



19.10.2018

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

DOE Evening

Last Thursday we held an introductory evening for students interested in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Yet again interest is extremely high with approximately 90 families in attendance. The Duke of Edinburgh Award has developed really well over the last few years and the level of interest shown by students is a positive confirmation of the development of this provision.

Half Term

We come to the end of a hectic first half of the autumn term. Despite the busy nature of the half term it has been good overall and we have progressed well on many of our key priorities. The new Year 7 students seem to be settling in well, the new Year 12 have also made a solid start to life in the Sixth Form and we have worked hard to ensure that students in Years 11 and 13 have a good focus on the important examinations coming up for them in the summer.

The next half term will I am sure be equally busy with mock examinations, the school production and various other events. I hope all students and their families have a chance to enjoy the break.

Sunil Chotai

World Mental Health Day

On Wednesday 10th October, a group of year 9 and year 11 students performed at World Mental Health Day organised by Bromley, Lewisham and Greenwich Mind. The year 11 students shared scenes from the exam piece they are currently working on. The piece explored men's mental health and some of the reasons why some men feel reluctant to express their emotions and seek help. The year 9 piece was focused on positive mental health and the steps an individual might take to support their own mental health and well being.

Students were excellent ambassadors for the school and were warmly received by the audience. A big well done to Max Derbyshire, Heather Hannaford, Hanna Blunt, Beth Terry, Aimee Cheeseman, Erin Hartley, Aibha Stone, Isaac Blunt and Sean Cambridge for performing professionally and for communicating such important messages so thoughtfully.



Healthy Relationships Workshop

On Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th October, the relationships charity Tender visited the school to run a two day healthy relationships workshop. They worked with a group of year 8 students, who explored qualities in a healthy and unhealthy relationship as well as looking at the types of abuse and early warning signs which might indicate a controlling relationships.



The 2 days culminated in a presentation to the rest of the year group where students taught their peers key messages they had learnt. The students should be proud of what they achieved. They worked very hard over the 2 days and responded sensitively and maturely to some difficult subject matters. Well done!

Year 7 Settling in Tea and Charity Cake Sale

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Settling in Tea last week, taking the opportunity to meet the Year 7 form tutors. The support from parents is always appreciated, especially when reflecting on the transition period from primary schools. It was a very busy afternoon with 93.1% of our parents attending.

Our thanks to everyone who donated cakes for the cake sale in support of Cancer Research UK. We raised £260 with donations from 55 families, and purchases from many more! Well done to 7WCa and 7KWo who donated the most amount of cakes (inter-form competition points will be awarded!).



The top 3 cakes, as judged by a combination of staff, student voice and prefects, are as follows: Chocolate Flake cake, Halloween spiders web cake, and Chocolate Orange marble cake. There is a little prize waiting in the year 7 office for the bakers of the winning cakes!



Mrs Wheeler

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Forthcoming events: autumn term

22 to 26 October 2018 — Half term

Monday 29 October 2018 — INSET—School closed to pupils

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

28 November 2018 — Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening

5 December 2018 — Christmas Concert at St Mark's Church

6 to 9 December 2018 — Year 9/10 trip to German Christmas markets

10 to 16 December 2018 — Year 7 penny collection

14 December 2018 — Year 7 Christmas Fair

14 December 2018 — Christmas Jumper Charity Day

17 to 20 December 2018 — performances of the school production

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending
19.10.2018

Jack Lazarus, Madison Dauris,
Libby Glass and Georgie Horn, 8JSt

Mrs Mills, Reception

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

Christmas Raffle

The Friends of Charles Darwin are holding a Christmas Raffle to raise much needed funds for the school. Shortly after half term each student will be coming home with raffle tickets to sell amongst family and friends. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 20th December (at the Christmas Production). We

hope that you will support this great fundraiser and wish you the very best of luck in the draw.



Attendance Update

Students need to be in school to realise their full potential.

Unfortunately there has been a noticeable increase recently in the number of students coming to Student Services with holiday requests during term time.

Wherever possible please book holidays out of school time to minimise any disruption to your child's learning. The school holiday dates are available well in advance on the school website in order for families to plan their holidays around these dates.

Thank you.

Mrs Paterson

Phil The Bag

The Friends of Charles Darwin School have arranged a "Phil the Bag" collection for November.

Unwanted textiles can be brought into school inside black 'bin' sacks on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st October. Phil the Bag makes payment per kg –

so every little helps. Please see the separate flyer which accompanies this issue of the Link for full details.

We hope that you will be able to support this easy fundraiser.



Amazon Smile



The Friends of Charles Darwin School have subscribed to the Amazon Smile fund-raising scheme. Simply log in to www.smile.amazon.co.uk with your existing Amazon Account to sign up and

select Friends of Charles Darwin School as your supported charity. In future do your shopping at www.smile.amazon.co.uk and donations to our cause will be generated automatically. A very simple "How To" guide accompanies this week's Link.

Are you aware the Friends of Charles Darwin has its own Facebook page? Why not check us out and keep up to date with our news. Just search for "Friends of Charles Darwin School".



HISTORY STAR OF THE WEEK

Jhanel Hays, Year 8

Jhanel has made a really good start to history so far. Jhanel has shown an excellent effort in all lessons she is such a hard working student with such a lovely attitude to school life, keep this up Jhanel.

Mrs Furness

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.