

Dear Reception Year parents/carers,

A warm welcome back and we hope everyone had an enjoyable summer break. We are excited to start this new academic year and hope you and your child enjoys the year ahead with us at Darlinghurst Academy.

Our year group leader in the reception year is Mrs Dutton. Teaching staff are Mrs Dennis and Miss Whitehouse with Mrs Dutton. Our support staff are Miss Slade and Mrs Farnell. We would like to welcome all children to the year group: children who have attended our nursery and all children who have joined our school from the many pre-schools and nurseries in our local area.

We start the year off with our topic 'All about Me', then start to think about the season of Autumn, whilst learning all about meeting, talking to and playing with new friends, finding out about our bodies, our senses and our new environment within our connected curriculum.

Our curriculum overviews map out the coverage in detail, which is on the academy's website at <http://darlinghurst.uk/curriculum/connected-curriculum>.

One of the highlights of this topic will be to invite parents to 'pop in' to our classroom on 27th September at 3.15pm to see how we have settled and what we are learning about. Mr Bird will visit us here at Darlinghurst to talk to us about how we can help ourselves if we get hurt. We will also celebrate Harvest Festival with nursery: this wow moment will further support and enrich the learning of keeping healthy within our topic this term.

As part of a broad and balanced curriculum, we will have daily maths, writing and reading/phonics lessons, including discrete sessions on mental maths, addition and subtraction, speaking and listening and handwriting. Specialist sessions PE, Drama, Art and Outdoor Learning are built into our broad and balanced curriculum and we ensure that all of our children have access to specialist provision. PE days will be on Tuesday and Thursday. **However, children should have their kit in school every day;** this should consist of: t shirt, shorts, plimsolls, warm jogging bottoms. **Please ensure that all items in the kit are clearly labelled. Earrings must not be worn on days when your child has P.E. Shoulder/long hair needs to be tied up for P.E. sessions.**

Children in the Reception Year will begin to learn some Spanish and children will have many opportunities to practice simple Spanish words on a regular basis. Please ask them to share their new learning with you. You can follow our learning via News and Views, twitter and the website.

We recognise the importance of home learning and encourage all children to practise their reading at home frequently in order to develop and rehearse core skills. Homework will be set on a Friday and is due the following Thursday. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher via the office, email (miss/mrs/mr.....@darlinghurst.co.uk) or in person.

We look forward to a wonderful and exciting year ahead.

Kind regards

The Reception Year Team

