



## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been lovely to see so many of the school values demonstrated through our children. In particular, year two and year six have shown determination, confidence and motivation over the last fortnight whilst they have sat their SATs. The supportive approach within the whole school community has shown team work and collaboration. Thank you to all staff and parents for working together.

Even with this unpredictable weather, many of the children have been out of the classroom enjoying learning outside. Our rich curriculum opportunities this week have enhanced the learning in Year 3, with an educational day at Wat Tyler Country Park as part of their topic "Are bugs important?". They learned about different habitats, why bees are so important and managed to study lots of different plants and creatures; including newts, spiders and beetles.

In Outdoor Learning the children have learned about healthy eating and survival skills.

Finally Year 1 enjoyed a trip to Chalkwell Park for pond dipping. Before the visit they were able to explain to me all the pond life they were keen to find and on their return they excitedly shared their discoveries.

With the end of this half term fast approaching and one more week left at school, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy half term break.

This term we shall say goodbye to Miss O'Connell who has been a long standing member of the Darlinghurst community, Miss McLaughlan, and Miss Browning who has finished her Nursery Nurse apprenticeship in Reception. I would like to wish them both all the best as they begin their new adventures.

Mrs Nicholls

## Upcoming Events

- 22.05.17 - Year 5-6 Rounders Tournament
- 22.05.17 - Year 5 Pedestrian Training
- 24.05.17 - Year 4 11+ Parent Information meeting
- 24.05.17 - ODL Belfairs Woods Alpaca and Jaguar Classes
- 25.05.17 - ODL Belfairs Woods Hummingbird and Manatee Classes
- 25.05.17 - Butlin's Residential meeting for parents 6:30pm
- 29.05.17 - End of half term
- 05.06.17 - Beginning of half term
- 05.06.17 - 08.06.17 - Year 6 Bike ability
- 13.06.17 - Year 4 Science Museum
- 13.06.17 - Year 5-6 Girls Cricket Tournament
- 14.06.17 - 16.06.17 - Year 6 Butlin's Trip
- 14.06.17 - Manatee and Hummingbird Classes Leigh Heritage Centre
- 14.06.17 - Year 5-6 Boys Cricket Tournament
- 14.06.17 - Alpaca and Jaguar Classes Leigh Heritage Centre

## Achievements

- TK, Vinnie, Logan H, James and Dominic from Year 4 who took part in Race for Life
- Harry K - Leopard Class won Rugby player of the year
- Sonny - Manatee Class won Rugby attacking player of the year
- Kateleigh - Hummingbird Class moved up to level 6 in swimming
- Sanaa - Manatee Class who took part in Race for Life
- Sherine - Jaguar Class passed her level 6 in swimming
- Henry - Pufferfish Class for completing Nuclear Rush Rookies
- Scarlet - Jaguar Class for completing Nuclear Rush Rookies
- Sean - Wolf Class learnt how to ride his bike through Bike ability



## News

- This week in Orangutan class we have been busy completing our end of half term assessments along with learning about the ancient Greeks as part of our European topic. We have also been having lots of lively debates in literacy as we have been planning and writing discussion texts. Our key questions have been: 1) Should school uniform be banned? 2) Should Teresa May ban junk food? Perhaps you could ask your child for their thoughts on each topic this weekend?
- The Early Years staff are on the lookout for new resources for the outside learning area.  
If you have any booster seats (without backs) that you no longer require, our young learners will imagine they are aeroplanes, trains, cars, boats, spaceships, etc. We would also appreciate any old saucepans and other cooking utensils that you no longer require for our outdoor kitchens, dolls and clothes and unused children size bicycle helmets.  
If you have items that you think we will be able to use in play, please talk to any Early Years staff. Many thanks, Mrs Dutton.
- Reminder, all long hair should be tied back, unfortunately we have had many cases of head lice reported throughout the school, and this minimises the risk.
- Our whole school attendance target is 97%, we are currently below this figure at 95.5%. In order to meet our target at the end of the year we need children to be in school every day. We are confident that with chicken pox season now over and a promise of warmer weather ahead to stop the colds we can meet our target figure, please do everything you can to help your child attend and achieve. Any concerns about your child's attendance please contact Miss Walton on 01702 719746 or [pupilservices@darlinghurst.co.uk](mailto:pupilservices@darlinghurst.co.uk)
- Reminder, the school gates close at 8:50am. Should you arrive at school after this time your child will need to be taken to the office for registration.
- Reminder, children should be supervised after school and the Outdoor area should not be entered into unless with a member of staff.

## Attendance

Group	% Attend
LADYBIRD	94.6
BUTTERFLY	86.1
RABBIT	97.5
<b>OWL</b>	<b>97.6</b>
HEDGEHOG	94.8
WOLF	94.7
PENGUIN	96.2
ORCA	97.2
ALBATROSS	96.8
<b>SQUID</b>	<b>98.7</b>
GIRAFFE	96.6
LION	97.1
ELEPHANT	98.5
CHIMPANZEE	94.0
MANATEE	98.0
JAGUAR	94.0
HUMMINGBIRD	96.1
ALPACA	98.0
PANDA	96.7
KOMODO DRAGON	96.6
LEOPARD	93.3
ORANGUTAN	95.5
MOOSE	95.5
COYOTE	96.5
FLAMINGO	93.3
<b>KANGAROO</b>	<b>98.3</b>
PUFFER FISH	95.5

## Celebrating Excellence

River – Orangutan Class  
William – Hummingbird Class

Children should not walk on the brick walls around the school. Parents and children should use the pedestrian walkways and not the carpark entrances/stooping under the barriers.

Please can all parents & carers be mindful of our neighbours and local residents when parking their cars when dropping off and collecting their children.