



Communication is a priority for us once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using **School Ping**. In addition, we use **Twitter and Instagram** to share what's going on within the Academy daily. Please make sure you are following us **@Darlinghurstsch** on Twitter and **@DarlinghurstAcademy** on Instagram

## Message from the Principal

Dear parents/carers,

Over this week we have all been preparing and looking ahead towards the full return of our children to Darlinghurst. During this time, we have been communicating key information in readiness. Please take a look at the PING messages that have been sent, including some today. As we have prepared for the transition from Blended learning to being back face-to face at the academy we have shared important information with our children too, through assemblies, special messages and videos. We are incredibly proud of them. We are here for them.

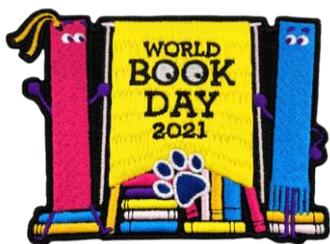
I would like to take this time to acknowledge all that you do for your children. Throughout this time demands have been placed on your shoulders, juggling life, work commitments and learning at home. You have provided love, support, care and engaged in blended learning, through challenging circumstances. Thank you and well done! As we move forward, please continue to talk to us and work together. We are here for you too.

This week we have enjoyed our final week of blended learning, celebrating our love of reading and engaging in fun activities linked to world book day. We have had some exciting book characters attend our virtual classrooms today, even Father Christmas! Take a look at our posts on instagram, including our Masked Reader collection. Who are the staff, behind the masks?

I am looking forward to Monday to see all our children, once again. I ask that you continue to follow our morning and afternoon routines, please arrive swiftly and leave promptly, entrusting them back into our care. Should you need to let us know anything, please contact the office via email or telephone and someone will be in touch. Email: [generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk) / Telephone: 01702 478379.

As always, enjoy your family time together.

Mrs Nicholls



## World Book Day

This week we have been celebrating Book Week across the academy. We have engaged in author workshops, created our very own picture books, written realistic character descriptions and dressed up as our favourite book characters. This has been a fabulous way of enriching our reading curriculum and we hope your children feel inspired to pick up

a book. Well done to all those that have taken part, and thank you to the parents for all your support.





Have you seen the masked reader videos on Instagram this week? Having trouble working out who's who? Well here are some clues to help you:

Sausage:

- 1) I can complete a Rubix cube.
- 2) I got pied in the face on Sports Day.

Hooded skeleton:

- 1) I have two sets of Darlinghurst uniform in my house.
- 2) PE with Joe is one of my favourite things to do, but I have been known to wilt on the floor at the end.

Bicycle helmet head:

- 1) I am terrified of wasps.
- 2) I love baking cakes and cookies for my friends and family.

Don't forget the Book Bingo competition. Complete 5 of the activities on the board over the course of March and you could be in with a chance of winning a fabulous new book!

Please look at our [picture gallery of World book day](#) at the end of this week's edition.

## Around the Academy and at Home

Wow! We have been learning online together for two whole weeks since our recent holiday and it has been fantastic! This week **Reception** have focused on the non-fiction aspect of our 'Space' topic which has been fascinating as we have all learnt lots of new facts. On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day and shared many books with each other. We also dressed up as many different story characters including pirates, Woody, fairies, Superman, witches and Little Red Riding Hood. It was certainly great fun! We finished the week with a Reception Assembly sharing our thoughts about returning to school together next Monday and how exciting it will be. The Reception Team would like to take this opportunity to once again thank all of the Reception children for being such amazing learners during these blended online learning weeks. We also want to thank the parents and carers of our children as your support has been wonderful and we are so grateful. Thank you! Have a wonderful weekend. The Reception Team

This week in **Year 1** we have enjoyed learning and writing about the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and her beautiful self-portraits. We have learnt a lot from books about her. In maths, we have enjoyed creating our own shops and learning how to add coins and exchange money. All of us in Year 1 have been very excited about World Book Day and found it very funny to see our teachers dressing up as some of our favourite book characters, including Winnie the Pooh and Harry Potter! We're all looking forward very much to being together again in class on Monday too!

This week, **Year 2** have been embracing World Book day with a creative writing week! It was lovely to see so many of Year 2 dressed up for World Book day. We got to take part in a fantastic Interactive Books Workshop by Tom Fletcher and began completing some of our Book Bingo. We have also adapted the Mrs Armitage on Wheels story. Our new characters have found equally mad additions to put on their bikes! An example of these crazy additions include: a lighthouse so that people can see them coming, a bubble bath with their favourite lavender soap for when they get dirty and a popcorn machine for when they get peckish. We have also been exploring the amazing history of aviation and the work of the Wright Brothers. Thinking about how difficult it can be to make something that flies, we decided to make our own helicopters. One paper helicopter managed to stay in the air for 25 seconds!



**Year 4** have really worked super hard this week but then our new topic is all about chocolate so that has definitely helped with our enthusiasm levels! We are all reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory which is a real Roald Dahl classic and have written diary entries from little Charlie Bucket's point of view. Linking this to World Book Day though, we've been thinking; what if the shop keeper had 'judged a book by its cover' (our WBD theme) and NOT let Charlie into his shop to buy the winning Wonka Bar? The story would have taken a very different direction.

On a final remote learning note as well, we have to say we have been incredibly proud of all our year 4's, those at home working hard every single day and also those in school. Thanks to the wonders of technology, we have still been able to all be together as a community and it has really helped in these strange times. So thank you children and parents for being amazing these past weeks, you should all be super proud of yourselves for the true 'Excellence' you have all shown us. And I can actually say this now... see you all next week! We can't wait to see you all. The year 4 teachers.

This week **Year 5** have transformed into budding authors as they have been creating recipes to make their favourite book characters.

"A pinch of humour

A slice of kindness

And a cup of brown wavy hair"

We had fun dressing up for world book day and standing away from our screen to show off our outfit from head to toe. Some great costume and character choices!

In maths we have built on our knowledge of calculating area, to work out the perimeter of regular shapes. Including problem solving perimeter questions from the book Matilda and deciding which method of calculating perimeter we find the easiest and most efficient.

Continuing our topic of fairground, we discovered the origins of fairs in the UK. We were fascinated to watch the transformation from traditional fairs to recreational fairs. As the transport available over the years has developed and, traders no longer need to rely on fairs to sell or barter their goods, the purpose of fairs evolved into entertainment for the audience.

We have also spent time refocusing on the return to school in the coming days. Offering the children time to readjust and have a chance to ask any burning questions.

With a mixture of excitement and a little bit of butterflies in our tummy's year five can't wait to come back and we looked forward to seeing them all come Monday.

**Year 6** have been enjoying learning about different animals, evolution and their habitats. This week they were given the task of creating some bird feeders to help protect some of our local species. Here are some examples:





## March 19<sup>th</sup> is Red Nose Day

If we've learnt one thing in the last 12 months, it's that life is unpredictable. One thing we can always rely on though is the power of laughter. It can change things. It can connect us. It can be the difference.



**Calling all superheroes.** From Wonder woman and Superman to Air-Guitar-Girl and Bakes-Brilliant- Cakes-Boy, choose or create a superhero and pay a small fee to dress up for the day. Donations can be made through ParentPay. More details to come.

TTRS Top Rockers - March Week 1			
	% of class that used TTRS last week	Average daily minutes	Average correct answers
1st	Bell Wharf	Dune, Coral (7)	Coral (1736)
2nd	Wilton	Lobster, Seashell, Stingray, Mayflower, Wilton	Mayflower
3rd	Victoria	Great white shark, Swordfish, Strand, Bell wharf	Dune

## Attendance

**Please be aware that a letter will be sent via school ping with regards to attendance. We ask that you take the time to read this carefully.**

We look forward to welcoming all children back to the Academy on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

As before it remains vitally important to communicate any absence to the Academy on the first day of your child's absence. If your child displays any one of the main COVID-19 symptoms that they do not attend school and you seek a test immediately and inform us of any positive test result.

If a member of the household is awaiting COVID-19 test results or has a positive test result the entire household must isolate.

If a member of the household is advised to isolate as a result of being in close contact with a person who has tested positive, it is only that individual who has had close contact who is required to isolate, not the entire household.

If you or your child are experiencing any anxiety or worries around COVID-19 and returning to the Academy see our 'Back to school tips'.

In line with Government guidance, usual school policy and procedure applies and attendance to the Academy is again a legal requirement. Please see our attendance policy for further information.





## School Dinners

We are pleased to offer a selection of hot and cold meal options when the children return to school on 8th March. The attached lunch menu will be served on a three-week rolling cycle, starting with the 'Week One' menu next week.

Please note that desserts may be subject to change.

Please ensure that all meals ordered are paid for in advance via your ParentPay account. If your child's account is already in arrears then please make payment to clear the arrears before any further meals are ordered.



## DARLINGHURST ACADEMY LUNCH MENU SPRING Week One



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Neopolitan Pizza or Tomato and Pepper Pinwheel	Meatballs and Pasta or Vegetable Pasta	Sausage Roll or Vegetarian Sausage in Pastry	Hunters Chicken or Cheese and Potato Pie	Battered Fish or Vegetarian Hotdog
Herb Diced Potato and Vegetables	Vegetables	Potato Wedges and Vegetables	Roast Potatoes and Vegetables	Chips And Peas
Flapjack	Vanilla Cookie	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Chocolate Brownie	Fresh Fruit
 <b>Daily GRAB BAGS available</b> Choice of wrap Fruit or salad pot Savoury snack Desert of the day 				

## What have you missed on instagram this week?



darlinghurstacademy A welcome message for Monday · Today is the last day of blended learning and ahead of the return of all our children, we wanted to say hello allowing those who have been learning at home to have a look around the academy again. This is part of a special assembly - take a look. We look forward to seeing you on March 8th. #preparedforchange #primaryschool #transition #assembly #welcomebacktoschool

2 hours ago

