



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping**. Please let the office know if you have not yet registered.

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,

A warm welcome back to the second half of the Spring term with staff and children springing into action. Thank you for a prompt start to the half term and we are keen to ensure that children are arriving at the academy in good time in readiness to learn. Please support us in reducing lateness which in turn allows for easier access in the office for those who wish to speak to our supportive office team. Should you need to speak to a member of staff during these busy periods please speak to our Receptionist.

This week started with our year 5 children celebrating and sharing last half terms learning with their family and friends. Together, they played their fairground games which they had designed based on traditional games.

During assembly I introduced the academy value for this half term, confidence, sharing how with self-confidence children can face new challenges. We used examples from successful people and stories to model this.

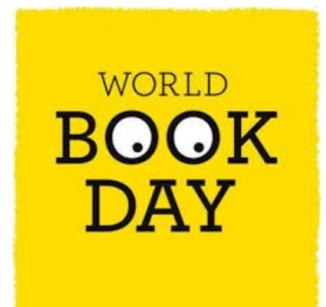
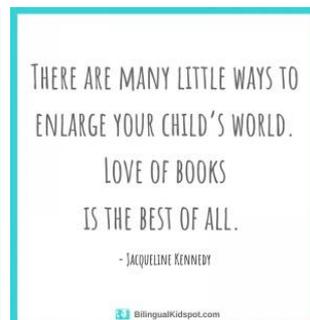
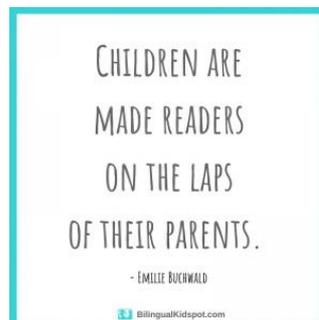
Mr Felton invited me to celebrate how children have faced their fears conjuring up their inner bravery to perform a back ward roll. During this demonstration I witnessed trust, support and success.

This week was the start of our year 6 extended school which was a great success, staff and children enjoyed the additional sessions and the biscuits too.

We are looking forward to next week and participating in World Book Day, I look forward to seeing children and staff dressed as book characters and sharing their stories.

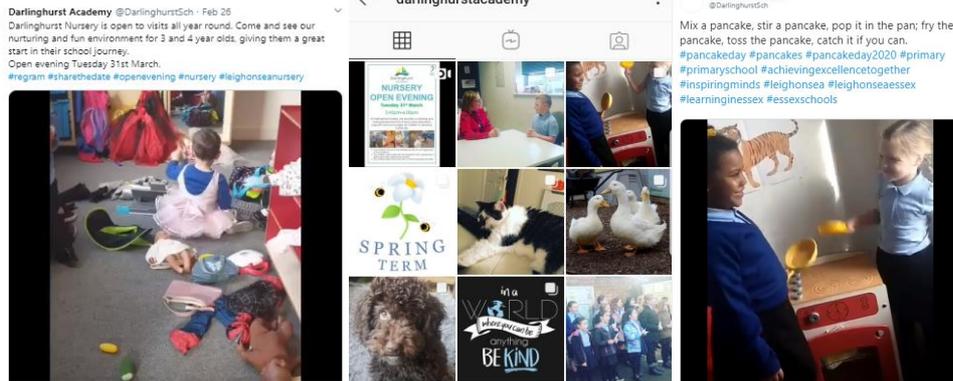
As always, enjoy your family time together this weekend. Why not enjoy a book with your child?

Mrs Nicholls





What have you missed out on **Twitter and Instagram** this week?



EYFS

In Nursery this week, we have been enjoying pancakes! The children have enjoyed mixing, grating and pouring our pretend pancake mix into bowls, and adding different toppings. We have also been looking at families and animals like those in the film 'Brave'. In ODL the children made bows and arrows using sticks and string, managing to launch sticks at the shed!! We also had fun in the snow on Thursday, while watching a very hungry caterpillar. What a great first week back! **The Nursery Team**

The Reception team have thoroughly enjoyed listening to the children's news about what they did during the recent holiday. Trips to the zoo, the park, visiting family...the list is endless! What is certain is that all of the children had a fantastic time!

This week we have started our learning about 'creatures that emerge from an egg'. We started with a well-known story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', by Eric Carle, which we read, discussed, story mapped and wrote sentences about. This led to discussions about fiction and non-fiction. The Children began to realise the difference as we then used photographs, such as real butterflies, to show the lifecycle of a butterfly. Please continue to support your children at home with their reading, writing as maths as we are so impressed with their enthusiasm during lessons to learn more.

Have a fantastic weekend. **The Reception Team**

KS1

It has been lovely welcoming the children back to school and hearing all about their half-term holidays. We have been very busy this week in **Year 1** as scientists, exploring different materials in everyday objects. The children were able to identify what classroom objects were made from and explored the properties of wood, metal, plastic, cloth and paper. They were then set a challenge, working in small groups, to build a house for the Three Little Pigs which could withstand the huffs and puffs of the Big Bad Wolf! They made fabulous houses and thought carefully about the materials which would be most suitable for the walls and roof. Some even had swimming pools and gardens! The Big Bad Wolf tried to blow each house down and most withstood his efforts. **Miss Adams, Seagull class**



This week **Year 2** have introduced our new topic "Where do Bong trees grow?" which is based on the famous poem by Edward Lear "The Owl and the Pussycat". We have had discussions about what the children would like to find out during this topic and have been able to use these ideas as part of our learning journey. We have also started to look at our new Learning and Life Skill "Knowing me, knowing you". The first statement that we are looking at is about the difference between a friend and a peer. We have talked about how it is okay



not to agree with your friends all of the time and that friends are people that stand by you when times are tough.

In maths we have been exploring money, looking at the value of coins and different ways to make the same amount of money. This has linked nicely in with the poem which talks about five pound notes and shillings so we have had the chance to compare imperial and decimal currency. The children were amazed at the size of an old £5 note! **Miss Scott, Oyster class**

KS2

In **Year 3** we are learning about The Games Children Play in our Topic lessons this half-term. We began by studying an oil-on-panel painting by the Flemish Artist Bruegel Pieter the Elder. The children were fascinated by the fact this picture is now about 460 years old. It led to discussions on how children interacted and played together in days gone by. We then compared the toys and games they played then to the ones children enjoy participating in today. **Miss Carey, Coral class**

Firstly, thank you to all the parents who were able to come into school and support our fairground experience in **Year 5** on Monday. We raised over £140.00 which is fantastic! We will consult with the children to decide how we will spend the money during the remainder of the year. Also, thank you to all the children who spent their time producing fabulous stories for the '500 word competition' as part of their holiday homework. We were amazed at the variety of characters, settings and storylines used and were impressed at the range of vocabulary. **Mrs Richards, Poseidon class**

Sports News

Year 3-4 Boys Football

On the Friday before half term, Mr Blewett took our year 3-4 boys football team to a tournament at Len Forge Football Centre. The team had been training hard in the weeks building up to the tournament and that hard work paid off throughout the morning. With two wins against Thorpe Hall and Richmond, a draw and just one loss was enough to see them through to the super 8's in the afternoon. Unfortunately, and not without a lot of effort, our team were unable to repeat the morning success. Two draws and two losses were not enough to see them into the finals at Roots Hall. Each and every player tried their hardest and should be proud of what they achieved. Behaviour, as always, was impeccable throughout the day. They were a joy to watch. Thank you to all the parents who came and supported the team throughout the day. Well done.



KS1 Cross Country

On Wednesday I had the privilege of taking some of our KS1 children to a cross country running competition at Garons Park. The wind was howling through the park and the ground was wet and muddy. However, this did not bother our amazing little runners with each and every one of them finishing their races with huge smiles on their faces. Many of them finished in the top twenty! Each race had at least one hundred children on the start line, which in itself can be quite a daunting experience, and just goes to show you the strength of sport in the Southend area. Our children demonstrated every single one of our school values throughout the day and I would like to congratulate them all on representing our school so brilliantly. I would also like to thank Rose's mum for helping us on the day, her help was greatly appreciated.

Well done everyone.

Mr Felton PE Lead Teacher



Celebrating Excellence

Lacie-Mai, Coral class came 2nd place in the Essex Regional Competition for Majorettes.



Health and Wellbeing

Guidance regarding the COVID virus can be found at the DfE website
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

Mother's Day Sale 20th March

Mother's Day is fast approaching and we know the children are going to be so excited to buy those special ladies in their life some presents from our pop-up shop!

Each child will have the opportunity to visit our shop, with their class, during the school day.

Gifts cost £1 each (Max of 2 gifts per child).

Don't forget to send their money in a purse or named envelope and await your surprises!



Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	92.7
STARFISH	96.4
SEAHORSE	93.5
PUFFIN	95.7
SEAGULL	95.3
LOBSTER	95.9
OYSTER	95.4
SHRIMP	96.7
DUNE	96.6
SEASHELL	95.8
CORAL	95
ORCA	96.9
GREAT WHITE SHARK	96
STINGRAY	93.5
SWORD FISH	96.1
NEPTUNE	95.9
POSEIDON	94.2
TRITON	93.5
GALENE	97.1
BEMBRIDGE	95.2
WILTON	95.6
MAYFLOWER	96.1
Totals	95.4

Thu 05 Mar World Book Day
Mon 09 Mar Science Week
Wed 18 Mar Year 1 and 2 Writing Together
Fri 20 Mar Mother's Day Sale
Mon 23 Mar Year 3 and 4 Writing Together
Tue 24 Mar Year 5 and 6 Writing Together
Sat 28 Mar Litter Pick
Tue 31 Mar Nursery Open Evening
Wed 01 Apr Reception Learning Together - Easter
Fri 03 Apr Hop into Action
Fri 03 Apr End of Spring Term 1:45pm Closure
Mon 20 Apr Summer Term Starts

Congratulation to this week's Energy Challenges Winners

EYFS and KS1 – Puffin
 KS2 – Poseidon





LET'S WRITE!

Regular learning together sessions provide you the opportunity to come into school and work alongside your child to learn together.

Join us for a learning together writing session

Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday 18th March - 2:40pm-3:10pm

Year 3 and Year 4

Monday 23rd March - 2:40pm-3:10pm

Year 5 and Year 6

Tuesday 24th March - 2:40pm-3:10pm



DARLINGHURST ACADEMY PTA

Mother's Day Sale

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

Buy a special gift for a

special person

Gifts £1.00 each

Children to bring a

maximum of £2.00



Darlinghurst ACADEMY

Community Litter Pickers



Join us **Saturday 28th March**

2:00pm-3:30pm

For litter picking around our local area and our school field

Please book in by emailing

generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk

Parents, families and local residents welcome

Please meet at the Brook Gate entrance to collect your equipment

All children are the responsibility of their parents/carers



Darlinghurst ACADEMY



NURSERY OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 31st March

3.45pm-6.00pm

At Darlinghurst Nursery, we provide a nurturing and caring environment for 3 and 4 year olds which supports and encourages all children to develop holistically



- Our Nursery is not just on the Darlinghurst site; it is an integral part of the academy.
- Our children work closely with the Reception team, giving them a great head start in their school journey.
- Our children enjoy PE and Art with our school specialist teachers.