# 17th July 2020



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using School Ping In addition, we use Twitter and Instagram to share what's going on within the Academy daily. Please make sure you are following us @Darlinghurstsch on Twitter and @DarlinghurstAcademy on Instagram

#### Message from the Vice Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on this academic year, which has given us moments of celebration, collaboration and community spirit. Whilst we have been faced with challenges we still have so much that we can share and remember together.

We have watched our children grow in character and confidence across learning and life. I am proud of their achievements big and small. I look back in fondness at the energy and fun as we filmed the Sainsbury's advert, followed the retweet by Sainsbury's and I am already starting to think about future films and fun. Please take a look at the flashbacks below as we reflect on this academic year. As always a picture paints a thousand words.



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I would like to thank all of the staff for their continued, caring commitment. They are truly invested in shaping the lives of our children. I would like to extend my thanks to the parent community for supporting and engaging with us, including the PTA. Should you be interested in joining the PTA for the next academic year please take a look at their letter.



I cannot wait to open the school gates to all of our children in September. Although school will remain a little different, we will at last be reunited. At this time of year, we say goodbye to our year 6 children as they embark on their future steps. They have been a delight to get to know and watch grow over the years and they have made us proud.

We also say goodbye and wish all the best to Miss Fenwick as she says goodbye to Darlinghurst after being part of the Darlinghurst community for a decade. I know many of us have fond memories of her time with us. I would also like to wish Mrs Smith every success after her successful new appointment working across the trust. This means that we still keep a little of Mrs Smith and her smiling happy face, each week. The teaching staff are looking forward to next year and are making plans to support the children on their return. Please do read the letter outlining September arrangements for a positive start back, this has been sent via Ping this afternoon.

Until then, enjoy the summer break and your family time together.

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This is just a little farewell message as I am leaving Darlinghurst this summer after 10 years. It's such a shame I can't say goodbye in person but I just wanted to say thank you for being amazing children and making my job so wonderful. I've taught so many of you over the years, whether you were in my reception or year 1 classes, my phonics groups or art club. I will miss you all so much but hopefully I'll be able to pop back next year to say goodbye properly, especially to my lovely year 5's going into year 6, we spent two years together and would like to wish you all good luck for the future.

I hope you all have a fantastic summer break. Relax and enjoy your time off. Sending you all goodbye waves and hugs. *Miss Fenwick* 

Congratulations for everyone's involvement in the Times Tables Rock Star Tournament. Some close competitions. It's great to see so many children having FUN in competitions so that they learn their times tables. If you haven't joined in the fun then please think about joining the next Times Tables Tournament. Remember, to find different ways to learn your times tables, look on DB primary to remind you. Remember to use Times Tables Rock Star over the summer holidays so that you don't forget. **Mr Cauchi, Maths Lead** 

This week in **Nursery** our topic has been Dinosaurs and the children have enjoyed many dinosaur related activities. We listened to some songs that explained Carnivore, Omnivore and Herbivore, we saved the dinosaurs from the ice, cut and stuck dinosaur pictures, made green dinosaur feet and completed dot to dot's. At the beginning of the week we dug for bones as Monday was Planetology day and we have even made cress heads with dinosaur faces. Phew, what a busy week! **Team Nursery** 

This week **Year 1** have been retelling the story of 'The Cautious Caterpillar.' The children have related this story to the new and exciting times they have to look forward to in Year 2. In art, we made lots of lovely butterflies to celebrate change and these can be seen fluttering on our classroom windows. *Miss Adams* 

Over the last two weeks, our **Year 2** bubble have enjoyed learning about the language, culture, history and country of France. The children have been

speaking in French and completing various activities into their exercise book. The children liked learning about many topics such as French cuisine, Bastille Day, the Tour de France, landmarks and pronouncing colours, numbers and greetings with one another. **Miss Carey** 



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As part of diversity week, **Year 5** have been studying the Native Americans and where they lived in North America. We have focused on the cultural background of the Iroquois tribe and their spiritual connection to the land. We have also looked at their traditions, including the meaning behind totem poles and feathered headdresses. **Mrs Bermon** 

It has been a fabulous week for me and my Year 6 bubble. We have had the

chance to learn so much about life from watching Newsround, learning about life in Brazil and taking part in many debates. From immigration, taxes, driving fast cars, learning about plastic, considering our actions and so much more. I couldn't stop the questions! Each young person engaged with real enthusiasm especially during our crazy alphabet game at the end of our day. It has been such a pleasure to teach the children. *Mrs Lee* 

The Home Olympics has come to a close with **HMS St Vincent finishing the victors**. In the end, it was a close competition with HMS Dolphin coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>, HMS Ganges 3<sup>rd</sup> and HMS Rayleigh 4<sup>th</sup>. The children have been fantastic throughout the competition, showing determination, creativity and belonging all the way. We are currently putting together a video of the children's entries for our closing ceremony which we will post on our school social media pages. So please take a look at our Instagram Live. The top five children who finished with the most points will be receiving their trophies this evening, so I won't announce who they are in this newsletter!

I would like to thank all of the children who have completed a challenge, joined in

with Joe Wicks and kept active during the lockdown. It has been a privilege to watch all the videos, look at photos and share emails with the children over the last 4 months. I can't wait to see all of the children again in September. **Mr Felton PE Subject Lead Teacher** 

#### **Reflections Report**

As the academic year draws to a close, we value the importance of celebrating your child's personal achievements and memories. The year end is slightly different to the 'norm' but staff and children have worked in collaboration to reflect on the past year and plan for the year ahead. This has led to the production of an additional school report. Please take a moment to reflect on your child's year with us and discuss their highlights and next steps.

Whilst we have endeavoured to include all children's comments, it has not been possible for some children to share their final reflections with us. However, we have included some suggestions below which may allow them to add their comments to the final version:

If your child has yet to add their reflections, then they can still do so at home with you. Option 1:

Scan/photograph your child's writing/drawing of their past year and add it to the box provided at the bottom or

Option 2:

Print off the report and your child can draw/write their reflections into the box as they would have done had they been in school with us.

We wish you well and hope you have an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you all on our return.

#### **Multicultural Fortnight**

Multicultural fortnight has been a chance to raise not only awareness of different cultures and diversity but has also enabled them to respect one another and peoples from other parts of the world. Different year groups have been able to explore different parts of the world through music, dance, art, language, geography and history. We have also





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been able to celebrate our own similarities and differences in terms of our own culture. We are so lucky to see diversity everywhere we look in our school.

"We live in a multicultural society where so many of us are from different backgrounds and faiths. A great deal of bullying and violence in the world comes from people not understanding or respecting others because they are different. If we teach the children that being different should be celebrated and they are encouraged to understand why different cultures behave or do things in different ways then we will hopefully create a more peaceful and respectful world. We should also not forget that even though in many ways, we are all different, many of our values are also the same.

"I hope the celebration of multicultural fortnight has been an eye-opener for everyone and that we

continue to respect others in the future." *Miss Levy* Alix in **Year 4** learnt a song about saying hello in different languages. What different ways do you know how to say hello?

**In Nursery, Reception and Year 1**, children have been learning about Spain. In Nursery, the children made musical instruments and used them when dancing to Spanish music.

Year 2 have been learning how to speak French and have found out lots of fascinating facts about this country.

Year 3 enjoyed learning to say hello in some of the different languages spoken in Nigeria.

In **Year 4**, the children learnt about Israel – traditional foods and religious celebrations.

**Year 5** learnt about the Native Americans including the different tribes.

**Year 6** enjoyed making Brazilian carnival masks and learnt lots of new facts about the different cultures that make up this exciting country.

We have really enjoyed learning about different people, places and cultures this week, celebrating our similarities and differences.

This Year has been a fabulous year for **Outdoor Learning** not just for children at Darlinghurst Academy but other children in other schools. Playing learning and having fun helps to improve children's wellbeing and resilience, as well as their physical and mental health. It also gives the children the opportunity to develop a lifelong appreciation of the natural world.

This is particularly important during the current circumstances, when we are spending so much time outside. In the new term where there will still be a lot of change, Darlinghurst will still continue to teach those curriculum subjects outside with the children. Learning outside the classroom links in with our Edison curriculum which teaches Science, Maths, English and Topic. Learning and life skills, team work and independent learning. I am so looking for forward to the new term to catch up with all the children and all the topics we will cover outside. Stay safe, get outside and explore nature. **Miss Arnold** 







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#### Keeping active over Summer – Body & Mind

Gearing up to a 'Summer Extravaganza' of action here at Darlinghurst this holiday, we have an assortment of options to suit all our families. Perhaps you would like to take up the option of participating in our summer reading challenges, open to all age groups and across all genres? You may be interested in trying out our daily diet of DB Primary to keep the 'grey matter' in ship shape condition by logging on to our summer school community page and sampling our fun tailored activities. Battle of the Bands is back and here to entice you to continue practicing your times tables, you could earn a top level on the leader board and improve your rock status as well. So let's 'Rock On' everyone! How about keeping your bodies and minds healthy this summer, getting out and being active? Our fantastic PE team will be there with you every step of the way. Just follow us on Instagram and we'll help you remain energised with an extra skip in your step. Finally, serving our community through eco-friendly means, we would like to encourage everyone at Darlinghurst to remember to help keep our environment clean by reusing, reducing and recycling flying the green flag, high and proud!

#### A challenge for you all

With the summer break nearly upon us, keeping our children active will be more important than ever! Let's get those children away from them screens and out in the fresh air. There are so many ways to stay active and we should all be aiming for 30 minutes of out of breath exercise a day. So I have decided to set you all a challenge - the 30/30 challenge. **30 minutes of exercise per day for 30 days**. You could take a brisk walk, ride your bike, go for a run, walk the dog or even create and complete a fitness circuit, it's up to you! If the children want to let me know what they/you have been doing, I'd love to know, please email generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk stay safe and above all, HAVE FUN. **Mr Felton PE Subject Lead Teacher** 

#### **Times Tables Rock Star**

Times Tables Rock Stars competitions will happen at the beginning, middle and end of the summer holidays to support children sustaining their times tables.

To ensure that your child maintains their times tables please encourage them to play Garage daily for 10mins unless they have reached level 420.

Also encourage them to:

1. Play Soundcheck 3 times a week

2. Play Studio 3-6 time a week

If your child has reached level 420 then encourage them to participate in the Battles.

Please remember if your child is not moving through the levels then it is about their speed. Please use different strategies that are on the DB primary Maths page to help them remember the times tables they are having difficulty with. Also, focus on small amounts of times tables at one time. Practise small amounts until they know it then focus on speed and finally move on. Our brains all remember differently so try the different strategies that I have provided. Have a lovely summer. Rock On! **Mr Cauchi** 





### THE READING AGENCY'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE IS ASKING THE NATION TO JOIN THE SILLY SQUAD!

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# Leader board 17.07.20

This is the last leader board for our remote learning rewards. Well done to everyone who has been working hard at home ©

	Year group	Score
1 <sup>st</sup>	5	14,890
2 <sup>nd</sup>	4	10,520
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3	7,575
4 <sup>th</sup>	2,	1,020