee teachers.

Book your slot via email [administrator@gradteach.uk](mailto:administrator@gradteach.uk) with a copy of your CV, dates/times available and your preferred subject or age range that you wish to teach.

**BROMLEY SCHOOLS' COLLEGIATE** est. 1993  
Teacher Training  
Excellence Through Experience

**TEACH**

Could you be the teacher who makes a difference to the lives of young people?  
Call 0208 300 6566 or  
email your CV to [administrator@gradteach.uk](mailto:administrator@gradteach.uk) to discuss your first steps in to the profession

## A general reminder to all students for keeping safe on the way to and from school.

As previously advised by the Bromley Youth Policing Team (BYPT), young people should:

- Try not to walk alone – find a friend to walk with.
- Do not walk down a lane or unlit road that isn't busy with traffic or pedestrians for a short cut. Take a longer route which is safer.
- Run, yell and tell. If you are approached by someone and don't feel safe start to run, yell loudly at the same time and head towards where there are people such as shops.
- Safe places include shops, schools, libraries, restaurants, take away shops, stations and bus stops where people are waiting.
- Speak to an adult you know, if you have concerns about your safety.
- Do not walk around with headphones in and a phone out on display.
- Call police on 999 in an emergency.

## Foodbank - Bromley/Orpington residents

We have been contacted this week by the Bromley Borough foodbank. If you are in need of 7 days worth of food, please remember you can get help by contacting them directly on [info@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk). They have foodbanks in Bromley and Orpington who can help borough residents. Please do ask them directly if you need this support, Bromley Well and Bromley Children's Project can also issue vouchers for foodbanks if you are known to one of these charities Citizens Advice Bromley [CAB] can also offer advice and food/fuel vouchers to those in need.

**Mrs Rees**



### Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Jail Lane  
Biggin Hill  
Westerham  
Kent TN16 3AU  
Tel: 01959 574043  
[enquiries@cdarwin.com](mailto:enquiries@cdarwin.com)

## Exam Invigilators £11.60 per hour

We are looking for suitable persons to join our dedicated pool of Exam Invigilators responsible for the invigilation of public and internal exams and tests. Invigilators will be present throughout the main summer exam season as well as at other times in the school year and may also undertake tasks such as checking registers against scripts and packing them at the end of exams.

Applicants should be available from 08.30 for the morning session and/or from 13.00 for the afternoon session. Training will be provided.

Closing date: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Please note: all applicants must complete the Charles Darwin School application form which is available on our website: [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) (information/job vacancies).  
CVs alone will not be considered.**

*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.*

## World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day on 7th March, all students will be given a book token. They can exchange the token for a selected book or use it to get £1 off a book of their choice.

The redemption period for World Book Day 2024 £1/€1.50 tokens is from **Thursday 15 February until Sunday 31 March 2024**.

You can redeem your World Book Day £1/€1.50 book token at the following retailers:

- Your local independent bookseller
- Asda
- Blackwell's (selected stores only)
- Sainsbury's
- Tesco
- The Works
- Waterstones
- WHSmith

Please check with your local store before you visit to see if they stock the £1/€1.50 books. The following website has some activities you may wish to do: [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)

Mrs Adams

## Blue Light Safety First Day

On Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb, Year 8 students will be attending a Safety First Day in collaboration with the London Fire Brigade, London Ambulance Service and the Metropolitan Police. Students will be with their form tutor and group for each of the 3 sessions which will include; Fire Safety and Anti- Social behaviour, Knife Crime, and Violence against Women and Girls, as outline in the timetable below. If you have any questions or concerns about these workshops, please contact [agi@cdarwin.com](mailto:agi@cdarwin.com).

Miss Gillespie

	REG	P1	P2	Break	P3	P4	Lunch	REG 2	P5
	8:30-8:50	8:50-9:50	9:50-10:50	10:50-11:10	11:10-12:10	12:10-13:10	13:10-13:50	13:50-14:00	14:00-15:00
Fire Safety and ASB		TMI	LBR		RSI	SHO			LWR/PDG
Fire Safety and ASB		HKE/JJST	EOL		ZHA				
Knife Crime		LBR	RSI		SHO	LWR/PDG			HKE/JST
Knife Crime		EOL	ZHA		TMI				
VAWG		RSI	SHO		LWR/PDG	HKE/JST			EOL
VAWG		ZHA	TMI		LBR				

Please see the MENU Week 3 for the week commencing 19th February 2024 by clicking on the link below:

[https://www.cdarwin.com/\\_site/data/files/files/admissions/EA2E1327A45A6AF29BD963EE1D968BA6.pdf](https://www.cdarwin.com/_site/data/files/files/admissions/EA2E1327A45A6AF29BD963EE1D968BA6.pdf)



## GCSE Geography - Tassomai targets

Over the month of January GCSE Geography students were asked to start their new year with a new habit: completing their daily Tassomai targets. Each student who achieved 20 of their daily targets in January could be in with a chance with winning an Amazon voucher. Many students endeavoured and congratulations to all those who tried.

The lucky winner for year 10 is Olivia Jackson and for year 11 is Lily Davies. Well done and an excellent effort.

All GCSE Geography students should continue to achieve their daily and weekly Tassomai targets.

**Mr Ayling-Jones**  
Head of Geography

## Maths Revision Classes

The mathematics department are holding revision classes after school on the following days from 3.15 to 4.15:

### Higher Tier

Monday MA7 Mr Yerassimou  
Wednesday MA2 Mr Watson

### Foundation Tier

Monday GE2 Ms Harris"



## Lost Property

We have a large quantity of coats and PE kits in lost property at the moment, please remind your children to pop to Student Services and take a look.

Items not collected by Friday next week will be donated to charity to make space ahead of the new term.

Thank you

**Student Service Team**

### School jumpers and PE kits needed!

Parents/Carers

We need your help! We are specifically short of navy school jumpers, red and black PE hoodies, white polo shirts and red socks. If you have any lying around that your daughter/son has outgrown, we would greatly accept donation of these. We also welcome any other parts of school uniform like school and football shoes.



All donations can be left at **Main Reception**.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

**Preloved Uniform Shop Team**

## Attendance

**Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 2 February 2024.**



7NYe	94.1%
8LBr	97%
9HBu	93.9%
10JLa	93.8%
11DNe	96%
12GQu	97.6%
13RPi	95.3%

*As you are aware attendance is linked to a student's attainment and at Charles Darwin we work closely with the parents to keep students' attendance levels as high as possible. Please could we ask that if your child feels unwell in the morning (headache etc.) and they do feel better later on, that you send them in. This will benefit them as they will not miss a whole days learning.*

**Please can we also remind parents to call in before 8.30am for each day of your child's absence and not rely on receiving a text from us chasing their absence.**

*Thank you for your continued support.*

**Students Services Team**

A reminder that pupils **should not** contact home if they feel unwell but should be seen and assessed by Mrs Booth, our Health Care Lead.

Parents should be aware that pupils will not be sent home without being seen by Mrs Booth in the first instance.

If your child contacts you directly, please phone the school to confirm whether they are unwell and have permission to go home.

Thank you

**Student Services Team**



Parents should be advised that the school does not provide students with Paracetamol unless it is a medical emergency.

We have a limited supply in school and prefer that medication wherever possible is administered at home.

Many thanks for your support.

**Mrs Booth  
Lead First Aid**

### Year 8 Duty Pupils

William French  
Stanley Hillman  
Magnus Malcolmson  
Charlie Ince  
Leila Jones

Margaret McCarthy  
Parisha Mungur  
Mia Marks-Belaon  
Jake Sonalti  
Finlay Papageorgiou

### Student Services Duty Pupils

Teddy Markland  
Olivia Klin  
Ronnie Richardson  
Maisie Sewell  
Alexander Hannaford



**They have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable.**



# Didi Rugby Free Taster Class


Didi Rugby Bromley classes are starting on Sunday 18th February 2024 with a FREE taster class!

We provide activity classes for children aged 18 months to 6 years.

Didi rugby is all about having fun, building confidence, and getting kids active!!

It will also help them learn social skills while they have lots of fun in a positive, safe and friendly environment.


Join our FREE trial class at Darwin Leisure Centre. Reserve your spot for a world of smiles!



# Didi Rugby Bromley

[didi Rugby.com](http://didi Rugby.com)

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES 18m - 6yrs





**When?** Sunday 18th Feb 24  
from 9:30 am

**Where?** Darwin Leisure Centre  
TN16 3AU




# ★ Book a FREE trial ★

**Why?**

- ★ Empower your child's growth with our activities!
- ★ Boost their confidence and self esteem
- ★ Encourage their social skills and friendships



Enquiries and booking  
[maxine.edwards@didirugby.com](mailto:maxine.edwards@didirugby.com)



18m - 3yrs    3 - 4yrs    4 - 6yrs

## Dates for the Diary

### February

**12th - 16th February** - HALF TERM

**20th February** - Year 8 Blue Light safety Day

**23 February** - Year 9 DTP Vaccinations

**29th February** - Year 8 Parents' Evening

### March

**7th March** - World Book Day

**8th March** - Year 9 HPV2 vaccinations

**20th March** - Year 9 Options Evening

**26th March** - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening

**28th March** - End of term

**29th March** - Good Friday

## 2023-24 Term Dates

### Autumn 2023

Tuesday 29th August – Friday 13th October

**Half Term: Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October**

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December - Monday 1st January**

### Spring 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

**Half Term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February**

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

**Easter Holiday: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April**

### Summer 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

**(Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday)**

**Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May**

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

### Note:

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

**INSET Days** - School closed to students

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Friday 28th June 2024** - INICIO Day (home learning for students)

## Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:

Reminder – please can parents call the absence line each day of your child's absence before 8.30am. This ensures we know your child is safe and their absence is authorised where possible. Our Attendance Officer is having to spend an increased amount of time each day chasing for responses.  
Thank you for your support.



# Volunteer as a mentor

**Bromley Mentoring Initiative  
with Bromley EBP**

**Support ⇌ Develop ⇌ Inspire**

**Could you spare just one  
hour a week as  
a mentor to help  
Bromley's young people  
build a brighter future?  
Guidance and training provided.**

**Web: [www.bromleyebp.org.uk](http://www.bromleyebp.org.uk)  
Email: [mentoring@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:mentoring@bromley.gov.uk)  
Tel: 020 8461 6240**



**SCAN ME**