



Friday 7th October 2022

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 5

As we approach the end of Term 1, I would like to share my pride in the children. They have returned to school with a determined attitude to uphold our school values and to support each other in school. Our new Reception children already look like they have been at school for years!

As part of the School's Leadership, the Governing Body carries out an extremely important role in holding the school to account. We will shortly be asking parents to consider standing as a Parent Governor on our governing board. Please look out for any communications about this important and rewarding role in school.

As we head into the second half of Autumn Term, we have lots of exciting things to look forward to: the FODS Halloween Raffle, the annual Firework Display in November and our Christmas Fair. There are further details about the first two of these events in this newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

With kind regards,

Miss T Gobell
Head Teacher



Attendance

The Government expects all schools to promote the importance of good school attendance. Following the disruption caused by the pandemic, regular attendance at school has never been more important. With this in mind, we will be monitoring attendance very closely over the coming months. This will include unauthorised leave taken during term time. You can find a copy of our Attendance Policy via the following link:

<https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Attachments/Attendance-Policy-v3.pdf>

This policy includes details about the issuing of Fixed-Penalty Fines for taking holidays in term-time without authorisation for extenuating circumstances.

Overall attendance so far for the year 2022/23:
97.04%

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Edison Class (week ending 23rd September 2022) - 100%

Well done Curie Class (week ending 30th September 2022) - 100%

Well done Gilbert Class (week ending 7th October 2022) - 100%



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Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set for the remainder of Term 1:

- 14th October – New Entrants Tour
- 18th October – Kent Test results day
- 20th October – New Entrants Tour
- 21st October – Halloween Raffle
- 21st October – End of Term 1
- 31st October – Start of term 2



Congratulations!

Whilst we have welcomed our new staff to The Discovery School this term, it occurred to me that I haven't mentioned two of our changes! During the summer holidays, Miss Verma became Mrs Hind and Miss Wilce became Mrs Wilce-Cordner. We congratulate them both on their marriages!



Scooters and bikes:

We really appreciate how tempting it must be for your child to scoot or ride down the school path in the mornings and after school. However, it is really dangerous. The school paths are always heavily congested with pedestrians and the road busy with a constant flow of cars. In order to avoid any nasty accidents, it is vital that your child dismounts from their bike or scooter before entering the school grounds.

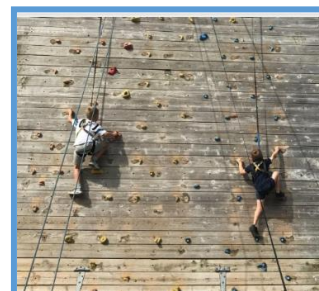
Can we also make it clear that the riding of electric scooters is not permitted anywhere within our school grounds.

Super Star Corner

Well done to Hermione Marshman in Goodall Class who recently achieved her Stage 2 swimming badge – excellent news Hermione!



Well done to Eithan Alexander in Attenborough Class who managed to climb a huge climbing wall and well done to Kieran Alexander in Jackson Class for overcoming his fear of heights and completing a high rise activity trail. Both boys also learned how to paddle board – great perseverance shown by both of you!



Value Points

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 23rd September – Shackleton House 😊

Winning House (week ending 30th September) – Scott House 😊

Winning House (week ending 7th October) – Scott House 😊



Drop-off Zone:

Please can we respectfully remind parents and carers that the 'drop-off zone' should not be used if you need to escort your child to the school gate in the mornings. In this instance, cars should be parked on the road outside of school or in one of the designated parking places. If parents park and walk from the drop-off zone, it causes a dangerous back-up of cars that can stretch out onto the road. It is essential that this area is kept as a free-flowing area.



Sweets in school:

Quite often, children who are celebrating their birthday like to bring sweets into school to give to their classmates. Whilst we understand this, we would much rather the children bought a book for the class book corner. Not only is this healthier and prevents some children missing out due to allergies, it is a lasting memento of your child's birthday. We always place a dedication insert inside the book so that your child leaves their stamp on the school, long after they have moved on.



Halloween Raffle:

The FODS are currently running their annual Halloween Raffle. The draw will take place on 21st October, on the last day of term. All monies raised will be going towards the funding to build our all-weather sports pitch. If you would like to purchase tickets for your child, then please use the link below:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/fods22>



FODS Fireworks Display 12th November 2022

We are pleased to inform you that tickets are on sale now for the FODS annual fireworks display at www.ticketsource.co.uk/fods.

Please note that tickets must be purchased online and will not be available to buy on the door. We do have a maximum capacity and sold out last year, so please buy early to avoid disappointment!

We are also looking for volunteers to help us at the event. If you would like to help, please contact discovery.fods@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!



Swimming:

We have a small favour to ask of you...when our Year 4 children go swimming, there are always children that forget goggles or children who may not have any due to financial reasons. We usually have a supply of spare goggles, but over time, these have gradually gotten broken. Our supplies need replenishing and in the interests of helping the environment, we wanted to reach out to you before purchasing new ones. If you have any spare children's goggles at home that are no longer needed, please could we ask you to donate them to school. If you can help, then please send your donation into the school office.



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