



26.04.2024

Issue No: 1119

The Link

# Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

## Headlines

### Vision Statement

This week I led a staff meeting where we re-visited our vision and I would like to re-share this with you. It is important that all stakeholders know the journey we are on together.



### CHARLES DARWIN SCHOOL

#### Vision Statement

We are the hub of our community and a school everyone is proud to be associated with.

A thirst for learning has been developed in all our students through strong relationships with staff and engaging, memorable learning experiences in the classroom and extra-curricular.

All students feel an important part of the school and are proud to have a place here. They enjoy coming to school and do not want to miss a single day through absence.

All parents and students put a high value on education, not just wanting their child to get through school but wanting them to achieve the highest possible academic outcomes.

Students discover their talents by being open to trying new things, engaging with what the school has to offer and always trying their best.

Students will leave us as compassionate contributors to local and global society, knowing they can overcome any challenge they are faced with. They will have developed an open-mindset and can-do attitude.

All Charles Darwin staff are solutions focused; we solve problems together, alongside our Inicio colleagues – we are a team of people with the single ambition of wanting the best for our students.

### Parent Survey

A survey was sent out to parents and carers on Tuesday. The survey will be open until Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Thank you to everyone who has completed it so far. Your feedback is really important to us. Here is the link again to the parent survey <https://forms.office.com/e/wJbNG3MEWq> or scan the QR code.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Please feel free to share any comments or suggestions with us in the free text section of the parent survey so we might adapt and improve our newsletter to provide you with what you want.

Parent Survey 2024 Charles Darwin  
School



### Good Luck to our Year 11 and 13's!

It has been a busy week with many students taking formal examinations. We wish all our Year 11 and 13's the best of luck as the frequency of exams increases into the exam season.

Aston Smith, Headteacher

## Reading Corner at Charles Darwin

Congratulations to Silver Badge winner, Alexander Mack 7SMA. He recommends 'The Island' by C L Taylor as an interesting adventure mystery book.

Also, a big well done to everyone who took part in the fourth Charles Darwin Drop Everything and Read session during P4 on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. It was lovely for everyone to have the opportunity to stop and read for pleasure.

Mrs Pitt

## New Bromley Y Webinars Summer Term 2024

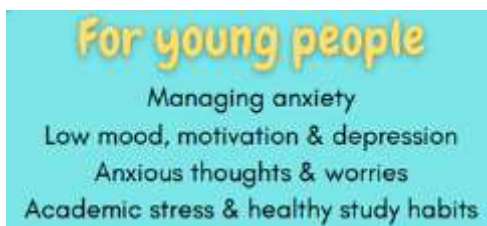
Dear Parents/Carers

The Summer Term is with us and many of our young people are preparing for imminent exams whilst others will be transitioning to secondary schools, so we attach links to our emotional wellbeing webinars which are there to support young people and parents through these difficult months.

**These webinars are facilitated by our practitioners live on Teams. Participants' cameras and microphones are off**, but attendees are encouraged to participate through the chat function.

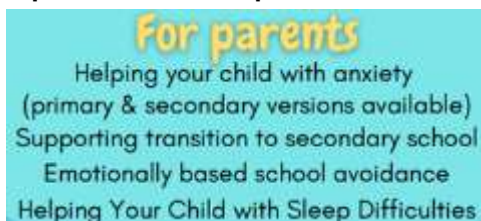
**Joining our webinars is easy** – just click on the links below, **scan the QR code in the posters or visit our website calendar. They will take you to Eventbrite where you can book your place. Alternatively, you can book via our [website](#) calendar.**

Topics this term for young people include:



Click [HERE](#) for posters about young people's webinars with QR codes for easy access to booking on Eventbrite.

Topics this term for parents and carers include:



Click [HERE](#) for posters about parents' and carers' webinars with QR codes for easy access to booking on Eventbrite.

Bromley Y Team



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](mailto:ifo@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk).

# PTA Update

## Quiz Night

We are excited to be hosting our fully booked quiz night tonight for our CDS families and staff. Thanks to everyone who is joining us when quizzing starts at 7.30pm in the sixth form hub. Miss Buckle will be running a round of 'Heads and Tails' during our break so please bring £1 each to participate. The event should finish at 10.00pm.

## Monthly Draw

We have 150 tickets in the draw for this month and look forward to announcing our winner very soon.

If you would like to participate from just £1 per month, please visit our PTA online shop:

<https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com>

Half of your money is donated to our school fund and half is added to the prize pot so it is a super opportunity to be in with a chance to win cash and support us, both at the same time! You can either pay for your tickets monthly or for a full year. One of our monthly draw volunteers will contact you with your numbers once you enter.

## Social Media

Please follow us on Social Media if you use any of our platforms. It is a great opportunity for us to share our updates directly and grow our network.

Instagram: [charles\\_darwin\\_pta](#)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/friendscharlesdarwinschool>

X (formerly Twitter): [PTA\\_Darwin](#)

Linked In: [www.linkedin.com/in/charles-darwin-pta](http://www.linkedin.com/in/charles-darwin-pta)

## Library funding



We are delighted to share the feedback below from Ms Adams, our library supervisor, following a recent donation towards headphones for our library:

"I just wanted to say a big thank you for the donation which enabled me to purchase headphones for the Library. These are used every morning in our Lexia programme and at other times when needed. (Lexia is a computer programme that helps students to develop their literacy skills independently). I am so grateful to you all."

## 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/ORO	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 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"





## Attendance

**Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 19 April 2024.**



7LMc	98.5%
8LBr	92%
9JHd	96.8%
10CO n	91.7%
11DNe	100%
12ACh	100%
13DWa	96.4%

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

Logan Allison  
Jenon Ladd-Talbot  
George Lyons  
Alfie Sayer  
Millie Lucas

Draw Laws  
Olivia Rice  
Jai Harper  
Harrison Stimson  
Isabella Saunders



### Student Services Duty Pupils

Tyrese Opoku  
Phoebe Vincent  
Oliver Negus  
Alexander Hannaford

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

## Dates for the Diary

### April

**30th April** - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean Year 10

### May

**2nd May** - Trip: Geography Field Trip to Rottingdean

**2nd May (evening) - 4th May** - DofE Silver Year 10 practise

**6th May** - **BANK HOLIDAY**

**8th May** - Year 9 Reward Trip

**9th May** - Year 10 Parents' Evening

**10th May** - Year 10 Reward Trip

**16th-17th May** - DofE Year 9 Qualifying Expedition

**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



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 for students who forgot a water bottle.

Thank you

**Student Services Team**

## 2023-24 Term Dates

### Autumn 2023

Tuesday 29th August – Friday 13th October

**Half Term: Monday 16th October – Friday 27th October**

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 18th December - Monday 1st January**

### Spring 2024

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

**Half Term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February**

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

**Easter Holiday: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April**

### 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

### Note:

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

**INSET Days** - School closed to students

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

**Monday 22nd July 2024**

# Frame Running Sessions

Frame running sessions for children and young people aged 5 - 17 with a disability that affects your mobility and ability to walk or run independently

- **Where:** Sutcliffe Park Sports Centre (outside athletics track), SE9 5LW
- **When:** Saturdays - 2.30 - 3.30 pm
- **Ages:** 5 - 17 years old
- **Cost:** £3 per session
- All equipment provided



**Register your interest here:**



<https://bit.ly/FrameRunning-Greenwich>

Or scan the QR code



**For more information, please contact:**



020 7993 9883



[Disability.Inclusion@AccessSport.org.uk](mailto:Disability.Inclusion@AccessSport.org.uk)

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