



28.09.2018

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

UCAS Information Evening

My thanks to all families who attended last Wednesday's UCAS Information Evening. The evening went very well and was also well attended. It was good to see the number of our students considering applications to university.

Presentation Evening

Preparations are well under way for our Presentation Evening on 18th October. All students in last year's Year 11 and Year 13 will have received an invitation and if they have not yet returned their reply slips they should do so by the end of next week. Our Guest of Honour this year is Louise Ward, an ex-student who is now a Director of Siemens with responsibility for Health & Safety, Environment and Well-Being. This is always a special occasion and I am looking forward to meeting Louise and catching up with our ex-students.

Volunteer Readers

We are looking for a number of volunteers to assist with reading in Year 7. Flexibility with regard to availability will be vital in order to meet the school timetable. Any parents interested should complete the non-teaching application form which can be found on our website under Key Information - Vacancies and return this to Julie Hodgkinson at jho@cdarwin.com. As is standard practice in schools, volunteers will need to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and will be subject to full background checks.

Sunil Chotai



Language learning brings benefits whatever your age: you are never too old to learn a language and to enjoy the opportunities it opens up. Even if you only know a few words of the language of the country that you visit (for example on holiday), this enables you to make new friends and contacts. Learning other peoples' languages is a way of helping us to understand each other better and overcome our cultural differences.

This week has seen a variety of activities taking place around the school to celebrate European Day of Languages, on Wednesday 26 September.

During registration, form tutors were encouraged to share any positive experiences they have had whilst learning a language whether they were studying at school or university or learning independently.

In Modern Foreign Languages lessons, students discussed the significance of the day, the benefits of being multi-lingual and why it is important to study and learn languages. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were also set a quiz about which teacher in the school could speak which additional language from a list comprising German, French, Turkish, Punjabi, Spanish, Dutch, Welsh, Greek, Portuguese, Gujarati, Urdu and Old English (Anglo Saxon).

"I would like to give particular praise to the Year 9 languages students who were fully involved," said Miss Ahmet who devised the quiz. "They were able to match many of the teachers to the languages on the list correctly. They have all taken languages as an option and are showing genuine interest in the importance of learning a language."

Prizes will be awarded next week.

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

Welcome to new staff

Hallo, Bonjour! I am Miss Wood and I teach French and German from Year 7 up to Year 13 (and can speak some Spanish too... un poco!). I also love to travel and have spent a lot of time travelling the world, as well as leading many tour groups around Europe over the past four years. I am very much looking forward to sharing my love of and passion for languages with my pupils here.



Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Monday 1 to Friday 5 October

29 September 2018 — Open Morning

1 October 2018 — late start for students

2 to 5 October 2018 — Open Week tours of the school

Forthcoming events: autumn term

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 November — Year 12 and 13 Chemistry in Action trip

12 to 18 November — Anti-bullying week

14 November 2018 — Year 9 Your Choice Your Voice

15 November 2018 — Sixth Form Open Evening

16 November 2018 — Year 12 Photography trip to London

23 November 2018 — Year 9 and 10 Stand Against Violence

27 November 2018 — Year 12 and 13 Computer Science in Action trip

28 November 2018 — Year 12 and 13 Physics in Action trip

Open Morning 2018

Saturday 29 September from 09.30—12.30

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

Thank to all those families who have baked cakes for the Open Morning.

See next week's issue for further details.



Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending

21.08.2018

Ruby Holmes, Luke Fosten
and Myesha Graham from 8NDY
Mrs Mills, Reception

Well done to Lewis Longley in 7WCa who was awarded the third place trophy for his age group at the South BMX Series last week-end. This is impressive since he missed the first rounds due to injury.

Although he just failed to retain the South Championship on Sunday, coming a close second, he received the hole-shot award for his age group. This is given to the first rider to reach the end of the first straight. We wish him good luck for the national races, which mark the end of the season this week-end.

Miss Case

Health matters

Please be aware: the school cannot routinely provide basic medical items such as plasters, throat lozenges or painkillers which should be brought from home.

If, for any reason, your child needs to take painkillers during the school day, they are allowed to bring their own into school, with a parent's permission. Please write a note in their planner stating clearly what they are taking.

Alternatively, if you prefer, you can give their medication to me to hold in Student Services.

You should also be aware however, that we cannot give students medication without first receiving permission from parents. This precaution is to minimise the risk of exceeding the recommended dosage. I will therefore contact you if your child asks for medication without prior notification.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Miss Allan, Lead first aider

STOP PRESS

Please note that the 664 and 684 buses are running an hour later on Monday to accommodate the late start after Open Morning.

Students are expected to be in school for 09:15.

Thank you.

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.