



## Have you registered for the SIMS Parent App?

SIMS Parent App is a convenient way to communicate with you, share key dates and timetabled events



### What will you find in SIMS Parent:

Messages - School term dates - Access to update your contact details

**Please let the office know if you have not yet registered.**

**Please note this system has replaced the teachers to parent text service, it is imperative you register**

### Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

What a great half term with children and staff engaging in a wealth of activities in and outside the classroom within the wider community! Children have explored and discovered new things, developed their learning - building on their knowledge, skills and interest across the curriculum. We have continued our focus on learning and life skills to support children in their learning. This half term children and staff have been thinking about how to be 'better learners', with growth mindsets and determination to be the very best that we can be. Children have been developing how to show and talk about their learning and explain their next steps. Within lessons children edit and improve their learning, live in the lessons every day. Their exercise books are filled with 'green pen' work that shows their development. It is a lovely moment when a child shares their success, whether it be improvements in their handwriting, their understanding of a mathematical concept or their achievement and improvements in health and fitness. Seeing a child celebrate their achievements and talk about their next steps really shows how they are invested in their learning. I have seen children rephrase sentences such as; 'I can't do this', to 'I can't do this yet'. Determination: Don't ever give up! Believe you can and you will!

How about setting a Goal for the half term break, something achievable within a week. It may be an academic goal or creative, such as improving your Spanish, increasing your accuracy of Accelerated Reader quizzes or increasing your speed and recall of number and multiplication facts using Times Table Rockstar (see below for the battle of the bands).

Across the Academy, we have been thinking about physical development. Why not take a look at the list below of physical goals for an idea:

Learning to:

Catch a ball, balance on a bar, jump (higher or further), ride a bike, swim, whistle, skip

Try to:

Somersault, kart wheel, hand stand, juggle, circus skills, increase your keepy-uppies,

Create:

A health and fitness circuit and improve your stamina, or beat the bleep test, or be creative and make a necklace or bracelet using beads or pasta.

Please share your family's progress and achievements with us!



On behalf of all the staff at Darlinghurst Academy have a wonderful break and as always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



## Parking

There is little doubt that parking near school entrances is dangerous. Parking on the yellow zig-zag lines outside our school is illegal at school run times. This can be enforced legally by the local council, with a penalty charge notice. While it may be well known that you can't **park** on yellow zig-zag lines, you also can't **wait** or even **stop momentarily** to drop off or pick up passengers. Please ensure you are parking politely and legally around our local community, being considerate of our neighbours.



## News

### EYFS

This week in **Nursery** our topic has been the 101 Dalmatians and we have been going dotty!!! The children have been making Dalmatian ears and they used these props in drama to recreate parts of the film. In outdoor learning we have planted bulbs in old wellies, we will be watching how these grows over the next few weeks. We have been embracing Valentine's Day; the children have had heart shaped biscuits! We hope you all enjoy your half term holiday! **Nursery Team**

This week **Reception** have enjoyed learning about pets. On Monday, we shared the story 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and we all decided that a tiger would not be a sensible pet to have at home. Cats and dogs were the most popular choice of pet that most children would like to live with and care for. The children have all been busy creating their own non-fiction book about pets, which were so individual. Well done children! We hope that you all have a fantastic half-term holiday. Please support and encourage your child to continue practising their reading, writing and maths in your everyday routines. For example, looking for patterns, numbers, words in the environment. Thank you from **the Reception Team**

### KS2

The highlight of Year 3's week has been our visit to Westcliff synagogue.

Enthusiastically our guide took us on a tour of the main worship hall and explained the important features. These included the Bimah, where the Torah is read aloud to the congregation and the Ark where the Torah scrolls are kept. The children listened intently and asked and answered questions around their knowledge of the Jewish faith and the wider connections that it has with other faiths and laws.

All the adults and staff members that attended were very proud of the way the children conducted themselves on the trip. Well done Year 3. **Mr Dunne, Dune class**



After our big debate on whether we should have a fairground in school and some inspired writing this week, **Year 5** decided to compromise by holding their own eco-friendly fairground in their classrooms. The children spent the last week or so designing and making their own fairground games, ranging from guess the number of chocolates in a jar to hook a cup to hitting targets, re-using materials we already had at home or in school. Parents and Carers came in to play the games and we're incredibly proud to announce we raised the grand total of £132. Half of





the money will go towards helping the work of the British Wildlife Trust and the rest the children will choose to give to either the gardening club, or some eco-school's projects in the future. The Year 5 teachers and LSAs would like to give a huge thanks to all the support from our school community for our event and we're so pleased that Darlinghurst will be helping to protect local animals and their habitats through our fundraising event. **Mrs Powell, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Bermon**

### KS1 Football

This week and for the first time, Mr Blewett took some of our KS1 children to a football competition at Len Forge Football Centre. After some very successful training sessions, our team went into the competition full of confidence. Their first game, against Hamstel School, showed that all the hard work in the training sessions was worth it. Darlinghurst came away from the match victorious, beating their opponents 1-0. The success continued with wins against Edwards Hall and Thorpe Hall. At the end of a very competitive afternoon our amazing team missed out on getting to the finals on goal difference! To come so close could have been very frustrating, yet our children took it all in their stride, showing maturity, respect and fair play towards the game. The future looks very bright for this team and I cannot wait to see them in action again. Well done to all of the girls and boys involved.



Gracylee, one of our elite runners within the school, has won yet another trophy. Gracylee attends an extra-curricular gifted and talented programme for long distance runners in Southend. Her determination and commitment to becoming a better runner is very apparent, as this is the third trophy she has collected in the past two months. If she continues with this great attitude, then who knows, we may see her in the 2028 Olympics in LA? Well done Gracylee, we are incredibly proud of you.

**Mr Felton PE Subject Lead**

### Battle of the Classes

Over the half term there will be another Battle of the Bands between classes of the same year group. So come on everyone, lets learn our Times Table and ROCK ON!!!!!! Mr Cauchi



### Recorder Club

Playing an instrument requires children to listen carefully and can improve their concentration, as well as being great fun! At Darlinghurst we have a Recorder Club for Years 3 to 6, taught by a qualified woodwind teacher, that meets on Friday afternoons within school hours. There is a small charge of £2 per session, payable termly in advance to the woodwind teacher (via the school office). If your child is interested in joining Recorder Club then please email [mrsfarman@darlinghurst.co.uk](mailto:mrsfarman@darlinghurst.co.uk). Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

### ACORNS- After School Club

Please note that with effect from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February all children that are brought to After School Club after 3.40pm will be classed as late collection and will be charged £3.00 if collected before 4.15pm, £8.00 thereafter, per child. We appreciate that you may sometimes be unavoidably delayed. If you are running late please phone the office to let them know on 01702 478379.

### Attendance

Parents should book any appointments for their child outside of school hours and if this is not possible, ensure that an orange form is filled in at the office advising the time the child will be collected from school. It is imperative that you call the absence line by 9:15am to report your child's absence. In addition, and more importantly, if our attendance office can not reach any contacts to ask why the child is absent, this may result in a wellbeing visit.



Mon 25 Feb

Academy opens for Spring 2 Term

Mon 25 Feb

Celebrating World Thinking Day

Thu 28 Feb

Year 5 Highway Man Visit (School Hall)

**Wed 06 Mar**

**Year 5 & 6 maths learning together 2:45pm**

Thu 07 Mar

World Book Day - [read more >](#)

**Fri 08 Mar**

**Year 1 & 2 maths learning together 9:00am**

**Year 3 & 4 maths learning together 2:45pm**

Thu 14 Mar

**Reception learning together – Physical Development  
9:00am-9:45am**

Fri 15 Mar

Red Nose Day - School uniform with Red Nose accessories

Mon 18 Mar

Eco Week - Great Big School Clean

Fri 29 Mar

PTA Mother's Day Sale - [read more >](#)

Please visit [www.darlinghurst.uk/calendar/](http://www.darlinghurst.uk/calendar/) for future dates

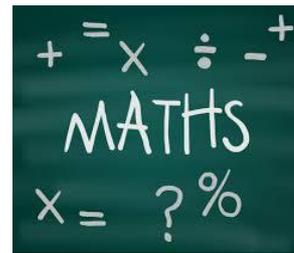
## Do you tweet?



Follow us @DarlinghurstSch

## Learning Together Sessions

Learning together sessions are a time for you to join your child to experience how we teach at Darlinghurst. Please refer to the calendar for our upcoming KS1 and KS2 maths sessions. In addition the Reception Physical Development session.



## Celebrating Excellence

Dennie-Ray, Whiteshark class completed his first aid course with High Five Children's Services. Learning the recovery position, how to call 999 plus lots more. It's never too early to learn first aid.

## PTA News

Afternoon Tea vouchers for the Clarence Yard are now available to order from the PTA. They are priced at £7 each, a saving of £2.50 - the perfect Mother's Day gift or just a reason to indulge in cake!

Please email [darlinghurstpta@hotmail.com](mailto:darlinghurstpta@hotmail.com) for more information.



**DARLINGHURST  
ACADEMY PTA**

*Mother's Day Sale*

**FRIDAY 29TH MARCH**

Buy a special gift for a

special person

Gifts £1.00 each

Children to bring a  
maximum of £2.00





Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	85
STARFISH	91.3
PELICAN	99.3
PUFFIN	93.7
SEAGULL	96.9
LOBSTER	98.5
OYSTER	100
SHRIMP	97.7
DUNE	95.2
PEBBLE	99.2
ROCK POOL	83.8
SEASHELL	91.9
PORT JACKSON	96.4
REEF SHARK	96.6
SAND TIGER	94.4
WHITE SHARK	96.3
NEPTUNE	96
POSEIDON	95.8
TRITON	89
BEMBRIDGE	95.2
WILTON	93.7
MAYFLOWER	96.1
ENDEAVOUR	96.9
Totals	94.7

Well done to the winners this week. Keep up the good attendance aiming to keep hold of the title, looking forward to the results next week.

## PTA News

The PTA have been donated two tickets for this year's **Village Green** on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> July to help with our fundraising efforts. In order to be in with a chance of winning this pair of tickets please place £1 in an envelope, with name, class and contact number written clearly on the front and place it in the PTA post box at the front office. The draw will be made on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March.

We have also been provided with a unique ticketing link for friends and family of Darlinghurst. For every adult ticket purchased to the Village Green Festival this will generate £1 towards our fundraising. This offer ends with the Early Bird Discount on the 31<sup>st</sup> May and you **MUST** book tickets using this link <https://www.skiddle.com/festivals/village-green/?skcampaign=darlinghurst>

Please feel free to share this with your friends and family!



Has your child entered the **PTA** Easter Competition? Paper copies are available in the office.

### Darlinghurst ACADEMY PTA

To help raise funds for the PTA enter our **Easter Egg Design Competition**

Simply, use the template below to design your Easter egg and return it to your class teacher by Wednesday

3<sup>rd</sup> April with your 50p donation affixed for your chance to win Easter goodies

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes in each EYFS, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_

Every donation makes a difference



## Have you registered for the SIMS Parent App?

SIMS Parent App is a convenient way to communicate with you, share key dates and timetabled events, whilst allow you to access, review and request changes to the data held on you and your children direct from your phone.

You are able to access our new parent app and website at your own convenience via smartphone, tablet or PC – anytime, anywhere.

### What will you find in SIMS Parent:

- Messages
- School term dates, inclusive of your child's PE/Drama/Art/Outdoor Learning session
- Access to update your contact details, ensuring we have the most up-to-date information in case of an emergency

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