



Newyddion Darland



Aspire, Apply, Achieve – Ymgeisio, Gweithredu, Cyflawni

Issue7: 15th October 2018

Dear Parents,



As we approach the mid-term break, I am delighted to be sending you a copy of our latest edition of our Newyddion newsletter. We have just welcomed back over 140 Year 7 pupils who took part in the three day residential experience at Kingswood in Flintshire. Judging from the tired and excited faces that I saw in the hall on their return, the children had a superb and memorable time and we hope that the team spirit forged when encountering unfamiliar activities will serve them well as they progress through the school. My thanks go to the many staff who made this adventure possible.

Last week saw our whole school photograph take place on the yard at the rear of the school. Straight after the event, we moved into the adjacent yard where our numeracy team, led by Miss Mountford had inscribed a huge 60 which we filled with cheering and waving students and staff as part of the celebration of our diamond anniversary. We are very grateful for Mr Wyn-Jones of Needlefilms, for generously donating his time to photograph the event.

October has also been the month when we held our Open Day and Evening, both of which were very well attended. We were particularly pleased with the article in the Daily Post of coming a few days before, stating that Darland was one of the 10 best schools in North Wales and the best in Wrexham!



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.

Key Dates:



Monday 15th October
Whole School - DEAR Literacy

Tuesday 16th October
Year 7 Restart a Heart

Thursday 18th and Friday 19th October
Year 9 Cats Paw

Tuesday 23rd October
Year 10 & 11 Teenage Cancer Trust

Thursday 25th October
Make a Difference Day Whole School

Friday 26th October
School closes for half term

Monday 5th November
School opens

Friday 16th November
Children in Need
Year 10 Health and Well Being Morning

Wednesday 21st November
Year 8 Numeracy in the Workplace

Thursday 22nd November
Wrexham Schools Cross Country

Friday 23rd November
School Closed to students Training Day

Tuesday 4th December
Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 6th December
Science Star Dome

Monday 10th – Friday 14th December
Year 11 Exams

Tuesday 18th December
Year 11 Photographs

Friday 21st December
Whole School Cinema Trip
School closes for Christmas



Achievements at Darland

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Congratulations fortnightly award recipients

KEY STAGE 3

Student of the Week

Mia Lamb – Year 7
Ollie Jones – Year 8

Headteacher

Phone Calls Home

Olivia Prandle – Year 8
Jamie Bagnall – Year 7
Rachel Willis – Year 9
Harry Cummins – Year 7
Dylan Renouf – Year 8

Positive Text Home

Seren Williams – Year 9
Rachel Lightfoot – Year 8
Tomos Jones – Year 7
Emogen Ruff – Year 9
Amelia Chaplin – Year 8
Harry Evans – Year 7
Emily Mason-Evans – Year 7
Megan James – Year 9
Lily Briggs – Year 7
Elise Samuels – Year 8

Treat Friday

Joel Gibson – Year 7
Harry Rodgers – Year 8
Harry Owens – Year 8
Amelia Kerr – Year 9

Amelia Rigby – Year 7
Rachel Elsworth – Year 8
Rufus Edwards – Year 9
Iestyn Brockhurst – Year 7
Danielle Edwards – Year 8

KEY STAGE 4

Student of the Week

Lucy Kershaw – Year 11
Anabelle Bailey – Year 10

Headteacher

Phone Calls Home

Dylan Thompson – Year 10
Megan Clarke – Year 10
Rhianna Pugh Jones – Year 10
Matthew Marshall – Year 11
Toby Armstrong – Year 10

Positive Text Home

Kayleigh Wittenbrink – Year 11
Megan Adcock – Year 10
Yasira Baldeh – Year 10
Tegan Jones – Year 11
Al Zeki – Year 11
Kassia Allman – Year 11
Rebecca Fielding – Year 11
Jay Wicks – Year 11
Jack Gordon – Year 11
Bethan Jones – Year 10

Elise Williams – Year 10
Chloe Brown – Year 11
James Carr – Year 11
Kian Harrington – Year 10
Catherine Williams – Year 11
Natalie Jose – Year 10
Joe Hamlington – Year 11
Owen Bailey – Year 10
Elliot Orton – Year 10

Treat Friday

Alex Read – Year 10

Attendance Matters

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

7Y - 98.5
8F - 97.9
9A - 95.5



10E - 97.9
11E - 97.3

Welsh word/phrase of the fortnight
Anturiaethau - Adventures



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UNIFORM ARTICLE

As you will all be aware, I wrote to all parents/carers last term in order to provide clarification regarding key aspects of our uniform standards at Darland and I would like to remind everyone of these expectations as we begin the new academic year. At Darland, we believe that a smart uniform is very important; it demonstrates the pride that students take in our school and themselves.

During the last academic year, it became apparent that we needed to eliminate any potential ambiguity on the style of black trousers that were being worn to school and provide clarification on what 'styles' are acceptable. This ensures that we have smarter standards of appearance from our students and, crucially, will also mean that valuable staff time is not spent dealing with issues relating to problems with school uniform.

With regards to black trousers, the requirement is that they are plain black 'business style' trousers. The following styles are not acceptable styles of trousers to be worn as part of the Darland uniform:

Cropped trousers; Skin-tight trousers; 'Cigarette' style trousers; Ski-pants; Leggings; Jeans;

Chinos; Viscose stretch-type trousers; Low-Rise Hipsters

It is crucial to point out that simply because a high street retailer may include certain styles of black trousers in their designated 'school wear range', this is not assurance that they will fit with the Darland Uniform policy and our expectations.

Previously, linked to this, there was an increase in the number of students who were wearing 'cropped' trousers to school coupled with 'trainer socks'. From September, this has not been permitted. All students must wear plain regular black socks to school. Students who chose to wear trousers must ensure that the bottom of the trouser sits on their shoe, i.e, no gap in between which has ankles on show.

With regards to jewellery and make-up, again our expectations are very clear; students may only wear an inexpensive watch and one pair of studs in the lower lobes – no piercings in any other part of the ear are allowed. Multiple piercings, hooped earrings and sleepers are not allowed. No body jewellery is allowed (e.g, nose, tongue, lip, gum, eyebrow, naval, hand etc). Make-up is only allowed if it is very subtle and is applied minimally. The school reserves the right to make that judgement and we will ask students to remove excess. Nail varnish, nail polish, shellac gel, acrylic nails, false nails and French manicures etc. are not permitted.

Unfortunately a small minority of students are still failing to follow these expectations. As such, I would be very grateful if you could ensure that your son/daughter arrives in school wearing appropriate uniform that adheres to the expectations set out in our uniform policy.

I would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter and for your support for the standards we wish to uphold as a school.

Mrs Lisa Easton – Assistant Headteacher

PARENTS EVENING APPOINTMENT BOOKINGS GO ONLINE!

This year we will be moving to a system whereby all appointment bookings for each year groups' Parents Evening will be organised via a designated app and/or online booking system known as 'PTO' (Parent Teacher Online).

This new system should make the process far easier and allow parents to see the teachers they wish to see throughout the evening at a designated slot. The full booking process only takes a few minutes!

Details of this system that parents/carers will require, including login details and PIN numbers, will be sent to parents/carers approximately 4 weeks before each parents evening. The first full parents evening takes place for Year 8 on Monday 26th November, as such, necessary logins will be sent to parents/carers just before we break for half-term. Year 10 Parents Evening takes place on Tuesday 4th December so logins will be sent to parents/carers just after we return from the half-term break.

In order to ensure that the system works as smoothly as possible, it is imperative that we have an up to date email address for parents/carers as login details will be generated via your email address. Any updates to emails should be put in writing and your child can pass them to the main reception, alternatively, please contact reception on 01244 570588 to update your details over the telephone.

Mrs Lisa Easton – Assistant Headteacher



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E-Safety Advice Live Streaming



Facebook Live, Twitter's Periscope, Twitch (to name but a few) have all experienced significant growth in recent times, but do you know what they are, how they work and the dangers of each system?

Live in 3...2...1

Live streaming, sometimes known as "going live", is the broadcasting of live videos over the internet.

Videos are unedited and are seen in real time- similar to Live TV.

Why do people live stream?

Sharing videos instantly can feel exciting. Some people use live streaming as a way to showcase their talents, campaign about an issue or to spontaneously share their thoughts with an audience.

Watching live videos?

The clue is in the name – live streaming is live, which means there is no opportunity to edit or think critically about the content before it's posted online. Anyone with a camera and access to the internet can create and share a live video. This can make live videos unpredictable and very difficult to moderate. This means that it's possible to see things that could shock or upset you- even if you didn't initially set out to watch that type of video.

Thinking about live streaming?

Whilst live streaming can be fun, it's important to remember that live videos you post on the internet can remain there forever. They can be recorded and shared without your permission, so if you do decide to 'go live', think carefully about what you choose to stream. Read on to find out some tips on how to live stream safely.

When something is live, sometimes people can be more susceptible to acting on impulse- doing something 'in the moment' they might later regret. There have been stories in the news about [young people being involved in serious accidents whilst live-streaming](#), proving it's all the more important to carefully consider what you're doing before you 'go live'.

A tactic we see used in live streaming is encouraging young people to take part in dares, or offering them online gifts or 'game points' in exchange for doing something on cam. It can be difficult to spot manipulative behaviour in others and stand up to pressure, however if you're online and someone asks you to remove clothing or do anything sexual, stop and tell someone. No matter who instigated the conversation or what's been said, it is never the young person's fault. Tell an adult and report to [CEOP](#).

Things to think about:

Lights, camera, action?

Want to share videos in real-time? Consider what you would feel comfortable with people seeing.

Who's watching?

If you choose to live stream, think about who will be watching your videos. Check your privacy settings, make sure that only your real friends can watch your videos. Think about turning off your location settings so people you don't know can't track where you are.

Have I got permission?

It can be tempting to live stream events you see when out and about. This can include other people. Think about if you were them. Would you like to be recorded without your knowledge?

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Feeling pressured to do things you don't want to do?

Some people online use live streaming to encourage young people to act sexy, film something in the nude and generally do things that they don't want to do. They may try to blackmail young people to prevent them from telling anyone or getting help. This is illegal and is never your fault – report it to an adult you trust.

Source: Thinkuknow.co.uk -
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_13/need-advice/live-streaming/

Shared under the Open Government Licence V3
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Year 7 Settling in

It's that time of the school year once again where we welcome a new cohort of Year 7 pupils. Year 7 have had an excellent start to the year and have been warmly welcomed into the school by all students. The year 10 peer mentors have provided excellent support for our new year 7 pupils by guiding them around the school for the first week and also being part of their form time sessions. Year 7 have spent the past few weeks getting to know their new form class, timetable and teachers with great success, it wasn't as scary as they all thought it would be! When asked what their opinions on year 7 so far are the following has been said:

"Although I was a little nervous, I was excited to start Darland" - Bethan – 7R

Mia also from 7R Said "It's fun and not as scary as I thought".

"Fabulous school, students and the staff are lovely" - Connor – 7F

"Really welcoming, I have really settled." - Jake – 7F.

With a few weeks under their belts now the students are gaining confidence each day.



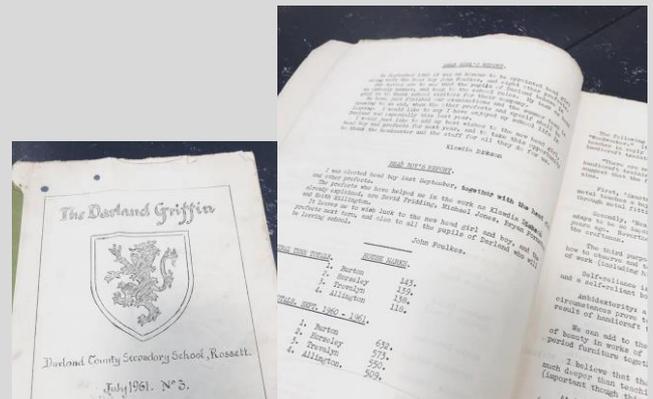
JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY TEA

Calling all former staff and pupils to join us on 25th October 2018 at 2pm to enjoy a celebratory afternoon tea with light entertainment and refreshments.

Please contact Donna Adcock via email:
Adcockd@hwbcymru.net to register your attendance. RSVP by Monday 22nd October 2018

Thank you to Angela and Dennis Edwards for their kind donation of 'The Griffin' school magazine dated July 1961 issue No.3... a great piece of history to add to our Diamond Anniversary collection.



Did you know?

Your foot and your forearm are the same length

**Think of the Fortnight
*Are clouds in, under,
or above the sky?***

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Who's Who...



Hi, I'm Miss Shoosmith! I've been teaching English for 11 years (including one brilliant year covering at Darland). I studied English at Leeds University and stayed there to get my Masters in English Literature too. I am Welsh born and raised and moved back here about 4 years ago to get back to the beautiful countryside.

In my spare time I read (obviously), prevent my dog (Robin) and my cat (Honey) from fighting, go to tap class, binge watch shows on Netflix and cross-stitch.



Mr Dawson is a new member of the English faculty. He is additionally teaching Drama. He was previously a Head of Drama at a number of school both in England and abroad. Throughout his career Mr. Dawson has also taught English at all key stages.

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And choose 'Make a Payment'**

Please note : you will need your child's unique number

Contact Janice Barnes for more details

In the headlines...

Year 11 Theatre Visit

Our Year 11 English top set will be studying William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* as one of their set texts towards their GCSE English Literature, and it has been fortuitous that an adaption of the text was being performed at Theatre Clwyd in Mold to coincide with their studies. Golding's famous text is based around the spiral into chaos and darkness by a group of boys left stranded on a desert island following an aeroplane crash. However, the theatre company replaced the traditional all-male cast with an all-female one to provoke a discussion about gender stereotypes and behaviours – something this class have certainly not shied away from! On Thursday 27th September, Mrs. Booth and I took the class to see the performance.

The staging was excellent, with Golding's famous island coming to life before our eyes. The cast clearly put a lot of effort into the performance which was entertaining but, for Mrs. Booth and I, lacked the hard-hitting impact which the original novel carries. We also felt quite strongly that the characterisation of Ralph was inconsistent, whilst the characterisation of Piggy failed to evoke a sense of sympathy in us. However, this may well be because we are pedants to an original text! Our pupils were also given the opportunity to participate and listen to a Q&A session with the actors following the performance. This equipped them with some interesting areas to explore when considering the text, and provoked a fierce debate amongst our pupils regarding the issue of gender within the text which the performance forced. The study of Literature allows pupils to discuss and explore a wide range of social matters, and this performance certainly didn't disappoint in evoking such an exploration for our pupils. I thank my pupils in 11EN1 for representing Darland High School impeccably, and also Mrs. Booth for accompanying us.

Ms. C. Godwin

Lord of the Flies – Theatre Production Review

On Thursday, 27th September, Ms Godwin's Year 11 English class were given the opportunity to see a re-enactment of *Lord of the Flies* at Theatr Clwyd in Mold. Instead of the usual all-male characters, the production decided to have an all-female cast, in hopes of presenting a new side to a classic story. This can be seen as controversial to some, due to the theme of gender roles and laws at the time the novel was written.

We would like to start by talking about the set and props in the production. On stage, they replicated the island which the characters got stranded on in the novel, with a beach-like covering at the front of the stage, the decorated pieces of wood which represented the jungle and the shelters, carpet covered ramps held up by the same pieces of wood to resemble the mountain and an alternating moon and sun to show night and day. Our opinion on this is that the production team did a very admirable job recreating the island, considering the difficulty of mimicking real-life plants and locations. The colours they used were very vibrant and definitely helped make the set stand out.

We will now talk about the characterisation. We feel that this was the main aspect of the play that could have been done better. To mention some key characters: Piggy seemed harder to sympathise for, due to the fact that while both versions of Piggy tried to make rational decisions, the Piggy in the production appeared less logical and more annoying and whiny. Ralph, unfortunately, felt very different to the novel counterpart, much to the annoyance of Ms Godwin and Mrs Booth; the lack of sympathy for Piggy at the beginning of the play and his teamwork with Jack in the play contradicts his teamwork with Piggy in the novel.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Godwin and Mrs Booth for providing us with the chance to see this production and for accompanying the class.

