



26.04.2019

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all students after the Easter holiday. I trust all families managed to enjoy a restful and relaxing break. This coming half term much of our work will be focusing on preparing our Year 11 and Year 13 students for the imminent public examinations. The number of students who attended the Easter revision lessons was impressive and over the last couple of days I must have spoken to about a dozen students from Year 11 to find out their views of Easter School. Without exception the students were keen to tell me how valuable it was and how much they appreciated an opportunity to undertake some structured revision and how thankful they were of staff who had given up their holiday time to help them.

Ski Trip

This year's ski trip was a great success; "no injuries to report" is always very pleasing when hearing about a returning ski trip! Providing an opportunity for our students to experience enriching activities of this sort is vitally important and is very much appreciated by parents and students alike and activities of this nature often come up in conversation with parents. Staff giving up their valuable personal time to facilitate such events is very much appreciated by all.

From all accounts the trip was extremely positive. Over half the group had never been skiing before and their progress on the slopes was incredible. All the students were excellent ambassadors for the school, they were polite to staff, ski instructors and reps and conducted themselves in an excellent manner when moving around towns or the slopes. My thanks and congratulations to them all.

Sunil Chotai

KITZBUHEL SKI TRIP

This year CDS went Skiing to a new resort called Kitzbuhel in Austria. We took 41 students, a large number of which were first time skiers. The first day was a huge learning curve for the majority as they learned how to put boots on and how to stand up with skis on. For some students they weren't used to the physical nature of skiing and therefore had to overcome a fair amount of physical adversity to see if they had what it took to get down a slope without falling over.



The first day we had a few tantrums and negative body language, however day 2 was a turning point for all. In the 13 ski trips I have attended I have never seen such quick progress from a group of beginners. Credit to the instructors and the students, but by day three they were all using chair lifts and going up and down blue runs. It is not uncommon for beginners to be on nursery slopes for two to three days. This progress ultimately meant all students got the full ski trip experience. They were travelling around the mountains with ease and enjoying the sights of the distant Alps.



Thanks to all students for conducting themselves independently throughout the week and representing the school in an excellent fashion. Also to the staff who attended the trip to support me, they were invaluable in their support and in giving up a week of their holiday to support our students.

The only negative from my point of view was the boys losing bowling to the girls!

Mr Simpson

Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Forthcoming events Spring Term 2019

MAY

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

JUNE

- 6 and 7 June** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition
11 June - GCSE Art and Textiles Private View
12 June - Year 6 into 7 Induction Evening
13 June - Year 6 into 7 Induction Interviews
18 June - Year 6 into 7 Induction Interviews
18 June - A Level Art and Textiles Private View
21 June - Year 8 HPV1 Vaccinations
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
28 June - Year 11 Ball

JULY

- 1 July** - Year 12 Taster Day
1 to 5 July - Year 7 Penny - Collection
3 July - Sports Awards
5 July - Sports Day
8 to 10 July - Silver Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition
17 and 18 July - Enrichment days

Pupils for Praise

Duty pupils of the week ending 26.04.19

Sam Tallis, Savannah Tuaima, Alfie Humphreys, Eleanor Benke, Tyler Skinner and Emily Browning

Mrs Mills, Reception

REMINDER PARENTS' EVENING AND REPORT COLLECTION

YEAR 10 - Thursday, 2 May 2019
3.15pm - 6.15 pm

YEAR 7 - Wednesday, 8 May 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)

YEAR 11 REVISION / GCSE BOOSTER CLASSES

	Lunchtime	After school
Monday		Computer Science, Art & Textiles (AR3)
Tuesday	History	Computer Science
Wednesday		Dance, Drama, Art & Textiles (AR3), Film & Media, IT, Product Design (by appointment), Art Focus
Thursday	Computer Science	English Speaking & Listening, Product Design (by appointment), BTEC Technology, Film & Media, Art & Textiles (AR3)
Friday		Film & Media

*Science department will issue specific session content details separately. Music/Business Studies offer sessions by appointment

Subject areas will inform students of rooms

SUMMER TERM CLUBS

Boys Cricket (all years)

Monday 15.00 - 16.15
Mr Burtonshaw/Mr Simpson/Mr Bidwell/Mr Eckersall

Girls Cricket (all years)

Wednesday 15.00 - 16.15
Miss Dobney/Miss Case

Girls Rounders, Years 7, 8

Tuesday 15.00 - 16.15
Mrs Wray/Mrs Wheeler

Girls Rounders, Years 9, 10

Thursday 15.00 - 16.15
Miss Dobney/Miss Case

Trampoline Club

Thursday 15.00 - 16.00 - KS3
Thursday 16.00 - 17.00 - KS4

This is a paid club held in the Small Gym. Students will need to speak to Mrs Wray to get a letter to join.

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.