



# Newyddion Darland

*Aspire, Apply, Achieve – Ymgeisio, Gweithredu, Cyflawni*

Issue 5: 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018

As the summer exams start in earnest, one can be forgiven for thinking that life begins and ends at Darland. Therefore, it was wonderful to hear of the impact of the work of our pupils in a far off village in Uganda, Africa. Parents and pupils from Year 8 upwards, will remember that in the autumn of 2016, we undertook a sponsored walk to raise money for school toilets in Nyabigoma primary school, Uganda. Our pupils exchanged letters with their Ugandan counterparts and assemblies were held comparing our lives with theirs. On the day of the walk, £6000 was raised and the charity Build Africa, was able to give the go-ahead to the builders to start replacing the grass screens in the village primary with a purpose built toilet block.

The photos we were sent last month, show the transformation that has taken place in Nyabigoma.



Immaculate, a 13 year old pupil at the school, write to us saying

"I felt so happy at the beginning of this term to see a new latrine in our school. I enjoyed visiting it because it looks so beautiful and I love it. The old latrine was real bad and it created poor sanitation in our school especially in rainy seasons, water could enter inside and the place could become muddy. We are happy to Build Africa for giving us a new latrine".

Involvement in charity work such as this is an essential part of the education programme here at Darland, fostering the values of community and compassion and every time we hold charity events, I am amazed at the interest and generosity shown by our pupils. We are now looking for a new charity project with our School Council for the autumn term.

## Key Dates:



**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June  
U13/U15 Athletics  
Tournament**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June  
Yr 10 geography  
Fieldtrip**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Year 6 Transition  
Evening**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June  
Yr 10 Geography  
Fieldtrip**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Year 6 Transition Days**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
Years 7 & 8 Athletics  
Championships**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July  
Years 7 & 8 Rounders  
Tournament**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July  
Switzerland Geography  
Trip**

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**Training Days  
2018-2019**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
September 2018**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
September 2018**

**Friday 23rd  
November 2018**

**Friday 28th  
June 2019**

## Did you know?



**The average human brain  
contains around 78% water**



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

**Website**  
[www.darland.wrexham.sch.uk](http://www.darland.wrexham.sch.uk)

Visit [schoolsays.co.uk/darland](http://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

Duncan Jackson - Year 7  
Olivia De Almeida - Year 7

### Headteacher Phone Calls Home

Ellie Tarran - Year 9  
Kian Samuels - Year 9  
Emily Benyon - Year 9

Lola Prince - Year 7  
Millie Kenyon-Hills - Year 7  
Rhys Brockhurst - Year 9

### KEY STAGE 4

### Student of the Week

Lucy Kershaw - Year 10  
Liam O'Toole - Year 11

### Headteacher Phone Calls Home

Nathan Rigby - Year 10  
Taylor Hughes - Year 10

### Positive Text Home

Nicole Jones - Year 9  
Mia Williams - Year 8  
Rachel Lightfoot - Year 7  
Rhys Darlington - Year 8  
Grace Dudley - Year 8  
Joe Tomlinson - Year 8  
Nia Nelson - Year 7

Ben Edwards - Year 11  
Patrick Bailey - Year 11  
Harry Wheeler - Year 11  
Lewis Parry - Year 11  
Mitchell Williams - Year 11  
Luck Birkbeck - Year 10  
Josh Venables - Year 10  
Dan Jones - Year 11

Jessica Rees - Year 11  
Caitlin Nelson - Year 11

Nathan Rigby - Year 10  
Taylor Hughes - Year 10

### Positive Text Home

Daniel Williams - Year 11  
Tegan Williams - Year 11  
Josh Wilkins - Year 10  
Grace Andrew - Year 11  
Emily Prandle - Year 11  
Kelly Griffiths - Year 10  
Lydia Roberts - Year 11  
Kate Sellwood - Year 11  
Same Burke - Year 10  
Connor O'Toole - Year 10

### Treat Friday

Rhys Walters - Year 7  
Jodie Frith - Year 7  
Billy Williams - Year 7  
Cai Jenkins - Year 7  
Nia Halliwell - Year 8

Matthew Smart - Year 7  
Grace Meredith - Year 8  
Hanna Carr - Year 8  
Shauna Coleman - Year 9  
Natalie Jose - Year 8

### Treat Friday

## Attendance Matters

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



7R - 98.3%  
8T - 95.7%  
9Y - 98.6%

10E - 98.3%  
11R - 97.9%

## Accelerated Readers

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



The current reading champions are Bob Lewis, 7F with a staggering **1,667,839** words and Doyle Hughes 8L with **405,003** words read. The Champion form remains as 7F who have accumulated **5,165,608** words read between them. Can you make it onto the 'Word Wizard' leader board? Congratulations and keep reading...



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## E-Safety Advice

### What is Sarahah?

Sarahah' (which translates to 'openness' or 'honesty') has become popular with US teenagers and has been gaining popularity here in the UK and Ireland.

Sarahah allows people to search for other users on the app and send anonymous text-based messages. The main difference with this app compared to others is that users can only send messages – they cannot respond to messages received.

Teens and young users can be especially vulnerable due to their prolific need for affirmation of their online identity on social networks. As with other anonymous apps, there is always the potential for apps of this nature to be misused in relation to bullying, harassment or abuse. Trolling could also be another potential concern. Teenagers can also use the Snapchat 'Paperclip' feature to share links to their Sarahah profile, encouraging others to send them anonymous feedback.

We advise all parents to discuss technology with their children, we advise that Sarahah can be dangerous because of its anonymous element and do not recommend it as an app for young people to use.

Remember, if you are concerned about something you have seen online you should report it to your parents/carers, or any member of Darland staff.

Local police can be contacted on 101 if necessary. Please contact a member of the Pastoral team at Darland if you have any concerns over online safety.

**Mrs Easton – Assistant Headteacher**

## Water Bottles

As we are now seeing a change in the weather and Summer finally seems to be here, can you please ensure that your child comes to school with a water bottle. This can be refilled before and after school and at break and lunchtimes from the water fountain near main reception. It is vital that students keep hydrated during the day. A 2011 study looked at the effects of mild dehydration on a group of young people and found that even a slight lack of fluid affected their memory and led to tension, anxiety and fatigue. We want our students to maximise their learning potential so it is crucial that they maintain hydration. Remember those water bottles!



**Mrs Easton –Assistant Headteacher**

## SHARING A GOOD BOOK

**Gangster Granny by David Walliams**

My favourite character was granny as she was really funny, active and clever. She is also the main character.

In the story Ben and his granny try to steal the crown jewels and his mum and dad make him go dancing, totally the opposite to what Ben and his granny wants.

The illustrations in this book are very good and highly detailed by Tony Ross. I would rate this book 4/5 and would highly recommend reading it. – **Rico Cupit 8A**

## Thunk of the Fortnight

**In a dark room, what does a mirror reflect?  
If nothing, does that mean it is not working?**



# In the headlines...

## PREFECTS 2018/19

The last fortnight has indeed been a busy time at Darland but one of the highlights was the application, and subsequent interview process for the new Student Leadership team and Prefects. The quality of applications received was incredibly high and it was a difficult job to short list for the Student Leadership positions having such a strong field. Every single student who submitted an application should be incredibly proud of themselves. It was such an honour to be involved in the selection process along with Mr Agnew (Headteacher) and Mrs Booth (Progress Coordinator - Year 10) and all candidates displayed maturity beyond their years. After a stringent round of interviews I am pleased to announce that the following Year 10 students were appointed to the following positions:

### Senior Prefects:

Head Boy - Connor O'Toole

Head Girl - Sophie Layhe

Deputy Head Boy - Iwan Roberts

Deputy Head Girl - Millie Williams

Sports Captain for Boys - Ryan Williams

Sports Captain for Girls - Beth Harrop

### Prefects:

Ben Ashfield

Sarah Ashfield

Luke Birkbeck

Sam Burke

Lewis Burnett

James Carr

Sam Chowdhury

Hannah Church

Thomas Daniel

Elin Davies

Olivia Edwards

Mia Evans

Grace Ganci

Elliott Goss

Eleanor Holdsworth

Caitlin Jones

Elin Jones

Elisabeth Jones

Robyn Jones  
Jacob Kersey-Smith  
Lucy Kershaw  
Joseph Nott  
Holly Pemberton  
Daniel Rowley  
Matthew Soper  
Edward Stephens  
Holly Stubbs  
Anna Taraborelli  
Amelia Tweedie  
Jennifer Walls  
Bethan Williams  
Catherine Williams  
Evan Williams  
Kayleigh Wittenbrink  
Keisha Wood

**A big well done to everyone and I look forward to working alongside the team throughout the forthcoming year.**

## A Message from the Senior Prefect Team



Bore da, we are the new Senior Prefects for 2018/19. Our roles of Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl (Connor O'Toole, Sophie Layhe, Iwan Roberts and Millie Williams) have been given to us after a long process of application and interviews. We have been selected out of a large group of potential candidates and are very grateful to have been awarded the positions. Hopefully, we can help you feel more welcome and safe whilst on and off of the school grounds and would appreciate any feedback that you may have.

We all participate in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, allowing us to practice our teamwork skills and the motivation that we require to succeed. Through this, we believe that we will inspire the younger pupils to excel and be more resilient in their schoolwork and extra-curricular activities.

As Head and Deputy Head Girl, Sophie and Millie will strive to capture Darland's motto: 'Aspire, Apply, Achieve', by helping younger pupils exceed in their time at school; whilst still ensuring that they're as comfortable as possible. It is very important to us as the new Senior Prefects to try our hardest to make all students, staff and parents feel welcome in the school's community.

In our roles as Head and Deputy Head boy (Connor and Iwan) until the end of the next year we are going to strive towards being friendly faces that anyone who needs help or has feedback can come to so that we can make the school into a better place for anyone and everyone. We are happy to help anyone that needs it.

# In the headlines...

As well as this we will be making sure everyone is safe and happy during the lunch and break times along with the rest of the prefect team.

As a whole the four of us will be making sure you and everyone one else in the school has the best possible time for the next year to the best of our ability while also making sure you are safe and have access to all of the things you may possibly need.



Hi, we are the new Sports Captains for 2018-19, Beth Harrop and Ryan Williams. We are both honoured to have been selected for the role of sports captain, and we are looking forward to encouraging and motivating other students to participate in extracurricular activities. We both have a great interest in a variety of sports; we're committed, determined and willing to inspire younger pupils to take part.

We hope to inspire other students as previous sports captains have inspired us. We hope to be able to help others get involved in more sports and raise awareness of more extracurricular activities. We will also be encouraging all pupils to participate in sports day as we believe that it's an excellent opportunity for pupils to get involved in sports. We believe that it is extremely important for all students to take part in sports as it can promote many vital skills such as team building and wellbeing. As Sports Captains we will strive to achieve a fitter, healthier, more active school and cannot wait to get others involved.



## Inspirational Catrin captivates students at Awards Ceremony'



Catrin Pugh provided an inspirational speech to over 800 students and parents in Darland High School's annual awards ceremony last Thursday in the William Aston Hall. An ex Darland student and a resident of Rossett, Catrin suffered appalling burns in a coach accident five years ago, while on her Gap year. Catrin was able to talk about the importance of perseverance and fortitude and won the hearts of her young audience. Celebrating the students' achievements with them, Catrin helped present awards to over 300 students and staff in a highly memorable evening. A retiring collection raised over £300 for the Katie Piper Foundation.



# Faculty in Focus

## Humanities

A friendly “Hello” from all the staff in the Peoples’ Democratic Republic of..... Humanities! – a world where History, Religion, People and Place combine; where culture and society in the past, present and future are explored!

As a faculty we are proud to hold a number of staff records:

- \* Tallest member of staff = Mr Mackie (Geography)
- \* Youngest member of staff = Miss Roberts (History)
- \* Newest Head of Faculty = Mrs Garratt (Geography)
- \* Longest serving (we didn’t say oldest!) member of staff = Mrs Jess (RE)
- \* Best ‘male fancy-dress style icon’ member of staff = Mr Jones (History)
- \* Richest (Chocolate Coins!) member of staff = Mrs Ashford (RE & Sociology)

Our popular subjects of Geography, History, RE and Sociology are well loved across the school. We see our role as equipping our students with the skills that will allow them to fully integrate into society today and in their future. We are people, teaching people about people!

Students both past and present will remember with fondness many of the fieldtrips provided by our faculty: counting stones on Llandudno beach, measuring river features at Erddig, field-sketching at Loggerheads, completing shopping surveys in Wrexham & Betws-y-Coed, discovering Romans in Chester, exploring Chester Cathedral, paying our respects at Beth Shalom, experiencing the Belgian Battlefields, visiting Berlin and, new for this year, exploring Switzerland in July! Bringing our subjects to life through experiences outside the classroom is something we are all passionate about and will always be something we strive to deliver.

Our experienced team endeavour to provide a varied diet of topics within each subject area. In Geography we teach Coasts to China, Rivers to Rainforests, Development to Deserts, as well as Weather to Wales and everything in between. In History we meander through medieval manors, tackle the terrible Tudors, investigate the Industrial Revolution and target trench warfare. Our G.C.S.E. students delve into a study of Hitler and Hyperinflation, Highwaymen and hanging; Rationing to Rock n Roll, Cuba and Kennedy. Watch out for details of our Berlin trip in summer 2019, ask the current year 11s about it, most of them want to come again! In RE we look at Christianity and Islam, Good and Evil, Suffering, ultimate questions and moral dilemmas. In Sociology we look at Social processes, the nature of crime and deviance, the changing roles of men and women and much more.

We are working hard to enable our ‘Digital Natives’ to express themselves through a range of technological pathways. You can follow our Geography Blog at <http://darlandgeography.edublogs.org/> and Twitter page at @darlandgeog to see what our students have been doing. You can also follow our fieldtrips on instagram @darlandadventure.