



13.10.2023

Issue No: 1098

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

SHARP Project

My thanks to Mrs. Rees for organising the first session of the SHARP project which took place on Wednesday. The students reacted incredibly maturely to what was a very hard-hitting workshop through virtual reality and art. The next workshop will take place on 7th November and will be for a whole day. It is a real privilege to be involved in such a ground-breaking programme covering such an important and emotive topic.

Friends of the Parks

On Thursday afternoon Mr. Jones and I met with Mr. Hagon, Chair of the Biggin Hill Friends of the Parks, to discuss ways that students can bring learning outside the classroom to the woodland area and sensory garden of the Rec – known as Mine Shaw. The aims would be to bring learning to life in a different environment, learn respect and appreciation for the local community and get a sense of doing something positive by being part of a project.

And finally ...

We come to the end of what has been a very busy term. I hope all students and their families take some time to enjoy themselves over the break and I look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 31st October (Monday 30th October is an Inset Day).

Aston Smith

GCSE POD

Students in year 10 and 11 have had their usernames and passwords changed so that they are the same as logging in to SatchelOne and Tassomai. This makes the 'single sign on' process easier.

GCSE POD is a programme that we subscribe to that enables students to work independently outside of the lesson time on exam-board specific learning in preparation for their final exams. The PODS are bitesize instructional videos that students can watch. From this, teachers can set 'assignments' or 'check and challenge' learning pathways to enable independent revision. Students can also work independently on topics that they need to. Feedback goes to students and teachers, including identifying any gaps in knowledge.

There are instructional videos and guidance for parents on the website, in addition to how to download the app for android or iPhone. GCSE POD provide plenty of evidence and research that shows regular use improves GCSE grades. Each month, there will be a prize draw for the highest users in each year group which will be Amazon vouchers.

Mr Jones

A reminder to parents that as well as the LINK and the 'latest news' section on the website, you can follow the latest events happening in our school community on:

CDarwinSchool



CDarwinSchool



Mr Jones



Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Sixth Form Open Evening

Tuesday 14th November 2023

6pm - 8pm

Presentations in the Main Hall at 6pm and 7pm



No
booking
required

Prospective students and parents are welcome to meet current subject staff and students to discuss the exciting opportunities our Sixth Form has to offer between 6pm and 8pm.

"Students in the Sixth Form benefit from an individualised approach and achieve well"



SCAN ME



Tel: 01959 574043

Email: sixthform@cdarwin.com

Website: www.cdarwin.com

Charles Darwin School,
Jail Lane,
Biggin Hill,
Kent,
TN16 3AU

100% of students wishing to attend university gained a place.

Achievement Points Leader Board



Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 01.09.2023 – 12.10.2023

Jade St John	8RSi/RBr	60
Leah Benwell	7SHu/WCa	50
Alan Ioannou	9RMo	49
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	48
Daniel Assemien	8SHo	47
James Azzopardi	8ZHa	47
Harrison Gower	7NYe	46
Archer Hurstwaite	7STe	44
Phoebe Vincent	9RMo	44
Faith Boye	7SHu/WCa	43



Top highest achievers per each year for the period 01.09.2023– 12.10.2023

Leah Benwell	7SHu/WCa	50
Jade St John	8RSi/RBr	60
Alan Ioannou	9RMo	49
Jessica Dorsett	10ZPa	37
Tillie Bansel	11SWr	31
Scarlett Towersey	12JDa	17
Piper Roseman	13MCR	14

Art and Textiles

On Wednesday 11 October 30 Year 11 Art and Textiles students stayed after school for a one off workshop 3-4.30pm. It was really busy and a positive working environment. Students learnt to do Sgraffito, mono types and batik, creating two double pages of work for their coursework projects.

Miss Doughty



Reading Corner at Charles Darwin

Congratulations to Pallika Ramnath 7Sma who is the first Y7 student to achieve their Bronze Reading badge for the Hundreds and Thousands Reading Club.

Since September, Pallika has read over 1000 pages. Pallika particularly recommends this book:

Running on the Roof of the World by Jess Butterworth



This book is all about a girl named Tash [Tashila] and she resides in Tibet with her Mum and Dad. She has a best friend called Sam. The Chinese have started to invade Tibet and the Dalai Lama has gone into exile.

The Chinese had set a curfew but Tash and her Mum were still outside. They rushed inside and thankfully didn't get caught. Her Dad is part of the secret resistance. By day he writes the news and by night he is writing for the secret resistance.

One day, Tash's parents are caught and taken to the Chinese police for questioning. This book is about her quest to save her parents and bring things back to normal...

Please check out the 'Whole School Reading' link on the school website or see Mrs Pitt for more information about The Hundreds and Thousands Reading Club – it would be great to see even more students clocking up their reading miles and receiving bronze, silver and gold reading badges!

Mrs Pitt



Black History Month

To celebrate Black history month the library has a display of books and posters, these were displayed by a year 8 student Owen Asemota.

Mrs Adams

Trip to Bromley Library

Last Friday Mrs Lamb and I took 7 year 9 students to meet the author Tia Fisher at Bromley Library. Tia is the author of Crossing The Line which is a true story about her friend's son who got involved with County Lines.

All the students took part in a creative writing session and I'm delighted to say that Tia has left encouraging comments on the work of our students!

Well done year 9, we are very proud of you!

Mrs Adams



Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 6 October 2023.



7KMa	99.2%
8LBr	98.3%
9SAr	94.1%
10NKO	95.7%
11ADo	95.6%
12JDa	100%
13DWa	100%

As you are aware attendance is linked to a student's attainment and at Charles Darwin we work closely with the parents to keep students' attendance levels as high as possible. Please could we ask that if your child feels unwell in the morning (headache etc.) and they do feel better later on, that you send them in. This will benefit them as they will not miss a whole days learning.

Please can we also remind parents to call in before 8.30am for each day of your child's absence and not rely on receiving a text from us chasing their absence.

Thank you for your continued support.

Students Services Team

A reminder that pupils **should not** contact home if they feel unwell but should be seen and assessed by Mrs Booth, our Health Care Lead.

Parents should be aware that pupils will not be sent home without being seen by Mrs Booth in the first instance.

If your child contacts you directly, please phone the school to confirm whether they are unwell and have permission to go home.

Thank you

Student Services Team



Parents should be advised that the school does not provide students with Paracetamol unless it is a medical emergency.

We have a limited supply in school and prefer that medication wherever possible is administered at home.

Many thanks for your support.

**Mrs Booth
Lead First Aid**

Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:

Reminder – please can parents call the absence line each day of your child's absence before 8.30am. This ensures we know your child is safe and their absence is authorised where possible. Our Attendance Officer is having to spend an increased amount of time each day chasing for responses.

Thank you for your support.

Charles Darwin PTA Update

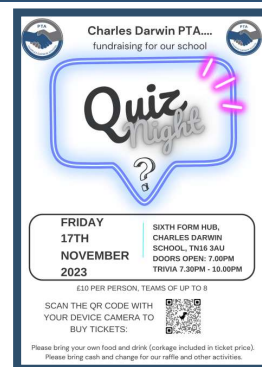


Quiz Night – Friday 17th November 2023 7.00pm

We are busy planning for quiz night. Tickets are £10 per ticket and quizzers can bring their own food and drink. We already have teams from various year groups, a PTA team and also some members of staff so it will be a great night. We have managed to secure some exceptional prizes for our raffle which we will be selling soon to the full school community via our online shop.

Please book your quiz night tickets now via our new online PTA shop:

<https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com>



Easyfundraising – Raising money for our school

Charles Darwin School PTA are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online.

Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/charles-darwin-school-pta/>

For every supporter that downloads the app prior to the 1st November 2023, we receive £2 so please take a few moments to download the app and add us as your cause, not forgetting to switch on the browser extension so your shopping automatically creates donations.

Big thanks to our recent new supporters: Lisa B, Hazel C, Linda W, Helen W, Kayleigh B and Jo H.

Monthly cash prize draw

To promote our monthly draw, we are offering a £100 cash prize to all new and existing subscribers for our October draw.

Congratulations to Melanie L for winning our September cash prize.

You can sign up via our online shop: <https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com> from £1 per month.

Future PTA Events for 2023/2024

We are looking forward to confirming some other future events with you including:

- December – Dress down day
- March 2024 – Quiz Night v3
- April 2024 – Year 7 & 8 Disco

PTA Team

If you would like to be included in our news and update e-mail communications, please let us know by e-mailing us at friends@cdarwin.com

We would love to hear from you.

Year 8 Duty Pupils:

Erin Light	Jocelyn Osei
Poppy Mason	Bobby Sayers
Reggie Miller	Charlotte Silver
Ava Newton	Emma Unwin
George Murphy	Asher Mailet-Elzein



Student Services Duty Pupils

Zara Rowden
Harry Reilly
Ezekiel Owusu-Prince
Ralph Meah
Lennen Mitchel

They have been fantastic this week, and their help has been invaluable.



A massive congratulations to Rodney Cairns in Year 7 who has just received the 'Bob Scekyls' award this week for his work with the Military. Rodney went to Normandy in 2019 to meet veterans from WW2 and has been involved in raising money for the Normandy trust. Rodney met numerous Falkland veterans in 2022. Rodney was made a honorary member of the NVA (Normandy Veterans Association) by Harry Billange who was responsible for building the memorial in Normandy. Rodney plans to visit Normandy again in his family's 1943 jeep with his godfather.

Well Done Rodney, we are extremely proud to have you in our school and jeep up the hard work.

Miss Dobney

Singing Lessons

Singing lessons available at Charles Darwin. Please use the link below to apply.

<https://ukbromley.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=738#/Course/113/0/0>

**Charles Darwin PTA....**
fundraising for our school

**Quiz Night**

**FRIDAY
17TH
NOVEMBER
2023**

**SIXTH FORM HUB,
CHARLES DARWIN
SCHOOL, TN16 3AU
DOORS OPEN: 7.00PM
TRIVIA 7.30PM - 10.00PM**

£10 PER PERSON, TEAMS OF UP TO 8

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH
YOUR DEVICE CAMERA TO
BUY TICKETS:



Please bring your own food and drink (corkage included in ticket price).
Please bring cash and change for our raffle and other activities.

Dates for the Diary

October

16th October - 27th October - Half term

30th October - INSET DAY

Reminder:

30th October - INSET DAY

School closed to pupils

November

14th November - Sixth Form Open Evening

17th November - Quiz Night, 7pm

17th November - Trip: Chemistry in Action Lectures at the Emmanuel Centre

21st November - Trip: Science Live (Physics), Emmanuel Centre, London, Yr12 & 13,

22nd November - Year 13 Parents' evening

24th November - Trip: Art & Textiles Alexander McQueen and V&A Trip, Yr12 & Y13

27th November - Trip: National Theatre, 'The House of Bernarda Alba' - Drama, Yrs 12 & 13

December

1st December - Trip: German Christmas Market - MFL, Yrs 9, 10, 12&13

1st December - Year 7-11 Flu Vaccinations

11th December - School Production

12th December - School Production

13th December - School Production

15th December - End of Term

2023-24 Term Dates

Autumn 2023

Tuesday 29th August – Friday 13th October

Half Term: Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December - Monday 1st January

Spring 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

Half Term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

Easter Holiday: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Summer 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

(Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday)

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June – Thursday 18th July

INSET Days - School closed to students

Monday 30th October 2023

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Friday 26th January 2024

Note:

Good Friday 29th March 2024

Easter Monday 1st April 2024

Harrison Catering

Please see attached separately MENU Week 1 and Mid Morning Break Menu for the week commencing 31st October.



Join our monthly draw during October for just £1 per month and be in with a chance to...

WIN £100



SCAN ME!

Or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/34ys3t3v>

Enter our prize draw AND raise money
to support our school.

All current participants will be included
in the October £100 draw.

teachsport

BUZZERS ACADEMIES

OCTOBER HALF-TERM 2023

Percussion • Circus Skills • Gymnastics • Sports • Archery • Boxing
Sand Art • Taekwondo • Dance • Science • Athletics • Cooking

Where?

BECKENHAM - Clare House Primary School, Overbury Avenue, Beckenham, BR3 6PY

BROMLEY - St Mark's Primary School, Aylesbury Road, Bromley, BR2 0QR

ORPINGTON - The Highway Primary School, The Highway, Orpington, BR6 9DJ

PETTS WOOD - St James' Primary School, Maybury Close, Petts Wood, BR5 1BL

WEST WICKHAM - Hawes Down Primary School, The Mead, West Wickham, BR4 0BA

Who?

Boys and Girls aged 4 (Reception class) to 12

When?

Week 1 - **Monday 16th to Friday 20th October**

&

Week 2 - **Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October**

8.30am-5.30pm (Extended day) or 10am-4pm (Academy day)

Price?

£34 per day (Academy day)

£6 morning extended hours & £6 afternoon extended hours

BOOK: www.buzzersbromley.co.uk

ENQUIRE: buzzers.bromley@teachsport.org



WHEN?

February half-term

Easter holiday

May half-term

Summer holiday

October half-term

Christmas



Our Buzzers Academies are aimed at children aged 4 to 12 years and are tailored to suit all sporting interests and abilities. All of our Academies are based around **Sports**, **Performing Arts** (Dance, Drama & Gymnastics) and **Team Games**. Each day of our Academies are tailored to ensure, inclusion and maximum participation in a **fun** and **safe** environment. Our team will ensure that all children make **new friends**, **are physically active** and **have their say** on the Academy day-to-day activities.

Throughout the Academy week, there will also be various '**Special Events**' such as Archery, Percussion, Fencing, Taekwondo, Cooking, Sand Art, Science, Circus Skills, First Aid and SEN/Disability Sports.

All Buzzers Academy staff hold enhanced DBS certificates and are trained in First Aid, Safeguarding Children and Child Protection. All senior (Lead) Buzzers staff come from a school based PE teaching background, therefore each Academy day will have a '**learning outcome**' focused around:

- **ABC's** (Agility, Balance & Co-ordination)
- **Communication Skills**
- **Leadership**
- **Team Building**

Follow us on **Facebook**, **Instagram** & **TikTok** - @BuzzersBromley

Download the Buzzers **APP** - search 'Buzzers Bromley' on your App Store

BOOK & PAY - www.buzzersbromley.co.uk





TIME TO Celebrate 'SEND'SATIONAL OCTOBER!

LET'S SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON EVERYTHING THAT MAKES OUR SEND CHILDREN UNIQUE.

WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR SEND CHILDREN AND WOULD LOVE YOU TO SHARE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, BIG AND SMALL.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR CELEBRATORY COFFEE MORNING WHERE YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE THE STARS. WE ARE CREATING A DISPLAY/MONTAGE STARRING OUR 'SEND'SATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE AND WHAT MAKES THEM UNIQUE AND WONDERFUL.

Take part and shine the spotlight on your child. There is still time to contribute...please send to BCPadmin@bromley.gov.uk by Wednesday the 11th October

Send us their drawings, photographs, little videos, voice notes, songs, poems, stories & letters - all are welcome. We will be sharing it on BCP's social media and website. Please join us at the Grand Premier at Blenheim Children and Family Centre on 16th October 2023 11am - 1pm.

All ages welcome!

we look forward to seeing you all on the day!




Please see attached separately a poster from Bromley Y about their upcoming sessions regarding Managing Anxious Thoughts.

Pupil absence line: 01959 574043, option 1:

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