



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, carers and children

Parental engagement

As we approach the end of the first autumn half term, I would like to thank parents, children and staff for a great start to the year. We have provided numerous opportunities to inform and involve parents in Academy life; through open classroom doors, workshops, meetings, consultations and shared learning.

Such as;

- Sharing our Home-school Agreement - open door
- Reception pop in sessions
- 11+ grammar school Information evening Year 4 & 5
- Year 6 Sats meetings
- Parent consultation
- Reception Phonics Workshop
- Year one phonic workshop

We are intent on ensuring that throughout the year there are continued opportunities for us to share learning and news about our children.

Such as;

- Learning together session
- Reception Maths Parents Workshop
- Children in Need
- Reception Nativity
- KS1 Nativities
- Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
- KS2 Christmas Concert

Parental feedback and homework

For this coming half term we have adapted our homework, taking into account parental feedback.

Reading	Maths
<ul style="list-style-type: none">KS2 reading for 20 minutes year 3/25 minutes year 4/ 30 minutes year 5/ between 30 and 45 minutes year 6Suggested lists of books to read i.e. '50 books all kids should read before they're 12'Accelerated reader – year 5/ 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rock star MathsMultiplication/division facts
Spelling	Talk/News
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Set a word and give some strategies to remember how to spell it i.e. dot dashes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Talking task related class topics/philosophy/current events/British Value/School Values/Local community/Celebrations

Our homework approach allows children to consolidate learning, practicing and applying skills to improve fluency and accuracy.

Children have been working well in lessons, striving to do their very best. This included encouraging children to use their presentation best. Please continue to encourage neat handwriting at home.

Prospective parents

Our open evening was a great success and I would like to thank all our staff, the PTA, our junior governors, prefects and choir for their time and positive contributions. In addition, thank you to parents who came along and gave moral support. The feedback from the event was extremely positive and parents and children left



with a happy Darlinghurst feeling and keen to join us in the future.

Here are just a few of the comments we received:

"We enjoyed the energy, enthusiasm and passion from all members of staff"

"We enjoyed being made to feel so welcome"

"Your school has brought a massive smile to my face"

"We are very impressed with the range of activities and the welcoming feel"

In addition to this, we have begun our parent tours for our new Reception intake. We have a selection of dates still to come. If you know any children of pre-school age please encourage them to visit our fantastic Academy.

Curriculum overview

This half term we continued to provide our children with a great education ensuring that learning was layered within a broad and balanced curriculum. We have welcomed visitors to our school to share their expertise with us. Such as;

Mad science workshop - year 5

Space workshop – year 6

Sibel Beadle – Author of Witchy Travel Tales

Southend Library services – Knife & Packer

Talk Like a Native – Languages assembly

Essex Fire Safety & Halloween Safety



Curriculum information for parents

Please take a look at our website for further news about our curriculum. You will find information about our approaches to learning, ways to support learning and curriculum coverage. The curriculum overviews provide an outline of teaching across all subjects, for each year group. We will continue to share news of the curriculum and class sharing, as we understand this is a common feature that parents enjoy.

Attendance

Our Attendance figure between 05.09.18 and 18.10.18 is **96.6% = keeping us still on target!**

Our target is above 96%.

Thank you for working with us to improve attendance

- Bringing children to school on time
- Encouraging children to come to school when they may feel a little under the weather, trusting us to look after them
- Talking to teachers, attendance and pastoral teams about factors affecting attendance and finding solutions
- Taking holiday out of term time and meeting with me in reference to request for absence

Please continue to work with us to ensure that children attend the Academy every day to achieve excellent attendance together.

Every day counts.

Extended October half term

Holidays in term time has a high impact on Academy attendance, which we cannot authorise. However, please enjoy the extended half term break with your family. We hope that the extra week allows for some valuable holiday time. We look forward to hearing news from our children on their return.

Please stay safe and enjoy your family time together.

See further in News & Views for some safety tips during this seasonal break.

Mrs Nicholls



Mon 05 Nov
 The Academy reopens
 Remembrance Day Celebrations and Diwali Celebrations
 Tue 06 Nov
 Prospective Parent Tours
 Wed 07 Nov
 Year 1 to the Museum of Childhood
 Mon 12 Nov
 Anti-Bullying Week
 Mon 12 Nov
 Prospective Parent Tours
 Thu 17 Nov
 Reading Together R-6
 Fri 16 Nov
 Children in Need
 Tue 20 Nov
 Flu Vaccine Reception & KS1
 Thu 22 Nov
 Flu Vaccine KS2
 Wed 28 Nov
 Dodgeball Competition (*Garons*)

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	90
STARFISH	98.1
PELICAN	95.1
PUFFIN	94.7
SEAGULL	96
LOBSTER	94.8
OYSTER	96.6
SHRIMP	97.3
DUNE	85.6
PEBBLE	94.8
ROCK POOL	94.4
SEASHELL	99.6
PORT JACKSON	99.3
REEF SHARK	98.6
SAND TIGER	95.5
WHITE SHARK	97.3
NEPTUNE	96.3
POSEIDON	97.1
TRITON	94.2
BEMBRIDGE	96.3
WILTON	98.9
MAYFLOWER	91.9
ENDEAVOUR	93.2
Totals	95.5

Is your child due to start school in 2019/20?
Prospective parent tours
 October 16th – 10:00am-11:00am and 1:30pm-2:30pm
 November 6th – 10:00am-11:00am and 1:30pm-2:30pm
 November 12th – 10:00am-11:00am and 1:30pm-2:30pm
 December 11th – 1:30pm-2:30pm
 December 12th – 1:30pm-2:30pm
 January 8th 2019 – 1:30pm-2:30pm
 January 9th 2019 – 1:30pm-2:30pm
 Tours can be booked via the school office or by emailing generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk

Well done to the winners this week. Keep up the good attendance aiming to keep hold of the title, looking forward to the results next week.
Come in to win

As the weather changes, please can you encourage your child to bring a small pack of tissues to school with them which can be left in their tray.
 DARLINGHURST NURSERY - Open to visits all year round. Would you like to come and see our fairy garden? Or visit our ever changing role play area? Or take part in one of our PE lessons? Our Nursery welcomes visitors all year round.

Do you tweet?

 Follow us @DarlinghurstSch

Learning Together – Reading – Reception to Year 6
 Would you like to find out how we teach reading at Darlinghurst? This year we will be having regular learning together sessions which provide you an opportunity to come into school and work alongside your child to learn together. Our first learning together session will be held on Thursday 15th November 2:30pm-3:30pm in your child's classroom. You will have an opportunity to see how reading is taught and activities for you to practice reading at home will be shared.



ARE PLEASED TO SUPPORT



FRIDAY 16TH
NOVEMBER

WEAR YOUR SPOTS
NON UNIFORM DAY
DONATIONS WELCOMED

Celebrating Excellence –

Sanaa J, Poseidon class won a bronze medal in individual kata

George E, White Shark class took part in his first karate competition and won bronze.

Congratulations to our winning house this term



Dolphin House

Dolphin children will have a special house reward after half term

Stay safe on Bonfire Night

Never touch fireworks



Stand well back from the bonfire



Never go near a firework after it has been lit



Only one sparkler at a time



Wear gloves when holding a sparkler



Keep pets indoors

