



Newyddion Darland

Aspire, Apply, Achieve – Ymgeisio, Gweithredu, Cyflawni

Issue 3: 7th April 2018

We greeted the arrival of spring with a brilliant Eisteddfod for Year 7. As usual, the standard of performance was very high, as was the inclusivity of the event, which featured class choirs and even Welsh folk dancing. It has been an incredibly busy Spring Term, our Autumn Term was 15 weeks and this term has been only 10 but it seems that we have had the same amount of work to complete in a significantly smaller amount of time.

It has been a term of many successes and achievements and has been particularly challenging for our Year 11 students, we have already had a number of practical examinations completed including Art, music, drama Food and Nutrition and P.E. This has meant some disruption to our normal teaching and learning routines. We are very keen to maintain as much continuity as possible and stick to our relentless routines, particularly regarding arriving at school on time, looking smart and being suitably equipped and ready to learn. Each term we re-visit our routines as it sometimes easy to slowly forget them so once again we look forward to your support in this important area.

Many of our staff will be coming into school over Easter to help prepare our Year 11 students for the summer exams, this information has been sent home and is available on this newsletter and on our website. It is vital that they come to as many of these sessions as possible and make the most of the after school additional lessons when we come back.

We will be trying to raise the profile of re cycling and reduce the levels of litter around the site, this will mean a few changes to where students can eat and how we manage our dining hall areas. We plan to introduce an additional water fountain in the summer term and the building work will continue and help improve the levels of security around the school.

Have a very restful Easter and once again thank you for your support .

Mr S Corner, Deputy Headteacher

Key Dates:



Tuesday 10th April
School Reopens

Monday 16th April
Year 7 Parents Evening

Tuesday 17th April
Year 7 Health Morning

Wednesday 18th April
Year 10 PPE
Examination

Thursday 19th April
Year 10 PPE
Examination

Thursday 19th April
U14/U16 Athletics
Championships

Friday 20th April
Year 10 Mock
Interview Morning

Thursday 26th April
Year 8 Choose Life

Thursday 3rd May
Awards Evening
Commencing 7pm
William Aston Hall

Wednesday 13th June
U13/U15 Athletics
Tournament

Tuesday 19th June
Yr 10 geography
Fieldtrip

Thursday 21st June
Year 6 Transition
Evening

Tuesday 26th June
Yr 10 Geography
Fieldtrip

Thursday 28th June
Friday 29th June
Year 6 Transition Days

Welsh word/phrase of the fortnight

Cystadlu - Competing



Did you know?



Did you know that the average person falls asleep in 7 minutes.

Darland High School, Chester Road
Rossett, Wrexham, LL12 0DL

Website

www.darland.wrexham.sch.uk

Visit schoolsays.co.uk/darland with your android or apple device and download the Darland App to stay updated.

If your child is absent from school please call the
Absence Line on:

01244 570588
on each day of absence.



Achievements at Darland

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Congratulations fortnightly award recipients

Student of the Week

Ben Todd - Year 8
Seren Jennings - Year 7

Headteacher

Phone Calls Home

Katie Thomas - Year 7
Bethan Jones - Year 9
Eleanor Jones - Year 9

Rachel Elsworth - Year 7
Ollie Jones - Year 9
Alec Rigby - Year 7

Positive Text Home

Katie Jones - Year 8
Ella Lloyd - Year 9
Robyn Williams - Year 9
Toby Armstrong - Year 9
Saskia Harrington - Year 7
Jodie Frith - Year 7
Joe Owens - Year 9
Heather Acton - Year 9

Lewis Tansley - Year 7
Grace Richards - Year 9
Alysia Bell - Year 8
Kate Reddy - Year 8
Joe Nelson - Year 9
Connor Groom - Year 9
Camryn Andrews - Year 8

Treat Friday

Tillie Edwards - Year 7
Caitlin Coburn - Year 7
Jamie Collins - Year 8

Rachel McLean - Year 9
Nye Clarke - Year 7

KEY STAGE 4

Student of the Week

Sam Burke - Year 10
Bridget Harvey - Year 11

Headteacher

Phone Calls Home

Toby Jones - Year 10
Jaye Freeman - Year 10
Iwan Roberts - Year 10

Ethan Griffiths - Year 11
Bethan Pritchard - Year 11
Isabelle Orton - Year 11

Positive Text Home

Ffion Cotter - Year 10
Callum McGrath - Year 10
Joel Gray - Year 11
Ieuan Jones - Year 11
Arwen Warwick-Jones - Year 11
Lucy Kershaw - Year 10
Sam Roberts - Year 11

Will Parry - Year 11
Eva Davies - Year 11
Morgan Sadler - Year 10
Harvey Brown - Year 10
Luke Birkbeck - Year 10
Hannah Church - Year 10
Sophie Layhe - Year 10

Treat Friday

Sophie Pugh - Year 10
Brandon Evans - Year 11
Delyth Field - Year 11
Chelsea Norgrove - Year 10

Attendance Matters

Well done to the top tutor groups in each year, for their excellent attendance over past two weeks.



7F - 96.3%
8A - 95.3%
9E - 96.7%

10E - 97.1%
11T - 96.7%

Accelerated Readers

WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE...? Bob does!



The current reading champions are Bob Lewis, 7F with a staggering **1,023,767** words and Doyle Hughes 7L with **405,003** words read. The Champion form remains as 7F who have accumulated **4,039,560** words read between them. Can you make it onto the 'Word Wizard' leader board? Congratulations and keep reading...



Darland High School

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E-Safety Advice



What to do if your child sees something upsetting online...

Along with the many positive things which young people may see or experience online, they may also encounter things which may worry or upset them. This could be anything from a scary picture or hateful comment, to something which is intended for an adult audience or potentially even illegal content. Below is some excellent and up to date guidance from the UK Safer Internet Centre on what to do if your child sees something upsetting online.

Here are the top tips for supporting your child:

1. Don't get mad, get curious - Remaining calm and asking questions like 'how did you get to that?' or 'what did you click on?' will help you to understand how the content has appeared in the first place. Children will often remember the immediate response from an adult and remaining calm and open will show them that you are someone they can turn to for help.

2. Try not to place blame - It may be that your child has clicked on something by mistake or even gone looking for the content on purpose but it is still important to remain calm and be supportive. Children are curious and may hear about things from others that they later search for without realising what they will be exposed to.

3. Know where you and your child can go for more information and support:

- The NSPCC helpline - is for anyone who is worried about the safety of a child 0808 800 5000
- YoungMinds - is a UK charity who focus on the wellbeing and mental health of young people 0808 802 5544.
- Family Lives - is a national family support charity providing help and support in all aspects of family life 0808 800 2222.
- The UK Safer Internet Centre's Parents and Carers page shares tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online.

If you have any concerns about any aspect of social media please contact a member of the Pastoral Team at Darland.

Mrs Easton – Assistant Headteacher

Sharing a good book

**PERCY JACKSON AND
THE LIGHTNING THIEF**
Author - Rick Riordan

This book is about a boy called Percy Jackson who gets attacked in school by a monster, and then he finds himself in a camp called Camp Half-Blood. He finds out he is the son of a Greek god.

My favourite character is Percy Jackson a because he is brave, fearless hero. He is also an adventurous boy who wants to help the gods if there is an invasion. My favourite part of the book is when Percy destroys the minotaur because he showed great courage and didn't give up. The main characters in this book are Percy Jackson, Annabeth and Grover.

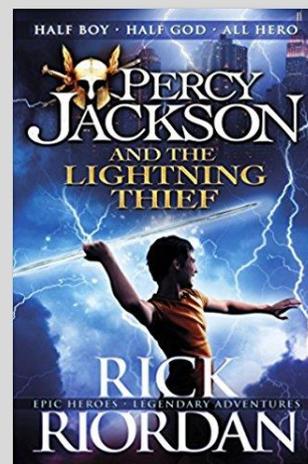
My least favourite part of the book is when Percy thinks his mum dies; I would change this because it may be a bit upsetting for younger people.

I personally liked the book because of the monsters and quests, and also I enjoyed it because the characters such as Percy Jackson relished new challenges and adventures.

I would recommend this book to 11-16 year olds because it has some difficult words so younger children may not be able to read it and also because the book is quite long.

My Rating for this book would be 10/10

By Emily Loudon 7Y



Think of the Fortnight
Where does the sky start?



In the headlines...

VIVE LA FRANCE...

On Friday, 9th March, 50 of our Year 9 students and 5 staff left school at 3.45 a.m. for a long weekend at Chateau de Warsy in the Picardy region of Northern France. We travelled by coach down to Dover and took the P&O ferry to Calais. On route to the chateau we stopped at a Chocolaterie, where the students had the opportunity to see how chocolate was produced. They even got to sample the end product!

We stayed for 3 nights at the beautiful Chateau and whilst there visited the lovely town of Amiens on the Saturday, with its fabulous replica cathedral of Notre Dame. The students enjoyed some free time shopping and then during the afternoon, we visited some of the Somme memorial sites from the first world war, including Thiepval, a very sombre occasion.

Sunday was spent in Paris where we enjoyed a river cruise down the Seine and a visit to the second floor of the Eiffel Tower.

Before departing on the Monday, students took part in some on-site activities at the chateau, including fencing, archery, rifle shooting, Jacobs ladder and low ropes.

After a short stop at a hypermarket, we travelled back to the UK via Eurotunnel and arrived back safely on the Monday evening.

A fabulous but exhausting trip was had by all.



Celebrating Success

The English Faculty are celebrating Y11's successful results for Unit 1 of their English Literature GCSE which they sat in January.

76% achieved an impressive A* - C with 30% gaining an A* - A. This is an improvement on last year. This Unit is the most challenging element of the Literature examination, so we have high expectations for Unit 2, which the students will sit in May.

The Faculty feel that this will give Yr 11 a huge boost of confidence for the ones who are sitting English Language in June.

Well done to all and a huge thank you to the English team for making this possible.



Faculty in Focus – FUTURE FOCUS

ALN - Additional Learning Needs

Here at Darland High School we have one goal for any pupil with Additional Learning Needs and that is for them to reach their full potential. We work with pupils supporting their academic, social and emotional needs on a daily basis. We work with a large number of pupils some of whom have more complex needs like Autism or Dyslexia.



The Future Focus department is made up of a large number of staff:

Ms D Hughes – Additional Needs Coordinator / General Learning Difficulties Teacher

Ms S Abel – Assistant Additional Needs Coordinator / Specialist Social Communications Teacher

Mrs S Vine – Specialist Dyslexia Teacher.

There are also Higher Level Teaching Assistants who run a variety of interventions from practical topics such as Forest Schools and Bike Club to Literacy Interventions to help with reading and spelling difficulties.



In addition to this we have our mainstream classroom Teaching Assistants who are a huge asset to the pupils, the teachers and the school.

We are fortunate to have a wealth of experience and expertise within the ALN Department and I am proud to say that we all share the same aspirational goals for our pupils.

Ms D Hughes

Social Communication

Social interactions and effective communication can be challenging for many of our pupils. The primary aim of the Communications room (Future Focus 4) is to offer support to those pupils who present difficulties in the areas of social communication.

Lessons are taught in small groups and delivered in a creative, enjoyable way acknowledging the different learning styles of all students. These sessions follow the Talk About Programme by Alex Kelly and the Socieyes Programme from the NAS.

The lessons will encourage mutual respect, confidence, self-esteem and independence within a positive behaviour management environment.

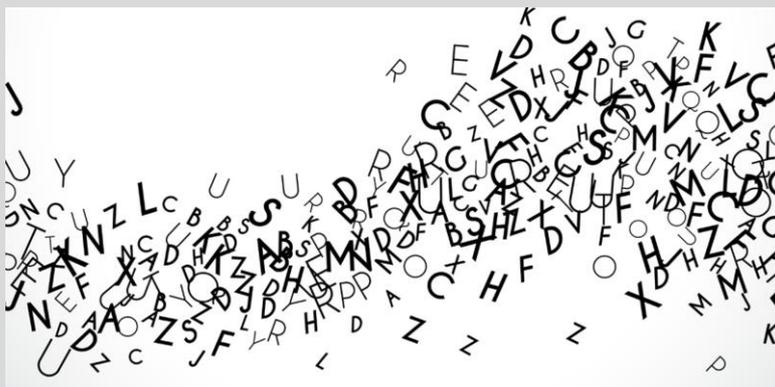
Ms S Abel

Specific Learning Difficulties

In Future Focus 1 work is carried out with students with Specific learning difficulties such as Dyslexia. The work is linked to their specific learning requirements be that reading, organisational skills, writing, spelling or even telling the time.

As well as providing specific learning material and support, the work the pupils carry out is also linked to the lessons the pupils have in mainstream classes.

The Future Focus 1 area also provides the opportunity to work in smaller and quieter environments as often some pupils have additional requirements not just learning requirements.



Mrs S Vine

Alternative Curriculum

As well as supporting pupils in order for them to achieve as many GCSEs as possible at the end of Year 11 we also recognise that some pupils prefer to learn in a kinaesthetic way outside of the large mainstream classroom. We now offer a good range of alternative curriculum courses such as Prince's Trust and SWEET, all of the courses are accredited.

Person Centred Plans

Darland ALN Department has taken part in the Person Centred Plan Pilot, We have worked with a wide range of individuals who the felt would benefit from the process of discussing, planning and preparing and individualised plan about themselves that would help others understand them better. The plan focuses upon the strengths of that individual, what's important to them and how best to support them with their learning. The Plan belongs to the pupil and it is up to them to say who they believe would benefit from knowing this in-depth information about themselves; more often than not, it goes to all their teachers. The pupils who have taken part so far have enjoyed the opportunity to have that one to one time and having their voice heard, the majority of them have felt better having a Plan for themselves.

Although ALN is primarily for pupils with additional needs, it is open to everyone and we are pleased to see more and more pupils from across the whole school using the department to socialise at break and lunchtimes.

Easter Revision Classes

WEEK 1

Date	Subject	Time slots	Staff
Monday 26 th March	Geography	10am – 12pm	Mrs Garrett
	Catering	10am – 2pm	Mrs Watkin Jones
	French Sociology paper 1 (re-sit only)	10am – 12pm 10am – 12pm	Mrs Hancock & Mrs Rae
Tuesday 27 th March	Science	10am – 2pm	Science Department
Wednesday 28 th March	PE	10am – 2pm	Miss Gardner, Mr Hamm, Miss Jones, Mr Newland
Thursday 29 th March	ICT Skills Challenge	10am – 2pm 9am – 2pm	Mr Hayes Mr Corner/Mrs Easton/ Mrs Johnson
	Music	10am – 2pm	Mr Winterbottom
	French	10am – 2pm	Mrs Hancock/ Mrs Rae
Friday 30 th March		Good Friday	

WEEK 2

Date	Subject	Time slots	Staff
Monday 2 nd April		Easter Monday	
Tuesday 3 rd April	English Language & Lit	10am – 12.30pm	Mrs Davies Mrs Dop Mrs Tate
Wednesday 4 th April	Welsh	10am – 12pm yr 11 12-2-yr10 10-12	Welsh Department
Thursday 5 th April	History		
	Resistant Materials	10am – 2pm	Mr Jones
	Textiles	10am – 2pm	Mrs Mann
Friday 6 th April	Maths set 5	10am – 2pm	Miss Mountford