Newsletter

October 2026 Term 2

Welcome back - we hope you all had a great half-term break with your children!

As we begin Term 2 of this academic year, there is much to look forward to: our annual firework display, parent consultations, school trips and workshops, the FODS Christmas Fayre, Christmas parties and lots, lots more!

I look forward to sharing details of these events with you and to enjoying a fun-filled term with the children!

Kind regards,

T. Gobell

Miss T Gobell
Headteacher



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Christmas Cards:
A polite reminder that orders for your child's card design can be placed via the below link:

Click here to access the website

Username: **TheDiscovery**
Access Code is: **hxv52uks**



Attendance

The Department for Education (DfE) continues to make good school attendance a priority, with the Government placing more emphasis on parents ensuring their children attend school regularly and increased expectations that schools and Local Authorities 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. Below is a link to our Attendance Policy 2026:

https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Attachments/Attendance-Policy-2026-2027.pdf

Overall attendance so far for the year 2026/27 is **96.5%,** compared to 94.3% nationally.

A polite request - End-of-Day Arrangements:

To help us ensure a safe and smooth end to the school day, we kindly ask that early collections are reserved for medical appointments only. Please bring evidence of the appointment when collecting your child from Reception.

If there is a change to your child's usual collection arrangements, please notify the school office by telephone or email with as much notice as possible. Messages received late in the afternoon can be difficult to pass on promptly, as this is one of the busiest times of the school day.

Harvest

Over the course of a week, pupils at The Discovery School came together to support the St Gabriel's at Kings Hill Food Bank through a successful Harvest collection. With the help of the dedicated Year 6 prefects, donations were gathered from across the school community. Thanks to the generosity and kindness of pupils, families and staff, an impressive 20 large boxes of food and toiletries were collected. The school is incredibly proud of everyone who contributed, demonstrating the values of compassion, community spirit and helping others. Thank you to all who donated so generously.





Super Star Corner

Well done to Harvey Murrison in Hawking Class, who swam at the London Aquatic Centre for the first time and came away with a bronze medal in the 200m freestyle. Harvey competed alongside Adam Law in Hawking Class – congratulations to both of you!



Super Star Corner

Well done to Mark and Millie Wascher-Mganga who have won a Young Community Champion Award. Both children have been recognised for their summer fundraising toy sale, where they raised money to support their local food bank - congratulations to you both!



Well done to Imogen Carey in Edison Class, who has been awarded a level 5 certificate and badge at her trampolining club – fantastic news, Imogen!



WAS Wellbeing Award for Schools 2024 - 2027

www.discovery.kent.sch.uk

Ofsted Outstanding Provider



Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set so far for Term 2.

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.

7th November	FODS Firework Display
9th November	Year 5 Wildwood Trip
10th November	New Parents' Tour
11th November	Remembrance Day assembly
11th November	EYFS Taster Session
12th November	Book Fayre (until 17th Nov)
16th November	Anti-bullying Week
16th November	New Parents' Tour
16th November	'Odd Socks' Day
18th November	EYFS Taster Session
18th November	FODS Non-uniform day
24th November	Parent Consultations
25th November	EYFS Taster Session
26th November	Parent Consultations
27th November	***INSET Day (no children in school)***
1st December	Year 1 Nativity
2nd December	Year 1 Nativity
5th December	FODS Christmas Fayre
7th December	EYFS Christmas Stay and Make
9th December	Christmas Dinner Day
10th December	Christmas Music Concert
15th December	Christingle Assembly
16th December	Christmas Party Day
17th December	EYFS and KS1 Carols on the Playground
18th December	KS2 Carols on the Playground
18th December	**End of Term 2**
4th January 2027	**Start of Term 3**

Forest School

Year 1 have been enjoying several Forest School sessions. The children have learnt about different trees and discovered how the changing seasons affect the world around them. They have investigated colourful fallen leaves, collected conkers and discussed the signs of autumn. Using their natural treasures, the children have created leaf caterpillars and imaginative conker critters, demonstrating fantastic creativity and teamwork. Year 1 have had a fantastic time outdoors developing their understanding of nature while enjoying the sights, sounds and colours of the autumn season.





Pumpkin Assembly:

Thank you, to Ashleigh from Spade Works, who recently came and spoke to the children about the different varieties of pumpkin there are. We learnt which ones were good to carve, and which were good to eat. We even learnt that some countries eat a pumpkin like we eat apples!



Football News!

After their success of reaching Wembley last year, The Discovery Girls football team started the new year off in the same manor by winning the Tonbridge round of the National League Cup 2026/27.

The girls topped the group stage in impressive fashion, winning all five matches, scoring 14 goals and not conceding a single goal!

The knockout stages proved a tougher challenge, however the girls first overcame Slade with a 3–0 victory before facing a nail-biting clash against St Johns.

After a hard-fought 2–2 draw, Discovery showed incredible composure to secure victory on penalties. These were the only two goals conceded by the team throughout the entire tournament!

The girls saved their best moment for last, producing a determined performance to defeat Langton Green 1–0 in the final and lift the trophy. A fantastic achievement for the Discovery Girls who demonstrated respect, resilience and teamwork throughout the day. Their well-deserved victory means they will now progress to the Kent finals next term, where they will look to continue their recent success.



Year 2 Crayon Day!

FODS Annual Firework Display

We are excited to about our spectacular Fireworks Display on Saturday 7th November 2026!

This year's event opens at 4:30pm and promises to be bigger and better than ever, featuring live music, delicious food, warm popcorn, desserts, drinks, a steel-drum band and of course, a breath-taking fireworks display at 6:30pm, perfectly choreographed to music.

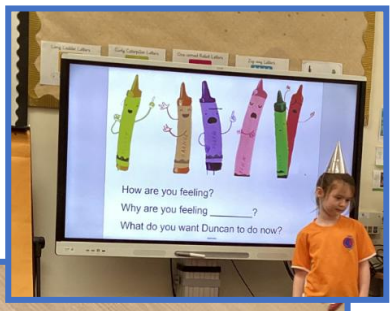
This year we are excited to announce The Indian Dish will be joining us to provide delicious curries, veggie curry and samosas.

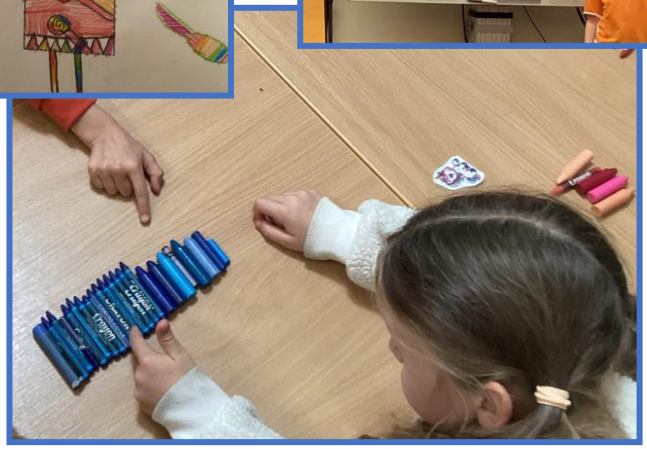
Please note, this is a ticketed event only, and we are now sold out!



Year 2 had a fantastic time celebrating Crayon Party Day, inspired by The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt! The children showed amazing creativity by dressing up as colourful crayons and designing their own unique crayons. They also took part in fun maths sorting activities involving crayons, while exploring the different feelings and personalities of the crayons in the story. It was a wonderful day full of colour, creativity and learning!







Value Points

All of the children have been working hard to uphold our school values of Honesty, Kindness, Perseverance, Friendship and Respect.

Well done to Garnet House for being the overall winners of last term's Value Points!

You will have a non-uniform day on 13th November to recognise your achievement!