



Newsletter

Friday 19th January 2024

Term 3 Week 3

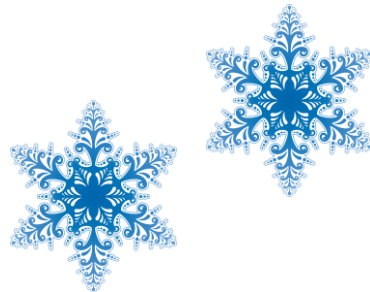
Welcome back to Term 3 and a (belated) happy New Year! I trust you all had a lovely Christmas break with your families.

The children have settled back into school very well and have been working hard.

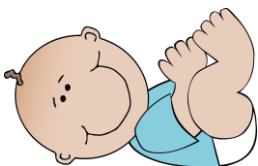
So far this term, the children have taken part in workshops, theme and sports events.

There is lots more to look forward to in the weeks ahead – hopefully this will also include some warmer weather!

Kind regards,



Miss T Gobell
Headteacher



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Miss Meiners who welcomed a baby boy into the world on 8th January 2024. We send her our very best wishes at this exciting time!

ABSENCE



Attendance

There has been much in the media recently about the Government’s drive to improve school attendance. National, attendance levels are low (93%) and have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. As such, the Department for Education (DfE) is focusing on ensuring that schools do all they can to address individual cases of low attendance. As a school, we want to work with families to ensure children can attend school when they are able to. If you need help with this, please do contact our Family Support Manager, Emma Randle (erandle@discovery.kent.sch.uk)

Overall attendance for The Discovery School so far for the year 2023/24 is 94.3% (below expected attendance of 96%).

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Gilbert Class (week ending 5th January 2024) – 98.3%

Well done Nightingale Class (week ending 12th January 2024) – 99.4%

Well done Johnson Class (week ending 19th January 2024) - 99%



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Smart Watches:

Santa was very generous this year and some of children have returned to school wearing a new Smart Watch.

Whilst these are lovely gifts, they must be left at home if they have the ability to access the Internet or take photographs. Due to safeguarding regulations and in accordance with our School Uniform Policy, these types of devices are not permitted in school:

<https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Attachments/Discovery-School-Uniform-Code-v2.pdf>

Year 5 Visit Space!

Year 5 recently had a visit from the Astrodome Roadshow to help them start their new learning question 'What is the next giant leap for mankind?'- The children learnt about the constellations, the astrological signs, the different planets in our solar system and what it is like to be an astronaut. Afterwards the children learnt about rocks from the surface of the Moon and Mars. A great time was had by all!



Upcoming dates for your diary



Please find below a list of key dates set for the rest of Term 3:

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.

- Tuesday 23rd January – Earhart Forest School
- Wednesday 24th January – Darwin Forest School
- Thursday 25th January – Regional Final Football Tournament
- Monday 29th January – Young Voices at the 02
- Tuesday 30th January – Goodall Forest School
- Wednesday 31st January – Earhart Forest School
- Monday 5th February – Year 1 Africa Day
- Tuesday 6th February – Darwin Forest School
- Tuesday 6th February – Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 7th February – Goodall Forest School
- Friday 9th February - Joint School Council meeting with Mereworth, Ryarsh and Kings Hill Primary Schools
- Friday 9th February – **End of Term 3**
Monday 19th February – **Start of Term 4**

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 5th January) – Citrine House! 😊

Winning House (week ending 12th January) – Garnet House 😊

Winning House (week ending 19th January) – Peridot House 😊



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