

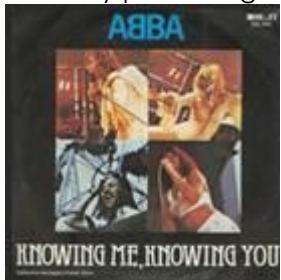


Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping**. In addition, we use **Instagram** to share what's going on within the Academy daily.

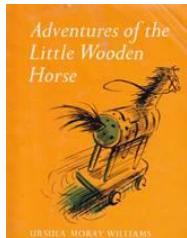
Please make sure you are following us **@DarlinghurstAcademy** on Instagram.

Message from the Principal

This week has been full of variety! A huge well done for the effort and engagement in the variety homework project. The children have been proud of their work, their families, personal values and identity. I have loved looking at their work with them. Their pride and ownership was written all over their faces. At Darlinghurst we encourage our children to be confident individuals that not only develop academically, but grow into thoughtful and respectful citizens, with a sense of humanity and belonging. During this project they have shown this by producing creative work related to their individuality, personal values, interests, experiences and faiths.



We have many photographs and videos that will be compiled as a collaborative celebration of work and hope to keep some within the academy for a while to create a celebration display. This project coincides with our learning and life skill, 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' (we all add a little 'ah ha' to the end of this one, with a little bit of ABBA). It's a great learning and life skill focus, developing understanding of oneself and others. It focuses on qualities and characteristics alongside moral and social development. During assembly, we shared some of the 'I can' statements we are focusing on and children and teachers are keen to develop and celebrate these in class, giving recognition to these skills within their personal development.



Next week, we are celebrating others within World Book Day, sharing our favourite authors and characters and the value of bedtime stories with our families. We are looking forward to the event. Remember, if you have a book that can be swapped with another child, you can share that love of reading and give a new book for another to enjoy. I loved bedtime stories with my dad, whether they were imaginative stories of 'Cyril Squirrel' or sharing 'The Little Wooden Horse', a book his father read to him when he was little. This led to me reading this book to my first year two class as a newly qualified teacher in 1997. Books are powerful and make connections.



WORLD BOOK DAY*

Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading.

NATIONAL
BOOK
TOKENS



This year we were successful in becoming part of a local project, Metal - Art makes children powerful! We look forward to this project and working with members of the community. Art is enjoyed by many of our children as a creative subject and interest. Children have also told me that they like mindful colouring at home too and attend art clubs outside of the academy. Creative arts were part of my own personal favourites and subjects within my further education too, amongst others. Whilst my sister was a scientist and pursued her pathways through science. Different avenues and experiences but now we are both in education. Why not have a talk about your own qualities and interests at home. What makes you - you? During half term, my mum told my children the variety of jobs she had through her life, many I didn't know. It was a great conversation and a light bulb moment when I found out she worked in a light bulb factory! Let's keep talking and sharing and turn our lights up and shine bright! We are all full of our own special talents and qualities - rich in variety.



As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



From the Rockpool

The Rockpool have had a tremendous week and enjoyed sharing their holiday adventures and news with each other. Our topic for these first three weeks is 'Space' which is always a firm favourite with the adults as well as the children. We shared the story 'Whatever Next!' about a bear that travels to the moon for a picnic. Now we all want to go on a trip to the moon and are busy building spaceships and rockets to try and help this become reality. It's very exciting! 🚀 Have a wonderful family week. The Rockpool Team

Around the Academy

This week in **Year 1**, we have enjoyed welcoming the children back and starting our new topic 'Why is water precious?' The children have discussed and explored the topic asking lots of questions, sharing their ideas as a class and are looking forward to completing the topic this half term. We have looked and read the story 'And Tango Makes Three' where we have discussed the story together and the children have enjoyed creating their own version of this story. During maths, we have looked at numbers within 20. The children have discovered and explored number lines to work out the difference between two numbers. We have had a great week and enjoyed our learning very much!

This week in writing, **Year 2** have learnt how to look after a cat and have been very thoughtful in the ways they would care for it. Also, they have become scientists and chosen an animal to research. We have discovered what our animal eats, its habitat and interesting facts about it. We have learnt so much! For example, sharks cannot feel pain and don't have any bones! We will be using this learning to support our 'how to look after a...' writing next week. Our new term's learning and life skill is 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' and Year 2 have been demonstrating this beautifully by showing consideration and being very thoughtful towards their peers. In maths, we have been taking on the challenge of learning column subtraction with 2-digit numbers.

In **Year 3** this week we have started our topic 'Are bugs important?' so we are going to experience being mini scientists this term. We can't wait. In writing we are imagining we have shrunk down to tiny ants and exploring the world from this perspective. We have used 'A Bugs Life' as a stimulus. As part of this we have been discussing life processes of living things and what makes us an animal. We are looking forward to learning more about the world around us.

This week in **Year 4** we have really enjoyed receiving the children's 'Variety Week' homework, what a creative bunch! We introduced our new topic, for this term, 'What happens inside our bodies?' The children had great fun recording their resting heart rate and their heart rate following 1 minute of exercise and were amazed to learn why the beats per minute had increased. In maths we are learning about decimals and have discussed how we use them in everyday life. Maybe the children can wow you with their subtraction or addition skills when out shopping! This week we have been writing, to entertain our readers, about a very lazy and unhealthy pirate focussing on the use of inverted commas. Keep on rocking with TTRS and have a lovely weekend.

It has been a great start to the new term despite the windy weather! **Year 5** Pupils are ready to get to know each other better and themselves, through our 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' life skill target, striving to be the best they can be. In writing, we are focussing on using dialogue to understand more about characters and move the story along. In maths, pupils have been excited to use protractors to measure angles and make connections with real life situations. For computing lessons, the children have been introduced to 'Scratch' and are very much looking forward to finding out more about coding. In our RE lessons, pupils have started to explore a variety of special days, considering different traditions and customs and making links with their own celebrations. Our music lessons have been a real challenge trying to find the pulse and rhythm and rap along with Will Smith! The contributions for Variety week have been fabulous highlighting the rich diversity within our classes.



Year 6 have started a new topic called 'Let's go around again.' This is science based which will revise electricity and the human body in preparation for Year 7. This will culminate in a Science Fair at the end of term, where in small groups, the children will present their own scientific experiment to the rest of the year group. We have asked Year 6 to get their thinking caps on! In our writing lessons, we are writing a piece titled 'The Dive', where we are writing a sports commentary on Tom Daley's Olympic dive. In maths, we have been learning about averages: mean, median and mode. Thank you for all of the wonderful collages, videos, poems and photographs celebrating our Diversity week focus, 'Express yourself'. Please continue to encourage your child to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes once they have read their books.

World Book Day 2022



WORLD BOOK DAY
Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading





On **Thursday 3rd March 2022**, Darlinghurst Academy will be celebrating 25 years of World Book Day. In school, we will be supporting this event with many exciting book reading activities- including the Darlinghurst Book Swap and book review competition.



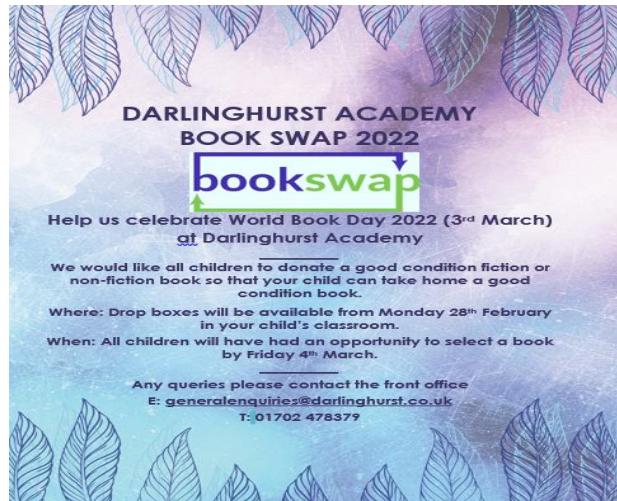
This year we are inviting all children and staff members to come to school dressed either as their favourite book character or in their pyjamas/onesie because of the great association of bedtime reading.



Please do not feel obliged to buy expensive costumes, just be creative and we know you will all look great!



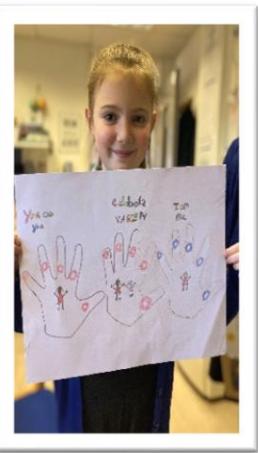
We look forward to seeing all the children participating in this fantastic annual opportunity to celebrate reading for pleasure throughout the school.





Variety Week special

It has been a tremendous start to half term as we have been celebrating Variety Week across the school. We are so impressed with the effort taken to complete the homework task that was set in support of this. The children have been excited to share their creations through a mixture of different mediums. With each piece being so unique, this reflects the diversity within our school community. It's been incredible to see how the children view the value of variety around us and celebrate what makes each of us special. At Darlinghurst Academy, this positive message is consistently reinforced throughout the curriculum including our 'Shaping the Future' motto- there is only one me- and our Learning and Life skills targets.



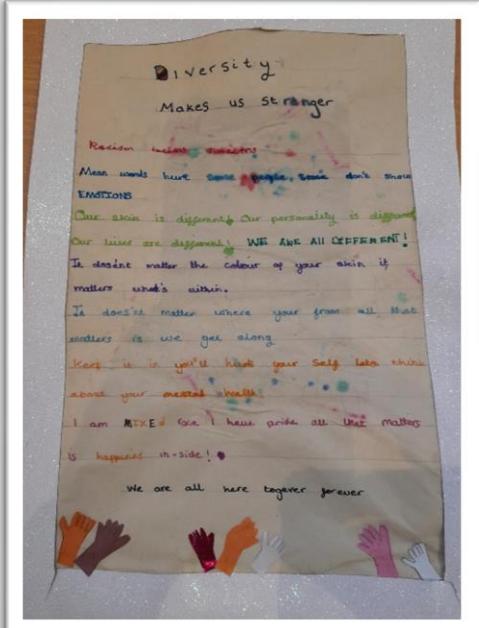
Miss McCrory

Our new Learning and Life Skill title for the second half of the Spring term is 'Knowing me, knowing you'. The focus skills for this half term are:

- Managing ones moral and social development
- Recognising feelings and understanding emotions
- Developing a positive sense of one's self
- Stress management and conflict resolution

One of our skill areas of 'Developing a positive sense of one's self' coincided so perfectly with Variety Week this week! The teaching staff have really enjoyed seeing some of the amazing half term homework the children have created, truly celebrating what makes them special as individuals. Our LLS assemblies this week have introduced all of the children to their new targets and introduced the concept of a moral dilemma. All year groups were extremely thoughtful around our discussion of what to do if we found money on the floor in the playground. As we explore our LLS lessons over the coming weeks we will delve deeper into discussing consequences for chosen actions. Suggestions to help at home this half term are naming and discussing different emotions, thinking of ways to keep calm and relaxed such as doing yoga, keeping an emotions/feelings diary or simply asking your child what they feel they are good at.

You are I am
YOU ME
celebrate
VARIETY



Mrs Cooke



Darlinghurst Academy News & Views

25th February 2022



Proud to be me

Sophia from Coral class, won first place gold medal in ballet and third place bronze medal in her acro routine at the Platinum dance festival on the 13th of February. Well done!



Well done to Jessica from Puffin class for performing in her first dance show at the Towngate Theatre on Saturday 12th February.



KS1

Lobster 95.2%

KS2

Wilton 97.2%

Victoria 96.9%





Jump into Cub Scouts with 8th Leigh on Sea

We currently have spaces available for children aged 8 to 10 and a half. We meet on a Tuesday evening at Ellenbrook Close Leigh on sea SS9 3DY 6pm till 7.30pm
for more information please email michael.palmer@swnscouts.org.uk

What have you missed on Instagram this week?