



Headlines

DofE - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

It's fantastic that so many students are choosing to take part and that we have extended this opportunity to our Year 9 students. I hope the students who took part in their Bronze qualifying expedition yesterday and today enjoyed the experience despite the rain. I look forward to hearing all about it.

Exams

The exam season is now in full swing for Year 11 and Year 13 students. Students are working hard and there has been some exemplary behaviour shown - keep going! In addition to the in class revision lessons keep an eye on Satchel One for online revision help and guidance from your teachers - we will support you all the way.

Remember – Aspire – Endeavour – Achieve

Aston Smith, Headteacher

Revision tips

Start early

Getting an early start on your revision is always a good thing. The more time you allow yourself to revise, the more room you'll have to cover each subject without needing to cram. You'll have more time to practice what you need to learn and consolidate it into your memory.

Make a revision timetable

Creating a revision timetable should be your first step. This will allow you to spread out your study time evenly and avoid cramming during the days leading up to your exams. You can also allocate more time to any subjects you're struggling with.

Set mini goals

Have a few mini goals you'd like to achieve by the end of each day. You can add these in when making your revision timetable. This'll give you an idea of how much revision you need to do and what's coming up. You'll avoid feeling overwhelmed and can break your study down into smaller chunks.

Mix it up

Work out which learning styles work for you. This could be visual, auditory, kinesthetic or through reading and writing. Once you have a few different revision techniques, mix up which ones you want to use so that revision doesn't become repetitive or dull.

Revise with others

You may benefit from teaching others what you know or testing them on what they know. Not only is this a great way to help your friends but you'll see where there's still holes in your own learning. Having a small study group can also be a great way to come up with unique methods for remembering key ideas.

Practice papers

Use practice papers to familiarise yourself with the format of your assessment and how questions may be structured. Time yourself to avoid getting flustered when sitting the actual assessment, and you'll be able to gauge how much time to roughly spend on each question.

Take breaks

Revision is only effective when split up by breaks. Don't overwork yourself and make sure you're giving your brain some space to breathe. You'll get distracted less and be able to focus for longer. Use these breaks to fit in any exercise or healthy eating, which will only improve the quality of your revision.

Move around

A productive way to spend your study break. The benefits of exercise on revision include increased focus, improved memory and the chance to readdress any hard topics with a fresh mind. A simple walk around the block can be all it takes to improve your quality of learning.

Eat healthy

Choose healthy foods to eat during your study breaks. The quality of what you put in will dictate the quality you put out. Swapping crisps or chocolate for nuts or fruit will leave you feeling less lethargic in the afternoon and with more energy to learn. But do remember balance. You don't have to cut out your favourite treats completely. Moderation is key.

Sleep

These revision tips won't be effective unless you get sufficient sleep. Prioritise getting 7–9 hours a night. Sleep is a powerful tool for not only committing what you've learnt during the day to long-term memory, but it also improves your cognitive ability to learn again the following day. You'll be better able to concentrate, and feel more motivated, after a good night's rest.

Year 10 Reward trip to Go Ape

Last Friday, 10th May, I took 30 year 10 students on a reward trip to Go Ape in Battersea Park. As well as being a beautiful day, all students were wonderfully behaved and had an excellent time swinging amongst the trees. We were fortunate to have the high ropes to ourselves and the attitude towards the activity was impeccable, with all students getting involved. A special thanks to Miss Owen, Mr Kothari and Mrs Partridge who accompanied us on the trip. All students were a credit to the school and I am very proud of how well they all did.



Miss Davies
Year 10 Achievement Co-ordinator

Theatre workshop

On Monday 13th May, year 10 and 12 Drama students took part in a practical theatre workshop. The director of The Paper Birds theatre company came in to work with them in order to develop their devising skills further. The Paper Birds create all of their own performances from scratch, rather than staging existing plays. In the workshop students were introduced to new techniques to help them when devising their exam pieces. They looked at how they can generate ideas from a stimulus and explored creating initial dialogue using a verbatim style of theatre. They worked brilliantly during the workshop and it was lovely to see the gcse and a level students collaborating together. A big well done to them all.

Miss Currie

Trip to the Orpington Library

Mrs Holloway and I accompanied seven year 7 students to meet the Author Nathanel Lessore at Orpington Library. Nathanael talked about his books, including events that happened to him as a child which inspired him and gave our student's some very good advice.

Each student received a copy of his latest book King of Nothing from me and Nathanael signed them all at the end of the session.

There is a copy of both King Of Nothing and Steady for This for students to loan in the school Library.

Mrs Adams
Library Supervisor



Personal Development Days 17th and 18th July

Many parents and students have been requesting further information regarding booking trips for the personal development days. Letters are due out today with all of the details on. We will send reminders of the time and date that these will go live on ParentPay. All of the details and instructions are on the letter.

Mr R Jones

Rounders Matches



Well done to the year 9 and 10 girls who played amazing in their rounders matches this week! Some very big score lines to seal two wins. A great start to the rounders season!



Miss Owen



School Uniform Grant

Please see the link below for more information:

[School Uniform Grant | There for You \(UNISON Welfare\) | UNISON National](#)



Congratulations to Elliott Johnson, 7SHu, who has gained a well-deserved Distinction in his ABRSM Grade 3 Piano exam last week.
Keep up the good work Elliott!

PE EXTRA-CURRICULAR SUMMER TERM 23/24

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1.10 – 1.50					
After school 3-4.15	Cricket Training Y7/8 (Boys and Girls) Sportshall ORO/JBI	Rounders All years (Girls) Field NDO/LWR/CON	Athletics All years (Boys and Girls) Sportshall SHU/JHE	Cricket Training Y9/Y10 (Boys and Girls) Field/3G JBI/ORD	GCSE/BTEC Revision Year 11 RE2/RE1 CON/JBI/NDO/ORO
		Rounders Games All years (Girls) Field NDO/LWR/CON	Rounders Games All years (Girls) Field NDO/LWR/CON	Trampolining: All years 3:30-5 PAY ON PARENT PAY	FIXTURE CATCH UP DAY
ALL FIXTURES WILL BE ARRANGED ON A WEEK BY WEEK BASIS FOR ALL TEAMS. THIS COULD BE DIFFERENT EACH WEEK DUE TO THE DIFFERENT LEAGUE AND COMPETITIONS.					
		Cricket Games All years (Boys) Sportshall JBI/ORO		Cricket Games Year 8-13 (Boys) JBI/ORO	

School Cleaners (£13.77 per hour)

We are looking to appoint a number of school cleaners to join our committed Site Team. Actual hours are negotiable but are likely to be between 3.00pm – 7.30pm Monday – Friday during term time. Some additional hours may be available during school holidays. Applicants should complete the non-teaching staff application form on our website (www.cdarwin.com) and return this to Julie Hodgkinson, Personnel & Administration Manager.

*Charles Darwin 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 a DBS Enhanced Disclosure and full background checks.*



Foodbank in Bromley is able to offer clients a choice of 3 days worth of food along with a supermarket voucher or 7 days worth of food. This is for **Bromley Borough residents only**. For out of borough residents they are able to offer 3 days worth of food. Please remember you can get help by contacting them directly on ifo@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk.

School jumpers, PE kits and school bags needed!

Parents/Carers

We need your help! We are specifically short of navy school jumpers, red and black PE hoodies, white polo shirts, red socks and school bags. If you have any lying around that your daughter/son has outgrown, we would greatly accept donation of these. We also welcome any other parts of school uniform like school and football shoes.



All donations can be left at **Main Reception**.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Preloved Uniform Shop Team

PE Department Appeal

We are in need of football shoes and trainers for our spare PE kits. If you have any lying around that your child has outgrown, we would gladly take them off your hands.



All donations can be left at **Main Reception**.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

PE Department Team



All students are requested to leave the school site promptly unless taking part in supervised activities after school. For safety and security reasons no casual or recreational activities should take place without direct supervision from staff.

The Darwin Leisure Centre fitness gym is open to student paying members only between 3.15-4.30pm who must then leave the premises as quickly as possible; from 4.30-6.00pm only School/Club bookings are allowed on the 3G.

For students booking the astro pitch, bookings must be made in advance (no walk-ins) and a parent must be present on arrival. A limit of 16 students per booking applies.

The mathematics department are holding revision classes after school on the following days from 3.15 to 4.15:

Higher Tier

Monday MA7 Mr Yerassimou
Wednesday MA2 Mr Watson

Foundation Tier

Monday GE2 Ms Harris





SUMMER SCHOOL

Monday 22nd July
and Tuesday 23rd July

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE, TWO DAY TRANSITION
EVENT ONLY OPEN TO NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS
STARTING CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL IN
SEPTEMBER 2024

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF ACTIVITIES:

TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITIES/SPORTS
INCLUDING LITERACY AND NUMERACY AND MUCH MORE

COST: £50 FOR BOTH DAYS



Charles Darwin School

Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, Westerham, Kent TN16 3AU

t: 01959 574043

e: enquiries@cdarwin.com

Wellbeing Dance

Fusion

Starting Wednesday 5th June

Darwin Leisure centre -Dance studio

5-5:45pm- Years 7-9

5:45-6:30pm Years 10-13

Discover an array of enjoyable dance routines set to lively music in a stress-free and supportive atmosphere.

Conclude the session with soothing guided relaxation, prioritising your personal wellness.

Contact @abbott_movement
or email abbottdance5@gmail.com for more information
and to book in!

Qualified Secondary Dance teacher and certified Health and Wellbeing coach , Full DBS , First aid and insured.



Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 10 May 2024.



7SHu/CHt	97.9%
8LBr	96.7%
9RMo	95.7%
10JLa	95.7%
11SDa	99%
12ACh	100%
13MNo	97.3%

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.

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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Students Services Team

First Aid

Hay Fever Season - Medication for Students

Hay Fever and the symptoms for children studying at school can be very uncomfortable, please ensure that if your child suffers with Hay Fever that they take any relevant medication/antihistamine before school. The school is unable to provide this medication to students.

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**

Year 8 Duty Pupils

Phoebe Gourley-Hedges
Ava Newton
Elijah Falvey
Bobby Sayers
Reema Mailet-Elzein

Erin Light
Elliott Leonard
Thomas Rice
Lily Lewis
Eliza Caka



Student Services Duty Pupils

Beatrice Balogun
Olivia Klin
Isabelle Parker
Joshua Dance
Rebecca Diling

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

Dates for the Diary

May

27th-31st May - Half term

30th May - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean

June

4th-7th June - Trip: NEA Geography Field Trip, Dorset, Year 12

5th June - New Year 7 Induction Evening

6th June - New Year 7 Induction Day 1

7th June - Year 8 HPV1 vaccinations

11th June - New Year 7 Induction Day 2

17th -18th June - Trip: Year 10 GCSE PE kayaking trip, Danson Park

27th-28th June - DofE Silver Y10 qualifying expedition

28th June - **INICIO DAY, Students home learning**

KS3 Exams dates:

Year 7 and 8 exams - Monday 3 June to Friday 14 June

Year 9 exams – Monday 10 June to Friday 21 June



As the weather is getting warmer please can all students bring in a reusable water bottle to school each day.

The water bottles can be refilled at the canteen and near to Students Services at break time and lunchtime.

We only have a limited supply of plastic cups for First Aid and medical emergencies only.



Thank you

Student Services Team

2023-24 Term Dates

Summer 2024

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

(Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday)

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

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

INSET Days - School closed to students

Friday 28th June 2024 - INICIO Day (home learning for students)

Monday 22nd July 2024

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.

PRODUCTIONS
YOUTH THEATRE GROUP
01767 681 049

OPEN AUDITIONS

Annie



Book by
THOMAS MEEHAN

Music by
CHARLES STROUSE

Lyrics by
MARTIN CHARNIN

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.co.uk

TUESDAY 11th JUNE

**THE STAG THE STAG
SEVENOAKS, TN13 1ZZ**

5.00pm-6.00pm 7-12yrs old
6.00pm-7.00pm 13-21yrs old

SATURDAY 15th JUNE

**THE STAG THE STAG
SEVENOAKS, TN13 1ZZ**

12.30pm-2.00pm 7-12yrs old
2.00pm-3.30pm 13-21yrs old

All auditionees must be 8 years old by the time of the show



TO BE PERFORMED AT THE STAG - SEVENOAKS. 17TH - 19TH OCT 2024

**NOTHING TO PREPARE
JUST ARRIVE, BOOK IN AND AUDITION**

You only need attend one audition / A show fee is payable by all successful applicants