



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week! We have been celebrating how we are all beautifully different by wearing odd socks on Monday, the launch of anti-bullying week. At Darlinghurst, we are an inclusive school and celebrate individuality. Everyone is unique and special. Our continued focus on anti-bullying week and 'One Kind Word' meant that in lessons and assemblies children learned about the different forms that bullying can take and their support network – who are the five people they can talk to.

Myself and Mrs Grant highlighted the support network and the strategy of using our hand to remember their Five chosen people. It is important that all our children learn about diversity and inclusivity developing their cultural awareness from an early age. Together we challenge stereotypes and help to prevent any forms of peer on peer abuse. Our children showcase our sense of belonging and this is something that we are extremely proud of. This has been evident throughout the week and today, as the week ended with us all celebrating difference and participating in 'Children in Need'. Staff and children wore dotted accessories showing their support to other children in the world that are disadvantaged. All monies raised today will help change the lives of young children that need us the most. Thank you for your support in helping us improve the life chances of children here and across the UK.

We also had great news that our young writers were successful in a writing competition to have their poetry published in a book 'This is me – a million dreams'. Their writing celebrated their individuality, their hopes and dreams. I cannot wait to see their poems in published print and we look forward to sharing extracts with you.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls





PE Special



A message from Mr Felton our PE lead: I love working at Darlinghurst and nothing puts a smile on my face more than when I see children being active. With so many children spending more and more time inside, it is really important for children to understand and lead a healthy and active lifestyle. By introducing our children to a variety of opportunities such as competitions, festivals, extra-curricular sports clubs alongside high quality PE lessons, I hope we will inspire them to find a love for keeping active and for it to become a habit in their lives and not a chore.



A message from Mr Blewett – Specialist PE Teacher

I have now been at Darlinghurst for five years and I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the children blossom throughout this time. From Nursery, where I teach the children how to improve their speed, agility and balance through to year 6 where I encourage them to engage in multiple sporting opportunities. The competitions are a demonstration of how hard the children work in their PE lessons, getting the chance to wear the Darlinghurst logo with pride and honour. In all competitions through the calendar year, our children show fantastic resilience as well as all of our school values which enables them to succeed to their highest potential. It really is an honour to teach the children of Darlinghurst.





A message from Miss Morris

Girls can be less active than boys at every age with the gap expanding from age 9 upwards; this is something I am aiming to change here at Darlinghurst. I believe all children are equal in ability and it is my job to give our girls the encouragement they need to participate and excel in sport. Many girls shy away from team sports especially, possibly due to a lack of confidence. As a female myself who grew up where football was not taught in girl's PE lessons, I am passionate about giving our girls the opportunity to learn every sport possible. Our 'Darlinghurst Girls Can' campaign here at the academy, involves promoting the importance of physical activity and celebrating girl's involvement in sport, as well as dispelling the stereotypes. Sport is for all and everyone should be given equal opportunities regardless of their gender.



Quotes from children

Alfie Year 1: PE makes me feel happy.

Lucy Year 3: PE motivates me to exercise more outside of school.

Mariam Year 5: I used to be terrified of the sea, but because of swimming lessons I now can't wait to go to the beach with my family.

Lyla Year 4 Sports Committee member: I love being in the sports committee because I like to hear what other children want to see in PE.

Amelia Year 6: I feel proud when I put on the Darlinghurst kit. I get nervous at competitions but no matter where I finish, I know the school will be proud of me.

Callum Year 5: I like trying lots of different sports in PE.

Alistair Year 5: I feel proud when I play for the school football team because there are a lot of children in the school, and I was one of the 8 chosen.

From the Rockpool

This week our traditional story in Nursery and Reception has been 'The Enormous Turnip'. Last week, the wolf in 'The Three Little Pigs' was not very kind to the pigs. Therefore, for Anti-Bullying Week we wanted to focus on the story characters being kind and helping each other. The children have discussed how we can be kind and help others, especially if somebody is feeling a little sad.

We ended the week with 'Children in Need', which is always a fun and eventful day. The children looked fantastic in their spotty accessories and enjoyed immersing themselves in various activities linked to Pudsey. For example, they designed new bandages for Pudsey.

Please ensure that all of your children's personal items are labelled at all times. Have a wonderful weekend with your family and friends.



Around the Academy

This week in **Year 1**, we have been discussing Anti-Bullying through reading about the Three Billy Goats Gruff. We talked about STOP: Several Times on Purpose, that we learnt in our assembly, and realised the troll was being unkind lots of times to the Billy goats and discussed how we could stop bullies like the troll. We are beginning to get festive, by practising our Christmas songs in our music lessons. We learnt the Continents song in our Edison lessons to help us remember all 7 and we enjoyed looking through atlas's to find them.

In **Year 2**, following on from the research that we asked the children to do around the fire triangle for homework, we found out just how important it is to fire when we conducted some experiments together to discover what happens when you remove one side of the triangle. We have found out that if you take away the oxygen supply from candles they quickly extinguish once they have used up all of the available oxygen and that water takes the heat away from a fire which also extinguishes it. We will be applying this new learning when we further explore the cause of the Great Fire of London and the methods used to eventually put it out. In our computing lesson this week we have been finding out about the types of technology that may be found in our own homes. We have discovered that many of the items that are used every day are a form of digital technology (containing a computer chip) these included washing machines, air fryers and televisions. Thank you for the donations of small boxes that the children have been bringing into school in preparation for making our own Tudor houses. The children have enjoyed learning how to draw an authentic Tudor house this week and we have been thinking about the materials that they were built with and how this contributed to them burning very easily during the fire.

This week the children in **Year 3** have enjoyed learning about the greatest builders from the past. We have been focusing this week on the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They have been learning about materials they gathered to create their homes, as well as shapes and design these ancient people used to build their homes successfully.

Year 4 as always have worked really hard this week. We started the week with all the children in odd socks to raise awareness during anti-bullying week. We completed a lesson about kindness towards each other. In maths we have been looking at data handling in the form of pictograms and bar charts. The children have had some fun collecting some of their own data too and finding the best ways to present it clearly. We have continued writing about the Mildenhall Roman Treasures that were found in Suffolk and describing the Great Covered Bowl. Ordering main events during the time of the Roman, Viking and Anglo Saxon invasions of Britain was great this week and they have created fab timelines. The children were also quite surprised at how much of Europe the Romans conquered, including Britain. They are becoming quite expert historians!

This week, **Year 5** celebrated the start of Anti-Bullying week with odd sock day, with the main theme this year being focused on 'One Kind Word'. In our PSHE lesson focused around anti-bullying, looked at a variety of situations that the children could recognise what the possible bullying problem was and then offer possible solutions. In writing we've been writing to inform readers about the World Cup with the effect that brackets, dashes and commas have on the text. In maths we've been exploring time and timetables so that the children will never be late again for the movies or the bus or even school! With Topic this week we've been exploring the reasons for World War One with our first focus on the effect the 'British Empire' had on the world. For Music, we've begun rehearsing the songs for our Christmas concert. A full week, as usual, in Year 5.

Year 6 have been learning about why World War Two started this week and about the allied and axis countries. We have also discussed the support and impact of the Commonwealth countries and their contribution towards the war. In addition, we are looking at rationing books and exploring why they were needed. In RE, we are studying the parables and themes of love and forgiveness. We have also started our computer



programming unit and are using coding blocks to make characters move. In Art, we will be looking at propaganda posters from the War and in outdoor learning, the children are helping to build an Anderson shelter. Please start thinking about what you would like to make with your children for the Cake Sale for Key Stage 2 on Friday 26th November. Thank you for your support.

Eco Update

As a school, our eco-committee do a lot to help reduce waste and our carbon footprint. Here's a reminder of what we do here in school:

- Energy checks to make sure we turn off lights and electrical items when not in use.
- We have recycling bins in every room for recycling paper, cardboard and plastic bottles.
- We recycle crisp packets through the terracycle scheme. Children can do this in the dining hall or we can select donations at the office during term time.
- We recycle any old pens in our classrooms. We are happy to accept any donations of old pens.
- We recycle home ink cartridges through The Ink Bin Scheme. Please place them in the black bin outside the office. Please note this bin is not for general rubbish. Our eco-team are very sad to have to pick out the wrong items from the bin every week.



As a school, we follow the Eco Code written by our committee:

- Everybpdy must recycle correctly
- Collective responsibility – we all have a part to play
- Only put plastic in the correct bin
- Care for all wildlife
- Our environment should always be a priority
- Discard your litter in a bin when you have finished

Learning and Life Skills – It's Up to Me!

This half term, we will be focusing on the strand – 'It's Up to Me'. The purpose of this unit is to develop the essential skills that pupils need in order to be independent and responsible as well as to recognise the impact their actions have on others. Our two key stands are:

- **taking individual responsibility for self and others**
- **developing the ability to act independently**

As part of our Learning and Life Skills, class teachers set 'I can' statements, which are targets for the children to meet. Here are the targets the children will be working on in school for the 'Developing the ability to act independently' strand:

- Early Years: I can ask and answer simple questions to help me understand





- Year 1: I can select various resources to support me during an activity including asking for adult help
- Year 2: I can undertake activity with minimum support asking for clarification only when necessary
- Year 3: I can make simple decisions about which activities I need to do and the order I do them in.
- Year 4: I can contribute to the planning of a group or independent task with some help from an adult.
- Year 5: I can carry out research to further my understanding
- Year 6: I can contribute my ideas to the planning of an activity and carry out my part independently.

Perhaps you'd like to set some targets at home relating to independence and responsibility. These could be as simple as taking responsibility for a family pet or remembering to make his or her own bed in the morning. Every little helps!

We'd love to hear how your children are getting on with these fundamental skills so please share photos and comments by contacting us at generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk

Mrs Cooke

This week has been **antibullying week** and we have undertaken numerous activities starting with Odd Socks day on Monday 15th where we raised awareness of diversity, why it is good to be different, and what bullying is, reinforcing our **STOP** theme, **Several Times On Purpose** and that we must never stand by and watch it happen; it is important to **Start Telling Other People**. We also focused on reinforcing this year's theme of One Kind Word. We also took the opportunity to reinforce the work that our peer mentors do in the playground to support children.



Congratulations to this week's attendance winners.

KS1

Seagull – 98.2%

Shrimp – 95.4%

KS2

Billet – 98.8%

Swordfish – 98.2%



Save the date

Christmas is coming....

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 9th December

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 9th December

Christmas Productions

Monday 13th December – LKS2 Carol Concert – 9.30am – 10.30am

Monday 13th December – UKS2 Carol Concert – 2pm – 3pm

Tuesday 14th December – Early Years Production - 1.45pm – 2.45pm

Wednesday 15th December – Nursery Nativity – 9.30am – 10.30am

Wednesday 15th December KS1 Nativity through song (Year 2) – 1.45pm – 2.45pm

Thursday 16th December – KS1 Nativity through song (Year 1) – 9.30am – 10.30am

Information regarding the purchase of tickets will follow shortly.

Please be aware that our last day of term is Friday, 17th December and will be an early closure. Further details will be communicated.



Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to communicating with you around how your child has settled at school and the progress your child is making at our forthcoming parent consultations.

EYFS Consultations:

Nursery - Tuesday 23rd November and Wednesday 24th November

Reception - Wednesday 24th November and Thursday 25th November

Y1 to Y6 Consultations:

Tuesday 11th January and Wednesday 12th January

Flu spray

The Childhood Nasal Flu Programme is offered to all children from Reception to Year 6 pupils. The Immunisation Team will be in school on Tuesday, 30th November and Wednesday, 1st December. Consent forms will be sent home shortly.

School photographs

The online shop for ordering school photographs is now open. Please be aware of the following deadline dates:
Thursday 25th November – last date for orders to be handed into the office.

Friday 26th November – online shop closes.

Any orders received after the 26th November will incur a late fee of £5.00.

What have
you missed
on Instagram
this week?

