27.03.2026 Issue No: 1190 The Link

Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

Headlines

Achievement Assemblies
Over the past week and a half, we have celebrated an incredible amount of student success, in all forms not just academic during our Achievement Assemblies. It is wonderful to see so many students embodying our school values: Inspire, Endeavour, and Achieve. They should all be incredibly proud of their achievements as we certainly are. Well done!

Uniform
As we hopefully see the return of warmer weather, I would like to remind all students that they are expected to bring their blazer to school every day. Please note that a jumper is not a replacement for a blazer. Additionally, as we near the end of term, we have seen an increase in students wearing trainers. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind parents that trainers are not permitted as part of our uniform policy. Please ensure that your child is equipped with the correct uniform ready for the start of the Summer Term.

Year 11 and 13 Easter Revision
There is a programme of revision sessions for students taking place over the two weeks of the Easter holiday. Please note that there will be road works on Jail Lane on Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st April, so students should allow extra time for travel to school. I would like to thank the staff who have volunteered to give some of their holiday to run these sessions.
I am sure students will be working hard during the break in preparation for their exams, but I hope they also take time to relax, recharge their batteries and enjoy some free time.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a happy, restful Easter break. I look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 13th April.

Best wishes,

Aston Smith, Headteacher

New Arrival at CDS Library

New in the Library!

We've added some new titles — including 24 brand-new comics now in our catalogue!

As comics are a bit more delicate than regular books, they can't be taken out of the library. But don't worry — you can still enjoy them!
If you want to read one, just fill out the form and we'll bring it out of storage for you during your library lesson.

Library opening times:
Every day, 11:30am – 4:00p

Mrs Waite
Library Supervisor

The girls have reached the Final of the Bromley Cup - Congratulations !

Miss Owen

Ranked Players

#	Player	Leg Diff	Legs Won	3DA	Points
1	Mitchell Lawrie	+70	136	88.41	30
2	Jack Johnson	+38	116	82.98	24
3	Jayden Walker	+50	105	83.30	22
4	Kaya Baysal	+48	102	85.08	21

Jack Johnson Year 9 showed serious consistency and class across the latest JDC Advanced Tour weekend. Well done Jack!

Making three consecutive finals is no small feat, and Jack backed it up with strong performances throughout — including multiple high averages and dominant wins on the way to the business end of each event.

Those results see him sitting **2nd in the world at the moment** !

What an amazing achievement!

Mr Lamb

Congratulations to Layla Mai Lucas in Year 7 who won the London Cup with Millwall.

Well done Layla, amazing achievement!

Miss Owen

The Art Department hosted their Easter ceramics club over a few lunch sessions. The group successfully designed and glazed their ceramic easter eggs and they also embossed their chosen patterns on to hanging eggs. The clubs have proven to be extremely popular and have offered opportunity for students to gain new skills in ceramics.

Mrs Broad

Charity Football Tournament in Year 7

Well done to everyone who took part in the charity football tournament in year 7.

Money raised was over **£300.**

Top fundraising form: **7CON**

Top 3: **7CON with £45, 7MHU with £36.50 and 7NKO with £33.90.**

Top fundraiser: **Colbie Reynolds 7CON £10**

Tournament winners: **7CON**

7CON with a close 1-0 win in the final against 7NKO.

7SHE and 7FDE just missed out after losing in the semi-finals!

Students were amazing and represented the year group fantastically.

Many thanks to the PE department who ran the event so efficiently and professionally despite the weather challenges!

Miss Owen

Achievement Points Leader Board

Top 10 achievers across the school for the period 03.09.2025 - 13.03.2026

Olivia	Earls	7MHu/GQu	297
Ellie	Downer	7COn	284
Abigail	Young	8SAs	284
Elliott	Smith	7COn	282
Bella	Cunliffe	7HEm/KSa	275
Isla	Atkins	7COn	256
Ololade	Olawoyin	7COn	249
Evie	Murphy	8LWr/OLo	244
Asa	Johnson	7MHu/GQu	242
Elizabeth	Adebayo	7HEm/KSa	235

Top highest achievers per each year for the period 03.09.2025 - 13.03.2026

Olivia	Earls	7MHu/GQu	297
Abigail	Young	8SAs	284
Emily	Lynch	9LMc	214
Lola	Clarke	10ADo	192
Holleigh-Rae	Lavin	11JHd	131
Alyssa	Weaver	12TJo	47
Jasmine	O'Brien	13RPi	44

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

Track and Field Athletics Training

Track and Field Athletics Training - Starting Monday 13th April 2026

Training for the 2026 summer track and field season is starting after the Easter break.

Training is open to all students from Years 7,8,9,and 10 and will take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons after school (3:15-4:15pm). Monday sessions will be dedicated to track events (100m, 200m, 300m / 400m, 800m, 1500m, Relays), while Wednesdays will be dedicated to field events (long jump, triple jump, javelin, discus, shot put).

Our most talented (and dedicated) athletes will be selected to represent the school in the West Kent Championships and Bromley Minors Championships held in April and June.

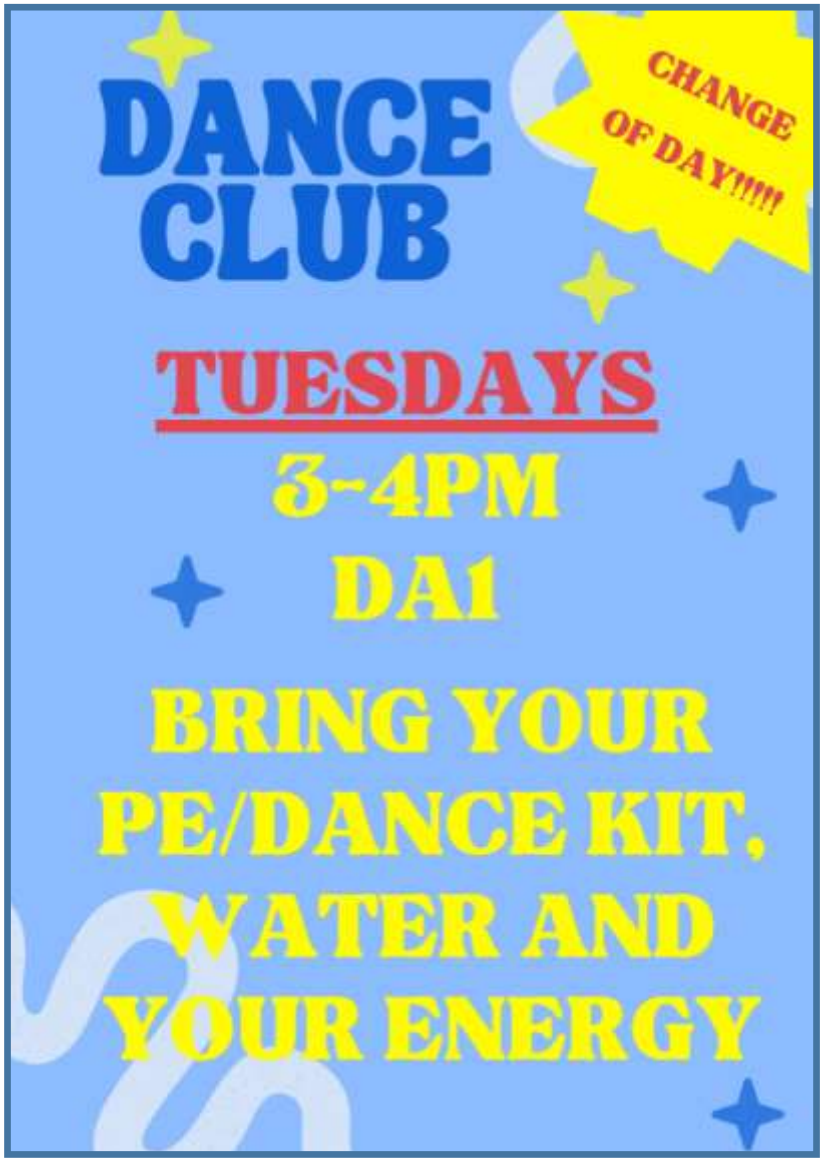
I look forward to seeing large numbers of athletes taking part after the Easter break.

Mr Huggins

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Spring term clubs and activities
We have a variety of clubs and extra curriculum activities being run this term.

Details can be found on our website or click the link Charles Darwin School - Clubs



Charles Darwin School

Headteacher: Aston Smith, BA (Hons) MA NPQH

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

Darwin Leisure Centre – Leisure Assistants

£10.85 / £12.71 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.

Further details of the post can be found on our website: www.cdarwin.com about us/ vacancies.

Completed applications should be sent to jhodgkinson@cdarwin.com.

Mrs. J. Hodgkinson, Personnel & Administration Manager, Charles Darwin School.

Interviews will take place as and when applications are received.

Please note: all applicants must complete the Lumero Educational Trust application form which is available on our website: www.cdarwin.com about us/ vacancies. CVs alone will not 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 an Enhanced Disclosure with the Disclosure and Barring Service and full background and online checks.

Charles Darwin School is part of Lumero Educational Trust

Lumero
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Attendance

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the highest attendance for week ending 20 March 2026.

7MHu/GQu	95.9%
8LWr/OLo	95.9%
9ARo/SFe	93.7%
10PDg/JSt	96.2%
11SAr	94.8%
12TJo	98.9%
13DWa	95.9%

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.

Students Services Team

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.

Mrs Booth
Health Care Lead

Dates for the Diary

March
30th March - 10th April - Easter Revision School for Year 11 and 13
30th March - 10th April - Easter Holiday

April
13th April - Summer Term starts
14th April - Trip: Y9 Geography Reward Trip to Natural History Museum, London
15th April - PTA Meeting
17th April - Trip: YR 12 Sociology conference at Chislehurst Girls
17th April - PTA Quiz Night
23rd April - Year 7 Parents' Evening
24th April - Trip: Y 10 Geography Trip to Rottingdean
30th April– 1st May - Trip: Bronze DofE Qualifying Expedition at Bewl Water

May
4th May - Bank Holiday
11th May - Trip: Year 10 GCSE PE Kayaking Trip, Danson Park
13th May - Year 10 Parents' Evening
15th May - Trip: Year 10 GCSE PE Kayaking Trip, Danson Park
22nd May - Inset Day
25th-29th May - Half term

Preloved Uniform Shop
Promoting a positive eco-friendly culture of reusing

Did you know we have a preloved uniform shop with a variety of nearly new school uniform and PE kits?

If you are interested in checking stock, please send an email with your requirements (size, gender, specific item) to preloveduniform@cdarwin.com you can also use the link below or scan the QR code.
https://forms.office.com/e/qSR8ju6P5C

Year 8 Duty Pupil

Rosie Kinahan
Bertie Powell
Andrew Roberts
Gabriela Hodoroaba
Scarlett Howes
Scott Conway
Leni Dungate
Ellee Allen
Poppy Pointer

Student Services Duty Pupils

Tobiasz Ulman
Alexander Buxton-Wilmott
Lillie McDaniels
Alexander Pavlov
Lewis Huggins

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

Please remember to be ready to learn for the Summer term which starts on 13th April.

Equipment needed for school

Are you ready to learn?

Including your timetable

REMEMBER
Never used, seen or heard

Keep your phone out of sight

KS3 - A book for reading lessons

No Jewellery at School

Blazer on!

Term Dates 2025-2026

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:

Friday 22nd May 2026

Friday 26th June 2026

The SEN team at Charles Darwin:

Mrs L Thom, SENDCo
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 2026-2027

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
	Staff Development Day Tuesday & Wednesday 1st & 2nd September 2026

Term 2

Start:	Monday 2nd November 2026
Finish:	Friday 18th December 2026
Christmas break:	Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027
	Staff Development Day Monday 2nd November 2026

Term 3

Start:	Monday 4th January 2027
Finish:	Friday 12th February 2027
February break:	Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027
	Staff Development Day Wednesday 13th January 2027

Term 4

Start:	Monday 22nd February 2027
Finish:	Thursday 25th March 2027
Spring break:	Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027
	Staff Development Day Friday 12th & Monday 22nd February 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
	**No inset Day this term*

Term 6

Start:	Monday 7th June 2027
Finish:	Wednesday 21st July 2027
	Staff Development Day Friday 25th June 2027

**Term 5 Staff Development Day – to be chosen by Headteacher*
There will be no inset day for CDS in Term 5 – we will hold our inset day on Friday 12th February

Update from Bromley Council

There will be **no free school meal vouchers issued for the Easter holidays.**

Please use the link below which provides information on the support available for the cost of living:

https://www.bromley.gov.uk/CostOfLivingSupport

Road Closure

Bromley
THE LONDON BOROUGH
www.bromley.gov.uk

Riney

23-Mar

Resident/ Owner - Roadworks Notification

Jail Lane

from Main Road To Charles Darwin School

Dear Resident,

Riney will be resurfacing Jail Lane for 3 days from Mon 30 Mar. Due to road widths the works will need to be completed under a road closure. The works will take place between 09.00-17.30 , the road should be reopened at the end of each shift, however we can't guarantee this end time in case there are complications caused by bad weather or a machine breakdown.

Due to the nature of the works, we would advise that residents try to plan their journeys around the working times mentioned above. Limited access will be available but there could be up to a 30-minute delay in some circumstances while machinery is moved and material sets. If you need to use your vehicle during working times, we advise you speak to the traffic management operatives onsite before your journey and they will advise in more detail regarding access and egress, we would also recommend that residents relocate their vehicles before the crews start their works to minimise any delay to journeys.

Buses will be on diversion during working times. TFL will be updating information on bus stops in the area and more information on the bus diversion can be found on TFL's website.

If you have any further questions before the scheme starts, please contact Bromley Council on 0208 464 333, if you have any questions.

While the works are in progress, please contact the Riney Supervisor Luke Burlington 07494 439383

Yours Sincerely,

Bromley Surfacing Team

Charles Darwin PTA

are delighted to host our popular

Quiz Night

Friday 17th April 2026

Charles Darwin School
Doors open: 7.00pm
Trivia: 7.30pm - 10:00pm

£10 PER PERSON, TEAMS OF 2 TO 8

Scan the QR code with your camera to order tickets or visit our online shop: https://friends-of-charles-darwin-school.sumupstore.com

SCAN ME

Bring your own drinks and snacks! Extra games payable on the night

friends@cdarwin.com

Free Easter football session hosted by CH Football, taking place on:**Date:** Monday 30th March
Time: 5:15pm – 6:15pm
Location: Charles Darwin School, Biggin Hill

This fun and engaging session is open to **children aged 5–12 years old** and will include a **special guest appearance from Omar Sowunmi (Bromley FC First Team Player)**. There will also be **small Easter treats** for attendees.

Spaces are limited, so please **email:** coachingch11@gmail.com **to register your interest** and secure a place.

Please use the link below for more information:

[Transformative Creative Arts Education | Join The Music Klub HAF Programme]

Please use the link below for more information:

[Holiday activities and food programme]

Easter HAF programme will be running at the following locations:
Field way Community Centre (CR0 9AZ)

- **Time:** 1:30pm – 5:30pm
- **Dates:** Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April 2026

21 Wayside, New Addington (CR0 9DX) 8+ without parents, under 8's need supervision

- **Time:** 9:00-1:00pm
- **Dates:** Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April 2026
-

What's included across all sites:

- Arts & crafts
- Sports
- Games
- Easter-themed activities

Free entry + hot meal provided

From Monday 30th March families visiting any Morrisons' 343 Cafes across the country during school holidays will be able to request a free 'Kellogg's Breakfast'. This includes a bowl of Kellogg's cereal (Rice Krispies or Corn Flakes), milk or a milk alternative, and an apple or banana.

The offer is universally accessible, requires no signup, and meets school food standards.

You can learn more about our work via our website:
www.livingon.org.uk