



01.02.2019

# The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

## HEADLINES

### Year 9 Growth Mindset

On Wednesday our Year 9 students took part in 'perseverance' Growth Mindset sessions where they were given a range of challenges to complete, involving developing communication skills and working under pressure whilst having some basic physical and communication elements removed. The most challenging part of the morning I understand was to build a spaghetti tower in teams, each with one hand tied behind their back and with no verbal communication allowed. Messy and challenging, but fun and thought provoking! The students really enjoyed the sessions which form part of our Growth Mindset programme.

### Proposed Merger with Impact Trust

Just a reminder to parents that the consultation period for the proposed merger with Impact Trust closes on Friday 15th February – immediately before half term. If parents have any concerns about the merger or questions they feel have not been answered could they please email them to me via [consultation@cdarwin.com](mailto:consultation@cdarwin.com).

Sunil Chotai

### RE M I N D E R YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING AND REPORT COLLECTION

Thursday, 7 February 2019  
3.15pm – 6.15 pm

This is an opportunity for pupils and their families to come and speak to staff about their progress.

Oz Schoolwear will be selling school uniform and PE kit during the evening.

Governors will also be present on the evening .

Refreshments Available  
(courtesy of the Friends of Charles Darwin School)

## Coaching success for Y12 Amelia



Congratulations to Amelia Porter for achieving her Level 1 Coaching Award in Trampolining. Amelia has been a keen trampolinist since Year 7 at Charles Darwin School. Since regularly attending trampolining club she has aspired to coach and help other students improve in a sport which she loves. Last weekend Amelia completed her trampolining assessment and is now a Level 1 coach. We are really fortunate that Amelia helps our current coach Tab with the school sessions. Well done.

Miss W Case

## Science and Technology Challenge Finals

Last summer, students in Year 9 took part in a Science and Technology Challenge Day and two of our students, Paula Szczyrba & Taylan Ahmet were so successful in their paired tasks they were awarded overall winners of the day and were invited to participate in the Challenge Final event at Queen Mary University London.

The final challenge involved working on a single activity led by MCS university students, and competing against other winning teams from across the South of England. This was a robotics challenge and students were tasked with programming a vehicle that would successfully navigate around a course and produce a presentation on the future of artificial intelligence.

Professor Kaspar Althoefer, Professor of Robotics Engineering at Queen Mary University presented prizes to the first, second and third placed teams. The competition was fierce and although our school team were amazing in the programming and presentation tasks we were sadly not in the top three.

Both Paula and Taylan were exemplary students through the entire event, and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. I would like to congratulate them both for getting to the final and for excellent attitude throughout the day.

Mrs K MacKay



## Interior Design Club

Our lovely Interior Design students are offering parents and carers the opportunity to buy bespoke Valentines Day cards. There are 8 designs to choose from and you can buy them on ParentPay for £1.20.



They will be delivered to your son/daughter at school to take home. They are printed on card with a red envelope and as you can see they really are special. Students have worked really hard on this venture.

All money raised will go to the Interior Design Club which as you can see from our weekly updates are doing some amazing things at CDS.



## SPRING TERM DATES 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 15th February  
 Half term: Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February  
 Monday 25th February – Friday 5th April

### Notes:

Good Friday – 19th April 2019  
 Easter Monday – 22nd April 2019

Summer Term starts Tuesday 23rd April 2019

## Adverse Weather



Should the school need to be closed due to adverse weather conditions, a notice will be posted on the school website: [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) and an announcement recorded on the main switchboard number, 01959 574043.



## Attendance Update

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.

Student Services



## DARWIN LEISURE CENTRE

**Pay as you go** (*gym use*)  
**£5 per session**

**Centre Member** (*gym use & membership rates*) **£25 a year & £4.50 per session**

**GOLD Membership** (*unlimited gym use & membership rates*)  
**£25 a month**

**A variety of private classes, facilities and pitch hire is available**

Enquiries to 01959 540606  
 email: [leisurecentre@cdarwin.com](mailto:leisurecentre@cdarwin.com)

See school website

[www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) for full details



# DANCE 2019



## Charles Darwin School Year 7-13 Dance Competition

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Main Hall 7.00 p.m.**  
(Doors open 6.30 p.m.)

**Tickets: £4.00**  
on sale in PE corridor  
at break time  
on Monday 04 February



### Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Sunil Chotai BSc

Jail Lane  
Biggin Hill  
Westerham  
Kent TN16 3AU  
Tel: 01959 574043  
enquiries@cdarwin.com

### Exam Invigilators £8.50 per hour

We are looking for suitable persons to join our dedicated pool of Exam Invigilators responsible for the invigilation of public and internal exams and tests. Invigilators will be present throughout the whole exam and may also undertake tasks such as checking registers against scripts and packing them at the end of exams. The main exam season runs from 13<sup>th</sup> May – 28<sup>th</sup> June and applicants should be available from 08.30 for the morning session and/or from 13.00 for the afternoon session. Training will be provided.

Closing date: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Please note: all applicants must complete the Charles Darwin School application form which is available on our website: [www.cdarwin.com](http://www.cdarwin.com) (information/job vacancies). CVs alone will not be considered.**

*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 an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and full background checks.*

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.

## Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

### Forthcoming events Spring Term 2019

#### FEBRUARY

- 6 February** - Spring Music Fest  
**7 February** - Year 8 Parents' Evening  
**9 February** - Trip to WW1 Battlefields of Ypres  
**11 February** - Dance Competition final

#### MARCH

- 4 to 7 March** - Year 12 Geography residential  
**5 March** - Year 12 & 13 Theatre Trip, 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'  
**5 March** - GCSE Drama Trip, 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'  
**6 March** - Year 9 Parents' Evening  
**14 March** - Year 8 Options Evening  
**27 March** - Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening [2]  
**28 March** - Year 11 Parents' Information Evening

#### MAY

- 2 May** - Year 10 Parents' Evening  
**8 May** - Year 7 Parents' Evening  
**17 May** - Year 7 Growth Mindset  
**23 May** - Year 13 Leavers' Assembly  
**24 May** - Year 13 Leavers' BBQ

#### JUNE

- 6 and 7 June** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition  
**12 June** - Year 6 into 7 Induction Evening  
**13 June** - Year 6 into 7 Induction Interviews  
**18 June** - Year 6 into 7 Induction Interviews  
**21 June** - Sixth Form Ball  
**23 to 25 June** - Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition  
**26 June** - Year 12 Driven by Consequences  
**27 June** - Year 12 Ecology Field trip to Westerham

### Pupils for Praise Duty pupils of the week ending 01.02.2019

Clark Campbell-Brooks and Chloe  
May Jarvis Walker, 8MHU

**Mrs Mills, Reception**

### Parents Evenings 2019

**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

### History Star of the Week

**Lourdes Williams 7SAi**



Lourdes works extremely hard and has produced some excellent class and homework. She contributes in class and explains her views clearly. An excellent role model to her peers. Keep up the good work.

**Mrs Ruth**

## School Experience Programme

Do you want to know more about what teachers do and whether teaching is the career for you? We offer a day with us finding out about teaching as a career, followed by two days in one of our schools.

Our next session is in:  
Chislehurst  
7th March 2019

Contact us today to book your place:  
Email [administrator@gradteach.co.uk](mailto:administrator@gradteach.co.uk)



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