



Newsletter

Friday 8th March 2024

Term 4 Week 3



We are halfway through Term 4 and there is much to celebrate. The children have been working incredibly hard and continue to be a credit to our school.

So far this term, the children have enjoyed Pet Week, World Book Day, school trips, sporting events and tournaments, workshops, a drama performance and forest school!

The remainder of this term will see more exciting events, fun and learning, not least the annual Easter Egg hunt organised by our fantastic FODS.

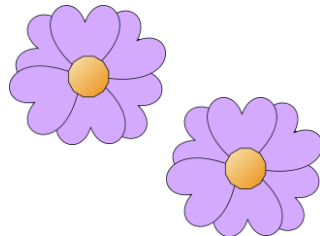
The end of this term also sees the departure of some of our staff who have all decided to have babies at the same time! The first to depart on maternity leave is Mrs. Hind, who temporarily leaves today. We welcome Mrs. Marcella Dunne to The Discovery School as her replacement.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

T. Gobell

Miss T Gobell
Headteacher



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 94.4% (well below expected attendance of 96%).

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Newton Class (week ending 23rd February 2024) – 100%

Well done Jackson Class (week ending 1st March 2024) – 98.4%

Well done Winston Class (week ending 8th March 2024) – 99.7%



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Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set for the remainder of Term 4:

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.

- Wednesday 13th March – Year 6 SATs meeting for parents at 9:00am
- Thursday 14th March – FODS (PTA) Annual General Meeting for parents at 7:00pm
- Friday 15th March – FODS Non-uniform day for £1
- Monday 18th March – Class photographs
- Tuesday 19th March - Class photographs
- Tuesday 19th March – Parent Consultations
- Thursday 21st March – Parent Consultations
- Monday 25th March – Mathematics Week
- Monday 25th March – Easter assembly with Reverend Mark
- Monday 25th March – Easter Raffle
- Wednesday 27th March – Easter Egg hunt
- Thursday 28th March – **Last day of Term 4**
- Monday 15th April – **Start of Term 5**



FODS News:

Many thanks to our volunteer parents for giving up their time to organise the annual Easter Raffle and Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The children always have a fantastic time on the organised hunts. Every event run by the FODS raises much valued funds for our school to spend on the children; we are very grateful to them and to you for your support.

If you would like to join our 'Fantastic FODS' – do come along to the AGM planned for 14th March at 7:00pm – everyone is welcome!

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 February) – Peridot House! 😊

Winning House (week ending 1st March – Topaz House 😊

Winning House (week ending 8th March – Garnet House 😊



Football news!

On Tuesday 5th March, our school football teams played two away matches. The boys' team played away to Ditton Primary School, winning 6 – 0.

On the same day, our mixed boys' and girls' team played away to Mereworth Primary School, also winning 6 – 0.

Go Team Discovery!

Lost Property:



We are currently holding a large number of items in our lost property. If your child has lost an item of uniform, please do look in our collection of lost property boxes.

On Monday 11th March, we will be putting the lost property outside for you to check through, both before and after school.



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FODS Easter Raffle:

The FODS are currently running their annual Easter Raffle.

There are 20 beautiful children's hampers up for grabs - and this year they are bigger and better than before! Each hamper contains lots of seasonal goodies for the little ones.

Tickets are £1 each and all profits go to The Discovery School.

The raffle will be drawn on **25th March 2024**

Tickets can be purchased using the below link:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/fodseaster2024>

Super Star Corner



Well done to Amy Sugihara in Darwin class who has passed her Stage 4 swimming and is now in stage 5 – great news Amy!



School Council News:

Our School and Eco Council children recently participated in a joint meeting with the School Council's from Ryarsh and Kings Hill today, via TEAMS. Each school presented what their School Council has been focused on so far this year. Our children shared how we have combined Eco Club with School Council and how our charities have been chosen. The children presented brilliantly and enjoyed listening to what the other schools have accomplished so far this year. We have lots of fantastic ideas to make our School Eco Council even more amazing.



World Wildlife Day:

On 3rd March, we learned all about World Wildlife Day. The Discovery School has decided to make a pledge to help the hedgehogs in the UK, which are becoming an endangered species. Each class has made their own 'Pledgehog' to help the hedgehogs.



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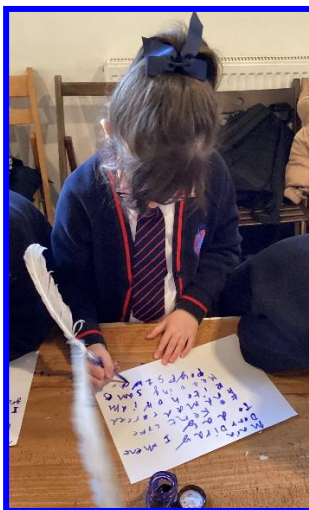


Year 2 visit to Kent Life

On Thursday 29th February, Year 2 boarded the coach and set off to Kent Life.

When we arrived, the children were transported back in time to 1666. They met the diarist Samuel Pepys, Hannah Farriner the daughter of Thomas Farriner and they learnt how to make bread.

The children had a wonderful day and they all demonstrated the school values throughout the day. We are very proud of them!





Football News:

On Tuesday 20th February, both of our football teams played Kings Hill Primary School at Kings Hill Sports Park. This was their first league match of the year and they all played fantastically. They showed great teamwork and all did the Discovery School proud in the effort and commitment they put into the match.



TDS Boys' Team 6 – 1 Kings Hill Boys' Team
TDS Girls' Team 0 – 3 Kings Hill Girls' Team



Super Star Corner

Well done and Happy Birthday to 'leap year' baby Eithan Alexander in Curie class. Eithan had the amazing opportunity to be a star in a video celebrating 'Leap Year babies'. Eithan played the guitar in the video, whilst strumming along to a rock song written by US band Rookie Card:

https://www.nytimes.com/2024/02/27/style/leap-day-leap-year-february-29-respect.html?unlocked_article_code=1.Yk0.qH09.j4jKsBJxsFff&smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare&sgrp=c-cb&fbclid=IwAR125epjIF_WW4OdIROIgmsnlyXE5zsWuUSjY6fh65_gakzmmhZukOsLOWU_aem_AXstLzQD7NwakAfK9i5I2Zllv9MHBHK_kyUzus9gUP0K5RfyT-FXGbNregB6wRt0Npw



Congratulations to Ethan Illingsworth in Turing class who has been presented with a medal and wristband for completing over 100 junior park run events - clocking up over 125 miles of running.

