



# Newsletter

Term 2

December 2025

The end of Term 2 and the end of 2025 has arrived – where did the last 12 months go!

The last few weeks of term have been very busy: Nativity plays, Christingle assemblies, Christmas parties, Early Years craft afternoon, Christmas dinner, Carols on the Playground, music concerts and of course our annual Christmas Fayre.

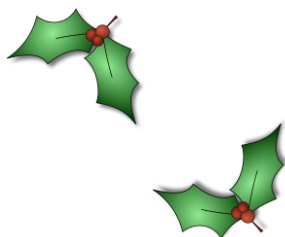
It has been lovely seeing so many of you in school; we hope you enjoyed the events and that you are firmly in the midst of the Christmas spirit!

With only seven more sleeps until the big day, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

Kind regards,

*T. Gobell*

Miss T Gobell  
Headteacher



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## Attendance

With school attendance continuing to feature prominently in the Department for Education's (DfE) priorities for improvement, our school continues to promote good attendance as a key feature of work to support our children. Attendance at The Discovery School continues to be good, but we will continue to do all we can to improve this where we can.

Overall attendance so far for the year 2025/26 is 95.2%

## Best Class Attendance:

Well done to Turing Class (week ending 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025) – 99.6%

Well done to Goodall Class (week ending 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025) – 98.3%

Well done Goodall Class (week ending 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025) – 98%

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## Welcome!



We welcome Mrs. Buck to The Discovery School. Mrs Buck is the newly appointed Teaching Assistant in Seacole Class.



## FODS Christmas Fayre:

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent FODS Christmas Fayre – thanks to your generosity and the great work of our fantastic volunteer FODS committee, over £2,000 was raised!



[www.discovery.kent.sch.uk](http://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk)



# Year One Nativity

Our Year 1 children shone in this year's Nativity performance, *Knock, Knock*. Over the past few weeks, they worked hard to learn their lines, the song words, and the Sign Along actions, showing great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout rehearsals.

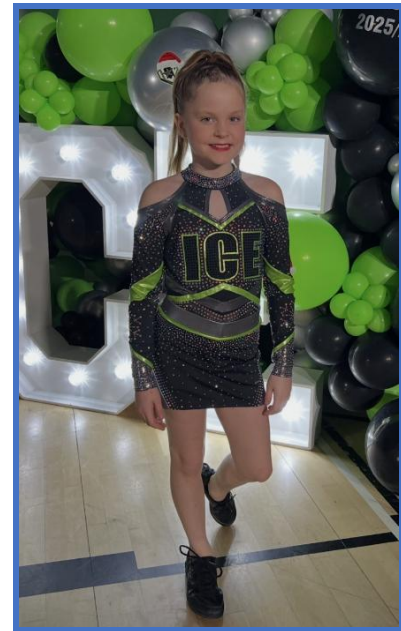
When performance day arrived, they took to the stage with confidence, sharing the Nativity story with clear voices, expressive actions and plenty of festive cheer. Their beautifully signed songs and brilliant storytelling captivated the audience from start to finish.

We are extremely proud of every child for their effort, courage and dedication in making *Knock, Knock* such a joyful success.



## Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Alisa Alciauskas in Galileo Class, who recently performed for the first time in a Cheerleading Showcase - she did an amazing job as a Flyer!



## Value Points

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

The overall winning house for Term 2 was Topaz House - you will have non-uniform day on **12<sup>th</sup> January 2026** to celebrate!

## Upcoming dates for your diary



Please find below a list of key dates set for the first two weeks of next term:

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.

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – **Term 3 begins** – all children return to school
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – New Entrants Tour at 9:30am
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Closing date for EYFS applications to start school in September 2026
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – RSPB Big Bird Watch

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### A message from the Chair of Governors

#### Season's Greetings from the Governing Body

On behalf of the Governing Body, we would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support of our school throughout the year. We wish you and your families a very happy and restful Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year. We look forward to sharing further news from the Governing Body with you in 2026 and to continuing our work together in support of the school.

Kind regards,

**A Cornall**  
Chair of Governors

## Super Star Corner

One of our talented Year 6 pupils, Nancie, recently won the KIMS Hospital Christmas Card competition! Her stunning festive design was chosen from hundreds of entries submitted by primary school pupils across Kent and became the official KIMS Hospital Christmas card for 2025. Sales of the card will help raise funds for Holding On Letting Go, a charity that supports children and young people aged 6 to 16 who are coping with the loss of someone close. As part of her amazing achievement, Nancie received a £50 voucher and secured an incredible £1,000 in book vouchers for The Discovery School. We couldn't be prouder - well done, Nancie!







## EYFS Christmas Stay and Make!

On Monday 15th December, the children in EYFS had a lovely Christmassy afternoon when their parents were invited into school to take part in a Christmas 'Stay and Make' session. We completed lots of Christmas themed arts and crafts activities and finished the afternoon with a Christmas sing-a-long. It definitely put us all in the Christmas spirit!!



## **Super Star Corner**

Congratulations to Mason Barnard in Berners- Lee class who has passed his first grading in Karate and gained his red belt – great news, Mason!



# sporting news!

On Friday 5th December, our Year 5 Table Tennis Team travelled to The Howard School in Gillingham to take part their first inter-school tournament.

The team competed against 21 other teams from across Kent and Medway.

The children displayed great teamwork throughout the day and supported each other during each match.

Despite it being their first tournament, the team achieved an impressive third place overall. Well done, children – we are so proud of you!



## **Keeping Children Safe**

Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit and Kent Police Child Centred Policing Team want to work with schools and families to reduce incidents of violence and keep children safe. Data from their unit shows that incidents spike in the Autumn and Winter, with the 3pm to 4pm period (directly after school) representing a particular risk to children throughout the year. To support families, they have created a one-page guide for parents which can be accessed here:

[Copy of VRU Leaflet FINAL Digital Version](#)

# School Choir



Our Key Stage Two Choir has been very busy over the festive season singing at a number of Christmas events. Performances have included the West Malling Christmas Festival and Fayre, The Discovery School Christmas Fayre, Carol Singing for the Women's Institute and for the residents of 'The Landings' retirement home. Each performance was tailored to the event with songs ranging from traditional Christmas carols to modern festive hits. One resident of 'The Landings' particularly enjoyed listening to 'I Wish it Could be Christmas Every Day' by Wizzard, as it reminded him of his 1970s rocker days! At each performance, the children sang beautifully and confidently, representing the School with pride. Our next focus is to prepare for our trip to the Young Voices concert at the London O2 Arena in January. We are very excited to be taking part in this amazing experience again.

