



## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

This half term we have been sharing our value, 'confidence', promoting an 'I can attitude' and self-confidence. I shared with the children examples of successful people and how their self-belief enabled them to achieve.

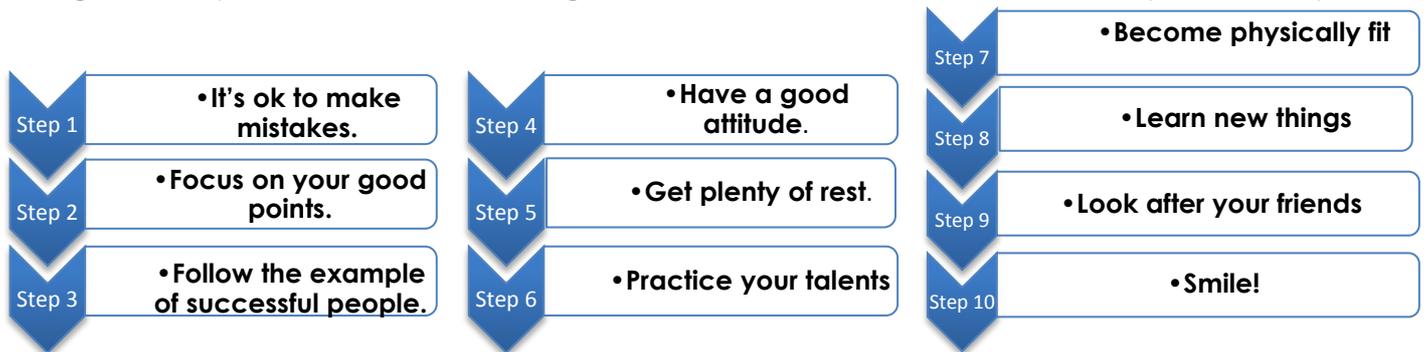
The children have enjoyed hearing songs from Will. I. Am. where he tells us,

*"There's only one me, I am it. Have a dream I'll follow it. It's up to me to try."*

Plus Ashley McBryde whose lyrics,

*"It took a whole lot of yes I wills and I don't care... And where they said I'd never be is exactly where I am"* were shared with the children.

During assembly I shared a confidence guide with the children which has already had an impact.



'Confidence' and 'belonging' go hand in hand here at Darlinghurst, from the Friday morning running club, through to our Eco school children and our children beginning rehearsals for our Alice production. This term we have seen new children join Darlinghurst and as always I am proud to see how our children show a sense of 'belonging' confidently during this time.

This weekend why not discuss with your children your own successes and the people who have inspired you. You never know when you are inspiring others. So believe in yourself, as others may follow your lead.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

Time as a new Mummy has flown and I'm now returning to Darlinghurst in my role as Year 3 and Year 4 Raising Standards Leader. I'm looking forward to seeing the smiley faces of our pupils in class and around the school when I make my official return at the end of the month. The support, positive comments and smiles I have encountered during my return have been very welcoming. Thank you Ms White



## News

### EYFS

This week in **Tiddlers** we have been looking at the film *Rio*. We have made bright, colourful carnival headbands and we have made music in our role play area. We have also joined in with Joe Wicks - the body coach - schools fitness week by taking part in his workouts. The children have really enjoyed this; they remembered what we had learnt in PE, such as why we warm up and cool down. We are looking forward to next week's topic of *Inside Out*, if you get time this weekend you could spend some family time watching the film where it explains emotions and feelings. **Team Nursery!**

This week the children in **Reception** have been applying their understanding of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by thinking in more depth about life cycles. We have focused on scientific vocabulary and have discussed eggs, pupa and metamorphosis. Maybe you could discuss what these words mean with your child. We have also looked at the life cycles of other creatures such as frogs and turtles. In maths we have looked at doubling. The children drew dots to one wing of the ladybird, and then doubled the number by adding the same amount of dots on the other wing. We also used butterflies to think about symmetry. Has your child created a symmetrical butterfly painting they could show you? **Miss Riley and Mrs Farnell, Seahorse class**

*We used ladybirds to learn about doubling. Zachary, Seahorse class*

### KS1

In **Pelican** class we have been learning about materials. The children have enjoyed classifying the materials by matching objects with labels and sorting them into groups. The next step, is to predict whether a selection of materials will sink or float. The children will share their findings and results with each other after carrying out their experiments. **Miss Carey, Pelican class**

**Year 2** have been busy writing their own versions of the *The Tiger who Came to Tea* this week. I have been so impressed by the fantastic language choices used by the children in Lobster Class. We have had the tiger feasting on 'delectable tea' and 'refreshing milk'. Wow! In Maths we have been learning different ways to make certain amounts with coins. You could have a go at this at home e.g. how many ways can you make 25p? **Mrs Cooke, Lobster class**

### KS2

*We have been learning about myths and legends. I liked inventing my ideas. It was great to learn about Medusa because she's scary. I can't wait to make up another story soon!*  
**Jacob C, Seashell class**

*In Year 4 in maths, during the past weeks we have been looking at decimals and all the ways you can use them; weight, height and length. In English we are focusing on narratives (stories) so far we are on our plan. Lastly, in topic we have learnt all about trains, we have written a play script and a time line.*



## KS2 Cont.

This week in **Year 6**, we have learnt about weight in maths. We also wrote a report about Tom Daley in writing and we planned and constructed a paragraph about his dive. In topic, we studied medieval castles. **Wilton** class went outside and drew a meter to see how high twenty eight meters would look like; this showed us how tall a motte was. In reading sets we have been answering questions related to our texts. **Jacob S, Wilton class**

## PE News

### Street Dance

After months of rehearsals our Year 5-6 street dance crew finally got their chance to show off the fantastic routine they had learnt. Wearing paint splattered tops, camouflage bandannas and army face paint they took to the floor in front of a massive audience. Alicia Dixon's song 'Drummer Boy' filled the room and our girls went into action. From the very start of the track our girls showed everyone just what they are capable of, dancing their way through a very complex routine without error. At the end of the routine the crowd showed their appreciation with a rousing round of applause and a fair few 'Woop woops'. At the end of the event, and after all 18 schools had shown off their routines, the teachers were invited up to show the children their moves ... oh dear ...MR FELTON!!

This is yet another example of how our children can rise to a challenge and show everyone just how confident they are becoming. Well done girls, and a special thank you to Natasha from NT Dance House for creating such an amazing routine.



### Cross Country

On Wednesday our PE department took some of our runners from KS1 to the annual SPSSA's cross country race. As always our children were up for the challenge of a 1 mile race in the mud and left school very excited. Each race consists of well over 100 children so the start line can be quite a daunting place. Each and every one of our runners gave it their all, including Mylie placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and Devon 9<sup>th</sup>, and all finished with a smile on their faces. Mylie and Devon will now be invited to the Essex finals later on in the year. All of our children represented our school amazingly, their behaviour, commitment and determination to be 'their best' shines through with every competition they enter. Well done. Go Darlinghurst.





Last week, the children enjoyed taking part in the Great Big school Clean, collecting litter, recycling paper and keeping their classrooms clean. We had a competition for the cleanest classrooms in each phase, judged by our Eco-schools team. Congratulations to Starfish, Albatross, Pebble and Triton for their spotless classrooms and all the litter they picked up. We hope you enjoy your eco-friendly trophies! **Mrs Powell**



Group	% Attend
TIDDLERS	76.3
JELLYFISH	94.2
SEAHORSE	93.8
STARFISH	95.5
ALBATROSS	95.2
PELICAN	85.9
PUFFIN	93.8
SEAGULL	90.8
CRAB	99.0
LOBSTER	96.9
OYSTER	98.5
SHRIMP	97.2
DUNE	96.1
PEBBLE	100.0
ROCK POOL	92.5
SEASHELL	97.8
PORT JACKSON	100.0
REEF SHARK	99.0
SAND TIGER	98.9
WHITE SHARK	96.6
NEPTUNE	94.8
POSEIDON	96.4
SUSANOO	92.9
TRITON	99.1
BEMBRIDGE	95.1
MAYFLOWER	92.7
WILTON	99.1



Following the inclement weather, the book fair will be in the school hall from 3:30pm - 4:15pm Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Please drop in and support our school.

The Key Stage 1 choir had a super morning on Monday at the Infant Music Festival. They showed confidence and professionalism, performing both together with other schools, and as a group doing pieces representing Darlinghurst Academy. Some of the songs they had only learnt in the last two weeks! Their singing was fabulous and they all had an excellent time. Well done everyone!

**Mrs Bernard and Miss Riley**



This week in **Maths** club, we used our maths knowledge to bake biscuits. We had to convert the measurements from kilograms to grams. At the end we got to eat the biscuits to check our calculations.

**Andrew S, Wilton class**

Reminder, for your information, the new **Pupil Services** telephone number is **01702 509205**

Mon 19 Mar  
Book Fayre  
Tue 20 Mar  
Book Fayre  
Wed 28 Mar  
Reception Sea Life Centre Trip  
Fri 30 Mar  
Easter Holidays

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