



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,

Across the week we have been supporting children's sense of agency and how decision making supports belonging and independence. We have provided children with choices and options so that they can share their voice. This has been across lessons including business enterprise, RSHE lessons and business enterprise in year 6.

The year six children have shown their entrepreneur skills, innovation and creativity. Their industriousness lead to a great day. They have enjoyed developing their ideas and activities, seeing them successfully in action today. Their optimism was tangible and fun was had by all the children who engaged. It was a profitable event for them, teaching them about money management too.



In the Early Years, staff continued to promote independent learning and play, asking questions that give our young children an opportunity to lead their own learning. Children across the key stages have shown high levels of independence and self help skills as they participate in routine tasks. The Eco-Team and Play squad were prime examples of this, this week.



Children also developed their creative writing, enjoying a creative writing week in support of National Writing day, today. [National Writing Day](#) is an annual celebration of the power of writing creatively, inspiring people of all ages and abilities to try writing for fun and self-expression. They were able to choose what they wanted to write, their chosen style and audience. This was enjoyed by the children and allowed them to share their interests, love of literature and influences. I have enjoyed stories about dragons, Pandas and even the PG Tips monkey. It was a great week of 'writing for pleasure'.



This week, children have also enjoyed reading for pleasure. They have read books outside on the grass and grounds, linked to our #30dayswildchallenge and also during playtimes in KS1, in the reading beach hut. We are very keen to motivate our children to continue to read for pleasure as a pastime and over summer. Should you have any recommended must read books that have captured the imagination and interests of your children, please do let us know. We plan to build a recommended text collection for children to read and share. Should you wish to donate a book to our recommended text collection, this would be greatly appreciated.



Why not take some time to read for pleasure this weekend. You could send photographs in of reading outside or reading in special places.

Finally, I would like to wish our year six children a lovely weekend ahead of their residential at PGL or the residential@home here at Darlinghurst. We know that they are going to have a wonderful time and make memories. Make sure you pack a plastic bag for those soggy and muddy clothes as I know that there is raft building as an activity. I still remember my own daughters returned case. Let's just say she didn't stay on the raft!

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls – Principal



## Key information for year six

### Leavers Events – Dates

4<sup>th</sup> July – Final Year 6 cake sale. Please send donations into school on the morning of the sale

19<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers Disco from 5-7pm. Entrance via side gate

21<sup>st</sup> July – Leavers Assembly 9:30am in the Hall. Please advise office if you require a seat for medical reasons. Tickets available soon

21<sup>st</sup> July – Shirt signing in school. Please provide suitable pens for children to sign shirts with

### End of term arrangements

Please be aware that our last day of term is Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> July and will be an early closure. Further details will be communicated via Ping. The final week of clubs, including Gymnastics and Spanish, will be week commencing the 11<sup>th</sup> July.

### From the Rockpool

The Rockpool shared the story 'Octopants' this week. It led to many conversations about different or similar features that sea creatures have. The children have amazed us with their prior knowledge and understanding on this topic. They have created some inspirational artwork using watercolours and collage materials which they are proudly displaying in the classrooms. Have an enjoyable weekend.

### Around the Academy

This week, **year 1** have taken part in National writing week. The children have enjoyed making up their own story and used their imagination to produce a wonderful piece of writing. During our topic lessons this week, we have looked at London landmarks and discussed human and physical features. All the children could name a variety of features and match the pictures to the words. We also looked at going to the beach for a great day out. We made a list of things we would need to take and thought about how we would get to the beach. A great week we have had in Year 1!

This week in **year 2**, we have relished the opportunity to do our own creative writing. Some of our stories involved aliens, sloths and even Henry VIII!! As part of our Holi festival learning in RE, we had the chance to go and complete our own splatter painting celebrating the festival of colour. In Geography, we have been learning all about oceans, continents and have also used a map to locate different countries.

In **year 3** this week, we have been very busy doing assessments. Alongside that, we have had a creative writing week and have been able to write our own stories. We have created our own characters, settings and plots. There have been so many great ideas and lots of different genres. For example, fantasy stories about unicorns and wizards and mystery stories about detectives solving crimes. Everyone has also tried really hard to focus on their presentation when writing the top copy of their stories, thinking about handwriting and layout. Well done Year 3!

This week **year 4** have shown extreme determination and confidence when doing their Maths, GPS and Reading tests. It has been lovely to see how far everyone has come since the start of the year. In writing, the children have been creating their own stories using an image of a forest as a starting point. With titles like 'Forest of fears', 'Starfall', 'Follow the light' and 'The never returning' we can't wait to read through all the stories! During Learning and Life Skills in our SPACE lessons the children explored formal and informal greetings before playing a 20 questions game where every question had the same answer. In RE the children continued to explore the difference between right and wrong and why school and the world need rules. During Edison lessons the children have explored the similarities and differences between physical geographical features of



Denmark and the UK. The children have really enjoyed the books in reading lessons and are excited to swap to a new reading book next week.

This week, **year 5** have shown resilience and real determination during their assessment tasks. The teachers are proud of how hard the children have worked and their achievements so far. To continue our role as Geographers, year 5 took a closer look at our local environment, identifying places of interest and how these would be represented on a map. The children then looked further afield at the continent of North America, identifying its four main areas and locating both human and physical landmarks and placing these on a map. In RE, children have explored how it takes a strong person to show forgiveness. There was much debate regarding what we would find difficult to forgive but also how forgiveness can pave the way for better relationships. In Music, year 5 have been rocking away learning to sing 'Living on a prayer'. We appraised the song, discussing what we did and didn't like and making comparisons with other rock tunes we may have heard. The writing has been fabulous this week as the children's creative juices were allowed to run wild and choose whatever they wished to write in whichever style they wished. We cannot wait to read all the fabulous pieces of work. Keep it up Year 5!

This week in **year 6**, children have been finalising plans for their business enterprise day. We had a lovely donation from a local business after a group wrote a letter asking for support-what a great sense of community and belonging. The enterprise day was a huge success and we are busy counting up profits. The excitement across the year group was great to see and I hope the other children in the school enjoyed sharing the day. Everyone is very much looking forward to the PGL trip next week. Remember, children can arrive from 9:15am on Monday morning with everything they need. The coach is due to depart at 10am. For those staying behind, we are visiting Southend United FC on Monday. Please ensure your child wears their PE kit and has a packed lunch, plenty of water and a hat if it is warm. Children will need to wear old clothes on Tuesday as we tackle the Nuclear Forest mud run and they will get mucky! A spare set of clothes also needs to be sent in with a packed lunch and water. Activities on Wednesday are sports based in school so please wear sports clothing/PE kit. It should be great fun!

## Business Enterprise – Year 6

After weeks of planning, costing, creating brands, purchasing or negotiating rental terms for products or equipment, and promotion, Year 6 went to market for their annual business enterprise day today. I was proud to see such a range of creative ideas, the clever thinking, the problem solving under pressure and the warm, friendly customer service. Thank you to families who gave their children money to spend. Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. Mr Turner





## Sports day

This year we will be having four sports day events. They will be on the following dates:

1) Nursery/Reception	Tuesday 12th July	9.30am – 11.00pm
2) Year 1 & 2	Tuesday 12th July	1.30pm – 3.00pm
3) Year 3 & 4	Wednesday 13th July	9.30am – 11.00am
4) Year 5 & 6	Wednesday 13th July	1.30pm – 3.00pm

In order for the day to run smoothly, we would appreciate your support in the following areas:

- Children to wear a shirt in their house colours

HMS Ganges	Blue
HMS Raleigh	Yellow
HMS St Vincent	Red
HMS Dolphin	Green

- Everyone should bring a named water bottle
- Please ensure your child has sun cream applied and is wearing a sun hat
- Spectators are to stay behind any taped-off areas

**The entrance to the school for sports day will be the gate at the back of the school field (Darlinghurst Grove). This will make things easier if you need to leave during the event and also help with safeguarding the children in school.**

## Creative Writing Week

To coincide with National Writing Day on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, children around the academy have enjoyed the opportunity to do some creative writing. There has been a real buzz in classrooms as children have discussed characters and settings as well as choosing the type of writing they would like to produce. It has been lovely to see the enthusiasm and topic choices – from the Spice Girls and Sonic the Hedgehog to adventures 40,000 years in the future. Well done everyone! Mrs Stevens

## Proud to be me





## Attendance

### EYFS

Jellyfish – 96.3%

### KS1

Albatross – 97.4%

Puffin – 96.8%

### KS2

Wilton – 99.6%

Victoria – 97.5%



What have you missed on Instagram this week?

