



14.06.2024

Issue No: 1125

The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Many of you will be aware of the tragic passing of Vincent Thompson who had previously attended our school. We extend our deepest sympathy to Vincent's family and friends at this extremely sad time. This will undoubtedly have an impact upon our current year 12s, which was his year group. A book of condolence has been set up in the 6th form hub for students and staff that will be shared with family before we break up for the summer.

Support is available to students through our school counselling team.

Music

It was a highlight of my week to hear the Music Technology students showcasing their compositions and multitrack recordings. Well done to Hannah Kenton and Chloe Brett (year 13), Lucy Rous, Finley Hurren-Mills and Oliver Sandoe (year 12). My thanks to all the staff involved, and our guest speaker, Alumni, Rachel O' Hanlon, presently working on Mamma Mia The Party at the O2 London, for taking care of all of the sound requirements.

Art and Textiles Private View Exhibition

It was a delightful end to the day on Wednesday to be invited to view, along with governors and families, a showcase of work made by our GCSE art and textiles students. It was evident that the students had been working hard and had produced a wonderful varied and interesting display of work. Well done to everyone involved.



PTA

On Thursday evening I had the pleasure of attending the PTA meeting. It is great that we have new parents showing an interest in becoming involved in supporting our PTA. The PTA has a fun pack diary of events for the forthcoming year to raise much needed funds for the school. More details to follow in this newsletter. If you would like to support our PTA, they would love to hear from you. Please contact friends@cdarwin.com

Home Learning Day

I would like to remind parents that Friday 28th June is a home learning day when students will be set work via Satchel One as we join colleagues from other Inicio schools for our Trust training and conference day.

Aston Smith, Headteacher

Reading Corner at Charles Darwin

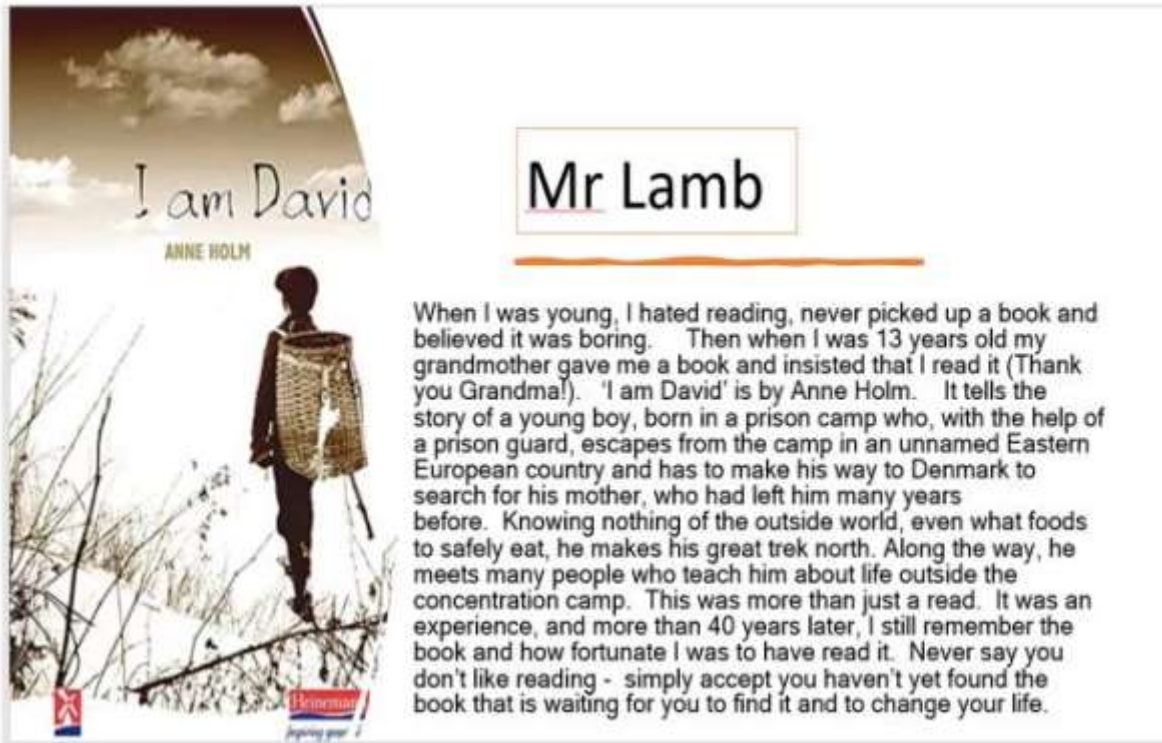
In our recent Y9 assembly we talked about the power of reading, not just in terms of academic success, but also how beneficial reading is for our wellbeing.

We looked at some very successful people who value the importance of reading:

- Steve Jobs is a passionate reader of William Blake's literature
- Winston Churchill did not win a Nobel Prize for peace but for literature
- Phil Knight, founder of Nike, has his own library and requests that people remove their shoes before they enter – a fact I love as it implies he respects books above those Nike trainers he sells!

Our Y9 Tutors also shared some of the books they have enjoyed. Here is Mr Lamb's recommendation:

Mrs Pitt



Workshops and Presentations for Year 9

On Monday 24th June, all students in year 9 will be involved in a series of presentations and workshops as part of our RSE curriculum.

There will be a workshop on the dangers of alcohol, drugs and vaping and another on sexual health and contraception. These workshops will be delivered by outside practitioners, Bromley Changes and Bromley Sexual Health as well as Ms Sampson, lead teacher of RSE. At the end of the day, students will have an extended assembly delivered by Bromley and Croydon Women's Aid, which will focus on healthy/unhealthy relationships and identifying coercive control.

Specific details about timings of the day will be communicated by year 9 form tutors.

As per our RSE policy, parents/carers can request that their child is withdrawn from the sexual health workshop. Also, if parents/carers wish to know more information beforehand about the content of the workshops and the resources to be used this can be arranged. Please email Ms Sampson ksa@cdarwin.com in the first instance if you have any questions.

We hope these sessions will be insightful and will develop student's knowledge and understanding of some challenging topics and ultimately help them to keep themselves safe and well.

PTA Update

EasyFundraising

We would like to welcome the following new supporter to Easy-fundraising:

- Francesa R

Our shoppers have been busy fundraising already in June. Here is the current leaderboard for June:

1. Kayleigh B
2. Jason H
3. Deborah R
4. Melanie L
5. Chrissie P

You can join too and raise funds as you shop by following this link:

Near Year 7 cohort

The PTA team were delighted to join the welcome evening for the new Year 7 cohort last week. We have started a direct e-mail address loop to keep families updated to our PTA activities. If you would like to be part of this e-mail communication loop, please e-mail us friends@cdarwin.com

PTA Social Media

Please like and follow our social media, to help grow our network:

Instagram	charles_darwin_pta
Linked In	www.linkedin.com/in/charles-darwin-pta
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/friendscharlesdarwinchool
X (Was Twitter)	@PTA_Darwin

We are very happy for families, friends and work connections to follow our social media too, in support of our school.

Fundraising

As we start to bring our current year to a conclusion, we are delighted to report that your support has helped to generate over £5500 so far this year, mainly via the following sources:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • Quiz Nights and Raffles | £2100 |
| • Own Clothes/Christmas Jumper Day | £1161 |
| • Monthly Cash Prize Draw (83 supporters) | £900 |
| • School Production and Raffle | £814 |
| • EasyFundraising (48 supporters) | £318 |
| • Pre-loved Uniform | £145 |

Next School Year

We hope to continue to grow our team in the new school year. We have started to maintain an e-mail loop we can use to seek help to increase the range and number of activities we can offer. To be added to our e-mail list, with absolutely no obligation, please let us know by sending an e-mail to cparker76.305@cdarwin.com

There are so many ways to support us, and you don't have to join meetings or our committee if you would prefer not to. For example:

- Distributing flyers at school events
- Donating a raffle or auction prize
- Selling refreshments at our school events (production, parent evenings, open days)
- Sharing our communications/social media/event adverts with your networks
- Selling raffle tickets to family and friends

We are arranging a drop-in event in September to kick off our new school year so will bring you details of that very soon.

Thank you for all your support and we hope to meet you soon.



APPEAL

Please take 2 minutes to enrol
in Easy-fundraising to raise funds for our
school as you shop at 7500 retailers.
It's completely free!

Please scan the QR code below with
your device camera:





CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL PTA
**MONTHLY
DRAW**



**WIN cash (currently around £75 monthly
jackpot) AND fundraise for our school**

Card payments or bank transfers accepted

To join, scan here with your device camera: to visit our online store





A Festival of Football in the Canteen

To celebrate the Euros football tournament, the kitchen will be doing special food days each week with a main meal for a particular country involved in the tournament-look out for the flyers each week. This week was England. Next week on the 20th June it will be Paella and Churros for Spain. This will be a main meal and a dessert for £2.45.

Ms Kelly



Congratulations to Sasha Morell Year 11 for winning the 400m hurdles at Kent Schools last week. He also will be competing for Kent in the south Inter-Countries. Well done Sasha and good luck.



DANCE CLUB
 3:15 - 4:15
 Da1
 WEDNESDAY

Open to all students
 Bring a drink and your PE kit

SEE MISS WINTER FOR MORE INFORMATION



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

**Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH
Tel: 01959 574043
www.cdarwin.com**

Darwin Leisure Centre – Leisure Assistants £9.73 per hour

We are looking to appoint a number of Leisure Assistants for our busy Leisure Centre. Applicants should have good inter-personal skills, a professional attitude to work and be able to work both independently and as part of a team. Successful candidates will be required to work during the afternoon and evening, including some weekends. Previous experience of working in the leisure industry would be advantageous, although training will be given.

Application forms and details of the post can be found on our website:
[Charles Darwin School - Vacancies \(cdarwin.com\)](http://www.cdarwin.com)

Please note all applications must be made on the Charles Darwin Academy Trust application form – CVs alone will not be considered. Please return completed application forms to Mrs. J. Hodgkinson, Personnel & Administration Manager, Charles Darwin School.

Interviews will take place as and when applications are received.

The 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 an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and full background checks.

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.*



School Uniform Grant

Please see the link below for more information:

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

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.

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



Bromley LOCAL OFFER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SEND Matters Live for Young People

Are you aged 11-25? Do you have special educational needs and/or a disability?

Scan the QR code or email sendmatters@bromley.gov.uk to book your place by Friday 14th June

Come along

Date: Monday, 1st July
Time: 4pm - 3pm
Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley, BR1 1RH

Have your say! Help us be better!

Visit the new young people's SEND Local Offer website at: young-sendmatters.co.uk






The event is open to young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from Year 6 up to 25 years and will be an opportunity for them to share their views about SEND services in Bromley directly to senior team members from the SEND Partnership.

Registration and submission of any questions should be made by 14th June 2024. There are limited spaces at the venue so it's advisable to reserve a space quickly. Complete the registration form at:

<https://forms.office.com/e/NP6Xg7OZLK>

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 7 June 2024.



7SHu/CHt	97.8%
8PDg	96.1%
9RMo	96.9%
10JLa	96.8%
11DNu	100%
12JDa	100%
13MNo	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.

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

Elsie Welfare-Lee
Daisy Brady
Rylee Newell
Olivia Klin
Poppy Mason
Asher Maillet-Elzein

Harry Clarke
Emma Unwin
Owen asemota
Aaron Lock
Frank Gornall

Student Services Duty Pupils

Jake Platt
Lacie John
Gracie Mercer
Alfie Rapley
Sonny Dering



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

Dates for the Diary

June

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

21st June - Sixth Form Summer Ball

26th June - Trip: Year 12 Theatre Trip to see 'A view from a Bridge' - Theatre Royal Haymarket, London

27th June - Year 11 Prom

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

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

KS3 Exams dates:

Year 9 exams – Monday 10 June to Friday 21 June

July

8th-9th July - Trip: Year 10 GCSE PE kayaking trip, Danson Park

10th-12th July - DofE Silver Sixth Form qualifying expedition

12th July - Sports Day

15th-20th July - Trip: Year 8 MFL Residential Trip (coach and Eurotunnel)

16th-18th July - Trip: Year 8 History Trip to York (coach)

17th July - Trip: Development Theatre trip - Wicked - London Year's 8 & 9

19th July - Celebration of Success Assemblies

19th July - End of term



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

JOIN US

FOR

A BROMLEY BIG LUNCH!

SAT 1ST JUNE
11 AM - 1 PM
PRIDRY GARDENS,
ORPINGTON

SAT 15TH JUNE
11 AM - 1 PM
THE LOOKOUT CAFE,
BIGGIN HILL AIRPORT

SAT 22ND JUNE
11 AM - 1 PM
CHISLEHURST COMMON,
PRICKEND POND GREEN

SUN 23RD JUNE
11 AM - 1 PM
CRYSTAL PALACE PARK,
CRICKET PITCH AREA

SAT 29TH JUNE
11 AM - 1 PM
QUEENS GARDENS,
BROMLEY

YOU CAN FIND MORE BIG LUNCHES BY VISITING:

[EDENPROJECTCOMMUNITIES.COM/THE-BIG-LUNCH/THE-BIG-LUNCH-MAP](https://edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch/the-big-lunch-map)



In partnership with:



OR SIMPLY SCAN



JOIN US FOR

THE BIG LUNCH!

BRINGING COMMUNITY,
TO THE COMMUNITY

Saturday 15th June 2024

The Lookout Café

Biggin Hill Airport, TN16 3BN

Time: 11 am - 1 pm

The Big Lunch is free and open to everyone -
come down to the café, purchase your lunch
and find out what is happening across Bromley.

Free information, activities and more!

Term Dates 2024-2025

Autumn 2024

Friday 30th August – Friday 18th October

Half term: Monday 21st October – Friday 1st November

Monday 4th November – Friday 20th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January

Spring 2025

Monday 6th January – Friday 14th February

Half term: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Monday 24th February – Friday 4th April

Easter Holiday: Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April

Notes:

Good Friday 18th April
Easter Monday 21st April

Summer 2025

Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 23rd May

[Monday 5th May Bank Holiday]

Half term: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Monday 2nd June – Tuesday 22nd July

INSET Days:

Friday 30th August 2024

Friday 18th October 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Wednesday 15th January 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025

All staff Trust Training Day – Friday 27th June 2025



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.