



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping**. In addition, we use **Twitter and Instagram** to share what's going on within the Academy daily. Please make sure you are following us **@Darlinghurstsch** on Twitter and **@DarlinghurstAcademy** on Instagram

Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers

What an amazing week of productivity and creativity! The children and staff have been scientists and comedians, engaging in cross curricular learning linked to science week and Red Nose Day. Our children have followed lines of enquiry and investigations – asking questions, making predictions, observing and recording their findings and sharing their results. They have been discoverers!

The Theme of 'Superheroes', linked to Comic Relief and Neurodiversity has made us think about what makes us special and unique. Every child has their own superpower and we are here to harness it and celebrate their individuality.



Today we have had a lot of fun, enjoying the laughter and comedy of Red Nose Day but raising awareness of the difference that community action can make to the lives of others across the UK and the world. Comic Relief works with others to tackle challenges society faces today, improving mental health, and creating safe places so that children thrive, having freedom from fear and discrimination.

The Early bird was out again this morning to celebrate attendance and was keen to say hello to our children! We are keen to maintain good attendance and should you need any confirmation, please contact missdavis@darlinghurst.co.uk

We are looking forward to next week and we will be sharing information about Easter. The PTA have been busy preparing for their Easter Virtual Fayre. Our children will be getting creative too, making Easter crafts and we will follow the quarantine process in order to allow our children to share their crafts with families.



Goodbyes

As we approach the final week, I would like to share that two members of our staff will not be with us after Easter and a chance for families to wish them all the very best too, this week.

Ms White is saying goodbye to Darlinghurst Academy after seven years of being part of our family. She is following a new avenue in her career and will be working in the borough, supporting Inclusion. This is a perfect role for her big heart! I know she will be missed and I will miss her too.

We are also wishing Miss Lynch all our love as she begins her maternity leave. Yes, she's having a baby! Miss Lynch has shown love and care to all our children, watching and helping them grow. Now it's her turn, as she begins her own little family. We wish her all the very best and cannot wait to hear the news of her little arrival. I know that you will join me in congratulations and well wishes. We look forward to the baby news. I cannot wait!

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

Messages from Miss Lynch and Ms White

As I prepare to say a temporary goodbye to the Darlinghurst community, I am struck by the curious events that have dominated this past year. Although many of our families and teachers' families too have faced great challenges, they have also shown overwhelming resilience and strength. Across the Academy, staff have worked tirelessly to keep children safe and offer them the best possible learning opportunities, whether that be on site or from the safety of their own homes. Parents, you too have become experts in your new roles as 'teachers', providing your children with support and encouragement as they grapple with the challenges of remote learning. We thank you for this.

Although I was unable to participate in the grand return, there is nothing more rewarding than greeting children at the gates and seeing their happy, smiling faces as they are, once again, reunited with their friends and teachers. The hard work is not yet over, but I am certain that there is no better place for our children to be than Darlinghurst Academy.

Good luck with whatever comes next for you and your children, continue to read with them – it really is the best thing you can do, and enjoy the next chapter.

See you shortly!

Miss Lynch x

I won't forget
The books we have shared
The giggles and laughs we have had
The many events we have held.
I won't forget the plays we have done
The songs we have sung
The dances we have danced
And the memories we have made.
I won't forget the smiles you have bought me
The notes you have written me
The cards you have drawn for me
The times we have shared together.
I won't forget the seven and a half years
You have been an extension of my family
I won't forget the smiles
The laughter
The support
The kindness.
I won't forget.



Thank you to all of the children I have had the pleasure of teaching and working with, to all of the parents I have worked with and to the incredible staff that I have shared this journey with; thank you. **Ms White X**



Around the Academy and at Home

After learning about dinosaurs last week, **Reception** have thoroughly enjoyed learning about a few other creatures that hatch or emerge from an egg. In Maths we used duck, hen and quail eggs to help us think about similarities and differences between them which included discussing their size, weight and colour. The children were thrilled to visit our ducks that belong to our academy and the ducks appeared to enjoy being visited as they were very chatty saying 'quack, quack!' We ended the week embracing Red Nose Day dressed as Superheroes and it was certainly great fun!

Please can you send your child into school every day with a named water bottle. It would be good if this is a separate bottle to keep in class, if they usually have a packed lunch, so that they have easy access to water throughout the day, especially as the weather gets warmer. Also, please ensure that ALL personal items belonging to your child are ALWAYS clearly labelled as this makes it so much easier to return them to the correct child swiftly. Thank you parents and careers for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend!

The Reception Team

In **Year 1** this week we explored different ways to create paint. We started our week taking influence from cavemen, collecting our own mud and used this to paint our own cave paintings. We then used natural materials, such as orange peel and flowers, to create impressions in fabrics. For writing, we took a visit to Superhero Hotel and wrote about all the reasons superheroes need a rest sometimes too. We are looking forward to dressing up as our own superheroes on Friday! Finally, in maths, we explored weighing. Experimenting with different objects around the classroom and discovering which was heaviest and which was lightest. We particularly enjoyed using cubes to measure how much objects weighed and were very shocked to find how many cubes a banana weighed! Have a lovely weekend, Year 1!

Year 2 have spent this week exploring the moon and its surface. We have found out about what conditions are like on the moon and leading on from that, we have researched the design and construction of space buggies. Watching actual footage of space buggies exploring the moon has shown us that the environment meant that they were quite hard to control and driving one was compared to moving at speed on the snow! We have designed our own space buggies ready for construction next week including all of the features that we have found out were important and we are looking forward to constructing our designs next week.

This week **Year 3** have been... Getting the 'drop' on Science week by investigating forces with paper helicopters and adapting them to increase and reduce air resistance...such a 'drag'!
In writing the children have been looking at the Pixar world of Woody and Buzz and seeing what happens when toys come alive!

With maths the children have continued to develop their understanding of division in all its splendid forms which is very useful for sharing sweets.

We have enjoyed hearing many jokes for this years Red Nose Day extravaganza and seeing some of the children in their Superhero outfits. **Year 3 Team**

We are so proud of how **Year 4** have adapted from blended learning to school learning - showing great resilience. In writing this week we have written a character description of Veruca Salt. Ask your child what they think about her- you may get some interesting answers. In science we had great fun carrying out an experiment to see which chocolate melted the quickest but we didn't eat any this week! During maths we have been learning how to find the perimeter of composite shapes and we are looking forward to learning how to find the area in next week's lessons. Well done to all the children who were mentioned on the TTRS leadership board. This is the top 37 children in the whole school with the most correct answers in the last 14 days. Keep up the good work!



In **Year 5** this week we have been celebrating science week by experimenting with different forces. We've learnt about gravity, friction and circular motion forces called centrifugal and centripetal force. We have had great fun dropping objects from a height to see the effect of gravity, picking up a bottle of rice with a wooden skewer thanks to friction and seeing the effects of balanced centrifugal and centripetal forces by spinning a bucket of water round without spilling a drop (well most of the time!).

In other areas of the curriculum we have been writing a story based on a trip to the fairground, recapping work on place value, fractions and decimals and learning about Hindu places of worship.

Year 6 have settled really well back into school. They have been sitting assessments this week and are showing that they have made pleasing progress, especially those children that attended all of their live teaching sessions. The teachers are in the process of analysing their papers to plan for the final term, in preparation for secondary school.

As part of science week, Year 6 have enjoyed designing and creating robo bugs which have features in order to defend themselves against predators! (we will attempt to make them on Friday afternoon). We have also been experimenting with electrical equipment, creating our own comic red noses that light up. In English we have been writing the biography of Charles Darwin and learning about his theories of Evolution, Adaptation and Natural Selection. Next week we will be focusing on female naturalists and scientists: Marie Curie, Mary Anning and Jane Goodall. Well done to all of the children that have completed their homework on DB Primary. There are still a few outstanding, please encourage your child to complete the maths and spelling activities that have been set. Remember children still need to complete Times table rockstars each week as well as an Accelerated Reader test.

PE News

It has been great to see the children back at school and to be able to spend time with them in PE lessons over the last couple of weeks. Many of the children have been telling me about the different ways they were keeping themselves active during the school closure. It was wonderful to hear their stories and I'd like to thank all of them for taking their health and fitness so seriously. Today, we handed out the Winter Home Olympic Trophies to the top 5 children with the most points. I won't name them in this N&V as I'm sure they will want to tell you themselves. Well done to them and all of the children who joined in with the challenges.

For the rest of this term we will mainly be concentrating on a child-centred approach for all year groups in PE lessons. By revisiting basic skills such as running, jumping, catching, kicking etc, it will give the children a chance to enhance their performance, making connections between their brain and muscle more robust and autonomous. Our newly planned lessons will ask the children to think and be more creative when combining skills to make them more difficult. For example, combining locomotor skills and co-ordination. The lessons will also encourage our children to apply – analyse – create and evaluate each stage of their performance. Of course we will also be adding a few team led games as well to encourage the children to engage with each other within sport.

The children have already enjoyed some of these lessons and have been an absolute pleasure to teach. Please can I remind you that children should remove earrings for PE lessons, if they cannot be removed for any reason they must be taped over with medical tape. My team and I will then decide if it is safe for your child to join in with the lesson depending on its content. Your co-operation with this will be much appreciated.

Can I also remind you that PE kit is part of the school uniform and should be the following:

Boys/Girls PE Kit

- Sky Blue T Shirt (with/without logo)
- Navy Blue Sweatshirt (with/without logo)
- Plain Black Shorts (with/without logo)
- Plain Black Joggers (with/without logo)
- Suitable footwear

Mr Felton PE Subject Lead Teacher



Science Week

This week we have been celebrating Science Week. The theme was Innovating for the Future. Innovation is around us. Where has the topic of innovation been in the news or your local area? Can you give an example of innovation? We encouraged our children to not only have fun with Science and experiments this week, but also to design and create something new. Last week, as part of International Women's Day, the children learnt about well-renowned women who have made a significant contribution in their science-related career such as the naturalist Jane Goodall or the astronaut Mae Jaemon. We wish to inspire our children to be prepared for the future and know that it will include Science.

British
Science
Week
2021



Reception had fun exploring different equipment such as using torches or investigating what happened with water down ramps.



Year 2 made bird nests as part of their Outdoor Learning.

Year 4 conducted an experiment to see what chocolate melted the quickest and had fun finding items around the school that were magnetic and not magnetic.

Year 6 designed and made robo-bugs and also their own light up red noses for Comic Relief, testing out the circuits they would need for their lights.

Grace in Swordfish class would like to share her news in the N&V this week.

She wrote a poem called 'Save our planet, Save our World' and sent a letter on how she cares about the environment and nature.

Grace was awarded the Green Eco blue Peter badge!





TTRS Top Rockers - March Week 3			
	% of class that used TTRS last week	Average daily minutes	Average correct answers
1st	Great White Shark (85%)	Coral (5)	Coral (1247)
	Stingray	Bembridge, Endeavour	Endeavour
3rd	Swordfish	Strand, Shrimp, Lobster, Mayflower	Bembridge

Hares about Town Leveret Program

Darlinghurst Academy are participating in the 'Hares About Town' Leveret Program (a fund-raising event that is aimed to raise funds for the Havens Hospices in Southend). We have purchased our own Leveret and decorated it based on art designs from our children, influenced by our logo and core values.

We have named our leveret, Little-boat Leveret. Please see below images of our Little-boat Leveret.

Between 14 June and 12 September 2021, the streets of Southend will be brought alive with beautiful sculptures, including our leveret (located along the 'Leveret Trail'). Further information about locations, trails and timings etc. to follow.

Little-boat Leveret wears the Darlinghurst logo with pride, bounding forward with the same sense of adventure towards a bright future. Our leveret, just like the children of Darlinghurst, is a sparkling star, supported by the guiding light of the teachers - prepared for change.

*Our young leveret knows that A-D leads to Excellence.
(A-D = Achievement, Belonging, Confidence, and Determination)
Achieving Excellence Together!*



Uniform reminder

After Easter, please can children return to the academy dressed in full uniform with black shoes/trainers (no additional coloured markings) and have a full PE kit for PE sessions.

Uniform Shop 01992 763679 info@schooluniformdirect.org.uk

