



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,

I cannot believe that I am writing the final News and Views for this academic year! Where has it gone? However, what a fabulous year it has been. A huge well done to all of our children and thankful to parents/carers and staff for a positive year. I am incredibly proud of everyone and to be part of such a great community. Darlinghurst has been part of my life for the last decade (plus a couple of years back in 2000- 2002) and I have loved the journey so far and cannot wait to see what lies ahead. However, I do feel old when I see past pupils from 2000, walking their young children into the school gate!

As I reflect on this year, I am delighted that we have been able to have a full year of being together, face to face and hearing the buzz around the academy. Despite the pandemic, our blended learning approach allowed us to stay connected and to continue to teach our children with personal achievements, for all. Next week our end of year reports will be going home to reflect on the year gone by and to share attainment with you. The results for phonics and the end of key stage assessments are testament to their hard work and positive engagement in learning. Their confidence and determination, has grown from strength to strength. At Darlinghurst, we value all aspects of the curriculum and it is our focus to support them in finding what they love and being the best versions of themselves. The children literally make me smile, everyday. They are extremely kind and friendly and are often complimented for their polite interactions with each other, visitors and members of the community. Our value of belonging, shines through!

I would also like to say a huge thankyou to our active citizens and Head Prefects for the roles that they have played and the difference that they have made. I am looking forward to next year and who will be part of our active groups. Junior Governors, Eco-committee, Sports-committee, Play Squad and Prefects.

Whilst the end of a year is a happy time, with lots to celebrate and share, it is also time that has a mix of feelings as we say farewell to our year six children and some staff.

I would like to say to year six, that my farewell message to you includes a final reference to our logo, 'Little Boat'. Secondary school may feel like a big place, compared to Darlinghurst, like the ocean to 'Little Boat'. However, you have had many adventures during your time here, alongside your friends. Now, an ocean is too big, for a 'not so little boat', like you! Always remember you are the stars and continue to shine bright.

Take our academy values on with you:

- Support each other, showing belonging
- Stay confident and believe in yourselves
- Be determined and try your best and enjoy new subjects and secondary school life
- I look forward to hearing about your achievements
- Excellence is a continuous process and lies ahead!

Year 6 leavers assembly will be on Thursday morning. Tissues at the ready!

We are also saying goodbye to two staff members as they move onto new chapters in their lives. Mrs Dutton has worked at the academy for many years and I know that most of your children would have started their journey at Darlinghurst in the EYFS with Mrs Dutton and this year, with year one Lobsters. She has given them a great start to their early education. Mrs Dutton is now hanging up her pinny and starting retirement, taking a little time for herself. I know she will miss all the children, as we will miss her.

Miss McCory is jet setting off to teach abroad! I couldn't compete with the sunshine (although this week the weather is giving it a go). Miss McCory has been a joy to have as part of the Darlinghurst team and I know the children have loved being in her class. Her energy and excellence will be missed! I know that the international school are very lucky to have her.



With the weather reaching heights next week, we are asking all children to ensure that they wear summer uniform or PE kits to keep cool. Please ensure that they have a hat and sun cream to protect them and a water bottle. They will have access to water and encouraged to stay hydrated. We will also keep classrooms as well ventilated as possible with fans and air flow, in addition to making use of the outside grounds and shade. Unfortunately, the heatwave has meant that weather warnings have been issued with sporting events postponed. I know this is a disappointment as the staff, children and parents were looking forward to this shared event, however, the PE team are making plans to make ensure that in the new year, there is a chance to celebrate. Next year we will be moving Sports day forward into June so that we have cooler weather or a window of time to make adjustments in accordance to weather.

The final day of term is Thursday 21st with the usual finish time of after lunch. Please note there will be no after school provision on that day. I will be sending a letter regarding September arrangements, ahead of the break so please look out for the ping.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

Gates & Times – Last day of term – Thursday 21st July 2022

	Class	Last day end time	Exit
EYF5	Nursery om	11:50	Brook Gate
	Reception		Brook Gate
	Reception Starters		Brook Gate
KS1	Year 1 Lobbler	13:20	Side Gate
	Year 1 Shrimp		Side Gate
	Year 2 Puffin		Side Gate
	Year 2 Albatross		Side Gate
	Year 2 Seagull		Side Gate
KS2	Year 3 Starling	13:25	Side Gate
	Year 3 Swallow		Side Gate
	Year 4 Dove		Main Gate
	Year 4 Sparrow		Main Gate
	Year 4 Goldfinch		Main Gate
UPPER	Year 5 Buttercup	13:30	Brook Gate
	Year 5 Willow		Brook Gate
	Year 6 Mayflower		Main Gate
	Year 6 Rose		Main Gate
	Year 6 Strand	13:30	Main Gate
	Year 6 Victoria		

A message from Mrs Dutton

It has been an absolute privilege to be a member of staff at Darlinghurst for the last 18 years, meeting so many families and teaching not only brothers, sisters and cousins but now children of past pupils! I have thought long and hard about my decision to retire from the career I love. However, it is now time for me to slow down and spend time with my husband, who is also retiring. I will always treasure the memories of being part of the Darlinghurst community and wish you all well for the future.

A message from Miss McCrory

I have had the best 4 years teaching at Darlinghurst. From my Sand Tigers, to Orca's to Strand and Wilton, every single one of you have made me laugh, inspired me and made me feel incredibly proud. I would like to say a special thank you to all the teachers I have had the pleasure of working with for being so supportive, kind and encouraging. I truly believe Darlinghurst is a very special place to be and I feel privileged to have been a small part of its journey. Thank you for all of the well wishes and good lucks! If I could take you all with me, I would!
From Miss McCrory x

From the Rockpool

This week in the Rockpool the children have really engaged in the pirates topic making hand printed pirates, binoculars and in Nursery a treasure chest. It was with great sadness that the sports day on Tuesday was cancelled due to the heat, but we have tried wherever possible to allow the children time outside to play as well as keep them safe in the sun. It was lovely to see so many parents on Tuesday afternoon in the school looking through their children's work books (in Reception only) we hope you were as proud of your children as we are. All of the children and staff are very excited and looking forward to their Pirate party on Wednesday. We can't wait to see your Pirate outfits, please remember to use what you have and not to buy expensive outfits and to label everything that comes into school please.



Around the Academy

With transition in mind the **year 1** children have been enjoying the story of Cody, a cautious caterpillar, who was unsure if she wanted to change into a butterfly. Her insect friends reassured her she would like being able to fly, sip nectar and have only six legs. When she felt brave and her body changed Cody did feel good about the changes and happy flying around as a butterfly with her friends. We have linked this story with our own thoughts about change at the end of a school year and the children have been really mature when discussing their thoughts. We have also been learning about capacity in maths, enjoying the practical activities of pouring cold water into different size containers to check our predictions about how many units of water different shape packaging can hold.

Year 2 have been enjoying making their own puzzles and cup and ball games as we have been learning about how people used to have fun in the past. They have been creating some fantastic designs thinking about the things that are important when making an effective puzzle. In maths, we have been learning about money and using money to solve real-life problems. In writing, we have been describing the likes and dislikes of a person we know and next week we will be writing about our own likes and dislikes.

Year 3 have been enjoying writing about and describing Old Leigh using lots of interesting adjectives and phrases to describe the smells, sights and sounds. In Geography, we have been learning about Nigeria and comparing life there to here in the UK. There are some similarities and differences which we've found very interesting. In Maths, we have been investigating and comparing numbers to 1000.

In **year 4** this week, we had a hot but enjoyable trip to Chalkwell Park where the children took part in orienteering and impressed us with their understanding of co-ordinates and map reading. We have been organising a holiday to Copenhagen, in maths, deciding how we would like to spend our £3800 budget. The children had to decide between budget or first class flights and then work out how much they could then spend on the hotel, sightseeing and spending money. Unsurprisingly, many chose Wi-Fi as an optional extra in the hotel.

Year 4 trip reflection by Mila, Emme and Grace

On Monday morning Dune, Coral and Seashell went to Chalkwell Park to do some geocaching and orienteering as well as some learning and life skills activities. When we got there Mrs Arnold explained what we were going to be doing. We all got into groups. We had to search for flags around the park using our maps and coordinates. Each flag had a challenge for us to complete on it including anagrams and building a home for an ant! In total there were 5 flags. After that, we had our lunch in the shade and Mrs Alexander's parents dropped us all off an ice lolly as a surprise. We played some games including parachutes and did some learning and life skills activities too. It was a hot but enjoyable day.

On top of continuing to work really hard despite the heat, a number of our **year 5** children have shown our academy values of confidence and belonging by applying to be prefects when they return after the summer holidays. Our prefects make staff proud and support us throughout the school day and across the year at a number of events. Some of our children have also campaigned to be our head prefects next year. We have all been very impressed by the creativity, confidence and maturity of all these candidates and look forward to the results of the democratic election

Next week will feature a News & Views special for our current **year 6's** which will be shared with the year group.



Art special

This half term the children have been working with an Artist from Metal in some of their Art and Outdoor learning sessions. The title of the project is Art Makes Children Powerful and is a national Art Initiative aimed at enrichment, aspirations for the future, well being and the attainment of new skills. Philippa Stewart is a local sculptor with a textiles background as well as having vast knowledge of historical skills, such as weaving and spinning using natural and recyclable materials, which fits beautifully with our school Eco ethos.



The children learnt how to wattle and daub, and thatch on a natural sculpture based on an Iron Age dwelling. We made Maches (models) in the pre design process to learn how the natural sculpture starts its life. We made fossils of leaves after leaf rubbing, based on Fish trap fossils as we learnt about our ancestor's methods for hunting and gathering. The results are to be placed on our sculptures, as well as clay necklaces based on teeth and bones to embellish them further. Children learnt how to weave and spin using historical techniques, tools and materials, as well as printing after making our own printing blocks from used card and foam.



One of our larger sculptures will be displayed in the Leigh Art Trail as well as photographs of the others

.One of which is designed to be a natural living sculpture to be added to and worked on near our well being garden.



We will be showing some examples in this year's Leigh Art trail which adds another exciting element to our collaborative project, as well as this embedding cross curricular skills and being a most enjoyable project for all involved.

LEIGH ART TRAIL 25th ANNIVERSARY

We are delighted that the pupils at Darlinghurst Academy Primary School are taking part in the 2022 LAT.

The competition title for this year Primary Schools Competition and Exhibition is...
"A Time to Celebrate"

All from year 1-6 have been invited to create a piece of art in any medium of their choice. This year, we wanted to encourage a complete celebration of the art and creativity, not an one looking forward to looking in a display both group works and individual masterpieces from seven local primary schools.

* 2022 Leigh On the Sea Art Trail marks a very special occasion, as the 25th year anniversary of this remarkable artwork for events.

See also visit the LAT website for full details for the primary school's exhibition (on the events section) and to sign up the artists who will be exhibiting in a range of local venues and businesses.
<http://www.leigharttrail.com>

Art will be exhibiting from 11-13 September.

* Primary Schools exhibition will be hosted at **Stuart Davis School on Saturday 10th September and Sunday the 11th September.**

In addition to the Primary School Exhibition, a variety of art activities for young budding artists, will be taking place at **Leigh Ferry School and Chalkboard Park** see the events section of the LAT website for up to date details.
<http://www.leigharttrail.com>

A tremendous privilege to be the host school for the LAT Primary Schools Competition and Exhibition. We look forward to having you welcome at **Leigh Ferry School** and giving you the facilities and fun that this community art project generates.

Contacts:
 1.1 Ofsted Hub
 Teacher Lead Primary School: julie.isham@darlinghurstacademy.com
 All of Art: Art@leighborough.com
 Primary Schools Art exhibition Coordinator:



Proud to be me



Attendance

KS1

Shrimp 95%

Albatross 94.9%

KS2

Coral 98.3%

Wilton 98.26%



Household Support Fund – Summer holiday allocation 2022

The Government has provided Southend Borough Council with additional grant money and therefore Southend City Council is continuing with the FSM voucher scheme over the Summer holiday period 2022. Southend City Council is awarding a single payment of £45.00 for each child eligible for Free School Meals. **This payment is a 'one off' payment to cover the whole of the summer holiday period.** The vouchers will be issued by the school via WONDE, the same method that has been used previously, by 20th July 2022. This is the final round of the Renewed Household Support Fund, unless the Government allocates any further funding. If this is the case you will be informed by the school. Any queries please contact Miss Churchman, Finance Officer, finance@darlinghurstacademy.org.uk



What have you missed on Instagram this week?

