



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping and My Child At School.**

In addition, we use **@DarlinghurstAcademy Instagram** to share what's going on within the Academy daily and class and year group news on **DB Primary**

## December dates

- Christmas Fayre – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December
- Last day of term, early closure – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm pickup

## Save the date for January

- Tea and Talk – Maths in Reception – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 8.45am
- Tea and Talk – Year 2 – 6 Reading & Introduction to Accelerated Reader – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 8.45am

## Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,



With the Autumn Term nearly complete and the Christmas celebrations in full swing, I would like to thank all members of the community for making the term such a positive start to the year. This week I have enjoyed so many faces at our concerts and nativities. The performances warmed hearts and also faces from the cold nip from outside. The frost and snow dusting added a special touch to the festivities. Should it snow over the Christmas break, don't forget how we love to share 'snow pictures' and to send them into General enquiries (titled 'snow') It is the season to be Jolly, with care and kindness all around – a real sense of belonging.



At the start of next week, we have our final two days of the term ahead of officially breaking up for holidays. Please ensure that your children attend the academy as we finalise aspects of the curriculum and enjoy some celebrations together. The PTA are looking forward to hosting the Christmas Fayre and hoping for a fantastic turn out. Arrangements have been tweaked in response to the potential weather, making use of some indoor spaces rather than a planned Winter Village outside. Come along and support, buy some gifts, join in some fun and games and see Father and Mrs Christmas in Hagrids Hut.



On the crest of a new year we reflect and resolutions are made, it can often be a time for new adventures. We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Richards after taking leave with her new son. Mrs Richards will be returning to her role as Reading Lead and an experienced teacher.



We are saying goodbye to two members of our team who are embarking on new adventures as they move away. Miss Morris, our PE LSA will be truly missed. We have seen her grow from an Apprentice and make a wonderful impact on our children in PE sessions, clubs and competitions. Her dedication to girls in sport has channelled passion in our girls with engagement rising across sport and dance. This will be her legacy. She has also introduced us to the relaxation of yoga and has led a staff exercise group, pushing them to their limits!





Miss Marck has been with the academy for 7 years and before that as a pupil. She has been a much loved LSA and member of the After School Club. Children love her for her kindness and for the interest that she takes in them. Miss Marck is relocating and excited for her new chapter. We will miss her and wish her every success.



10 years ago my daughter made a Christmas Wish that we would be at a school together and was delighted to find out that we were going to Darlinghurst Academy – together. This January marks a Decade at Darlinghurst.

A great decision in my 25 year career - a quarter of a century of teaching but in fact a lifetime in education. I often say, I have never left school! I am very much looking forward to the year ahead and beyond.



I am looking forward to the Spring Term, starting on January 5<sup>th</sup> December as we continue our journey at Darlinghurst Academy, together.

Until then, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



## Christmas at Darlinghurst

Please join us on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> December for our Christmas Fayre. We look forward to seeing you all there!





## Junior Governors



After October half term, our Junior Governors were already enthusiastically discussing what they could do for Admiral Court for Christmas. They spent time with their peers creating beautiful individual pieces that contributed towards a large strip of bunting, working like elves in Santa's workshop. In December, we completed the Christmas crafts bunting drop off. It was a lovely trip, bringing smiles to the faces of all the Admiral Court residents. Also, art club and some lovely year 2's



created a wonderful Advent Calendar for the residents. They have been enjoying opening a door on their calendar each day.

## Anglo Saxon and Viking Day



Today, year 4 have had the most incredible day immersed in the world of Anglo Saxons and Vikings. Portals to the Past have come in to work with us and the children have been enthralled all day! They have played an Anglo Saxon board game of Foxes and Geese, completed a quiz by using different historical sources to find the answers, immersed themselves in the story of Beowulf and handled and learnt about weapons and invasions. Many thanks to all the parents who have supported our day by dressing the children up. They look incredible.



## Guitar Lessons

Lessons cost £10 for a 20 minute one-to-one lesson and there will be a total of 10 lessons per term (so a total cost of £100 per term). The lessons will take place within school and during the school day. To secure guitar lessons for your child, please logon to your ParentPay account and pay a deposit of £20. The balance of £80 will then be payable in January. (PLEASE NOTE if your child already had guitar lessons this term then we have automatically saved their slot for next term, this deposit is for new guitar players only).

## Attendance

This term we've continued to focus on attendance, ensuring that attendance remains in line with expectations. We remind parent/carers to call the Academy on the first day of absence where you can speak to a member of staff or leave a voicemail. You may be asked to provide medical evidence for any illness that results in more than 2 days absence to ensure that any underlying health needs are identified and that the Academy can offer appropriate support.

## Punctuality

Punctuality is important at both the start and end of the day. Lateness is monitored and persistent lateness with result in escalation. The start of the academy day is a sharp start with gates closing at 08:40, arrivals after this time are late and the number of minutes late is monitored. Persistent lateness may result in further intervention. Please contact the main office and speak with Miss Davis if you have any morning difficulties you would like discuss or require support with.

What have you missed on Instagram this week?

