



19/01/2018

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Year 9 Growth Mindset

Last Wednesday all Year 9 students took part in a morning of activities related to further developing the habits and thinking associated with having a Growth Mindset attitude. The day was about risk-taking and mistake-making, encouraging pupils to step out of their comfort zone and learn from mistake-making to enable them to complete a task successfully. I understand the students responded very well and thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.

Year 11 Parents Evening

There was a very purposeful and focused atmosphere at Thursday's Year 11 Parents Evening. As usual I had conversations with a number of families in passing about how their children were getting on in general terms. These conversations are always very useful for me.

In the lead up to the summer's examinations, it is really important that our examination students focus on their attitude and work ethic; the need to revise and prepare for their more challenging papers in the summer requires this. I would therefore encourage all Year 11 students to sign up for the holiday revision classes which are being held during the Easter and May half-term holidays.

Sunil Chotai

Mayoral candidate consults School Council

On Monday this week, David Slade in Year 11 addressed a meeting of the School Council and outlined his plans to run in the inaugural election for Croydon's Young Mayor. Croydon is home to London's largest youth population with over 37,000 young residents and David has secured thirty signatures to get through the first stage of nominations.

He asked the School Council for feedback on the two key areas he plans to focus on in his manifesto: mental health and the provision of facilities and activities for young people in the borough.

Selected form groups across Charles Darwin School recently completed a survey on student well-being initiated by NHS Bromley. The general consensus was that pupils are often not aware of how or where to ask for help and support in the borough. As a result, many rely on talking to family, friends or school in difficult situations for example when they are suffering the stresses of exams. Responses to this survey also suggested that younger students were more likely to access on-line child support services. The School Council felt that young people could be given more information about where to go to seek help and advice in the community.

The mental well-being of students was also the subject of an earlier survey at Charles Darwin School, prior to the recent NHS Bromley survey, which resulted in developments in the established peer mentoring scheme and increased promotion of the school's in-house counselling service. The PHSE programme has also been expanded.

Whoever is elected Young Mayor will have a budget to help to improve services in Croydon for young people. David would like to see a local facility in the south east of the borough, similar to Legacy, a centre which has been opened in Thornton Heath.

"Young people are still learning and developing," said David, "and it is important they get the right services to support them. We need something closer to this end of the borough," he continued, "providing young people with *somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to*".

Deputy head teacher, Mrs Rees commended David for his ambition and commitment to making changes for the good of young people, qualities he shares with the members of the School Council.

Croydon residents aged 11 to 18 will vote for the Young Mayor of Croydon on Thursday 15 March 2018. We wish David well.



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.

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 22 to Friday 26 January

- 22 January 2018**—Year 7 bowling trip to reward 100% attendance
22 January 2018—Dance Competition semi finals for Years 7 and 8
23 January 2018—Dance Competition semi finals for Years 9 to 13
26 January 2018—Deadline for Sixth Form Applications
26 January 2018—Year 11 Pathways trip to Mansfield College, Oxford

Forthcoming events: spring term

- 1 February 2018**—Intermediate Maths Challenge
2 February 2018—Year 7 Cinema Night
5 February 2018—Dance Competition Final
7 February 2018—Year 8 Parents' evening

Wanted

Chemistry Technician
 36 hours per week, term time only
 £16,018 per annum

For further details please see our website: www.cdarwin.com

Stay Safe

Bromley Youth Policing Team has asked schools to remind young people at the start of a new term about the BYPT advice on keeping safe on the way to and from school. 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.

PC Coleman Sullivan

Attendance update

Please can we kindly remind parents of the following regarding attendance:

- You must call the Absence Line before 8:30 am for each day of your child's absence.
- 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 son/daughter. If there is an emergency at school, medical or otherwise, we need to be able to contact you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Paterson, Student Services Manager

PARENTS EVENINGS 2017/18

- Year 8:** 7 February 2018
Year 9: 7 March 2018
Year 12: 27 March 2018 [2]
Year 13: 27 March 2018 [2]
Year 10: 2 May 2018
Year 7: 16 May 2018

WANTED URGENTLY

The art department is in desperate need of old towels. If you have old papers at home, rather than putting them out for recycling, please bring them in to school and give them to Mrs Austin in art. Thank you.

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending
 12/01/2018

Joel Berry, Amy Holt, Jodie Shillito,
 Isaac Blunt, Mantha Radford and
 Andrew Handley from 8FLf
 Mrs Mills

★ **History Star of the Week** is awarded to Elsie Roffey in Year 11. History at GCSE is an extremely demanding subject and Elsie has shown resilience and commitment in meeting the challenges which the history course has thrown at her. Recent mock results reflect her excellent effort and shows a determination to do her very best. Well done Elsie.

Miss Zysemil

Well done to the U15 netball team who beat Farringtons 12-3. The girls worked really hard and played well as a team.

Miss Case

Good luck to our U14 girls football team who are playing their Kent Cup semi-final match tomorrow, Saturday, 20 January against Valley Park School in Maidstone. Fingers crossed for a place in the final!

Miss Curwood and the
 PE department



Congratulations to the winners of last half term's creative arts perseverance pins, which are awarded to students who have shown determination in their art or textiles lessons.

In Year 7: Ellen Wilson, William Reeves, Jack Counter, Freddie Jones, Andrew Waddington, Ben Griffiths, Daisy Pluck, Lily Smithson, Lewis Burton, Kevin Yu.

In Year 8: Lilly-Rose Hudson, Emma Zeelle, Louis Risky, Ria Peters, Oscar Godwin, Nyah Sawyer, Amy McCarthy, Izzi Doyle, Sophia Kichenside, Thea D'Apice.

In Year 9: for art - Chloe Bevan and Harry Lazarus and for textiles - Nicole Ingleby.

The Creative Arts Department