



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and I hope you all had a wonderful and healthy Christmas break with all the children well rested and ready to learn.

My family and I managed to complete the Christmas wish list previously shared in news and views. We enjoyed playing board games, watching Christmas movies, spending time with each other - smiling and laughing, in addition to eating food we love (yes, even a Brussel sprout!). I enjoyed time with my family, leaving my colleges to enjoy spending time with theirs, (do something for somebody else). Please share with me your experiences.

We are looking forward to an exciting New Year here at Darlinghurst, and within assemblies we have celebrated house points achieved for the Autumn term, promoted our Spring term value, 'Belonging' and shared our aspirations for 2018.

During our values assembly we focused on New Year's resolutions made by children around the world.

We watched the Disney top ten resolutions:

- 1 – Believe in Magic
- 2 – Spend Quality Time with Family
- 3 – Make New Friends
- 4 – Have Fun
- 5 – Follow Your Dream
- 6 – Conquer Your Fears
- 7 – Accomplish an Amazing Feat
- 8 – Learn a New Song
- 9 – Discover a Fascinating Story
- 10 – Enjoy Nature

Inspired by these we decided to collect our Darlinghurst top ten resolutions from children and staff, and will be sharing the results of these over the coming weeks on our website News page.

Inspired by '*Accomplish an Amazing Feat*', Mrs Smith has signed herself up to be a BBC Children in Need runner for Gung-Ho. Mrs Stevens is planning to run the Southend Half Marathon in June and Miss Wise will be attempting the Nuclear Rush race.

Inspired by '*Learn a New Song*', Mrs Richards will be leading the Year 2 choir in the Infant Music Festival so will be learning lots of new songs along with the children.



Inspired by 'Discover a Fascinating Story', Miss Faddy is exploring the history of Human beings who have existed for millions of years, enjoying the book 'Sapiens'.

Inspired by 'Enjoy Nature', Mayflower class have picked their eco monitors and are looking and being less wasteful of energy.

Mrs Hahn would like to include more outdoor pursuits with her family, instead of opting for the couch and the television.

As always, enjoy your family time this weekend.

Mrs Nicholls

Access to the school

Advance warning – the Side Gate will be closed from Monday 8th January. Please use the Main Gate or Brook Gate entrances. Further communication will follow in the meantime thank you for your cooperation.

School uniform

As we commence a new calendar year at Darlinghurst, please ensure that your children are wearing the full school uniform. Please note school jumpers and cardigans or long sleeved shirts will help to keep the children warm when outside. Please refrain from alternatives which are not in line with our uniform expectations.

Could your child be eligible to receive free school meals?

Your child may be eligible to receive free school meals if you are claiming one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from NASS under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you are **not** also receiving Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit

It is very easy to apply, simply fill in a 'Registration for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium' form (available at the School office) and we will then carry out the checks to confirm whether or not you are eligible.

If you are unsure whether or not you may be eligible, please contact Miss Churchman or Mrs Farman in the Finance office on 01702 509202 for guidance.

Minor Head Bumps

Going forward we shall use the T2P text service with regards to minor bumps. Your child would have been attended to by first aid staff, and returned to class for monitoring.