



Headlines

DofE Expedition

Congratulations to all the students who took part in last week's DofE Silver Year 10 qualifying expedition. It is such a great opportunity for students to develop a range of skills and hopefully make lots of fun memories despite the changeable weather, blisters and lack of sleep!

Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Prom took place at Lingfield Racecourse last Friday evening and was a fantastic success. It was lovely to hear so many comments and thanks from parents to the staff for their work in supporting their son/daughter. The impressive range of transport from tractors to sports cars continued the long standing tradition of spectacle for the Biggin Hill community. My very best wishes to all our Year 11 students. We look forward to seeing the majority of you in our Sixth Form in September. Have a wonderful summer break.

Sixth Form Taster Day

It was great to see many of our Year 11 students return for the Sixth Form Taster Day on Tuesday. We were also pleased to be able to welcome a number of external students. The students attended a range of lessons to give them a flavour of life in our Sixth Form and those that I spoke to said they had had a very enjoyable and informative day.

Music Fest

There was lots of talent on display at Tuesday's Music Fest. It was particularly pleasing to see students from a wide range of year groups involved. My thanks to parents for supporting school and children on their musical journey.

Sir Jack Petchey CBE

I was saddened to learn of the passing of charity founder Sir Jack Petchey, who died at the age of 98 last week. Sir Jack was an incredibly giving and inspirational man. The businessman established the Jack Petchey Foundation in 1999 to provide young people across London and Essex with opportunities to inspire and motivate young people to do their best and reach their full potential. As he always told young people, "*if you think you can, you can.*" In 2004, Sir Jack was awarded an OBE, for services to young people. In 2011 he was further honoured as a CBE and in 2016, he was knighted in recognition of his charitable work.

Charles Darwin School is part of the Jack Petchey Foundation Achievement Awards scheme with many Charles Darwin students winning awards over the years. Sir Jack embodied our school beliefs of Aspire, Endeavor, and Achieve. Charles Darwin School is very grateful to Sir Jack and the Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme.



2022/23 Jack Petchey winners from Charles Darwin School at the Award Evening with Cllr Mike Botting and CDS Governor



School Uniform September 2024

Dear parents/carers

Please find attached a letter from Oz Schoolwear detailing how to book appointments at the shop for purchases over the summer holiday. Arriving without doing this could mean a long delay.







Please also see below a reminder of year group badge colours for September 2024. The same colour remains with the year group as they go through the school. Remember, every child should have a blazer with them in school every day and it is a compulsory item of school uniform. The school blue v-neck jumper is optional. Replacement badges and ties can be purchased from the school via Parent Pay to be collected from main reception before the end of term. A evidence of payment on a phone from your child/daughter will make collection easy. As last year, please try to purchase replacement ties/badges before the summer rather than wait until the first day back when limited supplies will be available.

Many thanks in advance.

Mrs Rees

**Updated School Uniform
from September 2024**

Remember year groups keep the same colour badge
as they go through the school.

		Purple Year 7 2024-25
		White Year 8 2024-25
		Yellow Year 9 2024-25
		Green Year 10 2024-25
		Red Year 11 2024-25

Price:
Tie - £5.40
Badge - £6.20

PTA Update

Easyfundraising

The new month brings a new fundraising leaderboard for the month of July and here is our current top 5 as we went to press:

1. Graham P
2. Jason H
3. Caroline W
4. Chrissie P
5. Sule M

In the last 30 days our cause has raised **£50.68** and recruited **11 new supporters**.

If you have enrolled in Easy fundraising, please toggle or switch on the Donation Reminder and then donations will come through without you having to do a thing!

We would like to welcome our new joiners:

- Gina S
- Nicholas Y

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/charles-darwin-school-pta>



You spend, brands donate to Charles Darwin School PTA - Kent.

Help us when you shop with 7,000+ brands. Join now.

Achievement Points Leader Board

Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 01.09.2023 - 30.06.2024

Ivy Bird	7LMc	335
Jimmy Johnson	7JWi	281
Jeremiah Kunitse	7KMa	273
Sydney Daniels	7LMc	272
Pallika Ramnath	7SMa	272
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	265
Jamie Niblock	8PDg	258
Lucie Kempster	7JWi	253
Laila Baptiste	7LMc	253
Daniel Assemien	8SHo	251



Top highest achievers per each year for the period 01.09.2023 - 30.06.2024

Ivy Bird	7LMc	335
Milly Rogers	8ZHa	265
Phoebe Vincent	9RMo	222
Lucy Guy	10NKO	191
Khushi Sinha	11ADo	143
Scarlett Towersey	12JDa	118
Harry Burch	13DWa	81



Event for Reading Ambassadors

Last Thursday, the English Department, and our librarian, Susan Adams, hosted an event to thank our 45 Year 8 and 9 Reading Ambassadors for all of their hard work this year. They all love reading and have been helping to encourage other students in their classes and around the school to develop their enjoyment of reading for pleasure. They gave us amazing feedback as to how we can make even more improvements next year! If any students would like to become Reading Ambassadors next year, please see Mrs Holloway. It would be lovely to have you on our team.

Mrs Sharon Holloway
English Teacher & Head of KS3 English

Pride Sale at Charles Darwin

Last week Charles Darwin School took part in celebrating Pride. Some delicious cakes and sweets were sold.

We raised **£100.13** from the sale for Stonewall. Thank you very much to all the student volunteers, the staff bakers and staff and students who came and bought something.

Ms Sampson



School Uniform Grant

Please see the link below for more information:

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

Year 11 Students: Unwanted Uniform or Revision Guides

If any of our year 11 students who have now finished have uniform that is in good condition that they would be prepared to donate, please leave it in main reception. We are always particularly short of larger sized blazers, but all donations would be gratefully received.

Likewise if you have revision guides that you no longer need and are happy to donate, please leave them in main reception and we will give them to students who need them.

Ms Kelly

Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 27 June 2024.



7LMc	97.7%
8SHo	92.1%
9RMo	95.7%
10JLa	91%
12ACh	97.7%

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

Cloe Budd
Charlotte Weller
Tilly Cole
Mia Stathopoulos
Finlay Papegeorghiou

Chloe Allen
Jemima Weah
Maggie McCarthy
Ollie Davis
Will Aspinall



Student Services Duty Pupils

Lola Brett
Neev Patel
Maddy Norman
Kaliyah Gordon
Spencer Deeney

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

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. Next week is Croatia week. This will be a main meal and a dessert for £2.45.



Competition Time

The Biggin Hill Residents Association are currently running a competition for all young people in Biggin Hill to take part. It is to design a Shopping bag with the winning design to go to print on our next merchandise. If any students would like to take a part please use the QR code below.



Biggin Hill Residents Association
Working for the community - Founded in 1934

DESIGN A SHOPPING BAG COMPETITION

CASH PRIZES

 **ENTER COMPETITION HERE!**
Three age categories for entrants ranging from 5-17 years of age.
MAIN WINNERS DESIGN PRINTED ON MERCHANDISE!
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY - SEE INFO ON QR CODE



Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Jail Lane
Biggin Hill
Westerham
Kent TN16 3AU
Tel: 01959 574043
enquiries@cdarwin.com

Assessment & Reporting Administrator 36 hours a week, 40 weeks a year Actual Salary - £26,370

We wish to appoint an Assessment & Reporting Administrator to join our committed and friendly Administration team. The successful candidate will support the school's Examinations and Assessment Officer and will be responsible for the input of statistical data, creation and management of assessment/data reports, the analysis of data and will support the school's Exams and Assessment Officer in all aspects relating to the setting up and running of exams.

Applicants should have excellent organisational and inter-personal skills together with experience of working in a pressurised environment. Applicants are expected to have strong IT skills, especially Excel, with a high level of accuracy and attention to detail. The school uses the SIMS Assessment Manager package and a working knowledge of SIMS together with Microsoft Word and Excel is essential. Previous experience of a similar role in a school would be advantageous.

Whilst this is a term time only role, the successful candidate will be expected to attend for four days in August for the examination results days.

For further details and an application form please visit our website: www.cdarwin.com (information/job vacancies). CVs alone will not be considered.

Closing date: 12 noon on Friday 12th July 2024 – we reserve the right to appoint prior to this date if a suitable candidate is found

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.

Laboratory Technician (Biology)

**36 hours per week Monday – Friday, term time only
September 2024 (actual salary £23,388 – pay award pending)**

We are looking to appoint a Laboratory Technician to join a friendly and hard-working team of technicians preparing practical lessons for our Science department. Applicants should have a background in Science, preferably with A Level/GCSE Biology/Chemistry. Experience of a similar role in a school or laboratory *would be advantageous.*

Further details and an application form are available on our website and should be sent to jho@cdarwin.com. Closing date: 5th July 2024. Please note CVs alone cannot be considered.

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 a DBS Enhanced Disclosure 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.

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Dates for the Diary

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

17th July - Personal Development Day 1

Years 7-9: Enrichment activities off and on site

Year 10: Work shadowing (off site)

18th July - Personal Development Day 2

Years 7-9: Enrichment activities off and on site

Year 10: Mock interviews and Year 10 Speaking Assessment (English)

19th July - Lessons and Celebration of Success Assemblies Year 7-9

Year 10: Reflection and evaluation (remote)

19th July - End of term finishing times:

Year 9: 11:30am

Year 7: 12:30pm

Year 8: 12:45pm



Bromley Department for Education

Summer Holiday Fun

Bromley's Holiday Activities and Food programme

[www.bromley.gov.uk/
HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme)

Summer programme

A free and exciting holiday programme for children and young people aged 5 to 16 in receipt of benefit-related free school meals. Take part in **sport, dance, robotics, race car driving, outdoor activities and much more** during the 2024 summer holiday. Free, nutritious meals will be provided for each session.

Have fun with your friends, learn new skills, gain confidence and get involved!

Funded by the Department for Education

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Images by Canva

SUMMER

To find out which activities are near you and to sign up please visit:
[www.bromley.gov.uk/
HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/HolidayActivitiesandFoodProgramme)

Or email
HolidayActivitiesandFood@bromley.gov.uk



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.



COUNTRY FESTIVAL 2024

SUNDAY 14TH JULY 11am to 5pm

JOIN US AT OUR
BIGGEST FUNDRAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR

- Arena acts
- Live music
- Hot food
- Dog show
- Inflatables
- Tearoom
- Beer tent
- Children's activities
- Variety of stalls

Please bring cash, including small change



Admission:
CASH only
£15 per car
(up to 4 people)
On foot: Family £15
(up to 4 people)
Adult £5
Child £2.50 (3-17)

Foal Farm Animal Rescue
Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, TN16 3AX

www.foalfarm.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 201654