



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

EYFS – Nursery and Reception have spent a tremendously fun week together. Although we are sad that many children are moving forward into Reception or Year 1 we know that they are ready for this, to move their learning forward. We ended the week with a pirate party, and as you can see from the photographs fun was certainly had by all!



The Early Years team would like to thank parents and carers for entrusting us to be your children's teachers. It is such a joy for us to watch the children grow and develop in all areas of their learning.

We hope that you all have a wonderful summer holiday, together with family and friends. We look forward to seeing the children return to the Academy fully refreshed and invigorated for new learning and exciting adventures. Have fun! **The Rockpool Team**

Year 1 - have had a fantastic year with smiles, laughter and lots of learning! Celebrating Together was an opportunity to appreciate all we have achieved this year and wow have we come a long way! The writing successes are particularly prevalent, we are so proud of the hard work and determination year 1 have shown in these lessons. Highlights of year 1 must be, the mini-games trip to Eastwood, our Manchester Drive allotment trip and the Nativity performance all the way back in December. **Miss Sankey, Miss Fenwick & Miss Roxbrough**

Year 2 - the team would like to say a big thank you to all of the children in year 2. We have had a fantastic year together and we will miss them. The children have worked incredibly hard throughout the year and, we hope, had fun, had wonderful experiences and made memories that will last a lifetime. We would also like to thank all of the parents and carers who have supported us this year. **Miss Haisman-Baker, Mrs Richards & Miss Krise**

Year 3 - We have had a fantastic year in year 3 and we will miss all the children. The children have loved all our connected curriculum units and have really taken a shine to helping look after the environment. We are proud of all the progress they have made this year particularly with their Reading fluency and understanding. We wish you all the best for next year in year 4. We know you'll smash it! **Mrs Powell,**

Year 4 – We honestly can't believe we have reached the end of the academic school year. The children in year 4 have all grown up and matured so much. Their progress across the whole curriculum has been fantastic and particularly with the dedication shown with TT Rockstars and learning times tables. Yet again, our year 4's have smashed the national average for the multiplication check. Thank you to all you parents too for your continued support throughout the year; it really is a team effort. We would like to wish you all a very happy summer holidays. **Mrs Clarke, Mrs Cooke & Miss Ludford**

Year 5 – Wow, what a great week to the end of a fantastic year in year 5. This week has been full on as the children say goodbye to year 5 and prepare for their new classes in year 6. On Tuesday, we all headed to the Palace Theatre to join several other local primary and secondary schools to perform pieces of music that the children actually helped compose. A little bit scary but under the help of Oran from the English Chamber Orchestra the children performed admirably! After their performance, we watched the professionals in action which truly inspired the children both musically and lyrically.



On Thursday, we were invited to the year 6's dress rehearsal of their leaver's assembly which was amazing. It helped the year 5's realise what an action packed year that lays in wait for them and that this time next year it will be them sharing their memories to others of their time at Darlinghurst.

Thank you for all your support, efforts and progress in year 5, good luck in year 6. Have a happy and safe holiday. See you all back in September. **Mr Dunne, Mrs Lee & Miss Salter**

Sport and PE

KS1 Borough Sports

On the 30th June, our KS1 borough sports squad were in action in the annual SPSSA competition. This is a large event with 16 schools in the group so can be a quite overwhelming for some children.....not ours though as they went into the event confident that they were ready to compete at this high level. Within the competition the children compete in heats in various races where they sprint, bounce and skip to try and qualify for the final of each event. I am pleased to say that our amazing children qualified for every final race meaning that they accumulated a very large points tally. At the end of the event our children were announced as placing in 4th place which is a fantastic achievement. After the event we found out that we were only 4 points off third place and 12 from second! As always our children were well behaved, showed respect for each other and their opponents and demonstrated many of our school values during the afternoon especially determination! Well done to all involved, we are so proud of you all.



Essex Cricket Finals

By winning the SPSSA cricket competition last month we automatically qualified for the Essex finals held at Billericay Cricket ground on July 5th. Our team went into this competition confident after their win but also knowing that they would be competing with all of the best teams in Essex. After a strong start and 3 match wins our team found themselves in the semi-final of the plate competition against a school from Dagenham. This game was a very close affair with both teams showing why they were in the Essex finals with some amazing batting, bowling and fielding. At the end of the match our team had missed out on a place in the final by just 16 runs! It was a great day and a fantastic experience for our children, some of whom were invited to attend Essex cricket team trials at a later date. Well done to all involved as always you are a credit to our academy.

Mini Games

Our second from last event of the year was the Mini Games at Eastwood Academy on 6th July. This year we took 120 children from years 1, 3, 4 and 5 to represent our academy. During the day the children took part in various events from fencing to archery plus many more. As this is a festival and not a competition the emphasis is on taking part, having fun and trying something new. I'm not sure if the children were more excited about going on the double decker bus or taking part in the event but excited they were! The event was well run and inclusive regardless of ability and our children loved every moment of it. To see so many of them with massive smiles on their faces whilst being active made my day. Well done to all involved you were amazing as always.

Multi-Sports Event

On Tuesday 18th July we had the pleasure of hosting a year 3/4 multi-sports event here at Darlinghurst. Children from Eastwood Primary school joined some of our children in various games including the much loved game 'Dome Destruction'. This game is all about team work and co-operation and both schools demonstrated this brilliantly resulting in some very close games. We even had time to mix the teams up so our children had the



chance to make some new friends too. After some fantastic Tri Golf games it was time to say goodbye to our new friends from Eastwood and head back into school. It was great to see even more of our children getting the chance to represent our academy in competitive sport. Well done everyone!

Sports Eco Award

Our School Games Organiser (SGO) Kirsty Fitzgibbon visited our school to present us with the SPSSA Eco award for our work towards making sport and sports events more eco-friendly and sustainable in our area. We are very proud of this award and it will take pride of place in our trophy cabinet.

Amazing Florence

Whilst here, Kirsty also presented Florence with the prestigious 'Sport Performer of the year' award. Florence has been an integral part of our year in sport. She has represented the school in over 11 sports, won the top spot for girls in the Quad Kids athletic competition as well as being a valuable team member in the competition winning dodgeball team to name a few. Her attitude towards sport is second to none, demonstrating determination, confidence and respect for all she is involved with. She is a real credit to our academy and we wish her luck in taking the next step in her life as she moves onto secondary school. Good luck Florence we will miss you.



Message from the PE team to our Year 6 children

We have thoroughly enjoyed teaching you over the years, some of you since reception, and we want to wish you all the best for the future. If you haven't found your sport yet, keep looking it's out there somewhere and remember.....you will need to jump many hurdles in your life, don't allow yourself to become one of them!

Mr Felton, Mr Blewett & Miss Kinch

Attendance

Congratulations to the 154 children who achieved the academy expected 97% attendance this academic year. I hope that next year we can celebrate this achievement with even more children. **Miss Davis**

Class	Present%
WILTON	89.63
MAYFLOWER	90.45
PUFFIN	90.88
LOBSTER	91.74
VICTORIA	91.82
BILLET	92.1
SWORDFISH	92.36
BEMBRIDGE	92.53
STARFISH	92.54
STRAND	93.48
DUNE	93.72
SHRIMP	93.86
JELLYFISH	93.92
ALBATROSS	94.01
CORAL	94.09
STINGRAY	94.17
SEASHELL	94.66



Summer Library Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge 2023 will be taking place in libraries once again this year. The encouragement to continue reading through the long summer holidays has been proven to maintain children's literacy skills and helps children enjoy the pleasures of reading.



Ready, Steady, Read! Takes places from 22nd July across all Southend Libraries.

Any child aged 4-12 years are challenged to read 6 books and collect stickers for each book they talk about with our volunteers. Children aged under 4 can earn a gold medal sticker.



After reading 6 books, children will be awarded a Ready, Steady, Read! certificate and medal. They can also collect a swimming voucher and will be entered into a prize draw to win Adventure Island, Sealife Adventure or Cliffs Pavilion Pantomime vouchers.

There are also lots of free activities for children to complete at the libraries, from Beatbox to Anime workshops.

The council will be awarding a Southend Schools' Summer Reading Challenge certificate to the school that has the highest percentage of children who complete the challenge.

This challenge can be completed at your local library or digitally. Click this link to find out more: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

