26.09.2025 Issue No: 1168 The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Year 11 Information Evening
On Wednesday evening I welcomed the parents to our 'Support Your Child Through Year 11' evening. Ms Kelly and Mrs Tsang talked through practical ways parents can support their child at home, from routines, revision strategies, and managing wellbeing, to understanding what really makes the difference to achieving highly over the coming months. It was also a chance to set the rhythm for the year ahead by outlining key dates.

The partnership between school and home is vital. When young people know that their teachers and their parents are both behind them, holding them to high expectations and encouraging them to keep going, they are far more likely to achieve their best. The evening was about setting the standard we want to see and give our students the best chance of success.

If you are a year 11 parent that was unable to attend, the slides from the presentation are on the website and a guide for the year will be given to your child via form time. Please keep an eye on your emails over the coming months because this is how we will be communicating important information.

Year 7 Induction /Meet the Tutor
I am very much looking forward to welcoming our Year 7 parents next Tuesday. If you haven't yet booked an appointment with your child's tutor, please do so. The event is a great chance to meet and talk about how your child is settling into secondary school life.

Year 10 Information Evening
A reminder that our Year 10 Information Evening will be held on Thursday 2nd October, 6:00–6:45pm in the Hall. This important event will provide parents and students with key information and guidance to support a positive and successful start to GCSEs.

Aston Smith, Headteacher

A reminder to parents that as well as the LINK and the 'latest news' section on the website, you can follow the latest events happening in our school community on:

CDarwinSchool

Charles Darwin School

Operated by the Inicio Educational Trust
Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Open Morning - Saturday 11th October 2025

Parents of prospective students are invited to visit our high performing school to view and sample the exciting opportunities we have to offer. Pre booking for a tour only (9am) or Headteacher's presentation followed by a tour (9am or 10:30am) is essential by midday on Thursday 9th October. Priority will be given to Year 6 children. Presentations will start promptly at the advertised time so please leave sufficient time for parking. There will be very limited on-site parking. Please email the relevant tour/presentation with **your name, your child's name, their current year group, their current school and the number of places required.**

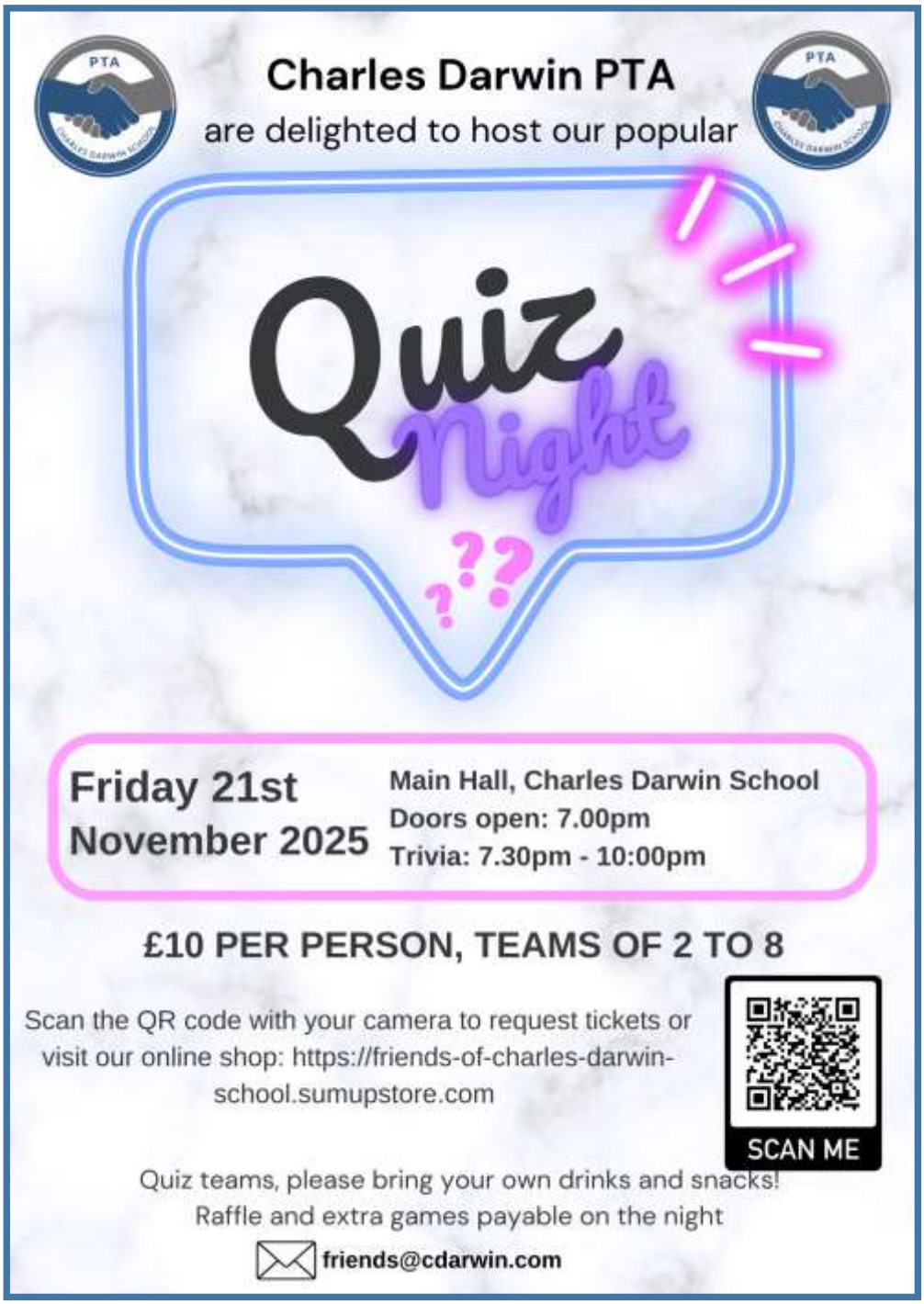
Early Tour (No Presentation)	Presentation 1 & Tour	Presentation 2 & Tour
9:00am	9:00am	10:30am
Email to book your place	Email to book your place	Email to book your place
earlytour@cdarwin.com	hallandtour1@cdarwin.com	hallandtour2@cdarwin.com

Open Week Tours - Monday 13th to Friday 17th October

If you wish to attend one of our Open Week tours you can pre-book a tour for 8.45am or 9.00am (max. 2 people per booking). Open week tours offer the opportunity to see the school in operation and to observe teaching taking place. This will be followed by a short Q & A session. No parking available on site. Pre-booking essential by midday on Friday 10th October. Priority will be given to Year 6 children.

Monday 13th October - mondaytours@cdarwin.com
Tuesday 14th October - tuesdaytours@cdarwin.com
Wednesday 15th October - wednesdaytours@cdarwin.com
Thursday 16th October - thursdaytours@cdarwin.com
Friday 17th October - fridaytours@cdarwin.com

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



Year 8 Duty Pupil

Dylan Selman
Max Bourn
Ava Jarred
Harry Seidler
Daniel Nemeth
Bella Galley
Barrie Allen
Myah Pamphlett
Evie Ricca
Dylan Selman

Student Services Duty Pupils

Livia Maria Assola Balthazar
Ava Brown
Shaniah Delanbanque
Bonnie Coward
Sydney Daniels

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

Attendance

An amazing 813 students are still on 100% attendance since beginning of September.

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 22 September 2025.

7SHe/KSa	100%
8LWr/OLo	96.5%
9SHu	97.4%
10PDg/JSt	96.2%
11JAl	97.6%
12ZPa	98.3%
13DWa	97.6%

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 clearly stating your child's name and form. Please do 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.

Pupil absence line: 01959 574043

Reminder – please can parents call the absence line each day of your child's absence **before 8.30am**, clearly stating your child's name and form. Please do not rely on receiving a text from us chasing their absence.

If you wish to report your child's absence, **OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS**, please call the school on **01959 574043** and when prompted to enter the extension number, please **dial 1** and you will be taken through to the student absence line where you can leave a message regarding your child's absence. This ensures we know your child is safe and their absence is authorised where possible.

Thank you for your support.

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.

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.
Thank you

Mrs Booth
Health Care Lead

Dates for the Diary

September

29th September - Flu Immunisations Year 7-11
30th September - Trip: Y12/Y13 DT Trip - Design Workshop at Blue Garage, Lewisham
30th September - Trip: Y12/Y13 DT Trip to see 'Punch' at the Apollo Theatre, London
30th September - Year 7 Meet the Tutor, 3.30-6pm

October

2nd October - Year 10 Information Evening
7th October - Trip **-** GCSE Fieldwork trip to Olympic Park, Stratford
8th October - Trip - 'Every Brilliant Thing', Drama, Soho Place Theatre
8th October - Trip: Y10/Y12/Y13 DT Trip - Design Workshop at Blue Garage, Lewisham
10th October - Early finish (12.20pm) preparation for Open Morning
11th October - Open Morning
13th-17th October - Open Week Tours (am)

The SEN team at Charles Darwin:

Mrs L Thom, SENCo
Mr B Frost, Assistant SENCo
Mrs J Patten, Senior Learning Support Assistant
Miss R Higgins, SEN Administrator

Should you need to make contact with us, please use the inbox below:
send@cdarwin.com

Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn 2025

Monday 1st September – Friday 17th October

Half term: Monday 20th October – Friday 31st October

Monday 3rd November – Friday 19th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January

Spring 2026

Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

Half term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Monday 23rd February – Friday 27th March

Easter Holiday: Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Notes:
Good Friday 3rd April 2026
Easter Monday 6th April 2026

Summer 2026

Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May

[Monday 4th May Bank Holiday]

Half term: Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June – Friday 17thJuly

INSET Days:

Monday 3rd November 2025

Wednesday 14th January 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Friday 22nd May 2026

Friday 26th June 2026

Term Dates 2026-2027

Inicio Educational Trust Schools

Term Dates 2026-2027

Term 1

Start:	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Finish:	Friday 16th October 2026
Autumn break:	Monday 19th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026

Term 2

Start:	Monday 2nd November 2026
Finish:	Friday 18th December 2026
Christmas break:	Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2026

Term 3

Start:	Monday 4th January 2027
Finish:	Friday 12th February 2027
February break:	Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027

Term 4

Start:	Monday 22nd February 2027
Finish:	Thursday 25th March 2027
Spring break:	Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027

Term 5

Start:	Monday 12th April 2027
Finish:	Friday 28th May 2027
Early May Bank Holiday:	*Monday 3rd May 2027*
May break:	Monday 31st May 2027 to Friday 4th June 2027

Term 6

Start:	Monday 7th June 2027
Finish:	Wednesday 21st July 2027

Professional Development days will be allocated through the academic year

FREE EVENT

The SEND Local Offer Live TASTER SESSIONS!

BROMLEY SEND LOCAL OFFER
SEND Matters
LIVE!

From dance, football, cricket, archery, art, to sensory songs, story time, face painting, virtual gaming, and even a silent disco! Come along and join in the fun!

Thursday 30 October, 10am to 2pm

Bishop Justus School,
Magpie Hall Lane,
Bromley,
BR2 8HZ

Register your interest in a taster session today! See you there!

Please note: parents and carers remain responsible for their children at all times.

Bromley · NHS South East London · Bromley Parent Carer Forum · yvhsc