



Communication is a priority for us and once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using the **SIMS Parent App** and **School Ping**. Please let the office know if you have not yet registered.

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 Principal

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to share how proud I am of the enthusiasm and commitment to learning from our children and staff. As we come to the end of our recent curriculum units they are enjoying reaching their final points and events. Year one children showed awe and wonder at the sight of the visiting owls and their close up encounters. This led to some amazing written pieces which I had the pleasure to read. I have an increased knowledge about owls. Did you know that the elf owl was the smallest owl in the world? It is known that the elf owl is one of only two owls who migrate and they're hoot sounds like laughter.

I am also proud of the academic resilience that our year 6 children have shown towards their maths recently, in particular the children who I work with during maths and intervention. I would like to thank those who attended maths breakfast this week and look forward to helping them again.

Mr Felton and the Hockey team were triumphant in their recent competition. Please take a look at Mr Felton's News & Views entry. We are continually proud of our sporting achievements.

Finally, I would like to celebrate the success of our first community litter picking event. This was a huge success impacting on the families involved and the wider community, with thanks and references made across social media. Mrs Powell is already planning the next event. We cannot wait.

Last week in News & Views I mentioned the importance of appropriate clothing and uniform. Staff across the academy will be sharing uniform reminders next week.

As always, enjoy your family time together this weekend.

Mrs Nicholls

## What have you missed out on **Twitter and Instagram** this week?





## EYFS

In **Nursery** this week we have been celebrating world storytelling week and the children have thoroughly enjoyed bringing in their favourite stories from home. In outdoor learning this week the children had so much fun mixing and making food fit for a banquet for the beast, in Beauty and the Beast. In the afternoon the children took care of a slug, making it so comfy, it "fell asleep!" **The Nursery Team**

This week **Reception** have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the story 'Peace at Last', which led us to learn more about nocturnal animals. We have discussed the animals that we think are classed as nocturnal but everyone agreed that foxes are a little bit cheeky, as we often see them during the day. It was agreed that if we all sort our rubbish properly and contain it well that foxes will not try to attack our rubbish bins. We have ended the week thinking about daily routines that we all have, such as getting up, washing and dressing. Linked to this we have started to use a clock to understand the importance of learning to tell the time to help us stick to our daily routines. Have a lovely weekend.

**The Reception Team**

## KS1

This week in **Year 2**, the children have thoroughly enjoyed completing their moving vehicles and then evaluating the results. In many cases the decision was that the finished articles did not bear much resemblance to the original designs and so it was decided that simplicity is key! We are all very pleased with the results as most of the final products did actually move! We have also started to explore the book 'Six Dinner Sid'. He is a cat that has six different houses and six different dinners every day! The children were amused to discover that we had caught Mrs Farrer eating six lunches this week. We have also looked at some of the many illustration and drawings of Quentin Blake. We will be learning more about the techniques of Quentin Blake next week to try and develop our approach to sketching. This links to our Learning and Life Skill 'Becoming a Better Learner' and one of our more recent shells. Next Thursday is our Year 2 trip to Duxford. We are all very excited and are keeping our fingers crossed for pleasant weather.

**The Year 2 Team**



## KS2

**Year 3** this week have been, developing our persuasive language skills by writing travel guides to the beautiful country of Guatemala, which is very creative as I'm not sure many of the children have actually been their...yet!

In topic we have been investigating different types of forces and modifying paper helicopters in an attempt to speed up and slow down their descent with some interesting results. Perhaps we could build a big helicopter to take us to Guatemala. With half term looming we still have time. We can't wait for next week's exciting instalment. **The Year 3 Team**

This week at Darlinghurst, **Year 4** have been busy carrying out surveys on chocolate and plotting the data to inform others on which chocolate children liked best. This was a great way to connect our topic of chocolate to the maths skills we have already learnt about, like collecting data with tally marks and then using data to draw bar graphs.

Year 4 have also had the chance to connect our focus of sacred books in RE to the children's own special books or items. This helped the children to put themselves into other peoples' shoes and understand other peoples' religious views.



In maths our current focus is decimals and we are beginning to introduce perimeter and area. The children have learnt all about the links between fractions and decimals and what tenths and hundredths represent. This understanding of decimals has also benefitted their understanding of place value securing their knowledge. Moving onto perimeter and area we can include measurements of centimetres and metres and mixed number as they can read decimals fluently.

In writing we have been putting our debating heads on as the children started out the week debating for and against school uniform, with a surprising amount of children standing by school uniform. They have now turned this debate into written form as they have written a balanced argument for and against school uniform before presenting their conclusion and decision. What are your thoughts? Many children said they could sleep longer as they knew what they were wearing but it would still be nice to be unique. **The Year 4 Team**

This week in **Year 5** we have been designing and creating our very own fairground games. Working together in groups, we listened to different ideas and used our knowledge of forces to produce some great challenges. In addition, we had a visitor to speak with us about Healthy Relationships and how to keep ourselves safe. Year 5 had to examine different scenarios and discuss how they would deal with the sometimes uncomfortable situation. Our PSHE lessons have explored conflict and assertiveness and ways in which we can tackle difficulties in a sensible and mature way.

**Mrs Lee, Galene class**

## Sporting News

### 100 +

On Monday, our school reached an amazing milestone. Over 100 children were active at the same time in extra-curricular sports clubs. Participating in sports varying from Multi-Sports, Karate, Street dance and Basketball. Well done to all involved, what an excellent way to stay fit and healthy.

**100**

### Hockey

On Tuesday, our Y5/6 Hockey team took part in a tournament at Warners Bridge hockey pitch. This was their first taste of competitive matches which meant there were a few nervous faces staring back at me from the pitch before the first game. After a tentative first few minutes our team soon got into the zone and started to play some lovely hockey. Two draws against West Leigh and Bournemouth Park and a win against Temple Sutton meant we were in a good position going into the second half of the tournament. Some excellent hockey skills in the next three games saw us win two more with one loss in a very close game against Barons Court. At the end of the tournament, all schools had played each other and all of them now awaited the result of who had topped the group and would be representing Southend in the Essex finals in June. After what seemed hours, the result was announced...Darlinghurst had topped the group! Well done to all of the children involved, you showed so many of our school values during the day and I am incredibly proud of you all. Bring on the Essex finals!

Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	92.7
STARFISH	96.3
SEAHORSE	93.3
PUFFIN	95.7
SEAGULL	95.4
LOBSTER	95.7
OYSTER	95.4
SHRIMP	96.5
DUNE	96.5
SEASHELL	95.8
CORAL	94.9
ORCA	96.8
GREAT WHITE SHARK	95.7
STINGRAY	92.9
SWORD FISH	96.3
NEPTUNE	96.4
POSEIDON	94.3
TRITON	93.5
GALENE	97.1
BEMBRIDGE	95.1
WILTON	95.6
MAYFLOWER	96.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>95.4</b>





## Football

On Wednesday, our Y5/6 Football team were in action against Bournemouth Park in a league fixture. Our boys were going into this game full of confidence after back to back wins against Blenheim and Thorpe Greenways. It didn't take them long to get into the game, demonstrating some lovely football skills when playing out from the back (Mr Blewett's total football ideology). By half time our team were 3 – 1 in front and after a half time team talk, soon added another 2 goals. Bournemouth park did not give up though and managed to get one back not long after. An amazing free kick by Angus saw the game finish 6 – 2 to Darlinghurst. Goal scorers were Sonny 3, Angus 2 and Joe 1. Well done boys, keep this up and the league title could be ours.

**Mr Felton, PE Subject Lead Teacher**



## Congratulation to this week's Energy Challenges Winners

EYFS and KS1 – Jellyfih  
KS2 – Triton



Tue 11 Feb  
Internet Safety Day

Thu 13 Feb  
Year 2 Duxford Trip

Thu 13 Feb  
Reception Learning Together - Valentine Crafts



Learning together sessions provide an opportunity to come into school and work alongside your child.

**Join us for a Reception Valentines learning together session**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February  
2:10pm-3:10pm**



Learning together sessions provide an opportunity to come into school and work alongside your child.

**Join us for a Reception Easter learning together session**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
2:10pm-3:10pm**