



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping and My Child At School.**

In addition, we use **@DarlinghurstAcademy Instagram** to share what's going on within the Academy daily and class and year group news on **DB Primary**

### January dates

- Tea and Talk – Maths in Reception – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 8.45am
- Tea and Talk – Year 2 – 6 Reading – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 8.45am

### Save the date for February

- Tea and Talk - Nursery – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 8.45am
- Tea and Talk – Eco – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 8.45am

## Message from the Principal

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back and I hope you had a wonderful break. We now enter the Spring Term and a new year – 2023. A new year is a perfect time to focus on overall life vision and for us, our vision for Darlinghurst Academy. As we embrace the magic of a new year and all it represents it gives a sense of empowerment.



At Darlinghurst – our Darlinghurst Design (intent) and our Darlinghurst Difference (impact) shares the visionary message:

To empower our children and give them the SPACE to grow as; Successful Learners, Prepared for Change, Active Citizens, Confident Individuals and Effective Contributors so that they believe in the power of possibility and have the emotional resilience and character to succeed.

[The Curriculum at Darlinghurst - Darlinghurst Academy - Achievement, Belonging, Confidence, Determination, Excellence](#)

This in itself can be an empowering New Year affirmation to help us all in embracing new beginnings and limitless possibilities. With affirmations, it helps our positive mindsets and reminds us of the infinite power to create the life (and school) we envision for ourselves.

The start of January marks my Decade of Darlinghurst. 10 years and the completion of 25 years in Education – a quarter of a century. Every year, we work towards priorities, with our children at the heart of all that we do. This year with an 'ambition for all' and a focus on 'attending and achieving well', we make every day count. Attendance is a key element and we know that regular attendance and punctuality impacts on achievement. We recognise that things can happen in the morning and lateness can occur. However, continued lateness or patterns of lateness causes a delayed start to the day and a readiness for learning. Should your child show patterns in their lateness we will work with families to find solutions, together. School gates open at 8:35 with the school day starting at 8:40. Please arrive on time. The end of the school day at 3:10 can be busy ahead of the gate opening at 3:05. To avoid congestion, can I ask that parents and carers refrain from arriving too early. Thank you.

We carefully monitor and track attendance and attainment to support our children to achieve their best possible outcomes. We celebrate class attendance each week. Children love to receive the Attendance Bears. Let's make the competition really tight for the Spring Term and aim above our goal of 97%. Any attendance that falls



and is at risk of being in a category called persistent absence (90% and below) receives intervention through the Attendance Officer. This support often leads to improved attendance. Attendance at 93% is an indicator of being at risk of persistent absence.

We know that children will have days where they cannot come to school due to ill health or exceptional circumstances. However, as an example, a child that misses school twice a month will lose nearly 4 weeks of education ( approx. a month). The odd days add up and also poor attendance patterns that start in Primary are likely to underachieve in Secondary. Children who miss between 10% - 20% of school stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days. Friendships can be affected by persistent absence too. Holidays in term time have an impact on overall attendance. Please look at our website for Term dates. Thank you for working with us. Should you need any support or need to report absence please contact our attendance Officer, Miss Davis, 01702 478379 option 1 or 01702 509205.



We know that encouragement and celebration motivates and empowers us all. Each week, in celebration assembly we celebrate together and also share key messages in our values assembly. Part of our celebration assembly includes 'Postcards' received and for 2023 we would like to increase this celebration together with special post and deliveries within the academy. Each year group will be given a special post box for Postcards each week, which will be delivered first hand to the children. As we know A to D leads to E and that final Excellence postcard will be sent to the home when the other 4 have been achieved. We know that our children strive to gain all 5 value cards and we want to celebrate this together. I cannot wait to see them walk out the gate, waving their postcards with pride as they hand them to you – celebrating Excellence Together. Thank you to Ms Nixon who made the postboxes for all our year groups.



You will receive homework books this term, with an overview of the home learning and a copy of the Knowledge Organiser to support the Connected Curriculum this half term. I know that this will be welcomed by parents and thank you for your feedback in the last survey. We have some more Tea and Talks planned for the Spring. Please take a look at the dates and join us to talk about learning in school and at home.

Spring clubs 2023

	Monday club	Wednesday club	After school club	
Year 1	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) @ 100 mins Sports Competition Starts 14/1/23	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) 10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) 10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) Starts 14/1/23	Y 1 & 2 club sports club by Father & Mr Bennett 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 20/1/23	Y 1 & 2 After school club 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 14/1/23
Year 2	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) @ 100 mins Sports Competition Starts 14/1/23		Y 2 & 3 club sports club by Father & Mr Bennett 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 20/1/23	Y 2 & 3 After school club 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 14/1/23
Year 3	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) @ 100 mins Sports Competition Starts 14/1/23		Y 3 & 4 club sports club by Father & Mr Bennett 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 20/1/23	Y 3 & 4 After school club 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 14/1/23
Year 4	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) @ 100 mins Sports Competition Starts 14/1/23		Y 4 & 5 club sports club by Father & Mr Bennett 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 20/1/23	Y 4 & 5 After school club 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 14/1/23
Year 5	10.30 - 11.30 (100 mins) @ 100 mins Sports Competition Starts 14/1/23		Y 5 & 6 club sports club by Father & Mr Bennett 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 20/1/23	Y 5 & 6 After school club 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 10.30 - 11.30 Starts 14/1/23

Our clubs will be advertised next week for the Spring term with booking information shared via Ping. Please note that Non-sporting clubs will start a week ahead of sporting clubs. They will all be shared on the booking system. External Clubs will be included.

Performance Club will continue with the current attendees until their 'Young Voices' performance. It will then be re-advertised for those children who wish to audition for our KS2 Summer Production. KS1 choir sessions will also be advertised.

This year, our summer production is 'The Bee Musical' – I am sure it Bee Fantastic! As an Eco school, the Musical shares the important message of bee-ing a bee. It will create such a Buzz! I could continue with the Bee jokes but I could Bee here forever!



Finally, I would like to wish you a wonderful weekend and as always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls