











### Newsletter

Friday 17th December 2021

Week 7 Term 2

Today sees the end of the Autumn Term at school. As we head into the holidays, now is a good time to reflect on all the successes and things achieved since September.

Despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19, the children have been able to participate in a range of lovely activities in school, including taking part in workshops, going on school visits, going swimming and the School Choir performing for parents. We've even managed to host our annual Carols on the Playground this year!

There have been a number of FODS events that have been safely organised, including the Autumn Fair, the Christmas market, the annual firework display and a Halloween raffle.

The children have participated in many events in school: the Key Stage 2 choir was recorded for Children in Need, the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling visited the school, the children took part in COP-26, participated in Anti-bullying Week and the School Council organised a collection for the local foodbank.

Despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19, there is much to celebrate and much to be thankful for. With this in mind, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas.











#### **Super Star Corner**

Congratulations to Leah Laubscher in Berners-Lee Class. Leah recently competed in a Southeast Regional Gymnastics competition and won the Gold medal in her category!



#### A message from the School Office: Please could we kindly ask parents to

give us your child's full name (including surname) and your child's class name if you email or leave an answerphone message with the office. This will ensure that any messages get to the correct teacher quickly. In such a large school, we have several children who have the same first name, so your child's full name and class are essential pieces of information. Thank you!



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#### **Attendance**

Attendance at The Discovery School has always been high, but is currently being adversely affected by COVID-19, Chickenpox and other illnesses. Overall attendance so far for the year

2021/22: 94.14%

#### **Best Class Attendance:**

Well done Attenborough Class (week ending 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021) – 96.4%

Well done Bell Class (week ending 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021) – 97%

#### **Poppy Appeal**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the annual British Royal Legion Poppy Appeal. I am delighted to let you know that The Discovery School raised £872 for this very worthwhile charity.

#### **Choir Performance**



On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, the Key Stage 2 Choir put on a lovely Carol concert for parents and

carers to watch outside. The children sang festive songs around the Christmas tree and held LED candles for added effect! The children sang beautifully – despite the cold!



# WAS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUREAU Wellbeing Award for Schools 2020–2023

#### **Super Star Corner**

Well done to Fleur Jeffs in Winston Class.
Fleur recently entered her first gymnastics competition and placed 4th in her category.

Congratulations Fleur!





Well done to Reece Illingsworth in Faraday Class who recently took part in eleven Junior Park Run events. Reece achieved his 'Half Marathon' wristband – a great job Reece!





#### **Super Star Corner**

Congratulations to Frankie Redsell in Archimedes Class and Leighton Peacock in Berners-Lee Class who have both achieved their red and white belt in Karate. The children have both worked very hard and should be very proud of themselves!





Well done to Ethan Illingsworth in Hubble Class who has achieved his Stage 5 swimming certificate and badge. An excellent job Ethan!



#### A message from the Governing Body

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write to you all on behalf of the Governing Body to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Once again, this year, we as a school community have faced unprecedented challenges and I would like to take the opportunity to thank every member of staff for their hard work and dedication. The Governing Body and myself have been able to continue to monitor the school and I speak for all of us when I say how really proud we are of the pupils at The Discovery School - they simply are the best!

Thank you also, to all of the parents and carers who have had to juggle the many challenges that have been thrown at us in order to keep the school community safe and well. I think we all deserve a well-earned break over the festive period!

Really looking forward to seeing you all in 2022.

Kind regards,

Annabel Cornall

Chair of Governors



#### **Fantastic FODS!**

We would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to our fabulous FODS PTA who raised an amazing £3272 at the recent Christmas market and £485 from the

Christmas card sales. We would also like to thank you for your support for these events. The funds raised will contribute to the overall cost of installing an all-weather outside sports

pitch for our children to use all year round.



www.discovery.kent.sch.uk

Wellbeing Award for Schools

#### **National Science Quiz:**

I recently had great pleasure in letting you know that some of our children in Year 5 and Year 6 took part in a National Science Quiz. We have just found out that a second team has now reached the national semi-final, which will be held in February. This is a fantastic achievement!

Well done to Aimee Mallet, Edward Fox, Ruby Fiehn and Aiden Haliti - we are really proud of you all!

#### **Christingle**

The children had a great time on Monday, creating their Christingles ready for our special

COVID-safe Christingle assemblies on Tuesday. The children sang festive songs and watched a video assembly created by Reverend Montgomery – it was a lovely afternoon.



#### **Value Points**

Winning House (week ending 10<sup>th</sup> December) – Cook House

Winning House (week ending 17<sup>th</sup> December) – Scott House

Congratulations to Scott House who have won this term – you will have a nonuniform day on Wednesday 19th January

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### A message from The Discovery School Council

The Discovery School Council and I would like to say a very big thank you for all the food donations made to the St Gabriel's Kings Hill Foodbank. We received an amazing amount of food and toiletries which will be handed out to families in our community during this Christmas period.

Thank you so much for your continued support, it is very much appreciated. Merry Christmas!



The Discovery School Council and Amanda Lihou (FLO)

Finally, I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to you all for your continued support throughout 2021.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

We look forward to seeing all of the children back in school on Tuesday 4th January!

With kind regards,

T. Gobell

Miss T Gobell Head Teacher





