



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents & Carers,

Across the Academy this week, children have shown their **knowledge and understanding of the world around them**, each other and the community.

I enjoyed leading a philosophical enquiry in Wilton class. The class articulated their ideas carefully, considering the contribution of others. The session was thought provoking. I was impressed with how well they listened to each other's views, building their responses to continue reflective discussions and sharing their final thoughts. Children often like to ask the **'big questions'**, exploring concepts and ideas and using creative or critical thinking during this process. We recognise the powerful effect that **talk and questioning** has on children's thinking and learning across the curriculum.

In EYFS, children have talked about the people who help us and how they can help their families. They talked about roles and responsibilities and also the jobs that people do. In response to the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Children shared their ambitions, including one child who wanted to be a Palaeontologist.

This month is **Disability awareness month** and in response Port Jackson class watched the strictly come dancing extract as a stimulus to discuss difference – visible and invisible differences. They discussed how to overcome barriers and to help others in need. They were presented with three scenarios, such as: What would you do?

A person using crutches is walking along the path towards a bus stop. You see the bus is about to pull away. What would you do?

- Run ahead and stop the bus
- Wait with the person until the next bus arrives
- Walk past without saying anything

White Shark class enjoyed discussions about 'life forms', during their topic on 'outer space'. Posed with the question, 'Is their life on Mars?' they discussed what life means? What is a living thing? What is an alien? They considered movement and habitats within their responses.

What Kind of Mindset Do You Have?



I can learn anything I want to.
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.
I want to challenge myself.
When I fail, I learn.
Tell me I try hard.
If you succeed, I'm inspired.
My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not.
When I'm frustrated, I give up.
I don't like to be challenged.
When I fail, I'm no good.
Tell me I'm smart.
If you succeed, I feel threatened.
My abilities determine everything.

Created by Heidi Wiersma (@heidwiersma) © 2014. See her on @heidwiersma

Academy wide, we have considered the importance of **collective responsibility in strengthening our shared culture**.

This has been in relation to habits and routines, relationships and health, ensuring that we all play active parts so that we continue to thrive in our daily routines, each day. Children have considered the difference between a **growth and fixed mindset**.

I was shown some **caring hands** in KS2, which had been made to represent respect, alongside some messages of respect and friendship circulated

amongst the class. Children have kept these in their trays as words of encouragement from each other.

With **healthy hands** in mind, 'Handy', was introduced to the children during assembly and the importance of hand washing to keep germs at bay. Many children shared that they had been practising their hand washing at home too. Thank you for working with us.





Thank you to the **PTA** for a fantastic **Festive Fayre**, parents, staff and children collaborated to ensure that our community shared this time together. Around the fayre families were smiling and joining in the fun and games. I would like to thank the stall holders for coming along, in addition to those who donated to the raffle. I am looking forward to many more shared opportunities, bringing the community together. If you would like to help in any future events or contribute a little of your time the PTA would welcome you. We are dedicated to building our Academy wide culture to ensure that communication and engagement between us all continues to strengthen relationships so that positive partnerships flourish. Please email darlinghurstpta@hotmail.com

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

EYFS

This week in **Nursery** we have been learning about Hanukkah and the relevance of the number 8! We made potato latkes in outdoor learning and cooked them over the fire in Hagrid's Hut and our role play became a sukkot. We had a visit from the residents of Admiral court today who took part in our snowman building activity (marshmallows stacked together with an edible shoelace for a scarf and chocolate buttons!) great fun was had by all, especially when it came to eating them!!! **Team Nursery**



This week in **Reception** the children have started writing their letters to Father Christmas using their phonic knowledge to write their list. As well as focusing on numbers to eight in Number Crunch we have been discussing 2D shapes and thinking about the different 2D shapes that we can see in the environment. Thank you for sharing with staff how your children are helping you at home using the online Learning Journal, Tapestry. **The Reception Team**

KS2

In **year 3**, we have been exploring the Egyptians. We have been looking at a science investigation about what happens to bodies that have been mummified and then buried. Thinking about the Egyptian, our year group has been writing about the gods. Rocking on with our times tables, we have been showing good progress so keep it up. Just 10 minutes a day. We have been also looking at column addition. Well done for all the children trying their best in showing what they have learnt so far. **Mr Cauchi, Rockpool class**

*We look forward to Tuesday next week when we have our Egyptian day. The children can wear an Egyptian outfit. **Kara and Isla, Rockpool class***

This week in **year 4**, we started to examine life after the Romans and the Anglo-Saxon invasion. We used maps to discover place names and their meanings and wrote our own secret messages using 'Runes'. Reef shark have continued their curriculum course on 'Staying healthy' examining good hygiene practices. Each child drew their own 'virus' and on Wednesday we conducted an experiment to see whether washing our hands would make a difference to the number of germs left on the pieces of bread we had handled. We are looking forward to observing what happens over the next few weeks! In writing, we have watched some cool videos to inspire us to create our very own stories full of tension and suspense. **Mrs Lee, Reef Shark class**



Fri 07 Dec
Mr Cauchi Maths Workshop (School Hall)
Mon 10 Dec
Reception Nativity 2:15pm-3:15pm (School Hall)
Wed 12 Dec
Wed 12 Dec
Parent Christmas Decorations
Thu 13 Dec
Christmas Lunch
Thu 13 Dec
Christmas Jumper Day
Thu 13 Dec
KS1 Nativity 9:15am-10:15am
Fri 14 Dec
Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concert 2:00pm-2:45pm
Fri 14 Dec
Years 5 & 6 Christmas Concert 2:45pm-3:30pm
Mon 17 Dec
Years 3 & 4 Christmas Concert 9:15am-10:00am
Mon 17 Dec
Years 5 & 6 Christmas Concert 10:00am-10:45am
Tue 18 Dec
KS1 Nativity 2:15pm-3:15pm
Wed 19 Dec
Nursery Christmas Concert 10:00am-11:30am
Thu 20 Dec
ACADEMY Closes for Christmas Holidays 1:45pm

Please visit www.darlinghurst.uk/calendar/ for future dates

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	94.5
STARFISH	95.9
PELICAN	96.2
PUFFIN	94.3
SEAGULL	92.6
LOBSTER	95.5
OYSTER	95.9
SHRIMP	98.3
DUNE	97.0
PEBBLE	97.5
ROCK POOL	92.6
SEASHELL	95.2
PORT JACKSON	94.5
REEF SHARK	95.7
SAND TIGER	96.9
WHITE SHARK	95.3
NEPTUNE	93.8
POSEIDON	96.5
TRITON	96.6
BEMBRIDGE	93.2
WILTON	96.1
MAYFLOWER	93.9
ENDEAVOUR	93.0
Totals	95.3

AMBER ALERT:

Academy Attendance is 95.3%

Pack lunches – If you send grapes in with your child please can you ensure they are cut in half. In addition, due to children with allergies please do not send nut products into school, this includes chocolate spread like Nutella.

We have all been Rocking On with our times tables. The children need to continue to play it 5 to 10 minutes a day. Get your children to all play Studio once (which is ten games) and then continue to play garage. This is really improving the children's recall of times table so come on let's keep Rocking On. **Mr Cauchi**



The Red Box Project

We would like to thank The Red Box Project for supplying sanitary products for those in need. The Red Box Project supports young women in need – whether for financial or social reasons. The project is entirely funded by community kindness. Please visit www.redboxproject.org



Would you like to know how to help your child with maths?
Come to our maths workshop for parents who have children in Reception through to Year 6.

The workshop will provide information on how maths is taught and will support parents with maths at home

Friday 7th December 2018
AM session 9:00am-10:00am
Or
PM session 2:00pm-3:00pm

Numbers for each session are limited, so early booking is advisable. Please book using our online system <https://darlinghurst.parenteveningsystem.co.uk> Should you experience any difficulties please contact Mrs Smith by email mrssmith@darlinghurst.co.uk



Thursday 13th December

Wear your Christmas jumper

Donations Welcomed

We hope you all had a wonderful, festive time at our Christmas Fayre! The support we have received on the run up, during and after the event has been amazing and The Darlinghurst Parent Teacher Association are extremely grateful. We are already looking ahead to other events in 2019 and we are sure they will be just as well supported by our fabulous Darlinghurst family. Thank you!

Darlinghurst Parent Teacher Association

After a great start to the year, we are now finding that the passageway between the buildings is being blocked and it is a struggle to get our classes out. Plus an increasing large number of parents are creeping into the no parents zone which again makes it really difficult to dismiss our classes safely and quickly. Thanks **The year 4 team!**

In today's news and views we have included some philosophical questions to discuss with your family if you wish.

We have included some quotes from some texts too – sharing our love of reading.

1. What is love?

If everyone loved everyone would the world be a better place? What different kinds of love are



there?. Ask yourself what you mean when you say you love someone or something and how it makes you feel? Would loving your enemy, as hard as that is, make them your friend? If everyone did that, what would happen?

Piglet "how do you spell love?" Pooh: "you don't spell it you feel it." - Winnie The Pooh

2. Can kindness change the world?

Is it good to be kind all the time to everyone? What do you think would happen if everyone did this? Think about how kindness makes you feel. Is it more important to be kind to yourself or to others, or is it of equal importance? Think about the effect of kindness and unkindness on the world.

No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted. - Aesop

3. Can I think myself happy?

Does focusing on happiness make you happy? Is it possible to "think" yourself into being happy all the time by positive thinking?

Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened. - Dr Seuss

4. What's the difference between grown ups and children?

Do grown-ups have all the answers? Do kids sometimes know stuff too? Kids are inquisitive, always checking how things work and how they come apart, and kids know how to muck about and be silly, a very important part of life. Ask yourself what grown ups can learn from kids and visa versa.

All grownups were children first, but few remember it. - The Little Prince

5. Are the best things in life free?

Things like friends, family and good memories are free but other things, like trainers and video games, are quite expensive. Think about the truth of this statement and what great things you can get for free, and what things you can give for free, like your time and your attention. What makes these the best things?

The best things in life are free. - Anon

6. Can one person change the world?

Does trying to make a difference in your tiny bit of the world, make a difference? There are many children who have done just that and changed laws and lives. Ask yourself what change would you like to see in the world? Then- how can you go about making it happen

Unless someone like you, cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not. - The Lorax



Do you tweet?

Follow us @DarlinghurstSch

This is what you've missed out on this week



Darlinghurst Academy @DarlinghurstSch - Nov 28

@DarlinghurstSch Today at 3.45pm is Darlinghurst Academy's Christmas Fair. Please come and join in the fun #christmas



1



Darlinghurst Academy @DarlinghurstSch - 23h

@DarlinghurstSch Come and share in our community, festive spirit and cheer and see Santa at Darlinghurst this year. The fun starts at 3.45pm. #festivecheer #SantaClaus



2



Darlinghurst Academy @DarlinghurstSch - 18h

@DarlinghurstSch Thank you to the PTA for bringing christmas cheer to our community. Parents, teachers and children enjoyed food, fun and festivities at Darlinghurst!

3



Darlinghurst Academy @DarlinghurstSch - 4h

@DarlinghurstSch Leigh-on-Sea is the happiest place to live. Our seaside town was crowned for the second second time. Darlinghurst is the happiest place to learn @GMB #happy #learning

1

Visit <https://help.twitter.com/en/twitter-guide> for help on how to set up a Twitter account