

Dear Parent/ Carer

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year. We are extremely proud of everything that our students have achieved this year, but we know that would not be possible without the on-going support from parents and carers, which once again has been fantastic. Thank you to everyone who has helped out with the Friends, supported at specific events or more generally ensured that their child strives to achieve their very best in school.

As ever, the last half term has been one of our busiest with staff and students organising and taking part in a wide variety of activities and events. We said goodbye to Year 11 and Year 13 who headed off for a well-deserved break after working so hard for their external exams and we look forward to seeing them again in August on the results days. Year 9 have completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expeditions with older students completing their Silver and Gold awards during the past seven weeks, and at the start of July we were blown away by the incredible talent of our students, both on stage and off, in the school production of Grease.

During this last week alone we have seen Trash mobs picking litter around the school, a delightful afternoon music concert from Year 7, visits from numerous mini-beasts with Zoolab and a visit to space in a pop-up planetarium for our Year 8s, over 14 day-trips involving all students and an overseas water-sports trip. This newsletter aims to give you a flavour of these and some of the other amazing activities and successes from the past half term.

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 2nd September. To help them settle in new Year 7 students should arrive a little later at 8.45am (and will leave at around 2.45pm). Year 8-13 students should arrive at 8.25am as normal. Please see page 7 for a reminder of our uniform regulations if you are planning to buy new school uniform over the summer. Note one small but important change, which is that all coats should be plain black (with no denim/ leather and no logos/ decoration) from September. Please read the Uniform regulations carefully and contact the school in the week before 2nd September if you are in any doubt about what your child should be wearing in the new academic year.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a safe, relaxing and happy summer break and look forward to welcoming students back in September.

Yours faithfully



Christian Hicks

Headteacher



Key Dates

- Thursday 15 August: A level Results
- Thursday 22 August: GCSE Results
- Wednesday 28 August : 6th Form enrolment day
- Thursday 29 August: INSET DAY
- Friday 30 August: INSET DAY
- Monday 2 September: Autumn Term starts for all pupils
- Tuesday 24 September: Open Day 2:15—5:00pm
- Wednesday 2 October: Open Day 2:15—5:00pm

Please note that the school website is being updated over the summer holidays and further key dates for the Autumn term will be added before the start of the new term.

'Grease' wows over three nights



For its comedy, talent and inclusivity, 'Grease' has been a wonderful production to be a part of this year. Mr. Timms, along with other members of staff, worked with students over the last few months to create a truly fun and energetic piece of theatre with a relevant message.

This production was extra special because Grease was the first

production by the Charter School back in 2003, and also because it is the last production to involve Ms. Gooch who is leaving the Charter School North Dulwich after 9 years of wonderful service.

A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time in support of this production, it has been an unforgettable journey!

This week we welcomed historian and author, Rebecca Rideal, who travelled all the way from Chester to talk to our Y10 students about regicide!

Head Boy and Head Girl team 2019-20

After a tough competition between candidates, which included a student vote, a staff vote, a presentation and a panel interview, we are delighted to announce that the Head Girl/Head Boy Team for 2019-20 are:

- ◆ Head Girl: Success Imafidon
- ◆ Head Boy: Yasir Guerziz
- ◆ Deputy Head Girl: Scarlett O'Connell
- ◆ Deputy Head Boy: Freddie Debenham

Congratulations to each of the new team and well done to all of our Year 10 students who applied and took part in the process



MFL Spelling Bee Big Match!

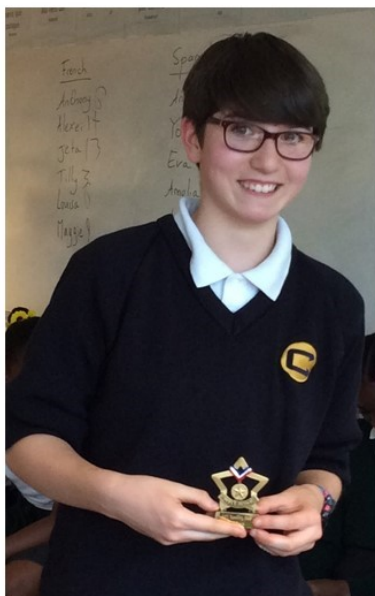
On Tuesday, 2nd July, seven North Dulwich Year 7 finalists competed against finalists from Year 7 at The Charter School East Dulwich for the first ever MFL Spelling Bee Big Match! Students had to spell, in only one minute, as many words as possible from a pre-learnt 50-word list of vocabulary using the French or Spanish alphabet.

The 14 contestants did very well demonstrating resilience, self-confidence and sportsmanship in front of some of their parents, peers and members of staff who all came to support and encourage them. This was a very exciting event and co-organiser, Ms. Bouquet, was very proud of all the students who took part so brilliantly.

The winner for French was Alexei (7P) and the runner-up for French was Jeta (7M). The winner for Spanish was Eva from TCSND & the runner-up was Angelina (7S). The events' overall winner was The Charter School North Dulwich with three trophies out of four! Well done TCSND!



Angelina 7S - Spanish Runner-up



Jeta - 7M - French Runner-up



Alexei - 7P - French Winner

Cycling Success for Year 7

On Saturday the 15th of June, six Year 7 students (Isaac, Jacob, Elvy, Alexei, Jack and Conor) competed in the School races at the Velofete in Herne Hill Velodrome. They brilliantly represented the school, with Jack and Isaac finishing first and second in two of the three races that day. The students have been active members of the Track Cycling Club this year and their hard training paid off!

For all those interested, Track Cycling Club will be back next year, every Tuesday at 16:30 in Herne Hill Velodrome.



Destinations Week

- ◆ Destinations Week gave Y12 students the opportunity to learn practical life skills to support them in the future. Activities involved cooking, financial planning and online presence workshops and problem solving challenges.
- ◆ On 10 July, over 30 parent and staff volunteers came together to give our Y12 students a taste of the world of work by putting them through a half hour 'mock' job interview and feedback on their CVs.
- ◆ We welcomed guest speakers, materials engineer, Anna Gallego, and social media agency director, Emma Goode, into school to talk to Y12 students. Anna, who develops prosthetic limbs, talked about her career in engineering. Emma, founder and owner of social media agency 24 fingers, provided guidance to students around their social media presence and how it can effect their employability.
- ◆ We were delighted to welcome back over 20 Alumni students who spoke to pupils about life after 6th form.
- ◆ In May Y12 students attended an event hosted by Hermes Investment Management, after which six pupils were offered 2-days work experience at their offices in the City. Congratulations to Stephen Amedu who secured an extra four weeks of work experience in the summer following his exceptional work over the 2 days.

[Click here to access the careers page on the website](#)

Secret Charter Update

Facilities and the art team at school have been working hard to develop plans for three of our art rooms to be refurbished over the summer using the money raised by the Secret Charter Postcard Art sale last October.

The plans have been finalised and contractors booked to carry out the work over the summer and we look

forward to showing off our new facilities that have been made possible with the £55,000 that was raised by Secret Charter.

As well as the Art room refurbishments we have also invested some of the money in new cameras and lights, musical instruments and Drama props including a fog machine!



Teachers take a soaking!

At the start of July pupils took great delight in being able to give their teachers a good soaking. The event, organised by the PE department, raised money to help fund the Watersports Trip.

For only £1 pupils could sponge a teacher, while several students collected their funds together to buy a bucket of nice cold water to tip over their favourite member of staff, including Mr Hicks, Mr Williams and Mr Teja!



Year 10 visit to the Bank of England and Parliament

On Tuesday 18th June our Year 10 Economists visited the Bank of England and the Houses of Parliament. At the Bank of England students learned how the Bank attempts (not always successfully) to control inflation using interest rates. They also learned that there are 3.6bn bank notes in circulation and the methods that that Bank uses in order to prevent counterfeit notes being produced, such as using the new plastic notes, water-marks and foil strips. They also discovered that a bar of gold weighs 12.4kg and is worth £420,000.

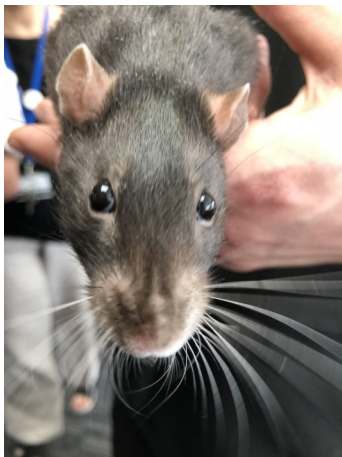


On the same day the group moved on to the Houses of Parliament where students were able to watch a debate about healthy food in schools. Afterwards our economists took part in a workshop where they learned the importance of campaigning, creating their own campaigns for gender equality of wages, LGBTQ+ rights and women's suffrage.

Mini beasts thrill Year 8!

This week Rhys from Zoolab turned up with a bag full of mini beasts to entertain and educate our year 8 students who all got hands on with a giant land snail, a corn snake called Tangerine, a tarantula, a giant millipede, a gecko and two rats called Charcoal and Patches.

Pupils were able to handle the friendly beasts whilst finding out more about how animals adapt to their different habitats.



FINANCE UPDATE

- ◆ **Lettings:** The Charter School has a wide range of high quality sports facilities, drama and assembly spaces and outdoor areas available to hire outside of normal school hours. We hire our facilities to the local community and external organisations for birthdays, sports clubs, conferences, charity events and much more. For more information or if you would like to view or book any of our facilities please email: bookings@charternorthdulwich.org.uk
- ◆ **ParentPay accounts:** There have been lots of exciting trips and activities taking place over the Summer Term. Please ensure that any outstanding payments for these are paid via your ParentPay account by the end of July. Due to budget cuts and restraints it is essential that payments are made on time and we request that all parents/carers and staff consider this so that money that would be used on educating our students is not having to be used to cover unpaid fees for trips, music lessons and other extra-curricular activities. If you have any concerns regarding outstanding amounts on your ParentPay account please email: finance@tcset.org.uk
- ◆ **Music Tuition:** If you would like to request music tuition for your child please contact Ms. Tidball. If you would like to cancel your child's music tuition next term we require 5 weeks' notice **BEFORE** the start of term as noted in your music provision contract outlining the terms and conditions by all parties. All requests must be made by email: ktidball@charternorthdulwich.org.uk
- ◆ **School Fund:** We have raised just over £15K from voluntary parental contributions in this academic year. Since we launched the scheme we have received just over £42k which has been spent on a brand new mini bus and has contributed to the cost of the new water fountains and bottle refill stations around the school. Thank you to everyone who has contributed as this generous support of the school helps us to deliver resources and projects that the school budget would not normally be able to cover. Parents/carers can make voluntary contributions to the school via their ParentPay accounts.

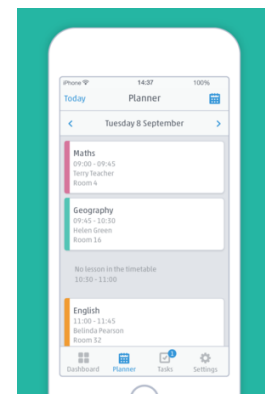
Firefly for Students

The school VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) is called Firefly and can now be accessed by students using an app on their phone which can be downloaded for free.

Firefly for students allows pupils to view their timetables and manage their tasks on their phone:

- * Tasks—check and respond to homework that teachers have set or create their own 'to-do' lists
- * Messages—review messages sent by teachers
- * Planner—access their timetable
- * Dashboard—an overview of upcoming lessons and tasks due

Full details on how to download the free Firefly for Students App can be found on the website by following the link [HERE](#).



Pupil Premium:

Is your child eligible for free school meals? If you are on a low income, or on benefits, then you may be able to claim free school meals for your child. An automatic £2.20 credit will be applied to your child's biometric account every lunch time enabling your child to purchase a meal deal of that value.

School also receives additional funding from the Government for every child who gets free school meals to help support their education. The pupil premium means that even if you don't wish to access a free daily meal, applying will mean that this school will receive additional funding that can help support disadvantaged students in school. You would also be entitled to a 30% discount on all trips, events and activities.

If you think your family could qualify, please contact the school Finance office who can help you: finance@tcset.org.uk

The Charter Schools Educational Trust reflect the importance of cultural and arts opportunities in supporting the wider learning of Pupil Premium students. We have removed barriers to help our students within the extended curriculum to learn a new creative skill by introducing an annual fee of £50 for music tuition. Students are offered the opportunity to have 30 minutes paired tuition per week. If you qualify for Pupil Premium and would like your child to take up music tuition please contact Ms Tidball at ktidball@charternorthdulwich.org.uk for an application form.

Uniform – which should be worn to and from school every day and to Achievement Evenings

- * The school navy blue **V-neck** sweater with the Charter logo which must be worn (unless directed otherwise)
- * A white polo shirt **with our logo**
- * No long sleeve tops are to be worn under the polo shirt.
- * **Navy blue or black** formal trousers worn around the waist – no chinos or jeans
- * A formal navy blue or black skirt worn at a length that is appropriate for school – no tight-fitting skirts
- * Plain black hard leather shoes are to be worn. **No canvas or suede shoes, boots, trainers, 'Vans', 'Converse' of any description, or any other soft trainer-style footwear are to be worn.** Plain black hard leather Kicker shoes are acceptable
- * **Tracksuit tops and hooded tops are not allowed** in school
- * Plain navy blue, black or white knee or ankle height socks, or plain black or navy blue tights. No leggings
- * **Plain black coat only – no logos, no denim or leather jackets**
- * No jewellery allowed except one small pair of ear studs that must be worn in the lobe of the ear. **No other piercings are allowed**
- * Make up may not be worn in Years 7–11
- * No false eye-lashes or nail extensions are to be worn.
- * Hair must be of a natural colour
- * No tattoos of any description
- * **No Headwear allowed except plain navy blue or black head bands may be worn.** Head scarves (including 'do-rags') are not to be worn except for religious or medical reasons
- * Any neck scarves worn must be plain navy or black.

PE Kit – which needs to be brought to each practical lesson, even if a student is unwell or injured

- * Plain navy blue or black sport shorts or skirt and/or leggings for girls
- * Navy or black jogging/tracksuit bottoms
- * Light blue Charter PE T-shirt
- * Navy Charter PE Sweatshirt
- * Non-marking trainers
- * Football boots for lessons on the field
- * Plain navy or white socks

Equipment – Ready to Learn

Every student must bring a school bag big enough to carry A4 folders and books every day. The following basic items need to be in the bag:

Pencil case containing:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| * Two black or blue biro | * Pair of compasses |
| * Green biro | * Ruler 30 cm and protractor |
| * Pencil and eraser | * Calculator |
| * Coloured pencils | |
| * Pencil sharpener | |

The school bag should also contain:

- * The Planner
- * Exercise book
- * Reading book
- * PE kit if needed that day
- * Other practical equipment needed

Friends update and thank you

A huge thank you to all the parents who have helped the Friends raise our biggest total ever this year and everyone who has taken part in any of our meetings, events or fundraising campaigns.

Over the last few months we have:

- ◆ Supported Y7 parents organise the first Year 7 disco with over 130 students taking part.
- ◆ We joined up with TCSED for the first time to participate in a joint fun run in Peckham Rye. We hope this will become an annual tradition. Well done to the parents, teachers and students who braved the rain.
- ◆ Parent helpers have staffed bars and refreshment stalls at the amazing Grease production and sports day. Second hand uniform sales have also started aimed particularly at the new Y7 parents and students starting in September.
- ◆ Our Plastic-free Charter campaign has helped fund the fantastic new water filling stations around the school. Working with the school council we hope to support a supply of reusable water bottles but so far the new refill stations have saved almost 24,000 300ml bottles!
- ◆ The Friends have also agreed funds to support a range of visits, equipment and school improvements this term. For example, a theatre visit, gardening club, yoga mats, bean bags for learning support rooms, and contributions to the Y8 football and watersports trips.
- ◆ A task force of parents and carers took up their spades and brushes to replant beds, weed, sweep and paint areas of the school to help tidy and green the outside space. The Friends have funded new plants and we hope to continue with more task force activities in the Autumn.
- ◆ After the incredible success of the Secret Charter parent team, we are delighted that cameras and lights for Art, instruments for music and staging accessories for drama this term. We can't wait for the grand opening of the new art room space in October.
- ◆ For the scientists amongst you, our successful Wolfson Foundation bid means that one of the school science labs will become a new model high-spec classroom for September.
- ◆ We continue to work with school on the redevelopment plans and funding for the reading garden. We hope to see work starting on this during late 2019/early 2020.
- ◆ Finally we arranged our annual 'thank the teachers and staff of TCSND' justgiving campaign so all the staff can enjoy a well deserved end of year party. Thank to all who donated and sent messages of thanks which will be shared with all the staff at the school.

Your contact details

Please send us your name and email address so we can keep you informed of Friends news and ways you can get involved. Some people may have been removed from our database when the school switched IT systems.

Want to help?

We are looking for parents to take on roles on the Friends' committee, join project groups and help organise events in Autumn 2019. Get in touch to have a chat about what you might like to do - we need you!

Email friends@charternorthdulwich.org.uk and let us know if you are interested

Follow us on Twitter @foTCSND

Join our Facebook group: Friends of The Charter School North Dulwich