



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,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter Break. We are looking forward to a bright end to the academic year. Our children have come back, ready to learn and eager to do their very best. Day one set off with success for some of our children who participated in a golfing competition, coming second overall. They returned to the academy and played a little trick on me, pretending that they had come last ahead of revealing their medals and beaming smiles. Well done team and well done to Ella in year 6 for coming second in the solo event.

The week continued with another celebration, wishing the Queen a Happy Birthday. Children across the academy learned about how the Queen marks her birthdays with the children in the Rockpool making crowns and singing, 'Happy Birthday'.

Over the Easter break, we planted trees within the grounds and today we had a wonderful gift from the PTA with plants for our classrooms. The indoor and outdoor areas are looking fabulous and supportive of the environment.



Our allotment area is having a makeover and work has already begun and continues this term. Mrs Powell went on a lunchtime litter pick with children to make sure the environment stays litter free and tidy. As you know, we care about the environment and the planet and today is 'Earth Day' with the theme, 'Invest in our planet' so I would like to say thank you to the PTA, the site team, Mrs Arnold, Mrs Blythe and Mrs Powell for their contribution and investment.



The year six children and teaching team have returned to the academy with focus and drive. The children are working diligently with determination as they revise and prepare for their forthcoming SATs. They have shown an, 'I can attitude' throughout the year with clear evidence of personal success and progress. The Summer Term is an important time for our year sixes as they come to the end of their key stage marking their academic achievements and successes across the curriculum. It is also a time where they celebrate their growth, friendships and prepare for transition.

As the summer term continues please remind your children to stay safe in the sun and remind them of the importance of sun safety. We are lucky to have such amazing grounds which we use throughout the year, rain or shine. During the summer term children are outside during breaks, outdoor learning, PE and additional learning outside the classroom or events - making the most of the great outdoors. Therefore, please remember:

- A sun hat -to provide shade and protection
- Water in a labelled bottle- to stay hydrated
- Apply sun cream before school or provide a labelled bottle for self-administration - to act as a barrier against the sun rays and to avoid sunburn (please read the suncream label to check for traces of nuts - we are a nut free school )





Finally, can I please remind you that no mobile phones are permitted on academy grounds. Signs have been added to the main and side gates as reminders. Please continue to keep clear of our neighbours driveways during pick up and drop off.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls

## From the Rockpool

This week, Nursery and Reception staff have welcomed the children back after our Easter break and it is wonderful to see how the children have grown, not just in height but also maturity within their learning. The children were eager to see their friends again and have immersed themselves into our new topic about Life Cycles. We shared the well known story, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', by Eric Carle, which is always a firm favourite. The story lends itself to exciting learning such as patterns, days of the week and healthy eating.

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle (just Reception children) and sun hat in school each day. Preferably, it would be advisable to apply all day suncream/lotion to your child before school please. However, if you do not use an all day product then we request that you apply it to your child before school and give them suncream/lotion to use independently before lunch. Many thanks for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

## Around the Academy

The children in **Year 1** have come back to school after a lovely Easter break showing that they are ready to learn and very excited about our new topic, Starry Night. We have been learning about the art work of Vincent Van Gogh and will be artists ourselves using the brush techniques he used in our own artwork. In our writing lessons we have been using facts of Van Gogh as a person to write a fact file about him. We have been inspired by the fact that he once said "I dream my painting then I paint my dream". In our maths lessons we have been counting by grouping amounts into bundles of ten, then counting the bundles and adding on the loose ones.

After a wonderful two week break, it was amazing to see the smiling faces of all of our amazing **Year 2** children. They have settled back into routines quickly and are all eager to learn. Our new topic 'Where do the Bong Trees grow?' is a celebration of the famous poem by Edward Lear 'The Owl and the Pussycat'. We will be finding out all about owls and cats, learning how to sketch and use different art medium to produce different effects and learning the poem so that we can confidently recite it to an audience. In maths this week, we have been exploring numbers within 1000 and place value.

**Year 3** have come back to school with a calm, hardworking and sensible attitude. Well done Year 3! The children have begun their studies about 'The Games Children Play' in our Edison Topic work this half-term. They loved looking at photographs and toys which are old or new. We discussed materials they are made of and compared toys on a timeline to see how they may have changed over time.

It's wonderful to see the **Year 4** children back after the Easter break and we cannot believe it is already the summer term! This week we have introduced the children to their new topic 'From a Railway Carriage'. The children have been immersed in the poem 'From a railway carriage' by R.L Stevenson including learning and performing it in class as well as writing their own adapted versions. In maths the children have been exploring problems relating to mass, length and capacity. You may like to explore some estimating, weighing and measuring at home with some simple cooking ingredients. A reminder to play TTRS for ten minutes per night on garage and sound check in order to keep our times tables recall super speedy. Well done on your first week back Year 4!



The children in **Year 6** have settled straight back their routines after the Easter break. In Writing, they have been constructing letters of complaint to a company and have been focussing on use a polite but firm tone to convey their thoughts and opinions. Year 6 have started to look at The Lady of Shalott, a very famous poem, and have looked at her portrait and made inferences and predictions based on the image. They have showed great insight so far – well done everyone!

During the month of May, children in Year 6 will sit their end of key stage SATS assessments. It is a really important time for our children as they get the opportunity to showcase their learning. From Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022, a light breakfast (E.g. cereals, toast, fruit etc.) will be on offer for Year 6, in the hall (details to follow nearer the time). Here the children will spend time together, in preparation for the day. It is vital that all Year 6 children are punctual and attend each day of this week. We would like to wish the children all the best as they prepare for this key time ahead. **Year 6 Team**

## Learning and Life Skills

Our new Learning and Life Skill title for the first half of the Summer term is 'Think, think, think!! The focus skills for this half term are:

- Processing and evaluating information
- Reasoning and enquiry
- Creative thinking and problem solving

The Summer term begins with developing our thinking skills in Learning and Life Skills. The children in year 5 and 6 have been introduced to their new focus through an assembly which focussed on the puzzle of 'The farmer's dilemma'. The children had to use their reasoning and enquiry skills to solve the puzzle with their talk partners. The children in years 1 -4 will have their assemblies next week. Reflecting on the children's thinking processes and decisions will be key for all year groups over this half term in their classrooms. A fun activity to try at home is the 'What if...' game, simply asking the children some 'what if...' questions over dinner and have them think of some for you. This is brilliant for creative thinking and problem solving.

What if ..... - there was no chocolate?  
- you were turned into a slug?  
- people did not need to sleep?  
- you were able to wave a magic wand?  
- all the oceans dried up?  
- scientists invented the secret of eternal life?

**Mrs Cooke**



### Workshops



### Sports and extra-curricular clubs

All sports and extra-curricular clubs will commence next week. In order to book your child a place, please email [mrsalexander@darlinghurstacademy.org.uk](mailto:mrsalexander@darlinghurstacademy.org.uk) with the subject 'Club booking' and clearly state your child's name, class and their preferred club. Bookings will open on **Friday, 22nd April at 7pm** and will close on **Sunday, 24th April at 7pm**. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. You will receive an email confirming if your child has a space or if they have been placed on a waiting list. Please note, email requests received outside of these times will not be accepted as a booking. Telephone requests cannot be accepted until Monday, 25th April where we will endeavour to offer your child a place if there are spaces available. Bookings are not currently being taken for Art club until after half term, further communication will be sent once bookings are open.

All of our internal clubs are free of charge and are provided by our specialist teams and teaching staff. To book a space on one of the clubs offered by an external provider where a fee is payable, please email [sigmagymnastics@gmail.com](mailto:sigmagymnastics@gmail.com) for gymnastics and [help@speakealikeanative.com](mailto:help@speakealikeanative.com) for Spanish club.

#### Summer clubs 2022

	Morning club	Lunchtime club	After school club			
Monday		KS2 Chess club Mrs Hahn & Mr Turner 12.30 – 1.30 20 spaces Y3/4 intervention room	KS1 Summer sports Mr Blewett & Mr Felton 3.10 – 4.15 40 spaces Exit main gate	Art Club Mrs Buckley & Miss Sonkey 3.10 – 4.15 15 spaces Art room Exit main gate	Y5 & 6 History club Mrs Lee 3.30 – 4.15 30 spaces Mayflower class Exit office	Y1 – 6 Eco club Mrs Powell & Miss Ludford 3.10 – 4.00 30 spaces Seashell class Exit main gate
Tuesday	Y1&2 Gymnastics (£ paid) Sigma Gymnastics 7.50 – 8.30	Y2 Homework club Mrs Holsman-Baker 12.30 – 1.00 30 spaces Puffin class	KS1 Choir Miss Saller & Mrs Dutton 12.30 – 1.00 30 spaces Lobster class	Y2, 3 & 4 Gymnastics (£ paid) Sigma Gymnastics Demountable 7.50 – 8.30 Exit main gate		Y3 – 6 Spanish club (£ paid) Speak Like a Native 3.15 – 4.15 Y6 intervention room Exit office
Wednesday				Y3 & 4 Dance 3.10 – 4.15 Miss Morris Demountable 20 spaces Exit main gate	Y5 & 6 Summer sports Mr Felton & Mr Blewett 3.10 – 4.15 40 spaces Exit main gate	
Thursday	Y5 11+ club Mrs Hahn 7.50 – 8.30 20 spaces Y5 intervention room			Y5&4 Dance 3.10 – 4.15 Miss Morris 20 spaces Exit main gate	Y3 & 4 Summer sports Mr Felton & Mr Blewett 3.10 – 4.15 40 spaces Exit main gate	
Friday	Y3 & 4 Gymnastics (£ paid) Sigma Gymnastics 7.50 – 8.30  Y1 – 6 Running club Mr Felton & Mr Blewett 7.50 – 8.20 Brook gate			KS2 Choir Miss Saller & Mrs Dutton 3.15 – 4.15 30 spaces Y3/4 intervention room Exit office		



## KS2 Choir club

Do you love to sing? Why not join the Darlinghurst KS2 Choir on Fridays after school 3:15pm till 4pm and end the week singing with friends.

Those children who attend the choir regularly will have the opportunity to participate in the Junior Music festival, performing on stage at the Cliffs Pavilion on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June. The festival is well attended by schools in the local area and together they perform a selection of songs based on a theme. This Year's theme is, 'Musicals'. They will be singing some great hits such as, 'When I grow up', from Matilda and 'The circle of life,' from the Lion King and more.



## Sir Linkalot

There is now a new code which is easier to use to access your child's Sir Linkalot account. There is one less step but make sure you click on 'Have a 2021/22 access code' not '2020/21'. The old one will still work but this is a lot easier to remember.

### Access details:

To access it on a laptop, Mac, Chromebook or PC (therefore IWBs):

1. Type in the browser itself (not a search engine) [app.sirlinkalot.org](http://app.sirlinkalot.org) (with no Ws before it)
2. Click on the log icon (for log in) at the top right
3. Click on 'Have a 2021/22 access code?' (**not 2020/21**)
4. The promo code is Darlinghurst2022

To access it on a tablet, iPad or phone:

1. Download it from the App Store, Play Store or Amazon
2. Tap on 'log in' (top right)
3. Click on 'Have a 2021/22 access code?' (**not 2020/21**)
4. The promo code is Darlinghurst2022





## Pantomime – Cliffs Pavilion – 9<sup>th</sup> December



We have secured fantastic tickets in the stalls for £25 each, tickets are limited and on a first come first served basis. They are now available to buy via your child's ParentPay account.

What have  
you missed  
on  
Instagram  
this week?

