



Communication is a priority for us and once again this year, we will communicate to parents and carers using the **SIMS Parent App** and **School Ping**. Please let the office know if you have not yet registered.

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 and carers

This week children and staff have been fully immersed in learning about being Eco-friendly and the impact that we have on our world. I am particularly proud of their sense of community and **belonging**, which was acknowledged by all external visitors who came to see us this week. Today is National Compliments day and I would like to thank Mrs Powell for organising this week, empowering our children to be active citizens. Our children are keen to continue to spread the word and some of our year 6 girls from performance club have recorded a song, to share with the wider world. Take a look at Instagram and twitter.

I would also like to congratulate the children who all participated in the Accelerated Reader challenge and entered the raffle. I joined the winners this week to talk about our favourite books and for a treat in Hagrids hut. I have also celebrated some fabulous written work produced in year 1. Our young writers were proud of their work and were able to share their stories with confidence and smiles.

I always encourage our children to recognise the importance and impact of 'being kind' and we have been spreading kindness around the academy this week. Today children have been passing compliments around the academy, amongst adults and children, creating a wonderful atmosphere, making our **school a caring, welcoming place** to be. It has left us feeling happy and positive. What a great feeling!

As always, enjoy your family time together this weekend.

Mrs Nicholls

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





Eco Week Special

For our Eco-week, we decided to focus on the ten themes of Eco-schools: Litter, Waste, Transport, Water, Energy, Biodiversity, School grounds, Marine, Global citizenship and Healthy Living through lessons and visitors and across all aspects of our school. We also wanted it to be a celebration of our local community.

In Nursery and Reception, the children constantly work hard to recycle and pick up litter. Many aspects of the Early Years curriculum build upon the themes of Eco-schools such as learning using our outdoor areas every day and encouraging healthy living through the snack areas.

Year 1 have focused on ensuring they are using their recycling bins well. In addition, they made links to their topic by learning about the effects of light pollution.

Year 2 made different moving vehicles from recycled materials which they have been planning and designing this week.

Year 3 have been thinking of different ways they can help the Earth as part of their 'How do I look after the world?' Focus theme this week.

Year 4 children have been writing about the catastrophic fires in Australia. The children have been really passionate about helping the planet and linking it to their topic on chocolate by making placards about deforestation.

Year 5 looked at the environmental impact of Fairgrounds, which is their focus for enquiry in their Curriculum this half term. They debated the reasons for and against fairgrounds, looking at problems such as litter, destruction of animal habitats and pollution.

Year 6 decided to focus on biodiversity and school grounds. They started the week with making a pledge of what they would do to help the environment, as part of our 'How do I?' focus topic. They then looked at the range of animals and invertebrates that are present in our local area and on our school grounds, making bird feeders out of seed, raisins and vegetable fat to attract birds to our school grounds, as part of the RSPB Great Bird Watch.

We have had several visitors this week. Alicia Hogarth from Southend XR joined Year 6 to talk about climate change and its effects on our future. The children enjoyed asking engaging and enthusiastic questions.

Sam Pitman, the co-founder of Eco Essex, met with the Eco-team so they could show her what we do as an Eco-school to help make our school more environmentally friendly.

Finally, we had Wayne Dixon and his dog, Koda come and talk to the children in assemblies and classes about litter and waste. Wayne has been litter picking across the UK since 2016 and was named the first Litter Hero Ambassador by Keep Britain Tidy. They now have over 250 ambassadors across the UK, including our own, Mrs Powell.

And our week isn't over! On Saturday 1st February, we plan to host our first Community Litter Pick on our field and in our local area.

Mrs Powell, Eco Schools Co-Ordinator





EYFS

Our topic in **Nursery** this week has been A Bugs Life and we have had fun looking at different types of insects. In Outdoor Learning we looked for bugs under logs and found worms, slugs and spiders. We also had a maths challenge, finding pipe cleaner worms, counting, grouping and sorting them according to size! We also had fun celebrating Chinese New Year! We made a dragon which we walked around the school, coloured dragon faces and tried prawn crackers with hoisin dipping sauce! It's been another busy week! **The Nursery Team**

This week **Reception** have continued to think about recycling and looking after our environment. This fit in very well with Eco Week carried out throughout the school. On Tuesday, we were fortunate to meet Wayne and his dog Koda who travel around the country collecting rubbish from our beaches. Wayne discussed why it is so important not to leave litter in the streets and how careful we need to be with how we choose to dispose of our rubbish. He was happy to hear that the Reception children already sort the rubbish in our classes as we put our fruit peelings into a separate bin ready for composting. During maths we have even used food packing to discuss and learn about the names and properties of 3D shapes in the environment, such as tins of baked beans. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year throughout the week and have made dragons, willow pattern plates and various other creative items, which look amazing. Please ensure that your child brings a named water bottle in to school at the beginning of a week. We fill them up daily with fresh water and send them home at the end of a week for an extra good wash. Thank you for continued support. Have a lovely weekend. **The Reception Team**

KS1

Year One have enjoyed taking part in Eco Week. We have been learning about how we can help save the planet by recycling and reducing the amount of single-use plastic we use to prevent it ending up on our land and oceans. The children helped sort rubbish correctly and thought of ways to re-use some items, e.g. water bottles as plant pots, milk bottles into pencil pots etc. They then made pledges to help protect the world. **Miss Adams, Seagull class**

*I pledge to be a litter picker. **Roxanne F, Seagull class***

*I pledge not to throw litter on the sand. **Kyle S, Seagull class***

KS2

Year 5 have worked really hard during Eco-week. We have been thinking about all the environmental benefits and detrimental issues that come with having a travelling funfair and have produced some brilliant work to showcase our thoughts and opinions. In our Science lessons, we have also learnt about the forces that make a roller-coaster work, for example Gravity and Kinetic Energy. Did you know, the first looping roller-coasters exerted up to 12G on the riders and some even made the riders fall out due to the lack of forces. **Mrs Richards, Poseidon class**

Reading Winners

Mrs Richards had a great time in Hagrid's Hut on Tuesday afternoon with the 8 Key Stage 2 reading challenge winners. We made hot chocolate over the fire, ate cookies and took turns reading a story together.

Well done to the winners, you all showed real determination and achievement to get your name on a raffle ticket. From year 6 *Saana and Millie*, from year 5 *Meadow and Avni*. From year 4 *Shani and Rawand*, from year 3 *Harry M and Shontae*. Look out for the next reading challenge – will you be a winner?





Parents, Carers and Staff Quiz Night

Supporting the year 6 fundraising



Join us **Friday 7th February** from **6:00pm** for an evening of quiz fun

Tickets are £2.50 each

Purchase from the school office

Teams of up to 6

This event is for parents, carers and staff only

Congratulation to this week's Energy Challenges Winners

EYFS and KS1 – Tiddlers
KS2 – Galene



Group	% Attend
JELLYFISH	92.5
STARFISH	96.3
SEAHORSE	93.3
PUFFIN	95.8
SEAGULL	95.4
LOBSTER	95.5
OYSTER	95.5
SHRIMP	96.9
DUNE	96.7
SEASHELL	95.6
CORAL	94.7
ORCA	96.9
GREAT WHITE SHARK	95.6
STINGRAY	93.2
SWORD FISH	96.5
NEPTUNE	96.6
POSEIDON	94.5
TRITON	93.3
GALENE	97.5
BEMBRIDGE	94.8
WILTON	95.7
MAYFLOWER	96.2
Totals	95.5

Darlinghurst ACADEMY Community Litter Pickers



Join us **Saturday 1st February**
2:00pm-3:30pm

For litter picking around our local area
and our school field

Please book in by emailing

generalenquiries@darlinghurst.co.uk

Parents, families and local residents welcome

Please meet at the Brook Gate entrance to collect your equipment

All children are the responsibility of their parents/carers

Celebrating Excellence



Reggie and Sidney both completed the level one bronze award at James Chisholm Boxing Academy