



Communication is a priority for us and once again this year we will communicate to parents and carers using the **SIMS Parent App**. SIMS Parent App is a convenient way to communicate with you, share key dates, timetabled events, messages and School term dates. Please let the office know if you have not yet registered. In addition, we use **Twitter** to share what's going on within the Academy daily.

Please make sure you are following us **@Darlinghurstsch**

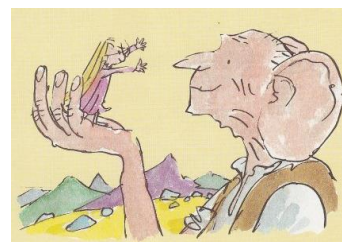
Message from the Principal

Children and staff have settled back into Academy life, engaging in learning and play. The children in Nursery and Reception have begun the year, making friends and exploring their environments, both inside and outside the classroom. I have enjoyed spending time with them and watching as they form new relationships with children and staff. The children enjoyed being imaginative and exploring their ideas. They demonstrated how to 'Learn together' – which is our current Academy wide, 'learning and life skill' focus. This half term we are placing emphasis on the importance of team work and understanding the skillset that they possess and can contribute when working with others.



Today, we have enjoyed participating in Roald Dahl Day. We love story time and sharing stories written by our favourite authors and days like today are embraced. My favourite story is the BFG. I especially liked reading about the different dreams that were concocted. I enjoy sharing this story with children, building atmosphere by bringing his words alive. I continue to encourage our children to dare to dream and believe in the power of possibility. This is the essence of my vision statement for our Shaping the Future event, next week.

As always, enjoy your family time together.
Mrs Nicholls





EYFS

This week in **nursery** we have been very busy making the most of the last of the sun! We had a fantastic outdoor learning session where we introduced our new children to the fairy garden, and also planted some plants kindly given to us by Mrs Perkins who went to her allotment specially to find us some cuttings! The children had fun in PE moving in different ways and balancing, and everyone got to go on the adventure trail! Along with the box planters outside of nursery there are some changes afoot, so keep your eyes open and let us know what you think! These are indeed exciting times! **Team Nursery**

This week **Reception** have thoroughly enjoyed using our outdoor learning spaces exploring lots of new activities, such as our writing and maths dens. The children are settling well into their new routines and are forming lots of new friendships. We have ended the week celebrating the work of Roald Dahl by sharing the story of 'The Enormous Crocodile'. The children enjoyed retelling the story to each other throughout the day using puppets. They also drew characters from the story and acted like different animals alongside other exciting activities. It was certainly a fun day!

Please ensure that your child brings a named water bottle into school at the start of the week. We then send the bottles home at the end of the week for a thorough clean. Also, please check that **all** items of clothing belonging to your child are clearly labelled. Have a fantastic weekend. **The Reception Team**

KS1

This week **Year 2** have been learning to work as part of a team as part of our Learning and Life Skills curriculum. We took on the challenge of trying to make towers out of dried spaghetti and masking tape. This was not easy as you can see from the photos! We did however manage to work as part of a team and listen to each other's ideas. We have also been learning about events which recently took place in the Bahamas and North America. The children have discovered what a hurricane is and the devastation that has occurred. **Miss Scott, Oyster class**



KS2

In **Year 6** this week, we have been learning about the water cycle. The children have set up a science experiment involving watered cress seeds sealed inside a plastic cup. We will be observing closely to see what happens. In Writing, the children have been writing character descriptions of Charlie Bucket from Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory and have enjoyed expanding their vocabulary using the thesauruses. **Mrs Powell, Mayflower class**



Do you have a plant in your garden that looks a little like this? Do your friend or family? NURSERY NEEDS YOUR HELP! We have some beautiful new box planters ready to revitalise your barmy bamboo, your distressed daisies, lifeless lavender, or your suffering succulents. The children are ready with their green fingers to fill those boxes with love and care, and we need your help! Please bring in any plants you have at home that could do with a little love, some water and a sprinkle of magic from our Nursery and watch them grow along with our Tiddlers!



Attendance and Punctuality

A big thank you to our parents and carers for supporting changes to our morning routine.

Our staff are on duty from 8:30am to welcome families. We recognise that some of our older children come to school on their own or with friends and we would encourage them to arrive for this time so they can gain immediate access to the academy.

The gates close at 8:45am families are bringing children to the front office to register with the attendance officer. This process allows for children to be registered and select their lunch choices, as registers are closing. Our changes to the morning routine means that learning takes place promptly after self-registration, therefore it is imperative that children are punctual to class.

Our attendance officer supports late families each day with the aim to improve punctuality. Miss Davis is positioned outside of the main reception area, aiming to keep access to the office free for general enquiries. Please be patient if you are queuing to register your late child. Please have your child's name class and lunch choice ready to speed up this process.

Remember every day counts and please talk to your child about the 3 P's

The 3Ps

- Plan
- Prepare
- Prioritise



To encourage punctuality make sure you head to school to catch the **early bird** and collect a raffle ticket. This ticket enters your child into a raffle draw, which may lead to a fabulous prize! Raffle tickets are drawn during celebration assembly.

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	93.7
STARFISH	99.7
SEAHORSE	96.5
PUFFIN	98.2
SEAGULL	97.2
LOBSTER	97.8
OYSTER	96.8
SHRIMP	91.2
DUNE	98.7
SEASHELL	94.8
CORAL	95.4
ORCA	99.1
GREAT WHITE SHARK	96.9
STINGRAY	90.2
SWORD FISH	99.2
NEPTUNE	95
POSEIDON	95.1
TRITON	97.3
GALENE	99.5
BEMBRIDGE	98.3
WILTON	93.8
MAYFLOWER	93.6
Totals	96.3

Tue 17 Sep
Nursery Bonchurch Park Visit

Fri 20 Sep
Shaping The Future

Fri 27 Sep
Book Bus

Tue 01 Oct
Year 6 Virtual Reality Workshop

Tue 15 Oct
Year 2 Rainbow Theatre Visit

Thu 17 Oct
Open Evening

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



School Nurse

The school nurse will be visiting us on Wednesday 25th September 2019, please see Mrs Ricks should you need any further information

Is your child due to start school in 2020/21?



OPEN EVENING

Thursday 17th October 2019

3.00pm-6.00pm

- Take a tour of our classrooms and extensive grounds
- Participate in curricular activities with our teaching team
- Sample food from our catering staff
 - Visit the Q&A hub

Don't miss the Principal's speech at 5:00pm

plus much more



OPEN EVENING
ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL
PHILPOTT AVENUE,
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA,
ESSEX, SS2 4RL



"Our very caring environment caters for pupils, aged 11-16, with a wide range of special education needs"



Thursday
19th September 2019
Between
4pm-6pm

Please come along to meet the staff, students and view the facilities.

Tel : 01702 462322

Email: office@st-nicholas.southend.sch.uk

REMINDER for year 6 parents

Secondary school selection applications need to be with the local authority by the end of October 2019. With many secondary schools having their Open Evenings/Days this may be an opportune time for year 5 parents to also visit.

Mobile phone use

Please remind your child that they must not use their mobile phones whilst at the Academy. Phones should be switched off and put away before coming through the gates in the morning.

Music Lesson

We have a vacancy for a violin lesson on a Friday from 3:30pm-4:00pm. Please contact Mrs Lane in the office for further information.