



14.09.2018

# The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

### Good Start to the Year

Overall whilst we are only in week two, I do believe that we have made a very good start to this academic year. It is clearly evident during patrols and lesson visits that there is a good sense of purpose across the school and that pupils are well-behaved, on task and in good uniform. My thanks to parents for helping to ensure this good start and that pupils are well equipped for their lessons.

### Open Morning

Arrangements are well under way for this year's Open Morning which will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. As usual Open Morning will be followed by Open Week which runs from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October with guided tours for prospective parents commencing at 8.40am.

*Sunil Chotai*

**Open Morning 2018**  
**Saturday 29 September**  
**09.30—12.30**

Headteacher's talks at  
09:30 and 11:15

### 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.



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 and staff raise over £28,000 for charities



The mud run raised £500 for Kojito Upele

Students and staff at Charles Darwin School raised an impressive £28,236.82 for charity during the last academic year, exceeding the previous year's record by £4,000.

Last year's Year 12 and 13 students were awarded the charity shield for raising an amazing £14,568.31, which was shared between the London Air Ambulance, the Teenage Cancer Trust and supporting the students of Kijito Upele, our partner school in Zanzibar.

Fundraising activities were numerous and varied across the school. Successful events included cake, biscuit, ice cream and donut sales; Christmas Jumper Day; tombolas and raffles; loose change collections and football matches.

Last year's Year 7 are also to be commended for raising a remarkable £6,821.86 for the RSPCA and Cancer Research thanks to the support and generosity of all Year 7 pupils, their families, form tutors and the Pastoral Team. Events included a sponsored Race for Life event as well as cake sales, regular penny collections, a cinema event and a Christmas fair.

"We have again been delighted by the students' generosity and response to fundraising this year," explains Mrs Louise Rees, deputy headteacher. "Whilst it is vital for students to apply themselves to their studies, and we are delighted that so many of our Year 13 students will continue their studies, we believe it is also important for students across the school to develop a sense of community spirit. We see fundraising as an essential way of encouraging the students to empathise with others and identify with social issues."

Fundraising is an integral part of school life at Charles Darwin School. The first Student Voice meetings will be held in the week commencing 24 September when the nominated charities for each year group will be chosen.

"Fundraising ideas and events are discussed and planned at the Student Voice meetings with the money going to the chosen charity. Each year group has its own nominated charity. We look forward to running more activities to support a range of good causes again this year," concluded Mrs Rees.

## Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

**Monday 17 to Friday 21 September**

**19 September 2018** — Thrive Dance group auditions

**19 September 2018** — UCAS parents information evening

**21 September 2018** — Year 12 finance workshop

**Forthcoming events: autumn term**

**26 September 2018** — Darwin's got Talent auditions

**26 September 2018** — European Day of Languages

**27 September 2018** — information evening for Silver Duke of Edinburgh students and parents 5:30pm to 6:00pm

**28 September 2018** — Early close for Open Morning

**29 September 2018** — Open Morning

**1 October 2018** — late start for students

### WANTED:

#### Graduation news and photos

Congratulations to all our ex students who have graduated from university this year. We would love to hear how you got on and would like to add you to our display outside the main hall. Ex-students and parents are invited to send in photographs: please also include details of the university you studied at and your degree to [rke@cdarwin.com](mailto:rke@cdarwin.com) by the end of September so that we can update the display. Thank you.

**The Sixth Form Team**

### Attend today: achieve tomorrow

Pupils need to be in school to realise their full potential so, as well as encouraging and recognising hard work, we also invest time and effort in promoting and rewarding individual attendance.

Whilst we appreciate that the odd day of illness can be unavoidable, we rely on parents to ensure pupils attend school if they are just feeling a little under the weather.

- If your child is really not well enough to come to school, please remember: you must call the absence line [see number below] **before 08:30** for **each day** of your child's absence.
- If you felt your child was well enough to come to school, we will support them to keep them in school and learning. Students should not call home to be collected if they are feeling unwell. If this happens, please call the school first and ask to speak to the Lead First Aider. Students should not be using their phones in school and are all aware that they need to see the Lead First Aider who will assess their situation and call home if required.
- Please ensure that we have up to date contact details for your child. If there is an emergency at school, medical or otherwise, we need to be able to contact you.
- No holidays should be taken during term time.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs Paterson, Student Services Manager**

### Vacancy for Library Supervisor

**11.30 am – 4.00 pm Monday – Friday (term time only)**

**Actual Salary £10,731 per annum**

Further details and application forms are available on our website or alternatively email: [smc@cdarwin.com](mailto:smc@cdarwin.com) for an application pack. CVs alone cannot be considered. Closing date: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

*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 a DBS Enhanced Disclosure and full background checks.*

## Pupils for Praise



**Congratulations** to Kelsey Pullin in 10NKO who took part in the Youth Development League [YDL] National Club finals last weekend and took the bronze medal in the U15 girls pole vault in the lower age group competition.

Kelsey competes for the Blackheath and Bromley Harriers Athletics Club which came joint second with Preston after Reading.

Blackheath and Bromley also managed to retain their U17/20 title in which means they will be representing GB again next year at the European club championships.

**Miss Case**

### Attendance percentage: 2017/2018

1st	Henslow	94.8%
2nd	Grant	94.6%
3rd	Wedgwood	94.4%
4th	Lyell	94.1%

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

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.