



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

Message from the Principal

This week, the academy celebrated 25 years of World Book Day. With a love of reading, we enjoyed this fantastic event and were able to highlight the importance of reading for pleasure. Staff and children shared their love of books and even shared their very own books in the first ever book swap! The launch of the book swap this week enabled children to bring in books from home to swap with others, creating endless opportunities to read a new book and supporting our eco promise of recycling. It was very well supported and a huge thanks to our children and parents for their contributions and engagement in this project. The children not only gained from sharing with others but enjoyed having a new book to take home from one of their peers. This is certainly something we wish to repeat.

On World Book Day children dressed up either as their favourite book character or in cosy pyjamas, promoting a love for reading at bedtime. We had such a wide range of characters all around the academy, from The Cat in the Hat, Harry Potter and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, to name but a few.

During the week, children wrote book reviews on their favourite books and these were entered into a book review competition. The winning reviews for each year group, received a gift voucher (gifted by our PTA). This was given to them from our visitor in assembly, Jackie, from the Jackson and Diego Story Emporium. She attended assembly sharing a love and passion for books, sharing different types of books. A great round up to the week.

This week we also celebrated that Southend is now a city and children across the academy, alongside the History Club focused on this event as part of our local history in the making. Our children also considered news in the wider world, which for some has included events in the Ukraine.

I would also like to thank Mr Turner for hosting the Times Tables Parent Workshop this week. If you missed the meeting and would like more information on how to help your child at home with their multiplication facts, contact the academy and we will share some information with you about Times Table Rockstars and other strategies. The next parent workshop is focused on Phonics across the academy with Mrs Haisman-Baker and Mrs Richards on the 17th March at 4:30 – 5:30 via your child's MS TEAMS account. Log in to find out more.



As always enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



Pictures speak a thousand words





From the Rockpool

The Rockpool have thoroughly enjoyed our second week linked to space and it has been as just as exciting as last week. The children have explored, investigated and challenged their own learning. For example, some children have managed to start to be confident doing a count down from twenty to zero which is going to be very helpful when we have our trip into space next week. Next week, we look forward to sharing non-fiction books and finding out answers to our many questions and thoughts about space. Have a wonderful family weekend. The Rockpool Team

Around the Academy

Year 1 have loved celebrating World Book Week with the book swap, talking about the characters we dressed as on Thursday and reading the story of Oliver's Vegetables, a story is about a child who only ate chips. We have written our own stories about the vegetables Oliver picked from his grandparents garden and enjoyed eating. We have been scientists, learning about the different parts of plants by looking at daffodil plants from Mrs Dutton's garden, then drawing the details and labelling them. We also noticed some minibeast visitors in the soil, a slug and two woodlice! We have also been confident mathematicians using the skills and knowledge of addition and subtraction and counting in 2's, 5's and 10's to complete a variety of calculations.

In Science this week, **Year 2** have been looking at the habitats of various different animals and comparing them with our own. We have also found out about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, the different diets that they eat and how this means that the way that their teeth are formed is different. In RE we have looked at the Christian story of Easter in depth and we have discovered the origins of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Our writing this week has been focussed on how to look after a chosen wild animal and we have had great fun discovering unique things about our chosen animal. Did you know that meerkats are immune to scorpion venom? It's probably a good job because they really like to eat them as a snack! World Book Day saw an amazing array of book characters and children in their cosiest pyjamas. The children have all enjoyed the opportunity to swap a book for a new one and explore different types of texts than the ones that they are used to reading.

In **Year 4**, we have been investigating how the digestive system works and enjoyed a demonstration about what happens to food when it enters our stomach. In writing the children have created entertaining stories about the lazy pirate who is now healthy. We have enjoyed seeing the different book characters for World Book Day and we celebrated our love of books, re-cycling and sharing by taking part in a book swap. It has been a joy to witness and celebrate the amazing effort and achievements of our children on TTRS. Keep up the hard work! Have a fantastic weekend with your families.

A big thank you to all the children in **Year 5** for supporting World Book Day this week. As well as dressing up as their favourite book characters or coming to school in their pyjamas, the children read their own books, shared stories, watched the BBC live stream, wrote book reviews, designed alternative book covers and completed a variety of other activities to celebrate their love of reading! In addition, we just wanted to say thank you to everyone that managed to part with a book or two (or more) for our book swap activity. What a great week in Year 5.

This week, **Year 6** have enjoyed experimenting with simple electrical circuits and investigating how the length of wires affects the brightness of a bulb. The children planned and carried out a fair test using components and enjoyed seeing if they had made correct predictions. They understood the importance of keeping a test fair by only changing one variable. Well done!

It was fantastic to see so many of the Year 6 children join in for World Book Day on Thursday. The variety of costumes and pyjamas made for a very exciting day and a book quiz in reading lessons created a great deal of laughter and competition. Thank you for your support in making the day so enjoyable.

Just a reminder that next Friday sees our next Cake Sale with all proceeds going to leavers events at the end of the year. Please bring individual cakes/biscuits in to school in the morning of the sale. Year 6 Team



Young Carers Action Day, celebrated on **16th March 2022**, is a nationwide event organised by the Carer's Trust aimed at raising awareness of the struggles and importance of young carers across the country. To recognise the important work that Young Carers do we will be re-launching our Young Carers group on this day for children in key stage 2 now that Covid restrictions have been lifted.

What is a young Carer?

Young carers may undertake practical tasks like:

- Cooking
- Housework
- Shopping
- Or caring for siblings; they may
- Provide personal care such as helping their loved one dress, bathe or use the bathroom;
- They may provide physical support such as using hoists or helping their loved one walk or use the stairs;
- Or they may provide emotional support when their loved one gets down or is distressed.



If you think that your child may be a Young Carer please email generalenquiries@darlinghurstacademy.org.uk with your child's name and class so that they can be involved – if they want to.

Many thanks

Mrs Grant

EYFS

Jellyfish – 95.6

KS1

Shrimp – 98.7

Seagull – 97.5

KS2

Seashell -98.7

Swordfish – 97.4





Let Girls Play

On Wednesday 9th March, the PE team will be hosting a girl's football tournament alongside the FA campaign to get schoolgirls equal access to football by 2024. A series of different matches will be held across the afternoon with prizes and awards to be won.

Girls who wish to participate can come into school wearing their PE kit for the day (and bring in any football boots to play in, if they have them).

Together, let's celebrate girl's football and the importance of equality in sport.

DARLINGHURST LET GIRLS PLAY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



WHEN
March 9th, 2022
KS1 / 1-2pm
KS2 / 2.05-3.05PM

WHERE
Darlinghurst school field

THE FA HAVE SAID
We want to give every girl the chance to experience football in their PE or games lessons at school – giving them the same opportunity that most boys currently have.

LET GIRLS PLAY
THIS FA CAMPAIGN IS TO GET SCHOOLGIRLS EQUAL ACCESS TO FOOTBALL BY 2024.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
The PE Team will be running a football round robin style tournament to celebrate girls' football

WHAT DO YOU WEAR?
For this event, you should come into school wearing your PE kit and bring in football boots if you would like to

#LET GIRLS PLAY

Workshops

PHONICS WORKSHOP

Darlinghurst Academy

PHONICS ACROSS THE ACADEMY

THURSDAY 17TH MARCH
4.30-5.30

MICROSOFT TEAMS
VIA YOUR CHILD'S TEAM ACCOUNT
MRS HAISMAN-BAKER
MRS RICHARDS

WORKSHOP

Darlinghurst Academy

ACCELERATED READER

THURSDAY 24TH MARCH
4.30-5.30

MICROSOFT TEAMS
VIA YOUR CHILD'S TEAM ACCOUNT
MR DUNNE
MRS RICHARDS

WORKSHOP

Darlinghurst Academy

KS2 MATHS

WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH
4.30-5.30

MICROSOFT TEAMS
VIA YOUR CHILD'S TEAM ACCOUNT
MRS DUNNE

Year 6 fundraising cake sales

Year 6 will be soon be holding cake sales to help them raise funds for their traditional end of year activities. Please bring some change to school and show them your support! Key Stage 2 will be able to buy cakes on Friday 11th March and Reception and Key Stage 1 will be able to buy cakes on Friday 25th March.

Easter break

Our last day of term will be Friday 1st April and will be an early finish. Collection times will be communicated shortly.



What have you missed on Instagram this week?

