**Dear Parents and Carers, 22 July 2019**

**As we approach the end of the year I would like to take this opportunity to draw the year to a close with a celebratory newsletter.**

**I know there’s a lot here, especially if you are reading it on your phone, but please read through it; we’ve done such a lot!**

**I would also ask that you complete the Ofsted Parent View online questionnaire by clicking the link below. Your feedback is vital in ensuring that we know what works well and where we can make improvements.** [***https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/***](https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/)

**Many thanks for all of your support this year.**

**Adam Croft**
Yet again this has been an incredibly busy year and I would like to thank all members of the school staff and wider school community for their incredible support, hard work and good humour.

I am incredibly privileged to lead such a strong school team who are dedicated to doing all they can for the children in our care; the sheer volume of achievements below is testament to another successful year at Charles Darwin. I am delighted that so many of you recognise that school staff consistently go well and truly above and beyond in their efforts.

**I would also like to say thank you and goodbye to some staff who are leaving us this summer.**

* **Michelle Oliver who has done a great job working part time in our office**
* **Natalie Evans who has provided invaluable support to a child in Reception**
* **Chris Marland who has been brilliant in Y1 for three years**
* **Chloe Moores who has been fantastic in Reception for two years**
* **Kelly Holloway who has worked superbly at Y3 and Y4 over the last six years.**

**They have all made a tremendous contribution to our school and head off to new challenges with my thanks, appreciation and best wishes.**

**Academic Results**

Whilst results are absolutely not the be all and end all of school life it is essential that we give all of our children the best possible opportunity to reach their academic potential. Although we carry out informal teacher assessments as part of every single lesson, external test results are very obviously important to us, to you as parents and to the DfE.

**Our results for this school year are shown below.** **We have added national data for comparison and as you can see we have once again performed superbly at all stages. Once again I am delighted and proud of all of our children and staff!**

**Statutory Assessment Results 2018’19**

**Early Years Foundation Stage ~ Reception 2019**

Charles Darwin pupils achieving a ‘Good Level of Development’: 82%

National pupils in 2019 achieving a ‘Good Level of Development’: 72%

**Year One Phonics Screening 2019**

Charles Darwin pupils reaching the expected standard: 82%

National pupils in 2019 reaching the expected standard: 82%

**Attainment at Key Stage One (Y2) 2019**

**Reading**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin 2019 Age Related Expectation (ARE) or above | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | National 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE |
| **84%** | **75%** | **30%** | **25%** |

**Writing**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin 2019 Age Related Expectation (ARE) or above | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | National 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE |
| **77%** | **69%** | **16%** | **15%** |

**Maths**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin 2019 Age Related Expectation (ARE) or above | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | National 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE |
| **82%** | **76%** | **30%** | **22%** |

**Attainment at Key Stage Two (Y6) 2019**

**Reading**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin SATs test 2019 Age Related Expectation (ARE) or above | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | Working at Greater Depth within ARE National 2018  | Charles Darwin 2019 Average Scaled Score  | National 2018 Average Scaled Score  |
| 83% | 73% | 30% | 27% |  104.1 |  104 |

**Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar (SPaG)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin SATs test 2019Age Related Expectation (ARE) or above | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | Working at Greater Depth within ARE National 2018  | Charles Darwin 2019 Average Scaled Score | National 2019 Average Scaled Score |
| **81%** | **78%** | **43%** | **34%** | **108.1** | **106** |

**Maths**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Charles Darwin SATs test 2019 | National 2019 ARE or above | Charles Darwin 2019 Working at Greater Depth within ARE | Working at Greater Depth within ARE National 2019  | Charles Darwin 2019 Average Scaled Score | National 2019 Average Scaled Score |
| **79%** | **79%** | **34%** | **27%** | **106.3** | **105** |

**Writing** ~ This is done by teacher assessment which is moderated by Local Authority advisers for accuracy.

Charles Darwin 2019 Writing Teacher Assessment ARE ~ 89%

National ARE 2019 ~  78%

Charles Darwin 2019 Writing Teacher Assessment Working at Greater Depth within ARE ~ 17 %

National Greater Depth within ARE in 2019 ~ 20%

**Attendance**

I’d like to thank all parents and carers for your support with attendance and punctuality this year. I know it’s been challenging at times but our overall percentage attendance for this year is 96% which is better than last year and better than the national average.

The recent Reception celebration assembly and Y6 performance of Aladdin highlighted superbly our commitment to not only academic excellence but also to developing our children’s confidence and readiness to face the world through a broad, balanced and inspiring curriculum.

As well as the following term by term breakdown of special events and functions, across the year all classes from Y1 –Y5 have had free swimming lessons, junior classes have enjoyed weekly Spanish lessons, Y5 have learned to play the recorder, we have competed in and on many occasions won, sporting matches, competitions and tournaments in football (boys, girls and mixed) tag rugby, cricket, gymnastics netball, orienteering, dodgeball, tri-golf, athletics, cross country and many, many more. Recognition of our sporting “offer” has come once again in our achieving the Sportsmark Platinum Award for the second year. This is only applicable to schools who achieved five consecutive years of Sports Mark Gold.

We have offered a comprehensive programme of after school clubs free of charge to all pupils, worked with Rupert Adams “The Butterfly Man,” been the lead school on the Polli:Nation Project, been part of Northwich Children’s Parliament as well as working with many other groups to provide exciting learning opportunities for our children.

We have also continued to work with the Northwest Family Learning Alliance to host courses for parents and begun delivering the 123 Magic Parenting Course ourselves.

**Below is a simple list of activities and experiences across school this year.**

 **Autumn term**

* Brilliant start for our youngest children in Reception as their buddies supported them on a daily basis
* Hosted Family Learning Alliance course
* Raised money for Macmillan Cancer Trust
* Raised money for charity Jeans for Genes
* Help your child to read workshop
* Took all junior classes to Northwich Library
* Enjoyed national poetry day
* Junior children took part in PhysKids challenge
* Cross country competition
* Harvest Festival ~ donations to local Foodbank
* Y4 Zoo Lab visit
* Tag rugby competition Y5/6
* Whole school Book fair
* Parents’ evenings
* Y6 residential visit to Conway Centre
* Girls’ & boys’’ football competitions
* Mixed football tournament
* Disco ~ FOTSA
* Successful Open days and Open evenings
* Hockey tournament Y3/4
* Whole school fun run at Moss Farm
* Theatre visit
* Junior Road Safety Officers initial meeting
* Raised money for Children in Need
* Northwich Children’s Parliament
* Open afternoons for infant and junior Grandparents
* Whole school anti bullying ~ awareness week
* Whole school WW1 commemoration week and service
* Y5 trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
* Lantern Parade workshop and parade
* Heartsmart Programme
* Y5 “Smokebusters” ~ Fire Safety visit
* Y6 “Dragon’s Den” team work & “pitch” to judges
* Christmas fair
* Reception Christmas Experience visit to Riverside Organic Farm
* Rec / Y1 Christmas Nativity production
* Y2 Christmas production
* Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics competition
* Carol singing to Townbridge Court
* Christmas craft morning ~ parents / grandparents invited
* Y5 recorder performance
* Christmas Bingo
* Whole school Big Friendly Giant performance
* Junior Christmas Service at Holy Trinity Church
* Christmas parties

**Spring Term**

* Class achievement assemblies all term – parents invited into classes afterward
* Cricket coaching
* Love My River Environment Agency Project
* Netball competition Y5/6
* Y1 visit to Marshalls Arm Nature Reserve
* FOTSA film night
* Y2 SATs information meeting for parents
* Y1 phonics meeting for parents
* Basketball competition
* Whole school visit by Islamic teacher
* Y1 visit to Marshall’s Arm
* Hockey finals Y3/4
* Y5 Science Gifted & Talented Day at HCoEHS
* Sportshall Athletics Vale Royal Final Y5/6
* Young Voices Choir to Manchester Arena
* Fundraising for British Heart Foundation
* Y2 Meercat day
* Whole school Internet Safety day
* Reception class Heritage fire engine visit
* Reception class fire service visit
* Valentines disco ~ FOTSA
* Reception trip to Bunbury Mill
* Family Learning ~ Art
* Y1 educational visit to Beeston Castle
* Chinese New Year celebrated
* World Book Day
* Tag rugby festival
* Heartsmart Day
* Reception Parents “Stay and play” all week
* Polli:Nation Day
* Reception / Y1 Dinosaur Workshops
* National Science Week events ~ led by “trained” parents!
* Y3 Yellowfish Project
* Comic Relief whole school fundraiser
* Cross Country competition
* E-cadet assembly & activities
* Y5 trip to Weaver Hall
* Parents’ evenings ~ whole school
* Big pedal ~ weekly event. Top 5 in Northwest for Participation!
* Northwich Parliament
* Easter Concert at St Johns Church Hartford with other schools
* Infant Easter craft morning
* Infant Easter Bonnet Parade
* Easter bingo

**Summer term**

* Heartsmart day
* Family Learning ~ First Aid
* Y1 visit to Marshall’s Arm
* Reception Stay & Play
* Y2 pop rocket science
* Y2 cricket coaching
* Y5 Bikeability training
* Gymnastics competitions Y3/4 & Y5/6
* Y1 visit to Beeston Castle
* Cross country running finals
* Various classes cricket coaching
* Y1 trip to Nantwich Toy Museum
* FOTSA film night
* Y3 Manchester Science museum visit
* Northwich Primary Partnership Art trail
* Dodgeball competition Y5/6
* Orienteering competition KS2
* Reception trip to Chester Zoo
* Ramadan Assembly
* Kwik cricket competition Y5/6
* Diamond cricket tournament
* Y5 Participate in Northwich Festival of Singing at Memorial Hall
* Whole school Sports day
* FOTSA Summer Bingo
* Cross country running final Y5/6
* Girls’ cricket final Y5/6
* Y4 Residential visit ~ Denbigh
* World Cup football tournament Y3/4
* Quadkids sports event Y5/6
* Mini tennis sports events Y3/4
* Summer fair
* Quadkids sports event Y3/4
* Tri-Golf competition Y3/4 7 Y5/6
* Dodge ball tournament
* Total sports disability festival
* Adventure race KS2
* Shakespeare Workshop Y4-Y6
* Y5 trip to National Football Museum
* Orienteering Y3/4 & y5/6
* Sports Day ~ whole school extravaganza
* Total sports ~ KS2
* Rounders competition Y5/6
* Change 4 Life physical activity training
* Reception educational visit ~ Llandudno
* Y2 adventure day at Delamere Forest
* Whole school Refugee week
* Hockey Finals Y3/4
* Tag rugby competition Y3/4 & Y5/6
* Geography skills week
* Y6 Enrichment day at Grange School
* Cheshire & Warrington Summer Games
* Family picnic lunch followed by musical afternoon
* Stunning Reception end of year celebration
* House Point winners treat ~ Cinema for all 87 of them!
* Enjoyed our Giant Sleepover
* Little Princess Trust fundraiser ~ Alfie Murphy public haircut!
* Brilliant Y6 Summer production ~ Aladdin
* Charles Darwin’s Got Talent Grand Final
* Y6 Leavers’ lunch

 **Still to come**

* End of year discos ~ infants, juniors & Y6
* Leavers’ assembly

**As you can see it has been another incredibly busy and successful year at Charles Darwin. It just remains for me to once again thank all members of the school community; staff, parents, governors, FOTSAs and most importantly our amazing children for such a stunning year.**

**Although I have said it before it bears repeating; it is a genuine pleasure to work and spend time with such committed, dedicated and positive people thank you all; have a safe, healthy and restful summer.**

**School closes at 2.00pm on Tuesday 23 July for the summer holiday.**

Yours sincerely

Adam Croft