



# Newsletter

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Week 3 Term 4

I hope that you all had a lovely half-term break with your children. Unfortunately, the weather doesn't yet appear to be improving – despite us now officially being in Spring. Hopefully, the coming weeks will see the blossom appearing on the trees and the flowers starting to bloom, so that we can really feel that winter is finally behind us and that sunnier times are ahead...



## Attendance:



Attendance at The Discovery School has always been high but is currently being adversely affected by COVID-19 cases. Overall attendance so far for the year 2021/22: 94%. When excluding COVID-19 cases for our absence data, attendance is 96.2%.

## Best Class Attendance:

Well done Edison and Galileo Classes (week ending 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022) – 99.3%

Well done Goodall Class (week ending 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022) – 100%

## Value Points

Winning House (week ending 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022) – Scott House

Winning House (week ending 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022) – Cook House



## Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates for Term 4.

- 7<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> March – Science Week
- 7<sup>th</sup> March – International Maths Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 AstroDome Visit
- 8<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1 visit to Leeds Castle
- 14<sup>th</sup> March – FODS (PTA) AGM @ 7pm – all welcome
- 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Class photographs
- 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Non-uniform Day in exchange for £1 to fund the Easter Egg Hunt for the children.
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Consultations
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Raffle draw
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Egg Hunt
- 31<sup>st</sup> March Parents Consultations
- **1<sup>st</sup> April – Last day of Term 4**
- **19<sup>th</sup> April – Start of term 5**
- 20<sup>th</sup> April – Parent Consultations



## Offham Cricket Club:

Offham Cricket Club is seeking to provide cricketing opportunities to children in Years 4 to 6.

The Cricket Club runs junior sessions each Friday from 6pm at the cricket ground from April to July. At the start of this season, the club is also running two taster sessions on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April between 9am - 10.30am. If any children in Years 4 to 6 are interested, then do look at their website: <https://www.offhamcc.co.uk/>



Wellbeing Award  
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### **Cars idling:**

Parents have reported an increase in the number of cars leaving their engines on whilst waiting to collect children at the end of the day. This is both in the 'drop-off' zone and outside the school gates. Idling cars emit an unhealthy amount of exhaust fumes, which our children and members of the public have to walk through. This is bad for their health and for the environment, so please be considerate and turn off engines. Thank you!



Improving children's  
mental health

### **Children's Mental Health Week:**

From 7 to 13 February, The Discovery School took part in Children's Mental Health Week. The week was run by the charity Place2Be, and focused on the importance of promoting good mental health and wellbeing in children. During the week, the children took part in a special assembly with Oti Mabuse and Olivia Coleman, they participated in a number of activities and joined in with a special 'Express Yourself' day on Friday 11th February. The children and staff also raised over £380.50 for the Ellenor Hospice during the week! This money was donated in memory of Marie Sullivan, our lovely Lunchtime Supervisor who recently passed away.



### **Friends Of The Discovery School (PTA):**

The annual FODS (PTA) Annual General Meeting is on Monday 14th March @ 7pm. The AGM is an important date in the FODS calendar when they recruit new members to the PTA. Without new parent volunteers, it will be very difficult for the committee to continue. This would be awful for the children, as it is the PTA that organises the lovely events that the children enjoy throughout the year. The Committee also donates a substantial amount of money to the School, which is used to pay for the extras that the School's budget cannot stretch to, ie the extra IPADS. If you are able to attend, your presence will be much appreciated.

### **Super Star Corner**

Ethan Illingsworth in Hubble Class. Ethan was proud to be awarded Man of the Match after scoring a Hat Trick during a recent under 9's league game for Watlington FC – a great job Ethan!



Well done to Reece Illingsworth in Faraday class who has just achieved his Marathon Wristband at the Junior Parkrun. He has completed 21 events, covering 42K/ 26miles –Congratulations Reece!



Well done to Anya Ayling who has just received a certificate and some goodies from the Make A Wish Foundation for raising £395 by carol singing. She did this online and in person to raise funds for this fantastic charity – Fantastic Anya!



## The Panto visits The Discovery School

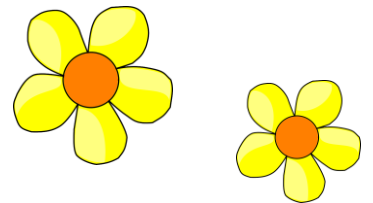
### Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Lacey Hudgell in Hawking Class. Lacey came 2nd out of 29 other competitors for her Ballet Solo. She danced so well, that she has made it straight through to the All England Regional Finals – excellent news Lacey!



On Wednesday 2nd March, The Panto Bus came to The Discovery School to put on the amazing show – The Pants Pirates! "Oh no they didn't" we hear you say "Oh yes they did!"

The children and adults enjoyed joining the crew of Captain Y Fronts and his band of merry Pants Pirates as we travelled the high seas in search of the golden long johns. The fantastic show was full of sea shanty's, songs and of course adventure, all of which the children enjoyed and were part of every step of the way.



With kind regards,

*T. Gobell*

Miss T Gobell  
Head Teacher



2020-2023

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