



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Seasonal changes

The arrival of winter is accompanied by an increase in the number of illnesses commonly caught by children of school age.

In the winter, we recognise that there are lots of coughs and colds in the community, making us feel under the weather, effecting our health and well-being. It can impact on our attendance to school too.

This winter we would like to offer some advice on helping children stay healthy during the winter months. We are working together in school to support the health needs of our children and staff and would like to work in partnership with families too.

As you know, the most common way that germs are spread is through our hands. Good hygiene and hand washing can help prevent infections and viruses from spreading. This is vital in school as colds, flu and tummy bugs can quickly spread. So what can we do?

Working together this winter

We would like to follow some healthy tips and routines at school and ask that you can encourage these at home too. Our staff and children are learning about how to stay healthy during lessons and within our daily habits.

We have introduced the character, 'Handy'.

Handy is our mascot to show our ongoing commitment to keeping healthy, ensuring hand washing remains part of everyone's school day. Around the academy we have posters encouraging children to wash their hands and the importance for our health. These include fun rhymes and songs.



The Reception children had a visit from our school cook, Mrs Owens explaining how to make and prepare food by showing them a step-by-step visual guide on how to make one of our main meals – Lasagne. She explained how she made this meal on Tuesday following these steps. Why not encourage your children to choose our home made lasagne from 'week ones' menu on December 11th. Mrs Owens emphasised the importance of washing our hands before handling food.

Please see the link below to watch with your children, a cartoon featuring Handy which explains why, when and how hands should be washed. We will be focusing on this at school too. Let's be germ busters together!

<https://youtu.be/0ZYNCFIS0il>



Please check our childhood illnesses page for handy tips and advice on coming to school.
http://www.darlinghurst.uk/assets/downloads/attendance/17.Infection_control.pdf

Miss Rebecca Davis, is here to help with any questions or support around attendance.
Contact: face to face in the main office or via telephone on 01702 509205.
We give her a warm welcome to Darlinghurst.

Winter warmers

Festive cheer is most certainly on its way. Around the academy children and staff have been preparing for forth-coming Christmas events.

It has been lovely having the members of the PTA in school regularly as they prepare for our Christmas Fayre. I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm and efforts in ensuring our children will have fabulous festive fun, this year. I look forward to seeing you at our Fayre next Thursday, along with Father Christmas who has written to the children in advance to share that he will be attending too.

*"Mrs Claus and I heard that you have been especially good this year and we are so proud of you!
When the elves heard the news, they told me I should come and visit you all in person. Thursday 29th
November I will be at Darlinghurst Academy! You can come and visit me from 3:30pm in Hagrid's Hut
(3:15pm if you are a Nursery child).
Warmest Wishes Father Christmas"*

You can see the full letter on our website <http://www.darlinghurst.uk/news-and-events/news/a-very-special-delivery/>

In addition, children have been singing Christmas songs all the way from Nursery to KS2 in preparation for nativities and concerts, coming soon.

I enjoyed visiting Nursery this week and seeing the children play in their 'Frozen' ice palace within their home corner. They played together well ahead of participating in snack routines politely. It was good to see them wash their hands, ahead of snack too.

Today nursery are outside enjoying outdoor learning, dressed appropriately in their protective clothing and winter attire, so that they can enjoy learning outside the classroom, whatever the weather.

Please can I remind all children to come to school with coats, hats and gloves, ready to stay warm and dry when out at play or learning outside of the classroom.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



EYFS

Nursery have been very busy this week practising for the Christmas concert. Please encourage your child to sing at home. We have had a lot of fun with our wintery 'Elsa' inspired role play corner and sensory tray, as well as making snowflakes in outdoor learning. The children have also received a letter from Father Christmas explaining he will be at the Christmas Fayre. As you can imagine they are very excited. Happy weekend! **Team Nursery**

This week **Reception** have explored different occupations and thought about what they may aspire to be when they grow up. We have discussed the varying jobs that staff at Darlinghurst carry out and are exploring these further. As our Christmas performance approaches the children are eagerly learning new songs to perform for the occasion. They sound marvellous already. Well done Reception! Please can all of the children in Reception have their personal belongings clearly labelled. This includes all clothing that may be removed during the day, such as for P.E lessons. The children are not always able to identify their clothing when the nqmes have either washed out or become unattached. Gloves, hats, scarves are a few of the items that often go astray, as well as trousers, skirts and polo tops. Thank you for your co-operation as always. **The Reception Team**

KS1

This week the children in Shrimp Class have enjoyed learning about arrays in Mathematics. They have been working out the answers to multiplication and division problem solving questions. The children have been using resources like cubes to create arrays into commutative rows or columns. Then the children have been drawing the arrays on a white board or in their maths books alongside equations to create their answers. *Miss Carey, Shrimp class*

*I like the division equations because I can count in fours...I made a square shape out of rows and columns with cubes. **Jonathan, Shrimp class***

KS2

Year 5 had a brilliant time at Southend Museum and the Cenotaph on Tuesday this week. Just like the soldiers in World War 1, they were battling away. Luckily, our battle was against the elements and steep hills rather than gunfire. We not only got to pay our respects to the soldiers when visiting the Cenotaph, but also explored photos of the battlefields as they are today and touched real objects from that time. It was tiring but a learning and fun-filled day. **Mrs Powell, Poseidon class**



Year 6 have been considering the question, "Is now the best time to live?" and this week have been looking at Victorian life. They have used primary sources of information to research examples of crimes committed by Victorian children and were shocked to learn of the severity of punishments they received, especially in the prisons, workhouses and reformatories! They have also been writing in the voice of a child from the East End who had found themselves in prison. In maths, we have been revising fractions and turning them into decimals. **Mr Turner, Mayflower class**

Some of our year 6 attended an art workshop at Belfairs and enjoyed colouring autumnal leaves in the style of Matisse, each leaf was added to one big Matisse inspired piece of art. Feedback from the teacher of the event was how impressed she was with the students appearance. She commented on their smart and tidy uniform and how well they represented the school.





Wed 28 Nov
Dodgeball Competition (Garons)
Fri 30 Nov
Year 2 Rainbow Theatre Visit
Wed 5 Dec
Boccia Competition (Garons)
Fri 7 Dec
Mr Cauchi Maths Workshop
Mon 10 Dec
Reception Nativity 2:15pm-3:15pm
Thu 13 Dec
Christmas lunch
Thu 13 Dec
Christmas Jumper Day

Fri 14 Dec
Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concert 2:00pm-2:45pm (School Hall)
Fri 14 Dec
Years 5 & 6 Christmas Concert 2:45pm-3:30pm

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

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	92.5
STARFISH	97.8
PELICAN	96.2
PUFFIN	93
SEAGULL	91.9
LOBSTER	93.9
OYSTER	96.9
SHRIMP	98
DUNE	98
PEBBLE	96.3
ROCK POOL	82.6
SEASHELL	94.6
PORT JACKSON	92.5
REEF SHARK	96.2
SAND TIGER	96.1
WHITE SHARK	93.6
NEPTUNE	96.3
POSEIDON	96.8
TRITON	93.9
BEMBRIDGE	95.4
WILTON	95.2
MAYFLOWER	96.4
ENDEAVOUR	92.5
Totals	94.6

AMBER ALERT:
Academy Attendance is 95%

Is your child due to start school in 2019/20?

Prospective parent tours

December 11th – 1:30pm-2:30pm
December 12th – 1:30pm-2:30pm
January 8th 2019 – 1:30pm-2:30pm
January 9th 2019 – 1:30pm-2:30pm
Tours can be booked via the school office or by emailing generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk

Do you tweet?



Follow us @DarlinghurstSch

Please be mindful of the language you use around our Academy. Swear words have been heard by our children from parents talking in the playground.

Would you like to know how to help your child with maths?

Come to our maths workshop for parents who have children in Reception through to Year 6.

The workshop will provide information on how maths is taught and will support parents with maths at home

Friday 7th December 2018 - AM session 9:00am-10:00am Or PM session 2:00pm-3:00pm

Please book using our online system <https://darlinghurst.parenteveningsystem.co.uk>

Should you experience any difficulties please contact Mrs Smith by email mrssmith@darlinghurst.co.uk



Free Entry
Darlinghurst Academy Parent Teacher Association welcomes you to our

Christmas Fayre

THURSDAY, 29th NOVEMBER
3:45-6:15PM

Santa's Grotto Fun games
Christmas Gifts
Fabulous raffle Delicious food
Festive music and lots more!!

PAVILION DRIVE, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Christmas Fayre Thursday 29th November



It's nearly here! So, wrap up warm and come and get in the festive spirit! Why not start at the Food Court, on the main playground, which will be open from 3.30 pm and take the opportunity to listen the Choir sing Christmas songs on the outdoor stage. A roundabout, sideshows and Santa, in Hagrid's Hut, will keep the kids busy too. The Christmas Market, in the hall, will open at 3.45 pm with a huge selection of crafts and gifts for sale. Children can also get involved and create their own crafts. Be sure to head to the year 2 classrooms where you will find the teachers hosting some exiting games. Winners get to choose from our massive prize table. Don't leave without buying your raffle tickets. The prizes are amazing and include hampers, gifts and a section of fabulous vouchers. The raffle will be called at 6pm. See you there!



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AM session 9:00am-10:00am
Or
PM session 2:00pm-3:00pm

Numbers for each session are limited, so early booking is advisable. Please book using our online system <https://darlinghurst.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> Should you experience any difficulties please contact Mrs Smith by email mrssmith@darlinghurst.co.uk



Thursday 13th December

Wear your Christmas jumper

Donations Welcomed