



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's that warming time of year, when we are able to share the joy that our children bring during Christmas nativities. This week our Reception children showcased all of the academy values in their production. What an **achievement!** Friendships, enjoyment and a sense of **belonging** was there on stage before our very eyes. They performed and sung with confidence and entertainment. Staff and children have worked together **determined** to entertain family and friends. Feedback at the end of the performance was an overwhelming consensus that our children were **excellent**. I look forward to the forthcoming Christmas events over the coming weeks.

Continuing on the Christmas theme I would like to thank the dedicated PTA for their time and energy in providing our fabulous festive fayre. We were overwhelmed by the amount of prizes available for the raffle. Thank you to the local community for their donations and to those that attended. It was wonderful to see families of old and new.

Santa has come to Darlinghurst today to see every child who will go home with a small gift, it has certainly put us all in the Christmas spirit.

This was our final week for Bricks 4 Kids club, which has been a huge success along with many other external and internal clubs that run throughout each week. We will publish our clubs timetable early January for 2018.

As always, enjoy your family time this weekend.

Mrs Nicholls

Attendance

Group	% Attend
TIDDLERS	82.8
JELLYFISH	98.1
SEAHORSE	93.7
STARFISH	93.1
ALBATROSS	95.7
PELICAN	95.8
PUFFIN	96.4
SEAGULL	96.4
CRAB	96.5
LOBSTER	97.8
OYSTER	95.8
SHRIMP	97.0
DUNE	96.1
PEBBLE	98.5
ROCK POOL	96.2
SEASHELL	96.6
PORT JACKSON	95.2
REEF SHARK	97.1
SAND TIGER	94.3
WHITE SHARK	84.1
NEPTUNE	91.3
POSEIDON	92.6
SUSANOO	94.6
TRITON	94.6
BEMBRIDGE	94.8
MAYFLOWER	95.0
WILTON	94.1





News

EYFS

This week, **Nursery** have enjoyed watching other year group's Nativities, including Reception and year 1 and 2, the children were very excited to see their siblings on stage. We have welcomed back our Elf who is up to lots of mischief, and is keeping a close eye out for Santa's naughty and nice list. We have been looking at the story 'Alien's love Pantaclause' and the children have delighted in decorating Christmas pants to hang in the tree on Nursery. Santa came to school this week with a present for all of the children, they were so excited and broke into song (when Santa got stuck up the chimney!) We are well on the way to being ready for our Nursery performance, can we ask that all children's costumes are in by Monday as we would like to have a dress rehearsal before the big day. We're getting closer everyone, how exciting!!!!!! **Miss Gue, Tiddlers**

Wow what a busy week! Firstly well done to everyone who performed in the **Reception** Nativity, you were all stars!! It can be scary performing but everyone showed amazing confidence and resilience to new challenges. All of the teachers are very proud of you! We have been thinking about the Nativity story and counting down to Christmas! **Miss Wise, Jellyfish class**

*I'm a camel in the play I did dancing. **Thomas A, Jellyfish class***

KS2

We have been learning about division with remainders which has been challenging but **Year 3** have been applying their mathematical knowledge very well. In English we have been writing chronological reports. The children have been trying hard to include fronted adverbials and adverbs. **Mrs Levy, Seashell class**

*Father Christmas was great! We got a lovely present. **Amy, Seashell class***

Year 4 have enjoyed writing poems about winter, using powerful adjectives and similes. We've been hard at work practicing for the school concert. It's been lovely hearing the beautiful voices sharing Christmas cheer. **Mrs Powell, Port Jackson class**

*This week we have done a lot of fun things like writing our plans for our poems about winter. Really fun maths like creating pictograms about our favourite food. Plus lots of fun history, such as secret messages in Anglo-Saxon. **Leah, Port Jackson class***

*This week we have been learning about World War 1. It was really exciting and I enjoyed pretending to write in a diary as if we were in World War 1 and were children with relatives going to war. I learnt about soldiers and their duties. I also loved learning about the haversack and rifle. **Aisha, Poseidon class***

*In the last week **Year 6** has been studying Victorian childhood and women. We learnt what would happen to children if they done something bad. In maths we have been studying angles and time. In reading we have been reading Kensukes Kingdom. Finally we have been practicing the class song. **Tommy N, Mayflower***



News

Last week, Mrs Grant and Mrs Johnson took some of our Young Carers to see Paddington 2 at the Cinema in Basildon. A great time was had by all and our children behaved impeccably during the film.

It was good. I really liked that they changed the prison into a nice prison ... with cakes! **Andi**
I liked it because there were some scary bits and some not scary bits. If you don't like going to prison don't watch it. I liked it when they did the dancing at the end. **Anais**
Me and Chelsea liked it when Paddington saw Aunt Lucy. We both had a tear in our eye(so did Mrs Grant and Mrs Johnson!) **Ruby**

Twelve Days of Christmas - In the spirit of the season we have been sharing The Darlinghurst Academy twelve days of Christmas. Please visit the website **News** page each school day to join in with our celebratory count down <http://www.darlinghurst.uk/news-and-events/news>

KS1 Nativity evening performances - Please bring your child to their classroom at 5:30pm for the evening performances. Parents will enter the school via the breakfast club entrance.

Acorns, After School Club - Due to Christmas performances the collection points for Acorns will amend slightly next week. Monday 11th December and Tuesday 12th December Acorns will be held in it's usually area until 5:00pm. From 5:00pm - 6:00pm Acorns will be held in Seashell class. Thursday 14th December Acorns will be held in Seashell class for the duration.

Reminder - children who need to wear glasses during particular activities should, where possible, leave a spare set in class. Staff will ensure that children wear their glasses at the appropriate times.

We would like to give a massive thank you to all our fantastic volunteers, our parent donators and our local business sponsors for all the hard work and support that you and they have given to the **PTA** with the Christmas Fayre this year. We have raised an amazing £957.46 which is a phenomenal achievement. We had an excellent turnout and the atmosphere was awesome. Thank you very much.

We would also like to give a very large thank you to our visiting Santa this year along with our parent Elf helpers who have been very busy in Hagrid's Hut today. Nothing the PTA do would be possible without your help and support and it is greatly appreciated. For next term we are planning KS1 and KS2 movie nights and a Music Quiz for the faculty, parents, carers, friends and family, which should be a really fun evening. We'll keep you posted with dates. We hope you all have a fabulous Christmas break and a fantastic New Year. **Lisa, Jenny, Mike, Sarah and Sally**





Mon 11 Dec
KS1 Nativity: Crab, Oyster, Puffin and Albatross (School Hall)
Mon 11 Dec
KS1 Nativity: Lobster, Shrimp, Seagull and Pelican (School Hall)
Tue 12 Dec
KS1 Nativity: Lobster, Shrimp, Seagull and Pelican (School Hall)
Tue 12 Dec
KS1 Nativity: Crab, Oyster, Puffin and Albatross (School Hall)
Thu 14 Dec
Christmas Lunch
Thu 14 Dec
LKS2 Christmas Concert: Years 3 and 4 (School Hall)
Thu 14 Dec
UKS2 Christmas Concert: Years 5 and 6 (School Hall)
Fri 15 Dec
Inset Day
Mon 18 Dec
Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 20 Dec
Last day of term

Celebrating Excellence

Sanaa J, Sand Tiger class - Achieved her Green belt in Shotokan karate with Westwood Karate

William, White Shark class and Daisy, Port Jackson class - Completed the 2.5k Reindeer run for Little Havens alongside Mr Felton and the team from Darlinghurst.