



Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

This week children around the school have used their imaginations and creativity within learning. I waved goodbye to the nursery children as they began their walk to the post box, posting their letters to Santa. I could hear them singing as they continued on their journey. The Darlinghurst elf joined them too and escaped being posted. The elf also joined in the Year 3 topic, Egyptians, getting a little carried away, being mummified himself. The children and staff were also dressed for the occasion, participating in an Egyptian workshop with Confidence and enthusiasm. At Darlinghurst we recognise that immersion in learning has high impact now and in our long term memories. I have many memories as a class teacher using creative role-play – such fun.



Some children from Performing Arts club are proudly attending Southend Hospital today for their Christmas lights switch on, to be the school choir at this community event is an honour. Well done Darlinghurst. The rest of the school have been singing their hearts out in final preparation for our performances in school next week.

I attended the maths parent workshop today. Mr Cauchi modelled our practical approaches to mathematics to secure understanding for all. He demonstrated the belief that, by encouraging effort and providing scaffold all children can and will feel success. Parents engaged in the session sharing their experiences of maths at home, engaging in Mr Cauchi's demonstrations of calculation strategies using CPA (Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract) representations. Thank you to the parents that attended and to Mr Cauchi for his time and passion for mathematics.

Parents commented to Mr Cauchi that *'It was great, that maths focuses on the child's effort rather than just because they are clever in maths'*, *'It's great that the children are being taught the understanding of all the methods rather than just the steps'*.

With creativity and parental partnerships in mind I hope to see many of you coming along and joining our children in making Christmas decorations next week (12th December). Events such as these provide us with a chance to share special times with our children. We remain committed to building an academy-wide culture where communication and engagement between all stakeholders and children strengthens relationships so that positive partnerships ensure effective learning together.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

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EYFS

This week in **Nursery** we have well and truly got into the Christmas spirit! Our elf turned up on Monday bringing with him a Santa cam, and he has already put pants on the Christmas tree, and stuffed himself with cookies! We have made a great start on all of our Christmas art activities and we had our special walk to the postbox to post our letters to Santa!! The children enjoyed singing, sprinkling magic glitter and making a wish...we're not so sure that the postman will be as excited as we were about the glitter!!

Last year the Co-op along the Broadway in Leigh on sea began donating £15.00 worth of fruit a week to our Nursery. It has been wonderful for the children to try melons, pineapple, plums and kiwis, to name but a few of the delicious produce they've tried. We would like to say a huge thank you from all of the children in Darlinghurst Nursery, and wish you a Merry Christmas. If any of our mums would like to pop in and say a thank you too, I'm sure they would appreciate that! **Team Nursery**



Firstly, the **Reception** team would like to give a huge thank you to Polly's mum who came to discuss her job at Southend hospital, as part of our 'People That Help Us' topic. We all enjoyed the visit and learnt lots of new things.

This week, Reception have sent their letters to Father Christmas asking politely for gifts that they may wish to receive. We shall hopefully receive a reply in the post soon. The Reception staff thought it would be nice if we wrote thank you letters to Father Christmas in the New Year. We shall then take a trip to our local Post Office to purchase stamps to send them in the post. All of the children are very excited about performing 'Born in a Barn' to their families next week and have been practising very enthusiastically and are a joy to watch. Have a lovely weekend. **The Reception Team**

*I'm working really hard with my learning. **Noah, Starfish class***

KS1

This week in writing, **Puffin class** have been learning about The Nutcracker. They have really enjoyed re-telling the story to their friends in their own words and acting out parts of the story. **Miss Charles, Puffin class**

*I have enjoyed writing all the different sentences using describing words. "They gently climbed into the magical sleigh". **Thomas, Puffin class***

*I have enjoyed acting out when Clara was sitting under the Christmas tree playing with her toys. **Eden-Rose, Puffin class***

KS2

Year three had a fabulous week this week, as we were treated to an excellent workshop by Steve and Sally from 'Portals to the Past'. We were transported back in time 5,000 years to the 'Ancient Egyptian' period to the dawn of a great civilization. All of the children were transfixed by the sights and sounds of ancient Egypt. We participated in a 'buffet' of activities from dance, measuring, fact finding and myth busting as well as being **treated** to some gruesome embalming and mummification!

The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was great to see so many of them go to the effort of dressing up in costume. A great time was had by all. **Mr Dunne, Dune class**

Inspired by the current issues surrounding Orangutans and palm oil, **Year five** have been writing poems about endangered animals this week. We've been researching why they're endangered using the WWF as a resource. Poems vary in style and topic from a shape poem about penguins to an acrostic poem about giant pandas. We're having a year group competition for the best poems, which will be chosen by the school's Eco-team. Watch this space for the winners in each class! **Mrs Powell, Poseidon class**



Mon 10 Dec
 Reception Nativity 2:15pm-3:15pm (School Hall)
 Wed 12 Dec
 Parent Christmas Decorations
 Wed 12 Dec
 Year 6 Belfairs' Visit
 Thu 13 Dec
 Christmas Lunch
 Thu 13 Dec
 Christmas Jumper Day
 Thu 13 Dec
 KS1 Nativity 9:15am-10:15am
 Fri 14 Dec
 Year 6 Parent Christmas Decorations
 Fri 14 Dec
 Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concert 2:00pm-2:45pm
 Fri 14 Dec
 Years 5 & 6 Christmas Concert 2:45pm-3:30pm
 Mon 17 Dec
 Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concert 9:15am-10:00am
 Mon 17 Dec
 Years 5 & 6 Christmas Concert 10:00am-10:45am
 Tue 18 Dec
 KS1 Nativity 2:15pm-3:15pm
 Wed 19 Dec
 Nursery Christmas Concert 10:00am-11:30am
 Thu 20 Dec
 ACADEMY Closes for Christmas Holidays 1:45pm

Please visit www.darlinghurst.uk/calendar/ for future dates

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	93.9
STARFISH	94.1
PELICAN	92.8
PUFFIN	91.3
SEAGULL	94.1
LOBSTER	92.1
OYSTER	95.9
SHRIMP	94.3
DUNE	98.8
PEBBLE	98.3
ROCK POOL	93.3
SEASHELL	98.5
PORT JACKSON	93.6
REEF SHARK	99.3
SAND TIGER	96.2
WHITE SHARK	87.8
NEPTUNE	94.0
POSEIDON	95.8
TRITON	92.9
BEMBRIDGE	93.6
WILTON	97.4
MAYFLOWER	92.5
ENDEAVOUR	89.2
Totals	94.3

RED ALERT:

Academy Attendance is 94.3%

Y3-4 Boys Football Match

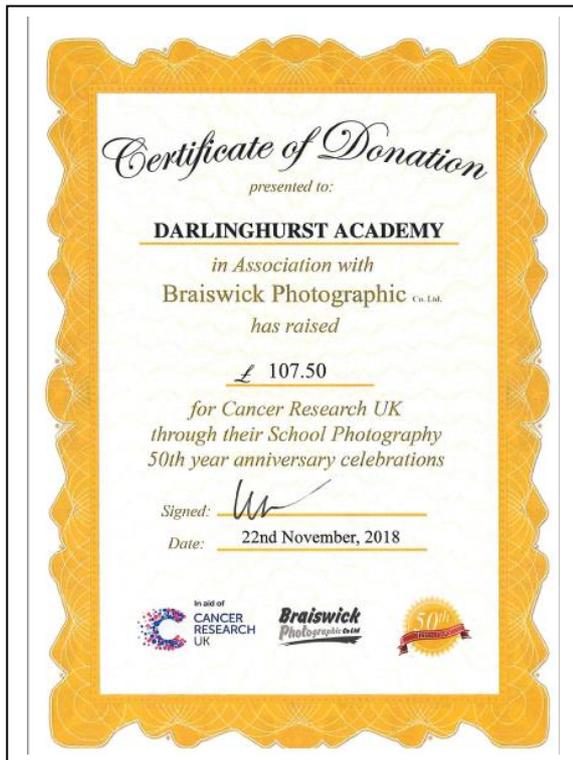
On Wednesday, our Y3/4 Boys football team were in action against Chalkwell Hall School in their first game of the season. The cold and damp conditions did not deter them and from the whistle they took the game to their opponents. After some lovely football from our boys, William broke the deadlock with a low driving shot into the corner of Chalkwell's goal. 1-0 to Darlinghurst. At half time, and after a team talk from Mr Blewett, the squad were determined to add to their one goal lead. Thankfully it did not take long, with Lennon hitting the back of the net within 5 minutes of the restart. The game finished 2 – 0 to Darlinghurst. Well done boys a great start to the season.

Mr Felton- PE Subject Lead

All sports clubs finish next week, details for next terms clubs will be emailed next week.

Our attendance has significantly dropped below our school target. We have experienced various types of illnesses. Please continue to follow our guidance on infection control, which can be found on our school website. Please continue to work with us by encouraging good hygiene practice both at school and at home.

The car park – Reminder parents should not be driving into the staff carpark to drop their children off for school, breakfast club or running club. Children should not walk through the car park, as it is an unnecessary risk. Thank you



Thursday 13th December

Wear your Christmas jumper
 Christmas jumper to be worn over school uniform unless the jumper is part of the ensemble i.e matching Christmas accessories, elf trousers, themed tights.

Wellington boots – If you have any outgrown children's wellington boots please could you donate them to our ODL team. Donations can be brought to the school office.

Donations Welcomed

Santa Run (Week beg 10th December 2018)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12.00 – 12.30		Year 1 Puffin Pelican Seagull			Reception Starfish Jellyfish
12.30 – 13.00	Year 3 Rockpool Dune	Year 5 Poseidon	Year 6 Bembridge Mayflower	Year 2 Oyster Lobster Shrimp	Year 4 Port Jackson White Shark
13.00 – 13.30	Year 3 Seashell Pebble	Year 5 Neptune Triton	Year 6 Wilton Endeavour		Year 4 Reef Shark Sand Tiger
JUNIOR GOVERNOR HELPERS	Year 6	Year 4	Year 5		Year 3