



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



Monday 9th March 2026
Term 4 Week 3

Newsletter



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 participating in World Hearing Day, World Book Day, workshops, Chinese New Year and the grand opening of our fantastic Reading House. This week the children are taking part in British Science Week.

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

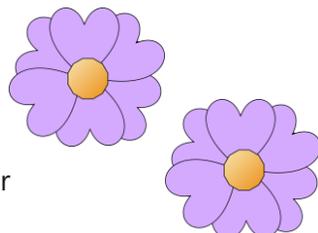
This term sees the departure of some of our much valued staff: Miss Beard, who has been a teacher at The Discovery School since 2016, Mrs. Spree, one of premises team. All are taking their well-deserved retirement – we thank them for their hard work during their time at our school.

Wishing you all a lovely week!

Kind regards,

T. Gobell

Miss T Gobell- Headteacher



ABSENCE



Attendance

The Government is continuing its drive to improve school attendance, making good school attendance a priority. The Government is placing more and more emphasis on parents ensuring their children attend school regularly and expects schools and Local Authorities to take ever more robust steps to reduce absence levels. This includes issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for continuously condoned parental absence and the taking of holidays during term-time.

Overall attendance so far for the year 2025/26: 95.3% (nationally, primary school attendance is 94.8%)

Best Class Attendance:

Well done to Curie Class (week ending 27th February 2026) – 100%

Well done to Hawking and Gilbert Classes (week ending 6th March 2026) – 99.9%



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 require a copy of this.

- Monday 9th March – Science Week begins
- Tuesday 10th March – Primrose Sale begins
- Thursday 12th March - Year 6 SATs meeting for parents at 9:00am
- Monday 16th March – Class photographs
- Wednesday 18th March – FODS (PTA) Annual General Meeting for parents at 6:00pm
- Friday 20th March - Speed Quiz in the evening 7pm onwards
- Tuesday 24th March – Parent Consultations
- Wednesday 25th March – Special Easter lunch menu
- Thursday 26th March – Parent Consultations
- Monday 30th March – Easter Raffle
- Monday 30th March – Easter Egg Hunt
- Thursday 2nd April – **End of Term 4**
- Monday 20th April – **Start of Term 5**



Car Park:

Please can we remind parents and carers that parking in the staff car park is not permitted at any time.

Since the barrier stopped working, we have noticed an increasing number of cars parking in the staff car park at drop off and pick up times. The staff car park is in constant use and there have been occasions when staff have been unable to drive out of the car park because they have been blocked in, making them late for meetings, training courses and home visits.

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 27th February) – Topaz House! 😊

Winning House (week ending 6th March – Citrine House 😊

Well done to Peridot House for winning the most value points in Term 3 😊



FODS News:

Our dedicated FODS Committee has been very busy this term. On Thursday 5th March, some of our volunteer parents came into school to officially open our new FODS Reading House – it looks spectacular and the children are really enjoying being able to use this brilliant resource.

Advance 'thanks' are also due to the Committee 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.



Finally, if you would like to join our 'Fantastic FODS' – do come along to the AGM planned for 18th March at 6:00pm – everyone is welcome!

Super Star Corner

Well done to Leo Birch in Gilbert Class who recently won man of the match for his football team – great news, Leo!



Congratulations to Hattie Gates-Fleming in Earhart Class for achieving her Level 2 Swim certificate – a great job, Hattie!



Well done to Jacob Connor in Edison Class who recently performed in the Footsteps Performance Academy annual show at the EM Forster Theatre - a brilliant achievement, Jacob!



Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Bella Smeed in Earhart Class for achieving her Level 7 Pegasus Gymnastics award – a great job, Bella!



Congratulations to Lottie Chambers in Newton Class who recently took part in the annual Lucy Robbins dance showcase with over 200 other performers – well done, Lottie!



Our Reading House!



On World Book Day, representatives from the FODS Committee officially opened our beautiful new Reading House – it looks AMAZING! The children are so excited about using it in the months and years to come. A huge 'thank you' to the FODS committee and to all of our parents and carers for all of your fund-raising – without it, we would never have been able to afford to purchase such a lovely resource for the children.



Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Ava Flynn in Edison Class, who was recently awarded 'Junior Performer of the Year', at Footsteps Performing Arts School – a great achievement, Ava!



Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Reece Banfield in Thunberg who has successfully achieved his next karate belt at intermediate level. During his grading, Reece also showcased his second Kata and did extremely well. Well done, Reece!



Well done to Kyan Enver in Jackson Class who recently won Man of the Match playing for his football team. Kyan has also been presented with an award from Pro Intense Academy, for winning a team event during half term.



Well done to Esmee Turner in Edison Class, who achieved 1st place in all three of her dance groups in a recent Dance Synergy Competition - great news, Esmee!

World Hearing Day

On Monday 2nd March, we marked World Hearing Day. We welcomed Tom and Priya from the Kent Hearing Centre to our school. The children took part in an informative assembly, learning about this year's campaign, 'From Communities to Classrooms: Hearing care for all children'. The children learnt about the importance of their hearing and what they can do to protect their ears.





Oral Health Guidance:

Created with the Early Years sector, the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry and the Oral Health Foundation, a new [Children's Toothbrushing Guide](#) has been released to assist parents with clear, trusted advice. The link to the guide is below:

<https://startingreception.co.uk/toothbrushing/>

Chinese New Year

EYFS had a great time during their recent Chinese New Year Workshop. The children learnt all about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated. They also learnt how to perform a Chinese dance with Chinese fans, they danced with lion puppets and learnt some martial arts moves – the children had lots of fun!



Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Amy Sugihara in Nightingale Class, who has achieved her Stage 7 Swimming and her Level 6 Water Skills awards – great news, Amy!



Well done to Oscar Mcguigan in Johnson Class who competed in the North Kent Dance Festival during the half term break, achieving 1st place in tap and 3rd place in Musical Theatre – great news, Oscar!



World War II Day

Year 6 were recently transported back to the 1940s during their incredible World War Two experience day! The morning was filled with hands-on activities, led by a visiting historical character from the Royal Gunpowder Mills in Waltham Abbey. The children were fascinated as they heard real wartime stories about life working in a munitions factory and serving as an ARP warden. They also learnt about the challenges of the home front - ranging from rationing and blackouts to The Blitz and the fear of enemy spies. Year 6 took part in lessons taught just as they would have been in a 1940s classroom. They practised imperial measures, cracked secret messages using Morse code, and even experienced a simulated air raid, learning what it was like to continue schoolwork and sing wartime songs inside a shelter. It was an unforgettable, immersive journey into history that brought our learning to life!



Super Star Corner

Well done to Flynn La Roche in Seacole Class and to Bailey Page in Seacole Class; Flynn has been awarded his Red Belt in Karate and Bailey has been awarded his Deputy Red Belt.



Congratulations to Dylan La Roche in Earhart Class who has been awarded his Junior Black Belt – great news, Dylan!



Well done to Zoe Monney in Goodall Class, who recently achieved her Level 2 in swimming and has now moved up to Swim 3 – great news, Zoe!