



06.09.2019

The Link Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Welcome Back

Welcome back to everyone and a very warm welcome to our new students. I do hope that everyone had a good summer break.

My congratulations to our all students, and ex-students, for their hard work in securing this summer's excellent results. Those hours of extra work during holidays, after school and during the half term have been rewarded by so many good results and so many students going off to study demanding courses at well regarded universities. Well done to you all.

Zanzibar Trip

This summer's Zanzibar trip involving 15 Sixth Formers and three members of our staff was a resounding success. Miss Candy, Mr. Jones and Miss Sales organised and supervised a very successful trip that provided those who went on it with amazing positive life changing experiences. Judging by the feedback it is clear that it was a superb trip. My thanks to all those who supported the fundraising for the trip and of course to the students themselves who made it such a success and were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Sunil Chotai



If you have not already done so, please ensure you activate your ParentPay account.

A range of items will be available on ParentPay including trips, revision guides and workshops. When places are limited, you may miss out on something popular for your child if you have not activated your account before you can book.

Thank you.

Finance Department

Students celebrate exam successes



Pupils at Charles Darwin School have achieved excellent GCSE results again this year. In all, 203 pupils took GCSE or equivalent examinations in Year 11 and of these:

69% of the grades were at grade 4 or better (standard pass or better)
42% achieved five GCSEs at least at grades 9-5 (strong pass or better) including English and Maths
81% achieved grade 4 and above (standard pass) in English
72% achieved grade 4 and above (standard pass) in Maths

These are very good results, approximately 70% grade 4 and above which may be pushed up more once several remarks are included is a super achievement from our talented and hardworking students.

The overall figures of course include some outstanding individual performances, 20 of our students achieved at least 5 grades 9-7 and/or A*/A grades. We are very pleased for all the students who have passed these important examinations, which now provides them with the ideal platform to move on to their next stage of education or training.

Students of all abilities have been well-supported and achieved some remarkable results and there have been some outstanding performances from many hard-working students. As ever, this is a credit to the hard work of our students, their very supportive parents and the dedication and professionalism of the staff here at Charles Darwin School.

Special congratulations go to: Nicholas Marshall, Annabel Rice, Samuel Walker, Abbie Summerscale, Andrew Stevens, Emily Wilson, Kai Grant, Cameron Hallett, Elise Brenton, Rose Wood, Lucy Coop, Nyah Clark, Hannah Peters, Natasha Withers, Anelise Persson, Bethany Terry, Heather Hannaford, Teide Marrable, and Holly Smith who all achieved outstanding results.

Sunil Chotai

Fantastic exam results for Sixth Form Students



I am delighted that our Sixth Form students have again achieved some fantastic results. These results build on the successes of previous years and are a tribute to the dedicated hard work and commitment of both students and teaching staff.

Students of all abilities took examinations in the final year of the Sixth Form this summer across a broad range of subjects. The overall school pass rate was 99%, of which 17% of the grades were at A*-A, 40% at A*-B and 82% at A*-C grades.

This very strong set of results has ensured that the vast majority of students have secured their university of choice.

This strong performance should stand them in very good stead as they make their journeys to university or into the world of work and apprenticeships.

There were many superb performances from individuals, special congratulations go to:

Bradley Parke:	Grades: A* A* A plus A* grade at EPQ
William Dalglish:	Grades: A A A plus A* grade at EPQ
Ethan Dedier	Grades: A,A,A plus B at grade EPQ
Natalia Ovchinnikova	Grades A, A, Distinction
Tianna Demech	Grades Distinction, Distinction, Distinction plus Grade B at EPQ
Sophie Marshall	Grades A, A, B
Holly Patten	Grades Distinction* A, B
Serena Khan	Grades A, B, C plus A grade at EPQ
Chole McBlane	Grades : Distinction* Distinction* Distinction
Georgia Gaoui	Grades: Distinction, B and B
Scott Tiffin grades	Grades A, B, B
Hannah Ash	Grades B, B, B

Distinction* is equivalent to Grade A* and Distinction is equivalent to Grade A.

Sunil Chotai

Student drop off/collection



Please note that for the safety of all children, staff and visitors to the school, there is no parking/stopping permitted on any of the yellow lines within the school grounds.

Thank you.

House Point totals 2018/2019

1st Grant	9882
2nd Lyell	9354
3rd Wedgwood	9097
4th Henslow	9023

Congratulations to Grant House

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 - Summer Term 2019

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 17 September - UCAS Evening (Hub)
Wednesday 18 September - Thrive Auditions (Hall)
Thursday 19 September - Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 25 September - Darwin's Got Talent Auditions
Friday 27 September - Early close for pupils (Open Day Prep)
Saturday 28 September - Open Day
Monday 30 September - Late start for pupils at 9.30am

OCTOBER

Wednesday 9 October - Autumn Music Fest
Thursday 10 October - Year 7 Settling in Tea
Wednesday 16 October - Year 7 Growth Mindset Parents' Evening
Thursday 17 October - Presentation Evening
Friday 18 October - INSET Day - School closed to students
21 - 25 October - Half Term
Monday 28 October - INSET Day - School closed to students
Wednesday 30 October - Darwin's Got Talent

NOVEMBER

Thursday 7 November - Year 11 Parents' Evening (1)
Thursday 21 November - Sixth Form Open Evening
Saturday 23 November - Choir—Biggin Hill Christmas Lights 4pm
Wednesday 27 November - Year 12/13 Parents' Evening (1)

DECEMBER

Monday 16 December - Wednesday 18th - School Production
Thursday 19 December - End of Autumn Term

Open Morning 2019

Saturday 28 September
9.30am - 12.30pm

Headteacher's talks at
 9:30am and 11:15am

Open Week:

Tuesday 1 – Friday 4 October

A daily guided tour of the school in action at 08.40 followed by a Headteacher talk at 09.30am.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

On **Friday 27 September** the School will close at 12.40pm so that staff can prepare for Open Morning on Saturday. Pupils eligible for free school meals should collect sandwiches from the Canteen at break time.

On **Monday 30 September** there will be a late start for pupils who should be in school for 9.30am

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Miss Doyle



Hello all, I am Miss Doyle and I am very excited to be joining CDS as a History teacher.

Within History, I enjoy learning about rebellion or resistance groups such as the Suffrage campaigners.

I am a keen traveller and I enjoy baking and playing netball in my spare time. I look forward to getting to know everyone at CDS.

Miss Gillespie



Hi Everyone! I'm Ms. Gillespie, a Business teacher from Ireland. I'm very outgoing, energetic and a bit of a chatterbox. I love singing (although not professionally!), going to see musicals, and going to the gym. My friends would say one of my main talents is knowing lyrics of songs and other random information. I'm terrified of spiders and have an irrational fear of ketchup!! I hope your children are happy learners in my classroom and I look forward to meeting some of you throughout the year.

Presentation Evening Thursday 17 October

The Year 11, 12 and 13 students from 2019 and their parents are cordially invited to attend this celebration of exam results and academic achievement.

PARENTS EVENINGS 2019/20

Year 11: 7 November 2019 (1)
 Year 12: 27 November 2019 (1)
 Year 13: 27 November 2019 (1)
 Year 11: 23 January 2020 (2)
 Year 8: 6 February 2020
 Year 9: 4 March 2020
 Year 12: 25 March 2020 (2)
 Year 13: 25 March 2020 (2)
 Year 10: 29 April 2020
 Year 7: 7 May 2020

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