



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,

This week ended with a showcase of our values, with everyone participating in 'Shaping the Future'. The children and staff exemplified our values and teamwork, throughout the day's activities and events. During the presentations they listened intently to the story, 'Only One You', and enjoyed the words of wisdom shared by staff and their house captains. We watched the academy at work footage together, with a sense of belonging and pride. Mr Zweistra, our keynote speaker, from Belfair's academy, sharing that hard work leads to success. He put our values of determination and confidence into action, as he played the didgeridoo and talked through each stage of learning and playing this complex instrument. The children listened in awe. The presentation ended with a celebration of art, including fish puppets and bubbles to add some magic. The children and staff of each house, engaged in activities linked to sports, outdoor learning and art, gaining team points by working together. A huge thank you to all involved for the planning and engagement seen today. Also a huge thank you to our children, for their conduct and collaboration. I am so very proud of everyone today. The sun has shone all day, allowing for our picnic to be a time of relaxation and socialisation for children and staff. So many smiling faces have been seen, throughout the day, including into the afternoon, with activities linked to today's theme.



Well done, HMS Ganges, HMS, Dolphin. HMS Raleigh and HMS St Vincent – well done everyone!

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

## Shaping the Future















### From the Rockpool

This week in **Nursery** we have had the pleasure of welcoming lots of new children. Everybody is settling in well and enjoying our inside and outside spaces. This week we have been looking at the story of Handa's Surprise linking to Harvest Festival celebrations next Thursday where we will be joining up with the Reception children to celebrate. We would be very grateful of any donations for our harvest display that will be donated to St Vincent's Centre. Please make sure you all keep looking at Tapestry for our regular Friday updates about the fun we've had during the week and for our tour and information for new parents. Please remember to look in your junk files if you haven't seen your acceptance email yet. In P.E this week we did throwing and catching, we took a nature walk around the school field and have collected leaves. We also looked at oral hygiene so get those teeth shining over the weekend and beyond!

#### **Team Nursery**

This week **Reception** have shared the story, 'Handa's Surprise'. It has led to so many discussions and learning, thinking about healthy eating along the way. The children are all thoroughly enjoying choosing when they wish to eat their healthy snack in our kitchen area, which sits six children at a time. Many of the conversations held, whilst they eat and drink, is about what food they enjoy or dislike and why. Please continue to send any tinned and packaged food in to support our Harvest Festival collection throughout the Academy.

We ended the week joining in with the rest of the Academy celebrating Shaping the Future. The children are fully immersing themselves into their set House Team realising how important teamwork is to gain point to support their team.

Please let your Reception teachers know if you are having difficulty accessing Tapestry, which is our online Learning Journal during the forthcoming academic year. Also, please email our ICT department if you cannot access Tapestry: [ictsupport@darlinghurst.co.uk](mailto:ictsupport@darlinghurst.co.uk)

### Around the Academy

**Year 1** have enjoyed reading the story Dogger this week in writing and discussing our own favourite and special teddies. We've continued to do careful counting up to 20 in maths and learning our number bonds to 10 and 20! In topic, we learnt more about old toys and the different materials that used to be used to make them and how they compare to the materials our toys are made of. We all especially enjoyed our first Shaping the Future day and can't wait for more throughout our time at Darlinghurst!

In **Year 2** we have been reading the story "The Tiger Who Came to Tea", over the next couple of weeks we will be thinking about how we could change the story so that the tiger only ate healthy food to link in with our learning around healthy diets. The children also had the opportunity to participate in mindful food tasting with the intention of teaching them how to appreciate the food that they eat, particularly in the run up to Harvest Festival and our food collection for charity this year. In maths we have been exploring subtraction and have used equipment to help us to show how we would take a 1 digit number away from a 2 digit number. The Year 2 team are super impressed with all of those children that have been practising their times tables at home, it is really helping them when they participate in the weekly times tables test.

**Year 3** have enjoyed creating electrical circuits. They have used a variety of components such as wires, bulbs, cells, motors, buzzers and switches to understand how the power of electricity works. The children have been incorporating our Learning & Life Skills of Learning Together by working in small teams to practically make the circuits to light bulbs, turn on a buzzer and use a motor to make a fan work. Plus make a switch with card and paperclips in order to turn the flow of electricity on or off in the circuits they have made.

In our Learning & Life skill lesson this week, we have been focusing on respect. They have discussed the act of admiration for someone or to show people around us how we care for others in everyday life. The children looked at different scenarios and shared ways of showing respect for others or in different settings, such as school for example.



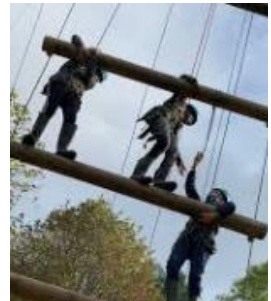
This week in **Year 4** in maths we have been busy learning how to increase numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 as well finding lots of different number facts. In TTRS we've been battling away all week, it's a close one again! We've been encouraging the children to complete 6 minutes of TTRS each night as part of their homework. Please see any of the class teachers if you need help accessing TTRS at home. In our 'Learning and life skills' lessons this week we've been working on the skill of 'team work'. The children have loved playing drama games including the miming of different occupations in a small group. Ask them to tell you about it or even better show you their mime, can you guess the occupation? We are still taking donations for Harvest Festival if anyone would like to contribute to the class harvest display. All donations will be going to Mr Cauchi's charity 'St Vincent's Centre'.

**Year 5** this week we have been looking at derived facts in maths. Writing up top secret potion instructions. Looking at the incredible material plastic but also its harmful effects and looking at the benefits of teamwork as we take on the team effort of Shaping the Future. A big thank you to all the children that have brought in items for the harvest festival and we can't wait to receive many more. **Well done from the Year 5 Team**

This week in **Year 6**, the Prefects have enjoyed starting their roles carrying out tasks around the school including collecting house points and gathering resources for science experiments. It's been lovely to see them taking their responsibilities so seriously and undertaking them with determination. In class, we have continued our work on space and learned what causes day and night and designed a space suit for an astronaut. The children have been really engaged in the topic and have been asking some great questions!

### Year 6 PGL residential trip

Mr Turner will be running a session to provide information about the Year 6 residential on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm and answer your questions. This will take place virtually on MS Teams, which we used for live lessons during lockdown. All Year 6 children have been added to a Team called 'PGL Team'. The meeting can be accessed via the Teams calendar or using this hyperlink: [Residential Information evening](#) .



Last week our **Sports Committee** met with Kirk Edwards who is the school sports manager for Southend schools. He explained to them what his role was and how they can help to shape the future of sport and PE in our school and in the area. They also discussed equal opportunities for all children and how they can help to encourage more children into being active. Kirk answered all of their questions and asked the committee members some too, the meeting ended with Kirk showing them a video called 'Like a Girl' which tackled perceptions of girls in sport and how they can be overcome.

I am always interested in the different sports our children do outside of school and their achievements within these sports. This week Peyton told me all about completing a 'Mud Run' for cancer research, Evie showed me her Kung Fu certificate and sash plus a few moves! Whilst her sister, Ruby, proudly showed me her Ballet award. I also had a visit from Alexa who told me all about the medals she had received in gymnastics. The girls in Darlinghurst are certainly shining brightly! Thank you for showing me these amazing achievements and keep them coming. **Mr Felton PE Subject Lead**



## EYFS

Starfish – 97.3%

Jellyfish – 97.2%

## KS1

Shrimp – 99.3%

Puffin – 97.4%

## KS2

Dune – 99.3%

Billet – 99.1%

What have you missed on Instagram this week?

