



## Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers

It has been lovely to see so many parents and carers around Darlinghurst this week. We value the importance of parental engagement and feedback and it has been great to hear from parents, carers and staff during our parent consultations.

The Reception phonics workshop this week was another fantastic opportunity for us to share strategies and skills with our Reception and Nursery parents.

Year 1 and Year 6 started the week with trips to London, it has been a pleasure to hear the children sharing their experiences. Year 1 have been comparing toys from past and present day. Amongst Year 6 I have heard about science and space.

I hope you all have a happy half term and enjoy the autumn break, as the nights are drawing in please make sure you are staying safe.

Mrs Nicholls

## Safeguarding

Please ensure that you are leaving the school grounds after collecting your child at 3:30pm. Parents are requested to wait outside of the school grounds if their child is partaking in an after school club.

This is for the protection and safety of all children at school and we would appreciate your support in this matter.

## Attendance

Group	% Attend
TIDDLERS	83.0
JELLYFISH	89.3
SEAHORSE	97.4
STARFISH	100.0
ALBATROSS	97.0
PELICAN	98.4
PUFFIN	94.3
SEAGULL	87.5
CRAB	93.3
LOBSTER	90.7
OYSTER	96.2
SHRIMP	95.4
DUNE	96.7
PEBBLE	97.7
ROCK POOL	98.1
SEASHELL	94.0
PORT JACKSON	97.6
REEF SHARK	97.0
SAND TIGER	92.4
WHITE SHARK	95.7
NEPTUNE	92.1
POSEIDON	99.5
SUSANOO	99.0
TRITON	94.6
BEMBRIDGE	98.6
MAYFLOWER	95.5
WILTON	98.1

Well done to Starfish class with an excellent 100% attendance this week. As promised I can report the class in each Key Stage with the highest attendance for the academic year so far is:

Foundation stage = Seahorse class at 97.6%.

Key Stage 1 = Albatross class at 97.5%.

Key Stage 2 = Pebble, Susanoo and Bembridge each with 98.3%.

31<sup>st</sup> Oct - Enjoying Your Children parenting course  
31<sup>st</sup> Oct - Years 5/6 Boys Football Match (Heycroft School)

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov - Years 5/6 Boys Football Match (Darlinghurst)

6<sup>th</sup> Nov - Individual Photos

8<sup>th</sup> Nov - Coffee and Cake with the Principal (Training Room)

Reception 2018 Tours - 1/11 2/11 7/11 9/11 13/11

Please contact Miss Walton on 01702 719746 or  
pupilservices@darlinghurst.co.uk



## News

### EYFS

This week in **Nursery**, our topic has been based around The Gruffalo. The children had so much fun singing about him with Mrs Havis in music this week and colouring in pictures with Miss Buckley. The children have made Gruffalo bookmarks which they have written their names on in Nursery. In outdoor learning we looked at animal homes for owls and hedgehogs in particular and we made bird feeders to take home to put in the trees in our gardens. The role play area this week was a treat, with images of the characters from the book and the woods surrounding them, the children enjoyed the masks and we have had many Gruffalo's in Nursery (even though the scariest creature is the mouse!). **Miss Gue, Tiddlers**

The **Early Years** staff are continuing to develop our outdoor area, making this a purposeful learning space from the very start to the end of each day. In order for us to do this we need to make a few changes to how we access the classrooms.

Therefore, after the half term holiday we will be requiring all parents and children to wait on the playgrounds nearest to their classrooms instead of coming into the Early Years outdoor learning area, both before and after school. Families for Albatross Class please stand alongside the fence next to our beach huts where your children will be collected.

Children who have siblings in clubs after school should remain with their parents at all times and will no longer be able to play in the Early Years outdoor area after school.

Thank you for your co-operation, **Mrs Dutton, Raising Standards Leader for Early Years**

This week in **Reception**, we have started writing about the Enormous Turnip. The children have shown great progress in their phonic knowledge and applying this to their writing. In maths this week, we have extended our learning to numbers to 20. Homework this half term is to practice letter sounds and to go on an autumn walk. Have a lovely time with your family and we will see you after the holidays. **Miss Wise and Miss Whitehouse, Jellyfish class**

*I've liked the cars and doing my writing this week. **Raven, Jellyfish class***

### KS1

In **Pelican class** the children have been learning about 2D/3D shapes and describing repeating patterns. The children have enjoyed creating their own patterns with 2D shapes, colours and sizes. **Miss Carey, Pelican class**

*I like making the repeating patterns because some of them were green and I like green. **Dexter F, Pelican class***



## News

### KS2

This week in **Rock Pool class**, I have enjoyed teaching the children about magnetic properties. We explored our classroom for materials that were magnetic. Following this we became scientists and conducted experiments, forming our own hypothesis. **Mr Porter, Rock Pool class**

*This week I have been learning to subtract using the column method and this helped me to practice my number bonds. I really enjoyed column addition because it makes adding large numbers easier. **Ava H, Rock Pool class***

The children have really enjoyed learning about the human body in our reading lessons in **Year 4**. We have had to learn lots of tricky, technical words. But we know how it all works now! **Mrs Powell, Port Jackson class**

*In **Year 4**, we have been writing poems about sharks and also a chosen animal that we saw at the Sea Life Centre. At the Sea Life Centre, when the crew were feeding the penguins they were extremely loud. So we have created ear muffs out of plastic cups, cotton wool and more. In maths we have been learning lots of methods to help us solve problems, for example the 'clic and rucsac' method. **Madison, Port Jackson class***

*In **Year 5** I have enjoyed reading Danny the Champion of the World. The part I enjoyed was the secret way of catching pheasants. It makes you want to keep reading on and on and on. It ends on a cliff hanger. **Anthony M, Poseidon class***

## Sports/PE News

The busy sporting calendar continued with our Years 5/6 Tag Rugby, Years 5/6 Boys Football and Years 3/4 Football teams all in action over the past few weeks. As always our children represented their school fantastically, showing many of our school's values along the way. Well done to you all and keep up the good work.

After the half term break and with the clocks going back, darker evenings will be upon us. With this in mind, internal after school sports clubs will be finishing at the earlier time of 4.15pm. ASSA Football, Karate and Street Dance will continue to finish at 4.30pm.

PE Kits will be coming home with the children this week, please check that your child has all of the necessary items including winter wear (tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt etc) ready for the colder weather ahead next half term. I would also advise packing some gloves and a winter hat in their kit bag. Thank you for your continued co-operation. **Mr Felton**





## News

### Music Roundup

In **Nursery** this week we listened to a rap version of the Gruffal, learnt the Gruffalo song and included actions in our lovely singing.

**Reception** have been learning all about the families of the orchestra and went on a whirl-wind trip to see the Sydney Youth Orchestra!

**Year 1** have been looking at using their voices, movement and instruments to explore different ways that music can be used to describe the weather. They created a fabulous tropical rainstorm in the music room!

**Year 2** have been developing a sense of beat using their bodies in music this half term. They have been responding to music and playing rhythm patterns using body percussion and small instruments.

**Year 3** have been exploring three contrasting poems and creating their own expressive performances using voices, body percussion and small percussion instruments.

**Year 4** have been creative and have made their own instruments from recycled materials and formed a junk jazz band.



**Year 5** embarked on a musical journey through the solar system, exploring how our universe inspired composers including Debussy, Holst and George Crumb.

**Year 6** have been learning about the musical Matilda and have learnt a few stage secrets from the show. Their project has finished this week with them writing some lyrics for their favourite character.

**Performing at a theatre near you:** Leigh Operatic and Dramatic Society (LODS) are currently presenting 'Whistle Down the Wind' featuring some of our very talented Year 4 Pupils – Madison (Port Jackson), Lucy (Great White) and Evie (Reef Shark)

**Music in Half Term:** a special day of musical activities has been put together for pupils over the age of 7. No experience necessary and any standard/instrument welcome. Musical activities will include – workshops; group percussion; simple improvisation; fun music games and will culminate in an informal performance for family and friends at the end of the day. Taking place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at St Mary's Cof E Primary School, Boston Avenue 10am – 3pm. Further information can be found on their website [musicalmonday.eventbrite.co.uk](http://musicalmonday.eventbrite.co.uk), or call (01702) 215011



## News

Following **Parent Consultations** this week please would you complete our online survey by following this link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/59ZKTV3>

Thank you for your support and feedback.

Well done to all the children who have worked so hard on their **ROAD SAFETY** homework! Their posters and written pieces for homework have been planned and researched to a very high standard. I will be selecting some for display around the school. Watch this space! **Mrs Hahn**



As you are aware the congestion outside of the academy is raising concern. Please see link below for a petition, supported by the parking department at Southend Borough Council. This has been set up by a parent and aims to help alleviate the current parking situation at Darlinghurst.

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/traffic-warden-patrol-at-peak-times-for-darlinghurst-academy>



## PTA News

The **PTA Christmas Fayre** will be held on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00am - 2:00pm. Please contact [darlinghurstpta@hotmail.com](mailto:darlinghurstpta@hotmail.com) if you would like a stall or can volunteer your time in any way. The PTA are also collecting donations of pre-loved cuddly toys and raffle prizes. These may be brought to the school office at any time.



*Darlinghurst Christmas Fayre*

**PLEASE HELP THE PTA PUT ON AN AMAZING CHRISTMAS FAYRE!**

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO RUN STALLS AND SET UP, AND RAFFLE DONATIONS. OUR FAYRE IS ON 2 DECEMBER FROM 10-2 BUT THERE IS LOTS TO DO TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS! PLEASE LET US KNOW BELOW IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE A PRIZE OR SOME OF YOUR TIME!**

**IF YOU HAVE A SMALL BUSINESS OR YOU HAVE A CRAFT AND WOULD LIKE A STALL, PITCHES ARE**

**£10 EACH**

*The PTA*

