



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 and children,

I usually write the start of news and views to parents and carers and over the last few weeks I have tried to share a few messages with our children too. This week I have asked members of the Senior Leadership team to write to you all, as we are all missing you a lot and I am writing my introduction, especially for the children.

Hello children,

It's been nearly a month that most of you have been at home rather than here at Darlinghurst and I miss you. I am working at home or at the school, each day, talking to teachers about your learning, having meetings and planning what we need to do next. It's not the same as seeing you all each day, having our assemblies together and celebrating your learning, first hand. However, I have loved celebrating excellence with you on Instagram and looking at your learning on DB Primary and social media too. You are such a talented and hardworking bunch. Your talents are certainly shining bright, along with your kindness and big hearts. Our academy values are at the centre of all that we do and I am so proud to see how they are part of your everyday life and approach to learning. They are truly values for life.

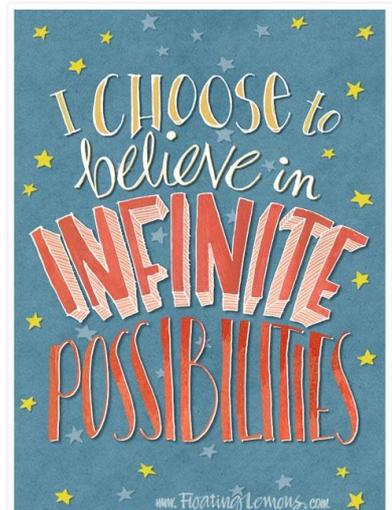
We have some children in school every day who can't stay at home so we do have a few here to keep us entertained. However, we are following the Governments guidance and keeping as many people at home as possible so we only have a few teachers in school at any one time (just enough to look after the few children we have) which means it's a lot quieter here than usual. I know it must be frustrating not being able to come to school and for us all to be together, or being able to go and play with your friends when you want to, but we are showing our sense of belonging by keeping everyone safe and happy. It is going to be a while until it is 'Darlinghurst as usual' but we will take careful steps, until we reach that wonderful time when the gates welcome us all back, with open arms.

So for now, let's continue to communicate and join in events and activities together. I know I look forward to story time each day and some of the fun shared on Instagram. I never thought I would dance and sing with staff and children, during this remote time, but as I always tell you, believe in the power of possibility. I'm hopeful we will be able to see each other again soon and get back to doing the things we love with the people we love. We can dance and sing together soon.

Take care, stay safe and be nice to those looking after you.

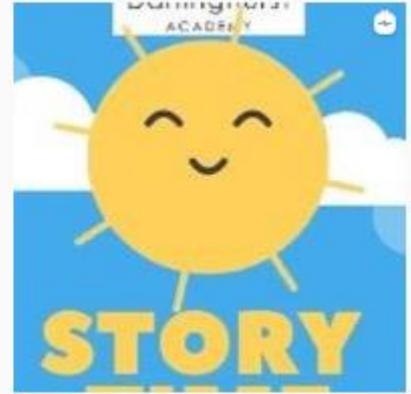
Mrs Nicholls

Imagine
with all
your mind.
Believe
with all
your heart.
Achieve
with all
your might.





What have you missed out on **Twitter and Instagram** this week?



Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Hello Nursery and Reception,

I have been blown away by and so proud of the fantastic learning nursery and reception children have been doing while at home. Our Early Years staff have been busy recording stories, activities and challenges for the children to join in with to support the children's learning. The children have followed these ideas and had their own ideas to continuing practising their phonics and writing, their counting and their understanding of the world around us and posting photos of their achievements on Tapestry, our online learning journal. Reception children have also completed activities on DBPrimary. I have loved to see all the cooking, gardening, nature and crafting activities that the children have done and their obvious enjoyment while doing them. Well done everyone in our Early Years family, Mrs Dutton

The KS1 team would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to all the parents who have been working hard to support the children in their learning over the last few weeks. We appreciate it! Our teaching team are working hard to inspire their communities by sharing examples of children's work and posting an array of stimulating activities for you to complete at home. We have loved looking at all your photos and videos. Do, please, keep sending them in. As always, don't forget to read as much as you can, it's the key to expanding horizons. It can also aid in relieving loneliness as children immerse themselves in a world full of new characters and settings. My reading page on DB Primary has lots of story time videos for children to tune into.

We miss you all lots and lots and are looking forward to the day we meet again! Take care everyone.
Miss Lynch

Dear Year 3,

I miss seeing all your lovely faces at school. I am sure you miss seeing your friends and teachers too? I hope that you are all keeping safe and helping out at home with your chores and online learning. If you haven't – then now will be the time to start helping out at home and taking every learning opportunity that comes your way. Use every chore and activity as an opportunity to get better at something. Work hard at it and you will see how good it can make you feel. People around you will begin to notice and say positive things about your effort and the cycle will just continue. I am so impressed with all your amazing work on DB Primary – I am very proud of you! Keep practicing your counting and times table facts, read every day and be kind to others. Keep safe and take care of yourself and your family. Miss you all, Mrs Hahn J



Hello to all of Year 4,

I'm wondering how many elements from the picture you have completed since we went into lockdown? How many of you have stayed in pyjamas for the day? How many of you have put artwork in your windows to celebrate the incredible effort and bravery of all of keyworkers going out every day to work to help us? How many of you have wondered what your class mates are up to, how your class teachers are, how the LSAs are, how everyone who works at the school are?

I have had pyjama days with my boys and loved them! I have ticked off lots from the picture but still have many that I wish to cross off by the time we return. And many, many times during the day I wonder how you all are, miss seeing your faces, miss hearing your voices (even when they've been told to talk in partner voices!) and miss the energy you bring with you.

I can't wait to see you all again very soon but until then keep up with completing your work on DB Primary and sending it in, uploading your music videos, uploading you singing or playing the piano and try to stay in contact with your friends by sending them messages or challenging them on TTRS!

Take care, stay safe and we will see you soon.
Ms White



Year 5 parents

Mr Turner has shared a video providing you with information about the 2021 residential, when your children will be in Year 6, to give you as much time as possible to begin making payments. If you have not seen it yet, please follow this link -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nXSOE550jWesavg7yZvCj6yRSVWXSD0T/view?invite=CPui9tcE&ts=5ea19013>

We have halved the size of the deposit originally requested and extended the deadline for payments, which is now June 1st, 2020.

Year 5 and 6 parents

Well done to everyone in upper key stage 2 showing the determination to keep up with learning from home, we know it is not easy, especially staff with their own children! I hope you have not found the wet playtimes at home too challenging this week! If you have any questions or difficulties, please contact your child's teacher through DB Primary and remember there are links to additional websites with a range of activities on our school website – if you need them. We look forward to welcoming you and your children back as soon as it is safe.

Mr Turner

KEEPING BUSY NOW THAT LIFE HAS CHANGED

Life is really different right now because of the Coronavirus. At **Darlinghurst** we all understand that some of these changes are difficult and at times can be upsetting!



You might be

Feeling bored or lonely

Sad that you have missed time at **Darlinghurst** (We know that you miss us really!)

Missing your friends and classmates

Worrying about your school work and maybe moving to a new school if you are in year 6

Sad that you can't see Nanny & Grandad or other members of your family.

Worried about yourself, friends or family becoming ill.



Missing all the lovely Teachers, LSA's, **Anchor Room** and other school staff.

So, there are lots of bad things about this virus, and we need to take care and look after ourselves and each other.

But it is important that we don't spend all of our time worrying about it because it won't last forever.

When we look back on this time, we may find that we have learned some very interesting things about ourselves and each other. We can't change this situation. But we can find new and different ways to enjoy life and stay happy.

Here's some tips to keep yourself busy and happy while you're stuck inside.



BE KIND. This is a difficult time for everyone, so if your brother or sister is getting on your nerves, before arguing, see if you can understand how they are feeling and maybe try and help them!

Look after each other. It's good to take care of each other, and sometimes helping someone else can make you both feel better. Ask your grown-ups if there are any jobs around the house you could help them with - Trust me, they'll be so pleased

you offered.

Don't worry too much. This won't last forever.

Organise your day. **Darlinghurst** may be closed for most of you, but you still need to make a plan. Make time for school work, organise a timetable but also include time for relaxing, being mindful, thinking about your mind and body, and do some exercise.

So ... now it's time to be creative with your time

Talk about how you feel. Stay in touch with friends and family online. If you can't see Nanny & Grandad at the moment, stay in touch using FaceTime or Skype. (They may need some help in using them!) And if you're missing your friends you can talk to them through DB Primary. Try and find opportunities in this situation. It feels like such a strange time, but you may surprise yourself on what you can achieve.

Here's some ideas of things you can enjoy at home

Keep active with Joe Wicks or try some other form of exercise like yoga or pilates.



Explore the world. Google a virtual tour say, of the Great Wall of China, or a zoo and see what the animals are doing. Or you could explore another world by Googling a 'Virtual tour of Mars' and write about your experience

Become a quiz master. Make up a quiz and invite your friends to take part. Want to be the next David Walliams? All you need is a pen and paper. **Don't forget to share your best sellers on DB primary!**



You could even become the next big rock star- learn to play an instrument, if you don't have one you can download free piano apps. You could even try to learn a foreign language

Please Keep in touch with us here at the **Anchor Room** on DB Primary. Myself, Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Ricks are waiting to hear from you. We even have a page that you can discuss any worries you may have with us, as well as one on fun facts and Millie the dog shares her day and her worries as well.

We look forward to seeing who's up to what!

Take care and stay safe **Mrs Grant x**





Learning and Life Skills

This half term, we will be focusing on the strand – 'Think, Think, Think'. The purpose of this strand is to develop the essential skills that pupils need in order to use good thinking to support their learning. The key themes in this unit are:

- Information Processing and Evaluation
- Reasoning and Enquiry
- Creative Thinking and Problem Solving



Within these themes are a number of key skills such as:

- Finding, analysing, using and evaluating information
- Recording and presenting information
- Asking questions
- Drawing conclusions
- Making judgements and saying why
- Using imagination and being creative

Children need to be able to identify what sort of strategies or type of thinking they are using in certain activities in order to intentionally build and develop that thinking.

Through using and developing a common language and vocabulary around thinking, children and adults are able to have more meaningful conversations about learning.

For home learning, teachers will be setting tasks related to science such as conducting experiments and home and making observations but also through problem solving in Maths. Your child may be set a research task or opportunity to practice their dictionary skills.

At home, you could try the following:

- Get your child to talk about what they see outside e.g. how they know it's summer or observing the changes in plants and trees over time.
- Solve some Maths problems. The NRich site is ideal for problem solving of all ages <https://nrich.maths.org/>
- Develop their researching skills online by setting them a project to create a book or fact file about an animal, country or famous person.
- Model a variety of questions you could ask them about their learning (who, what, when, where, why, how) and encourage them to ask questions so they can find out more about something which interests them

As part of our Learning and Life Skills, class teachers set 'I can' statements which are targets for the children to meet. Perhaps you'd like to set some targets at home. Here are some suggestions from the 'Information Processing and Evaluation' strand:

- Early Years: I can recognise similarities and differences between things
- Years 1 and 2: I can identify where to find some information
- Years 3 and 4: I can undertake simple research from a range of sources with support.
- Years 5 and 6: I can use dictionaries and other reference materials and data bases effectively.

We'd love to hear how your children are getting on with these fundamental skills so please share photos and work with their class teachers on DB Primary.

Mrs Powell



Maths – Home Learning Keeping our Numbers Ticking Over

TTRS

Well done to all those children who are using this time to really learn their times tables. It is important that you do this daily. I have put on DB primary support for learning your times tables. Currently on year 3 – 6 DB primary pages. Keep enjoying playing Rock Stars and learning your times tables at the same time. Look out for the new competition on Monday. Remember to play Garage daily which will take you forward and Soundcheck and Studio 2=3 times a week.

Numbots

Well done for those who have managed to get on to this as it helps you learn your addition and subtraction facts by instant recall. We will continue to roll this out in the coming week.

Maths with Parent

This is a great way to allow your children to watch a video about how to learn a concept. It also provides activities to help them practise the concept taught. These videos are taught by children and I challenge Darlinghurst children to learn from these videos and then create their own video of what they have learnt. It would be great to have our own children help to teach each other. You can email your video to Mr Cauchi or attach it to DB Primary. We have loads of parents sign up so join in the fun. If you have any concerns then email Mr Cauchi and I will sort but be patient as there are loads of parents signing up.

Get signed up to Maths with Parents where you can watch videos to help learn maths. It's very supportive for understanding maths as it is explained by children.

To Sign Up

- 1) Visit <http://www.mathswithparents.com>
- 2) Click the Enter Site button, then the New Parent button
- 3) Enter details about you and your child and click Confirm
- 4) Enter your child's 6-digit class code (once you have registered, you will not need this again!)

Please note that your activation for your class can be found on DB primary or email your teacher if you are unsure.

Mr Cauchi's Rock on videos, counting sticks and Mrs Hahn's body counting videos

Grooving at home, we hope to continue to help you with your recall of numbers which will help you with learning number facts. Stay tuned for more videos coming your way Rock ON!!!

At Darlinghurst we know that A to D leads to E and we want to celebrate excellence together. Your child's achievement could be anything from learning to bake through to playing a musical instrument or mastering skipping. You may want to celebrate their confidence or creativity, their determination towards trying something new or taking a risk. Let's give them a 'shout out!'

If you would like to nominate your child for Celebrating Excellence, please send your nominations to mrsocarroll@darlinghurst.co.uk



Learning at Home





DB Primary Leader Board

	Year group	Score
1st 	5	24,685
2nd 	6	13,700
3rd 	1	7,450
4th	R	3,530
5th	4	1,635
6th	2	1,415
7th	3	975

