



Newsletter

Monday 16th October 2023

Term 1 Week 6

As we approach the end of Term 1 of this academic year, there is much to celebrate and to share with you: our 20th birthday celebrations, the fantastic success of our football team, school visitors, workshops and theme days to name but a few.

We've got some special events to look forward to after the half term break: our annual firework display, the Christmas Fair, Christmas parties and lots, lots more!

Well done to all of the children for their hard work this term – I hope they all enjoy a lovely half term break and some well-deserved rest!

Kind regards,

T. Gobell



Miss T Gobell
Headteacher



FODS Halloween Raffle

The FODS are currently selling tickets for our annual Halloween Raffle. There are **20 children's hampers** up for grabs, each filled with lots of spooky fun!

Tickets can be purchased using the below link:

[Raffle - FODS Halloween Raffle 2023 \(peoplesfundraising.com\)](https://peoplesfundraising.com)



Attendance

Schools nationally are yet to return to pre-Covid levels of attendance, and as such, the Government continues to make good school attendance a priority. The Department for Education (DfE) expects all schools to take measures to address low levels of attendance, including regularly communicating to parents and carers, current attendance levels. Attendance at The Discovery School has always been high, which is something to be celebrated, but we will continue to do all we can to improve this where we can.

Overall attendance so far for the year 2023/24: 96.1%

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Earhart Class (week ending 29th September 2023) – 99.3%

Well done Jenner Class (week ending 6th October 2021) - 100%

Well done Edison Class (week ending 13th October 2021) – 98%

WELCOME

We would like to say a big "hello and welcome" to Mrs. Whiting who joins us as a teaching assistant in Jemison Class and to Mrs. Shoker, a Key Worker, who will be joining us after half term. We also welcome Mrs. Staple, Mrs. Champ and Mrs. Mamadov to our lunchtime supervisor team.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2020-2023

www.discovery.kent.sch.uk



Super Star Corner

Well done to Henry Martin in Darwin Class who has completed his Level 3a swimming award this week.



Well done to Ivan Kulik in Winston Class, who recently attended an Olympic event organised by Team GB athletes: Adam Peaty MBE, Anna Hopkin MBE, Luke Greenbank and Games Guy MBE.



Well done to Enya Mullings in Edison Class, who recently achieved her Swim England level 3 certification.



Super Star Corner

Well done to Hudson Sargent in Goodall Class who recently received his first wristband from 'Park Run' for completing eleven runs, which is the equivalent of a half marathon. He loves to take part in the weekly children's Park Run and has been consistently beating his own best time!



Well done to Amelia Flores in Winston Class. Amelia recently took part in her first ever Challenge Invicta, around Benenden, as part of 1st West Malling Guides. Thirty-five Girl Guide teams from Kent Weald County took part. Each team of six had to hike 8.5km on their own and complete 7 challenges along the way. Amelia and her team not only completed the full course, but came second by just one point!





Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set so far for the rest of Term 1 and Term 2.

A full list of dates for the full year has been emailed to all parents and carers. Please contact the school office if you have not received this.

- 17th October - Year 1 Family picnic day 2.30pm
- 17th October – Seacole 'Stone Age'
- 18th October – Nightingale 'Stone Age' day
- 18th October – Kent 11+ Results Day
- 19th October – Halloween raffle Draw
- 19th October – EYFS 'Elmer Dree-up Day'
- 19th October – New Entrants Tour
- 20th October – **End of Term 1**
- 30th October – **Start of Term 2**
- 2nd November – New Entrants Tour
- 2nd November – Year 4 trip to Kent Life
- 7th November – New Entrants Tour
- 11th November – FODS Firework Display
- 13th November – New Entrants Tour
- 13th November – Anti-bullying Week
- 13th November – Year 6 visit to Horton Kirby
- 21st November – Parent Consultations
- 23rd November - Parent Consultations
- 23rd November – FODS non-uniform day
- 24th November – INSET Day (school closed to children)
- 29th November – Flu vaccinations
- 5th December – Year 1 Nativity
- 7th December – Year 1 Nativity
- 9th December – Christmas Fayre
- 11th December – EYFS Christmas craft afternoon
- 12th December – Christingle Assemblies
- 13th December – Class Christmas parties
- 14th December – Carols on the playground (EYFS and KS1)
- 15th December – Carols on the Playground (KS2)
- 15th December - **End of Term 2**
- 2nd January – **Start of Term 3**



FODS Annual Firework Display

The FODS will be presenting its annual firework display on Saturday 11th November. As well as a great firework display set to music, there will be stalls and food and drink to purchase as well. Doors open at 5:00p.m. on the night, with the fireworks blasting off at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are available for purchase at:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fods/t-dvleyee>



A polite request:

For safety reasons, please can we remind parents and carers that children, including younger siblings, must not play on the adventure play trails when waiting to collect children at the end of the school day. Thank you!

Super Star Corner

Well done to Summer Batty in Goodall Class who recently achieved her White/Yellow sash in Wing Chun Kung Fu.



Well done to Ethan Illingsworth in Turing Class. After scoring a hat trick in the first 21 minutes of his league game, Ethan was proud to be presented with the Man of the Match trophy for the U11's Cougars team at Waterringbury FC.



Year 5 Viking Day:

Year 5 recently had lots of fun during Viking Day! The children were visited by a time travelling Viking who taught them all about his life and adventures! The children experienced how to write in runes, played Viking games, learned how to make a shield wall and immersed themselves into the lives of the Vikings!



Super Star Corner

Well done to Albie and Elise Comber for completing a 5k Memory Walk on 9th September (on one of the hottest days of the year), raised £500 for the Alzheimer's Society.



Value Points

All of the children have been working hard to uphold our school values of Honesty, Kindness, Perseverance, Friendship and Respect.

Winning House (week ending 29th September – Citrine House 😊)

Winning House (week ending 6th October – Citrine and Garnet Houses 😊)

Winning House (week ending 13th October – All four houses! 😊)

The Discovery School Football News!

On Monday 9th October, we took a group of boys to take part in the U11s Boys' Champions League Tournament at The Gallagher Stadium. The team did amazingly well and after coming top of their group, made it through to the knockout stages of the tournament. The team made it all the way through to the semi-finals and after a very tense round of 'sudden death' penalties, got through to the finals where the team won 3-0 - making us the overall winners of the tournament! We are incredibly proud of the team - well done boys!



Congratulations:



Good luck to Miss Harris who leaves us on Friday to commence her maternity leave. We send Miss Harris our very best wishes for a happy and healthy new arrival!

We also welcome Mrs Moore back to school from her maternity leave on 30th October. Mrs Moore will return to Einstein Class, alongside Mrs. Chapman who will be teaching every Friday.

20th Anniversary Celebrations

The sun shone brightly on 22nd September, when the whole of The Discovery School came together to celebrate the School's 20th anniversary.

Throughout the day, the children enjoyed a postcard competition, made party hats and enjoyed a special assembly where the children learned about the history of the school – beginning in 2003 when the school opened with just 87 children. In the afternoon, all 626 children now on roll, welcomed back to school the very first reception class – now very grown up 25 year olds and some of our original staff and governors!

The celebrations culminated in a whole-school picnic in the sun during the afternoon and a very exciting drone photograph of all of the staff and children forming a huge 2023!

