



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents / Carers

It was a delight to see the children return happily from their summer break, wearing their uniform proudly along with beaming smiles. I have enjoyed speaking with children and parents, hearing about many summer experiences. During our welcome back assembly, we embraced the start of a new academic year and shared the importance of our school values and our key message that we will 'achieve excellence together'. Through positive parent partnerships and the commitment of all the staff, I know we can support our children to

- **Achieve** their full potential and develop a love of learning
- Know they **belong** in our community and feel safe, supported and respected
- Develop the resilience and **confidence** to face any challenges
- Try their best, have high expectations and be **determined** to succeed
- Leading to **excellence** in all we say and do

To promote and celebrate our values, this year we are introducing values postcards. Please look out for them as they may land on your doormat. Four children have been awarded them this week. What a great start!

During the welcome back assembly, Year 6 were presented with their ties by Mr Turner and Mrs Williams, completing their already smart appearance.

Our expectations for learning and behaviour have been shared with classes this week, recognising the importance of establishing good routines together. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in embracing our new uniform and ensure that the high standards set this week continue throughout the year. Please refer to the uniform guidance attached.

Enjoy your family time this weekend.

Mrs Nicholls

Shaping the Future – Monday 18th September

We are excited about our second Shaping the Future event which gives us the perfect opportunity to promote our vision and values. Shaping the Future is the starting point of the year when children and staff are welcomed to another year at Darlinghurst through a formal presentation event. The day also establishes our belonging value within each of our school houses with a mixture of competitive team building activities involving children and staff from within each house. A trophy will be presented to the winning house to be held for the year.

All children will need a packed lunch on Shaping the Future Day and no hot meals will be available. If your child receives free school meals and you would like the school to provide them with a packed lunch on the day, then please inform the school office or e-mail either mrsfarman@darlinghurst.co.uk or mrsholmes@darlinghurst.co.uk **by Tuesday 12th September**. All children will require a water bottle, and should come in wearing full uniform.



Welcome back

Miss Wise, Miss Whitehouse and Miss Cook have loved meeting all the new faces that have come into **Jellyfish Class** this week. It's been lovely to hear all about your holidays and what the children are looking forward to learning about this year. We have spent the week getting to know each other and are looking forward to some new friends starting next week.

Miss Riley and Mrs Farnell have loved welcoming most of **Seahorse Class** to Reception this week. The children have done fantastically and are settling really well into school life. We are really enjoying getting to know them and finding out about their families and what they have been up to over the holidays. We can't wait to see you all again and to welcome the rest of the children arriving next week.

The Reception Team are very happy to be welcoming our children into Nursery and Reception. They are settling well, making new friends and learning the routines. Please parents and carers, feel confident leaving your child with staff at the classroom door, even if they are tearful, so that we can settle them quickly. We will always phone you if they do not settle well. Mrs Dutton

It was great to finally meet the children again after the summer break away. It has brought a smile to my face to see happy children arrive at school in the morning and leave us feeling the same way at the end of the day. The children have enjoyed their first week in school and participated eagerly in lessons. I'm looking forward to getting to know the class even better and enjoy our journey together across the forthcoming academic year. Miss Carey **Pelican Class**

It's been a busy week getting to know the children in **Crab Class** and settling them in for life in Year 2. They have already got used to the routine of coming in and leaving through Dune class too! I'm looking forward to the year ahead and seeing the progress made by each and every child. Mrs Richards

This week in **Lobster Class** we have been settling into our new routines really well and have been focusing on the skill of being independent (plus learning a little Spanish). On Wednesday, we found a peculiar trail of hats on the playground. Curiouser and curiouser... We followed the trail and it led us to a tea party. The poor Mad Hatter had been eating so much unhealthy food that it made him go crazy! We're looking forward to helping him plan a healthy tea party and hopefully helping him to be a little less crazy! Adios. Miss Lynch and Mrs Peoples

Seashell Class have settled into Year 3 well. They have quickly understood the class routine. We have started our new topic on electricity and the children have been excited to find out more about how it works! I am pleased to say that everyone's first few pages of work is neat and tidy! I look forward to teaching the children throughout the school year and see how they progress further and continue to be engaged in their learning. Mrs Levy

Dune Class have had a brilliant start to the new school year. I am very impressed with the way that they come into the classroom with a smile and with a positive attitude to learn. So far, we have begun exploring a not so traditional tale of the Three Little Pigs in writing, partitioning and ordering numbers in maths, wracking our brains about our new Edison topic on electricity and finding out what lives under the bridge in our group reading sessions. A big thank you to all the parents and carers that have ensured their children are also wearing the new school uniform and have brought in their PE kits. Mr Dunne



Welcome back continued

Port Jackson have had an exciting week learning all about sharks. We didn't know that there are over 400 types of shark! As part of our topic, we also had to imagine what it was like to be blind. We had to guide our blindfolded partner around the playground. We will definitely appreciate how lucky we are to be able to see now! Mrs Powell

It has been such a fantastic start to the year! All the children look amazing and are ready to learn. It has been a pleasure to walk into classes and see focused and enthusiastic children. Well done to children who have been awarded certificates this week – it shows that you are beginning to aspire towards excellence. Mrs Hahn

It has been a busy first week in **Poseidon** class. The children have settled in brilliantly and have shown me that they have a great attitude to learning. This week we have been looking at 5 digit numbers, recognising their value and ordering them. We have also been performing and writing free verse poetry along with starting our new class text 'Tom's Midnight Garden'. Perhaps you could ask your child for their thoughts on why the mysterious grandfather clock strikes 13? Mr Sykes

The children in **Bembridge** class have settled in very well and are displaying a mature and sensible attitude. They are ready for the challenge of year 6! I look forward to spending my year with such polite and conscientious children. I am very happy to join the Darlinghurst family – all the staff, parents and children have been very welcoming. Mrs Dunne

The first week back has been really exciting. Children have been showing a positive attitude towards their learning and have been setting high standards in terms of presentation. They have really been making positive choices in the classroom and many have already earned a golden ticket for their behaviour. Miss Zaher

Pebble Class

News

Children that had signed up for 1:1 instrument lessons with our team should have all been sent their confirmation letter home this week. We have a waiting list system for anyone that missed the deadline to register for classes and anyone that wants to be added to the waiting list should email mrshavis@darlinghurst.co.uk

Auditions for the Darlinghurst O2 Young Voices choir (years 3-6) will take place on Thursday 14th September in the music room 3.40-4.30pm. Please register your child for the audition by emailing generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk The O2 concert will take place on 31st January 2018 with rehearsals taking place on Thursdays after school.

Reminder, children are not permitted to ride bikes or scooters on the school grounds.

Please take the time to listen to your child read on a daily basis, and record a note in their reading record. The book and reading record can travel to and from school in the new style book bags which are the perfect size for the children's trays.

Achievement News

On Saturday 2nd September Sophia, Seashell class had 23cm cut off of her hair for The Little Princess Trust



GIRLS/BOYS: Nursery

- Sky blue t-shirt (with or without logo)
- Royal blue sweatshirt (with logo)
- Black plain jogging bottoms (with or without logo)

GIRLS: Reception – Year 5

- Sky blue polo shirt (with or without logo)
- Royal blue V-neck jumper/cardigan (with logo)
- Plain black tailored trousers/plain black box pleat skirt/plain black pinafore
- Light blue gingham summer dress
- White ankle socks or black knee high socks

BOYS: Reception – Year 5

- Sky blue polo shirt (with or without logo)
- Royal blue V-neck jumper (with logo)
- Plain black trousers/shorts
- Plain black ankle socks

GIRLS/BOYS: Year 6

- Sky blue shirt with collar
- Royal blue V-neck jumper (with logo)
- Academy tie
- Plain black trousers/shorts
- Plain black box pleat skirt

GIRLS/BOYS: P.E

- Sky blue t-shirt (with or without logo)
- Plain black PE shorts (with or without logo)
- Plain black jogging bottom - optional (with or without logo)



Footwear

All children need to wear plain black school shoes (no trainers or boots allowed)

Hair accessories

All hair accessories must be small in size and in the new school colours (royal blue or black)