



15.02.2019

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Dance Competition

Unfortunately I was unable to attend Monday's Dance Competition. However I am very reliably informed that everything went extremely well and that the atmosphere in the hall was very vibrant and lively. The quality of the performances was again very high and the competitiveness and rivalry was very strong. It was clear that the students had spent many hours rehearsing as well as designing their costumes. The really positive and supportive atmosphere, generated by a generous audience went a long way to ensuring a memorable evening for the participants. My thanks and congratulation to all students who took part and to families who came along to support the event.

End of Half Term

We come to the end of another half term, one that has been both very busy and I believe productive. This particular six week period seems to have sped by very quickly. I do hope that students and their families enjoy the break and have a well-deserved rest.

Sunil Chotai

showed a much appreciated commitment to Dance whilst at Charles Darwin School. Lucy has now returned to support our Year 11 GCSE dancers of which we are very appreciative.

"What is particularly inspiring is that the students organised all the music choreography and costumes by themselves and had clearly spent many hours rehearsing," said Mrs Rees. "Many pupils had been working on their competition routines for months without teacher direction."

Congratulations to all this year's winners:

Year 7 Medal winner: Olivia Persson

Year 8 Medal winner and KS3 Cup winner: Jess Champion

Year 9 Medal winners: Amelie Morbey and Abbey Parker

Year 10/11 Medal winners and KS4/5 Cup winners:

Annelise Persson and Emily Wilson

Year 12/13 Medal winners: Chloe Ardley, Chloe Bezer, Nicole Blackwood and Katie Nolan.

Dance Competition showcases talent



Year 10/11 Medal winners and KS4/5 Cup winners Annelise Persson & Emily Wilson

The final of Charles Darwin School's twenty second annual Dance, Choreography and Performance Competition was held on Monday 11 February in front of a capacity audience of 250 people. This year 14 different dance acts from Years 7 to 13 competed for the year group medals and the overall Key Stage 3 and combined Key Stage 4 and 5 trophies. Mrs Rees, Deputy Headteacher, dance teacher, event organiser and one of the judges was joined on the panel by staff members Miss Abbotts (Head of Dance) and Mrs Kearney (Assistant Headteacher and Music teacher).

This year's guest judge was Lucy Curran, one of our ex-A Level and GCSE Dance students. Lucy entered this competition every year she was here and



Y8 Medal & KS3 Cup winner, Jess Champion



Y11 Emily Wilson



Y7 Connie Bigsby & Caitlin Ricketts

Y12/13 Medal winners: Chloe Ardley, Chloe Bezer, Nicole Blackwood and Katie Nolan.



Whilst the judges conferred the audience was entertained by performances from local dance group PDM who performed a piece entitled 'shots', ex GCSE and A Level Dance student Georgia Gallagher who performed a solo entitled 'Feeling Good' and Thrive, the School's elite Dance Group who danced to a piece choreographed by Amy Robinson entitled 'Suffrage'.

"I started the competition 22 years ago to inspire students to express themselves through dance," said Mrs Rees, "and it is particularly rewarding to see several ex pupils back here tonight to perform during the judges' deliberations, either as individuals or as part of a group. It is the lasting legacy of this competition that many of the entrants study dance post 18 and continue to perform as young adults."

"The night really showcased the dancing talent that we have at Charles Darwin School. Thank you so much to those who supported us on the night; Mr Andy Chubb for Photography, Mr Colin Andrews for Music, Miss Gemma Currie for semi-final judging and for Lighting and Amy Eaton and Sara Gurung for Stage Support. Most of all, a big thank you to the families in the audience who supported us on the night, funded or made costumes and created rehearsal space at home. We couldn't do it without them," concluded Mrs Rees.



Y7 Medal Winner: Olivia Persson

All money raised from ticket sales and the raffle will go back into developing dance further in the school.

**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.**



Y9 Medal winners: Amelie Morbey and Abbey Parker



Y10 Jess Barton



Y12 Jessica Greenslade & Megan Jayne Thompson

Students commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1

At 4.40am on Saturday 9th February a mixture of pupils and parents, along with Mr Lamb, Ms Zysemil and Mrs Ruth, clambered aboard the coach which was to take us to the battlefields of Ypres for the day. We visited a number of sites, with the first stop being Sanctuary Wood Museum. This musty old museum has a wonderful selection of artefacts and debris whilst outside are the original trenches and tunnels which, with our wellies securely on our feet, we were able to explore. Even some of the trees still bear the original shell and shrapnel marks from some bitter fighting here in 1915.

Our next stop was Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world with over 11,000 graves and a large memorial to 35,000 named missing soldiers whose bodies were never recovered. The cemetery really brings home the scale of destruction and the huge cost in lives that the First World War generated. Following Tyne Cot we stopped at the dark and foreboding German cemetery at Langemark, where in one tiny patch of grass lie the remains of 25,000 soldiers. We visited a number of other sombre sites around the town of Ypres, which in all saw 250,000 British and Empire troops killed in a twenty mile square piece of land. Many of these young men having no known grave. Following an evening meal together we went to the Menin Gate and witnessed the extremely moving Last Post Ceremony. We were given the privilege of laying our wreath during the ceremony, which contained the names of young men who perished in the First World War but went to school in the Borough of Bromley.



Arriving back to school at 1am on Sunday morning, it had been a tiring but hugely rewarding day, in which some pupils had actually found the names of their relatives on the memorials, who had died fighting at Ypres. The pupils were a credit to the school and I would like to thank the parents who came along and supported this community initiative.

Mr Lamb

The Friends of Charles Darwin - Christmas Update and Latest News

The Friends of Charles Darwin are pleased to announce that with your invaluable support and the fantastic funding by Barclays, over £2500 was raised at the Christmas Raffle and Production. Our latest donations include supporting the recording studio over the next 2 years and aiding the funding of new coffee tables and comfortable chairs for the Library.

Don't forget our upcoming Quiz night on 15th March, email fcds.events@gmail.com to book your table (6-8 per table £5 per ticket). If you haven't already checked out our Facebook page why not do so? – We can be found under "Friends of Charles Darwin School" and here you will find our latest news and details of upcoming events.

Our next meeting is on Monday 4th March at 6:30pm in the Sixth Form Hub and any new faces are most welcome.



School Experience Programme

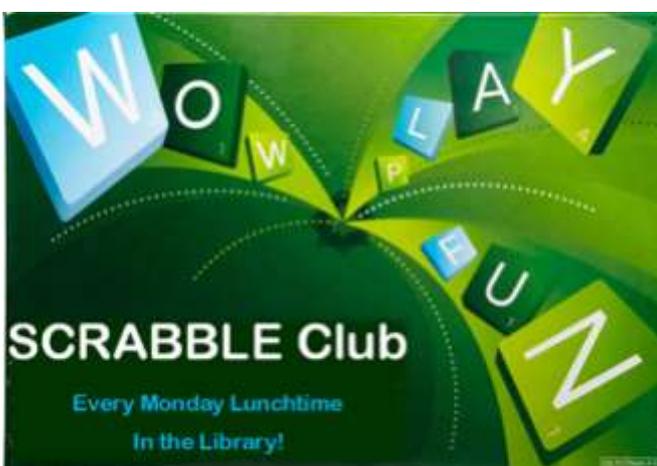
Do you want to know more about what teachers do and whether teaching is the career for you? We offer a day with us finding out about teaching as a career, followed by two days in one of our schools.

Our next session is in:
Chislehurst
7th March 2019

Contact us today to book your place:
Email administrator@gradteach.co.uk



CLUBS



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Events, Fixtures and Educational Visits

Forthcoming events Spring Term 2019

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

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

18 July - Year 10 Mock interviews

OCTOBER

17 -21 October – Geography Trip to Iceland

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



Pupils for Praise

**Duty pupils of the week ending
15.02.2019**

Amber Wickenden, 8 MHu and
Freya Bunting 8SHo

Mrs Mills, Reception

Parents Evenings 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

Joshua Hilton, 11MFo

Well done Josh for living up to the challenge – Josh sometimes has lacked in confidence in his abilities in GCSE History – he could have given up and stopped trying, but instead he took me up on my challenge of 'giving it a go' and persevered. Keep on trying Josh.

Mrs Quinn



RE M I N D E R

**YEAR 9 PARENTS EVENING
AND REPORT COLLECTION**

Wednesday, 6 March 2019

3.15 p.m. – 6.15 p.m.

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

Oz Schoolwear will be present selling Schoolwear and PE Kit

Governors will also be present on the evening.

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

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