



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents / Carers

It was with great pride that we received our Key Stage two SATs results this week. Our dedicated team arrived at school from 5.30am onwards, joining Mrs Williams and I as we downloaded the results.

It quickly became clear that the determination, commitment and hard work of our children and staff had paid off! We are delighted with our results, which show clear improvement on last year.

Equally as pleasing, is the fact that our results at Darlinghurst are significantly above the national average. These results are testament to our continued focus on teaching and learning and ensuring our curriculum ensures every child gets the best start in life at Darlinghurst.

Individual results for every child in year six will be sent out with their school reports, I am sure you will join with us in celebrating their achievements. Their investment in learning throughout their school life with us and in particular during this academic year is remarkable. I would also like to extend my thanks to every parent of year six, for your continued support and encouragement, showing that in partnership we can achieve excellence.

To give you a flavour of our success, the results show:

- 78% of our children achieve or exceed the expected standard in Reading, up 21% on last year. Nationally, 71% of children have achieved this standard.
- In Maths, 75% of our children achieve or exceed the expected standard, up 18% on last year. Nationally, 75% of children have achieved this standard.
- In Writing 80% of our children achieved the expected standard or above. In Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation, 90% of our children achieved the expected standard or above, an increase of 20% on last year's outcomes and above the 2017 National outcome of 77%
- When we combine the results of Reading, Writing and Maths, 68% of our children achieve or exceed the national standard, an increase of 25% on last year.

As Principal, I am thrilled and delighted with these outstanding results, for which every member of the Darlinghurst community should be justly proud.

I am equally elated with more outstanding results in our sporting competitions. The children's abilities, determination and excellence has shone through again as always.

As we reach the end of the summer term, we will have many opportunities to celebrate our success and achievement. I invite all parents to come to the many events being held and I look forward to seeing you.

Mrs Nicholls





News

This week **Reception** have thoroughly enjoyed continuing their pirate topic. They have created their own treasure maps, collaged colourful parrots, made a 'message in the bottle' challenge for other children to try and achieve and many more exciting activities. Reception are looking forward to sports day next week.

This week **Nursery** have been looking at holidays and the role play area is now a Travel Agents with brochures for the children to look at. In Outdoor Learning they have made ice cream, thinking about the science behind it; salt makes the ice cubes even colder allowing milk to turn into ice! Nursery have also made marbled pictures using oil and paint, which was extremely messy but lots of fun. Plus preparing for sports day next week which the children are very excited about their parents coming to watch!

Year 3 have had an exciting week. We released our butterflies and saw them fly away. It was beautiful because we had a leaving ceremony where we made speeches, drew nice pictures and sang some songs. I let the butterflies go because I was the one who brought them in. They were White Cabbage butterflies and there were more females than males. **Anais, Hummingbird Class.**



This week we released Anais' butterflies. But before we did that in class we made some posters to wish good luck with life. Did you know that butterflies only live for up to two and a half to three weeks? **Reece, Hummingbird Class.**

Year 4 discovered a lot of mysterious objects in the playground on Monday: some flying saucers, mysterious footprints, an empty packet of Space Raiders crisps and pieces of metal. Imaginations ran wild as children decided an alien spaceship had crash landed here in school at the weekend! We spent the rest of the week, piecing together the events of what happened, creating our own playscripts and props then acting them out to each other.

Thank you to Harvey in Lion class for the fabulous review of Despicable Me 3. I particularly enjoyed the section about Brat Boy; "Brat Boy turned into a huge inflatable version of himself and he went on the rampage and there was a big fight". You can read Harvey's full review on the News page of the website <http://www.darlinghurst.uk/news-and-events/news/>. Mrs Smith

Attendance

Group	% Attend
LADYBIRD	99.2
BUTTERFLY	93.5
RABBIT	100.0
OWL	96.0
HEDGEHOG	99.0
WOLF	93.5
PENGUIN	96.7
ORCA	96.7
ALBATROSS	94.2
SQUID	98.8
GIRAFFE	99.1
LION	96.3
ELEPHANT	96.7
CHIMPANZEE	93.5
MANATEE	94.2
JAGUAR	97.8
HUMMINGBIRD	94.2
ALPACA	95.7
PANDA	93.8
KOMODO DRAGON	97.8
LEOPARD	97.5
ORANGUTAN	96.6
MOOSE	99.1
COYOTE	95.8
FLAMINGO	96.1
KANGAROO	96.4
PUFFER FISH	99.2

30th June – 6th July 2017

Well done Rabbit class for achieving 100% attendance this week.

Next Friday I will be telling Mrs Nicholls which class in each Key Stage has achieved the highest attendance for the year. Will it be your class?

Reminder to all parents, please ensure where possible you provide evidence for your child's absence such as a copy of a prescription, medication, hospital letter or medical appointment card. These will support the 'reason for absence'. Thank you
Miss Walton.



News

On Wednesday, the **Year 6** pupils headed off on a hike to Hadleigh Castle. In total we walked for 2 hours and 30 minutes, there and back. Luckily, we survived the long journey out into the wild fields of Leigh up to the English Heritage site. We took part in DIY kite making, including having to use hard spaghetti as a resource, they were up and ready before you could say 'lift-off.' Other team bonding games allowed us to enjoy time with our friends that we will be saying goodbye to in two weeks' time. Our game of man hunt went on forever as we found some cryptic hiding spaces in the ruins.

As a cherry on top of a cake, we witnessed a marriage proposal...fortunately it was successful! Finally, it was time to get back. Mr Holmwood said, 'Today was an awesome way to celebrate with our Year 6 children this year, we are very proud of them all and their achievements in every aspect of their time at Darlinghurst.' **Ben Collins, Puffer Fish 2016/17**

Even More Sporting Success.....We're going to need a bigger trophy cabinet!

On Monday our **girls' cricket team** travelled to Garon Park Cricket Ground for the 'Chance to Shine' cricket tournament. The girls have worked hard in training and PE to improve their game and this certainly paid off on the day. They played four games in total and won every one of them and were crowned champions after an excellent final game against Bournes Green. Our girls played brilliantly all afternoon and their excellence, confidence and determination shone through for all to see. You truly are a credit to our school. Well done, what an achievement!

Wednesday saw sixteen of our **Borough Sports Squad** compete in the Super Sports Athletics Competition. In this competition the children from all four divisions, who came first, second or in some cases third in their event, come together in a battle to see who really is the best in the borough at their event. The level of ability within the Southend borough is extremely high and to be invited to this event is an achievement in itself. We are pleased to say that our children represented the school fantastically with many of them placing in the top three. All of our athletes who took part will be invited to attend an elite athletics club run by the SPSSA at Garon Park athletic track later in the year. Yet again our children have excelled in sport and shown that with a determined mind, they can achieve anything. Well done to all involved.!



On Monday, letters will be going out to ALL pupils that will be in Year 1 and above from September about **1:1 and small group instrument tuition** at Darlinghurst, they need to be returned by 14th July at the latest.



Upcoming Events

- 10.07.17 – Transition Day – Meet your child's teacher 3.30pm
- 01.07.17 – EYFS Sports Day am & pm
- 12.07.17 – Moose Class Outdoor Learning
- 13.07.17 – Coffee and cake with the Principal (*Training Room*)
- 13.07.17 – KS1 Sports Day 9.30am – 11.00am
- 14.07.17 – KS2 Sports Day 9.30am – 11.30am
- 14.07.17 – Uniform Sale 3.30pm – 6.00pm
- 14.07.17 – Year 6 Leavers Disco
- 15.07.17 – Uniform Sale 10.00am – 3.00pm
- 17.07.17 – PTA Inflatable Day
- 18.07.17 – Orangutan Class Outdoor Learning
- 18.07.17 – Joseph Performance 6.30pm
- 19.07.17 – Joseph Performance 6.30pm
- 20.07.17 – Year 4 to Chalkwell Park
- 20.07.17 – House Point Winners Rounders Match
- 21.07.17 – Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.30am
- 21.07.17 – Last Day of Summer Term

Achievement

Connie S, Elephant Class – Took part in the production 'Telling Tales' at the Palace Theatre. She delivered her lines brilliantly.

10.07.17 Transition Day: Meet your child's teacher. Please collect your child from their current class, they will then take you to their new teacher.

Sports Day: Entry to the school is via the back gate only (Darlinghurst Grove)
Children to wear full school uniform to school with a house colour top to change into with their PE kit.
Dinedan (Blue)
Galahad (Yellow)
Lancelot (Red)
Gareth (Green)
Please ensure your child has a water bottle, sun cream and sun hat.

Breakfast club reminder; please ensure that your child is registered in Breakfast club before you leave the school premises. You should not be arriving until 7:45am

When **travelling to and from school**, please ensure you are parking responsibly. Please do not block neighboring driveways. Should you or your child travel by bike, please ensure you are taking care if you ride on the path or brook path. We have had reports of accidents between cyclists and pedestrians.

PTA News: Tickets for the Inflatable Day on Monday 17th will be on sale from the PTA in the small playground before pick up every day next week.

We still require more volunteers to help out for this event. Please contact us if you can help. Volunteers receive half price bands for their own children.

If you have any cake donations please bring them in on the Monday morning. We are also taking in raffle donations.