



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, we have focused on our Academy value of Confidence. In assemblies we have discussed how confidence and self-esteem is important to help us develop into self-assured individuals and looked at a range of tools we can use to build both of these skills. In addition, we looked at how 'trying new things out for the first time' and 'having a go' at something new are important skills to develop, these skills help us overcome challenges and providing us with the determination to push forward when we find things hard.



Over the past week, I myself had to dig deep to find the confidence to try something new. I had to develop new learning as I took my moped test, having never ridden a moped before. This was new learning and a steep learning curve. I found the 6 hour long examination process very challenging but drew upon my core values of determination and confidence which led to me being successful and passing my exam. As a result of this experience I was able to talk to the children about how when you face challenges and make mistakes (I made a few) you have to fight negative thoughts and believe you can – and you will. Learning is a life-long skill and learning opportunities will present themselves to us throughout our lives. I hope that children at Darlinghurst continue to approach learning opportunities with a 'Can do!' attitude, overcoming challenges along the way.

As the final week of the spring term draws near, I would like to remind our families that our clubs have now stopped for the half term, they will resume again after the holidays. In addition, please remember that the Academy will be closing early on Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be no extended school facilities on this day. Gates and early closures can be found on the table below.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Gates and early closure times

	Class	Last day end time	Exit
EYFS	Nursery am	11:50	Brook Gate
	Reception Jellyfish	13:20	Brook Gate
	Reception Starfish		
KS1	Year 1 Lobster	13:20	Side Gate
	Year 1 Shrimp		
	Year 2 Puffin		Side Gate
	Year 2 Albatross		
LKS2	Year 2 Seagull	13:30	Side Gate
	Year 3 Stingray		
	Year 3 Swordfish		
	Year 4 Dune		Main Gate
	Year 4 Seashell		
UPKS2	Year 4 Coral	13:35	Brook Gate
	Year 5 Bembridge		
	Year 5 Wilton		
	Year 5 Mayflower		
	Year 6 Billet		Main Gate
	Year 6 Strand		
Year 6 Victoria			



Next term, we are delighted to welcome back Miss Lynch from maternity leave and look forward to hearing news about her lovely baby boy. Miss Lynch will resume her role as Assistant Principal and I know is looking forward to teaching the children and seeing how much they have grown. I am sure you will join me in giving her a warm welcome, back to the Darlinghurst family. In other family news, this week is Mrs Richards' final week ahead of taking her adoption leave. We would like to wish her and her family all the very best. Miss Richards has shared that she is looking forward to the exciting times ahead, extending their family but will also feel a little sad to say goodbye to her class and colleagues and wishes them a great summer term. She won't be gone forever and will see us all again next year. We are looking forward to welcoming back Miss Fenwick to the academy who will join Miss Plummer in Swordfish class for the Summer Term. Miss Fenwick is an experienced member of staff who was part of the Darlinghurst family ahead of having a little family of her own. It will be lovely to have her back with us again, for a while. Mr Turner is also becoming a father after Easter and is looking forward to welcoming his new daughter to the family. We would like to wish him and his family all the very best as they enjoy this special time together.

Finally, it leaves me to say have a wonderful weekend and as always enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

## From the Rockpool

This week, Nursery and Reception have thoroughly enjoyed continuing our learning about dinosaurs. We shared the story 'The Girl and The Dinosaur' which led us to investigate and learn about fossils. We dug up an area in our fairy garden so that we could plant seeds. We were hoping to find some dinosaurs bones, like in the story, but not on this occasion! The children are so excited about the recent planting we have done in the garden and it has been a joy to see them using our 'Potting Shed'. If you have any spare (child friendly) plants, soil or child tools we would be grateful if you could contact us to see if they would be suitable to use in The Rockpool.

Please send your child into school with a named water bottle (Reception children) and a named sun hat each day. Also, please apply sun cream to your child on appropriate days as the weather heats up. Have a lovely family weekend. The Rockpool Team

## Around the Academy

This week in **year 1**, we have become scientists and looked at water and where it comes from. The children have had discussions about water sources, the environment and where we can get water from in school and at home. All the children enjoyed creating their own map of the school and labelled the water sources in our school environment. During maths, we have looked at length where the children were able to measure a variety of objects. They all used rulers and their hands and feet to measure and collect data for how long or tall different items were in the classroom. In writing, we have created a set of instructions for how we get ready for school. The children have shared their ideas and enjoyed talking about how they all get ready for school differently. We have had a great week of learning!

**Year 2** have had a wonderful time making their very own clay animals this week. They needed to draw their chosen animal in its natural habitat and then were taught how to extrude clay in order to form the body, head and arms and smooth it all out to make their animal look as realistic as possible. We also started to paint our animals in realistic colours and have used our outdoor learning spaces to make them shelters. In maths we have enjoyed revisiting previous learning on 2-D shape and applying this to 3-D shape where we have been able to identify the faces on them. We have also had a go at some origami which is the Japanese art of paper folding and then we have written instructions on how to make an origami dog.



In **year 3** this week we having writing about whether homework should be banned and discussing the arguments for and against. Many of the children have concluded that homework really helps them build their confidence in the classroom and is good preparation for senior school. On the other hand, children have considered how it might impact on their time to play their favourite games. It's been a very interesting debate. We have also been learning about food chains and who eats what in Science, they were glad to know humans were top of the food chain. The children are also very excited to start to design their bug hotel to make next week and use all the lovely resources they have been bringing into school. We hope everyone is enjoying the lovely weather this week and long may in continue.

In **year 4** we have been learning why pirates died from scurvy and that James Lind, who discovered the cure, was also the founder of the 'fair test'. We used this knowledge to write a diary pretending to be a pirate who is suffering with the dreaded scurvy. In maths, we have enjoyed investigating the area of shapes and learning why they are not always drawn to scale. In Religious Education, we have enjoyed learning all about The Easter Story and how Christians remember and celebrate the significant events. In Learning and Life Skills, the children have investigated different scenarios and discussed how they would react with a positive mind set. It was fantastic to listen to their solutions. Keep rocking with TTRS you are doing an amazing job year 4. We are so proud!

This week **year 5** have been applying what they have learnt about percentages to real life scenarios. They have been able to solve problems with multiple steps to work out a total after it has been reduced or increased. Bembridge class really enjoyed the science workshop led by Westcliff High School sixth form students, which immersed the children in a variety of activities based around physics, chemistry and biology. In computing, the children are becoming confident in coding algorithms to create their own quizzes. In the lead up to Ramadan, Year 5 have been exploring the meaning behind the holy month and what takes place during it. This has been the inspiration behind our writing this week as the children have written narratives about the day in the life of a child called Zakki who is fasting for the first time.

**Year 6** would like to thank everyone for their contributions to the KS2 and KS1 cake sales. We had some fantastic bakes, which were sold in a flash! We really appreciate all of your support. Currently, we are busy preparing for SATs, with a real focus on arithmetic. All the children are working really hard and the year 6 team is very proud of them. Children are also preparing for the year 6 science fair, which will take place next week, where they will present a small science project to the rest of the year group.

## Uniform reminder

**School uniform expectation for the summer term are as follows:**

Black trousers, skirts or shorts (not grey please)  
Summer blue and white checked summer dresses

PE kit – blue PE top with black shorts or jogging bottoms. Children should also remove earrings for PE lessons, if they cannot be removed for any reason they must be taped over with medical tape.

A sunhat for sunnier days.

Suitable black school shoes and black trainers or plimsolls for PE

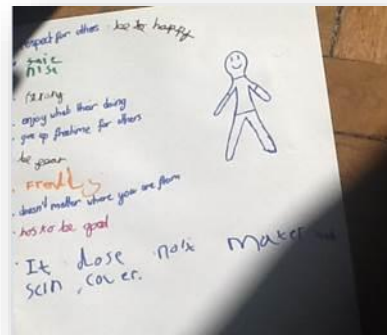






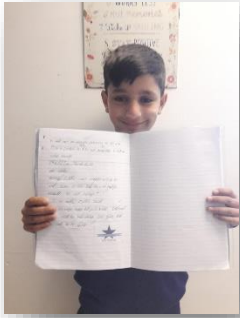
## Pupil Summit

Recently, children across the school represented Darlinghurst at a local Pupil Summit. Here children took part in a collaboration with children from other local primary schools. They explored the idea that learning and cooperation are not hindered but enhanced through difference and explored the idea of using music to collaborate and perform together. Children explored the terms 'upstander' and 'bystander': showing that our words and actions demonstrate change and responsibility within the community.





## Proud to be me



## PTA Fundraising

Thank you so much for supporting the PTA in raising funds for the academy. This Mother's Day, the PTA have made up and sold 'blind bags' to celebrate our wonderful mothers. Together, we raised a total of £508.00! We hope all mums enjoy their gift bag and celebrate these with their children this weekend. The PTA will be using the funds to purchase plants for all classrooms to further enhance our learning environments, supporting staff and children's health and wellbeing.



## Attendance

KS1	
Albatross	95.2%

KS2	
Billet	97.3%
Stingray	95.5%





## Workshops

**WORKSHOP**

**KS2 MATHS**

**WEDNESDAY 30TH MARCH**

**4.30-5.30**

**MICROSOFT TEAMS**

VIA YOUR CHILD'S TEAM ACCOUNT

**MRS DUNNE**

**WORKSHOP**

**YEAR 1 PHONICS**

**SCREENING TEST**

**THURSDAY 28TH APRIL 2022**

**5.00 - 5.45**

**MICROSOFT TEAMS**

VIA YOUR CHILD'S TEAM ACCOUNT

**MRS POWELL**

## Lent Appeal 2022 – St Vincent's Centre

St Vincent's Centre,  
Unit 9,  
Victoria Business Park,  
Short Street,  
Southend  
SS2 8BY  
Charity No: 1053992

St Vincent's Centre,  
Southend  
[www.svp.org.uk/st-vincents-southend](http://www.svp.org.uk/st-vincents-southend)  
01702 392980

**LENT APPEAL 2022**

TURNING CONCERN INTO ACTION

**St Vincent's Centre, Southend - Foodbank**

Here is our foodbank wish list:  
Please ensure donations are in date and unopened  
Donations welcome weekdays 11am - 4pm/ Saturdays 11am - 2pm

Tinned Veg and Potatoes	Tins of Fruit/ Custard/Rice Pudding
Tins of Veggie Meals	UHT Milk
Tins of Meat Meals	Tea bags/ Coffee/
Tinned Meat Pies and Tuna	Hot Choc Powder (add water)
Tins Beans and Spaghetti	Sugar
Tins of Chopped Tomatoes	Cereal (not porridge)
Tins of Soup/ Cuppa Soups	Jam/ Spreads
Instant Mash	Squash /fruit juice
Packets of Dry Rice	Biscuits/ Snacks/Cereal bars
Jars of Pasta Sauce	Ladies/ Gents Deodorant (roll on)
Packs of Microwave Rice/ Noodles	Shampoo and Conditioner
Mug Shots/ Pot Noodles	Shower Gel/ Soap
Crackers/ Crisps	Toothbrushes/ Toothpaste
Carrier Bags - Urgently	Toilet Roll/ Wet Wipes
Kitchen Roll	Hand Wash

Helping us turn concern into action      Making a difference in your community





## Pantomime – Cliffs Pavilion – 9<sup>th</sup> December



We have secured fantastic tickets in the stalls for £25 each, tickets are limited and on a first come first served basis. They are now available to buy via your child's ParentPay account.

What have  
you missed  
on  
Instagram  
this week?

