



29.11.2019

# The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

### Year 12/13 Parents Evening

My thanks to all families who attended the Sixth Form Parents' Evening on Wednesday. There was, as always, a very positive and purposeful atmosphere evident. The parents I spoke to seemed very keen and pleased with the input from staff and the students themselves really appreciated the opportunity to discuss their progress so far this term as well as their aspirations for the future.

### Biggin Hill Lights

On Saturday the choir, led by Miss Mace, performed at the Biggin Hill Christmas Lights switch-on. The choir sang beautifully and there were many comments from bystanders as to the quality of their performance. My thanks to all those who took part.

### Two Week Half Term

Following my letter to all parents last week about the proposal to introduce a two-week half term during the Autumn term, I would like to thank all those parents who have responded. A reminder that the consultation period runs until Friday 13th December and responses should be sent to: [consultation@cdarwin.com](mailto:consultation@cdarwin.com).

Sunil Chotai



Attached to this issue of the Link you will find instructions on how to sign up for Amazon Smile.

This is the simplest way to raise funds for the Friends of Charles Darwin School. Your Prime membership will still work from this site. Please take 2 minutes to read it (and a couple more to sign up).

Many thanks.



## YEAR 11 ROAD CYCLING AWARENESS COURSE



Over the last two weeks the GCSE PE students have visited the Cyclopark in Gravesend for a two day road cycling course. This was in an effort to improve their practical grade. The weather wasn't the best for all four days but the students knuckled down, listened to the instructors and demonstrated excellent cycling skills.

One of the hardest parts of the course was the final 10 mile race that all students had to complete. Karl Stacey, Mason Pridham, Charlie Warne, Adam Parkinson, Tiegue Byrne and Dylan Wood all were within a minute of completing this in 30 minutes! Needless to say the minibus was very quiet on the way home to Darwin!

All students were exceptionally well behaved, resilient and hard working. We are looking forward to seeing these students thrive next year and go on to exceed their potential.

Mr Simpson



## END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS Thursday 19 December 2019



Pupils will be dismissed early on the last day of term as follows:

<b>Year 13</b>	<b>dismissed from 9.50am</b>
<b>Year 12</b>	<b>dismissed from 10.30am</b>
<b>Years 10 &amp; 11</b>	<b>dismissed at 11:30am</b>
<b>Years 7, 8 &amp; 9</b>	<b>dismissed at 11:40am</b>

The 664 and 684 bus services will leave the school grounds at 11:45am  
The R8 will leave at 12:28pm (normal timetable) from Jail Lane (outside school grounds)  
The R2 will leave at 12:24pm on Main Road towards Petts Wood

**All students should register as usual at 8:30am on Monday 6 January 2020 for the start of the Spring Term.**

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.

## Monday 2nd - Friday 6th December 2019

### Monday 2nd December

Year 11 Pre Public Exams  
8.30am Year 12/13 Assembly

### Tuesday 3rd December

Year 11 Pre Public Exams  
8.30am Year 7 Assembly

### Wednesday 4th December

Year 11 Pre Public Exams  
8.30am Year 11 Assembly  
6.00pm Christmas Concert - St Marks Church

### Thursday 5th December

Year 11 Pre Public Exams  
8.30am Year 12/13 Assembly

### Friday 6th December

Year 11 Pre Public Exams  
Year 9 & 10 French & German Christmas Markets Trip  
8.30am Year 8 Assembly

## Forthcoming Events

### DECEMBER

**Tuesday 10 December** - Student History Conference  
**Friday 13 December** - Christmas Jumper Day  
**Friday 13 December** - Christmas Lunch  
**Monday 16 - Wednesday 18 December** - School Production  
**Thursday 19 December** - End of Autumn Term

### JANUARY 2020

**Monday 06 January** - Spring Term starts  
**Thursday 23 January** - Year 11 Parents' Evening (2)

## Thank you to Year 7's

Thank you to all the Year 7's who donated cakes for the settling in Tea before half term. We raised just over £340 which will go to the Alzheimer's Society.

The next Charity event for Year 7 is the Student Christmas Fair on Friday 13th December where all money raised will also go to the Alzheimer's Society. The students will be able to visit the fair during the day and have the chance to buy sweets, cakes and also get involved in a bottles and chocolate tombola. The success of our cake sale was down to all of the donations that we were given by the students and their families. We are asking for donations of the following products: Sweets, cakes, chocolate and bottles or cans of drink.

If possible we would like the chocolate, sweets and bottles by Friday 6th December. The cakes we would like from the week beginning the 9th of December due to the sell by dates. Please could all donations come to the Year 7 office, where they will be gratefully received. Thank you in advance for all of the donations. We hope the Christmas Fair is as successful or even more successful than the Settling in Tea.

Mr Bidwell

### Duty Pupils for Praise Week ending 29th November 2019

Many thanks to Summer McAdam, Sam Bussy, Evie Thompson, Phoebe Keenor and Sophia Keenor, Year 8.

Miss Payne  
Reception

### Top Attendance Week ending 22nd November 2019

Year	Tutor group	Percentage
7	7SDa/WDa	97.1%
8	8WCa/AGi	99.3%
9	9NDy	96.7%
10	10CAh	96.7%
11	11NKO	96.8%
12	12ACg	98.6%
13	13RPi	97.7%

## Christmas Jumper Day Friday 13 December 2019

Students are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on Friday 13 December for a minimum £1 donation. If everyone gave £1, the total raised would be £1,300 and if everyone donated just £3, the total would rise to £4,000.

Remember, you don't have to wear a jumper to donate. The chosen charities this year are:

Year 7 - Alzheimer's  
Year 8 - Prostate Cancer  
Year 9 - Aoife's Bubbles  
Year 10 - Independent Aid  
Year 11 - Terrence Higgins Trust  
Year 12/13 - Teenage Cancer Trust

Please support the day, feel festive and give generously. Thank you.



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