



Newsletter

Monday 16th January 2023

Term 3 Week 3

On behalf of everyone at The Discovery School, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break with your families.

We have a full and exciting term planned for the children. In the coming weeks, the children will be participating in sports events, including matches against other local schools. The children will also be participating in a number of workshops and enjoying working with visitors in school.

The Governing Body was very busy last term. Individual governors visited regularly to monitor the work taking place in school. We were particularly grateful to Mrs. Budd for attending our Remembrance Day assembly, where she shared stories of her father who fought in World War II and showed the children the medals he was awarded. We are delighted to welcome Mr. Mike Godwin and Dr Hash Kahn to the Governing Body as our newly elected parent governors. Mrs Cornall, Chair of Governors, will be writing to you soon to share news from the governing body.

The staff are looking forward to another exciting term of learning, with much to look forward to in the coming weeks.

With kind regards,

T. Gobell

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. Overall attendance so far for the year 2022/23 has been good at 95.1%, compared to 92.7% nationally.

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Nightingale and Galileo Classes (week ending 6th January 2023) - 100%

Well done Curie and Galileo Classes (week ending 13th January 2023) – 97.7%



Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set for the rest of this term:

- Tuesday 17th January – Turing Class Assembly – 9am
- Wednesday 18th January – EYFS – Chinese New Year Workshop
- Thursday 19th January – Galileo Class Assembly 9.00am
- Monday 23rd January – Football match (Discovery vs Platt)
- Tuesday 7th February – Safer Internet Day
- Friday 10th February – **End of term 3**
- Monday 20th February – **Start of Term 4 (INSET Day – school closed to children)**



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2020-2023

www.discovery.kent.sch.uk



A message from The Discovery School Diversity Council

Diversity Council House Name Change!

Following our big project to change some of our class names last year, The Diversity Council has been working hard on changing our House names too.

The children felt that although the previous House names – Scott, Shackleton, Cook and Franklin - tied in with the theme of 'discovery', they didn't represent our school community in terms of diversity and values.

As we have already changed our class names to more diverse people, the children wanted something completely different for our House names. First, The Diversity Council asked the children in their classes for ideas. The first list of ideas had 36 suggestions! Although they were great ideas it made it really difficult to choose. So the Council decided to choose some of their favourite ideas and ask the school to vote. Each class voted for their top three ideas, with first place being the idea to change our House names to gemstones:

Red - Garnet
Blue - Topaz
Yellow - Citrine
Green – Peridot

The gemstones also link to our school values of perseverance, respect, friendship, kindness and honesty.

The next steps for the Diversity Council are to come up with ideas of how we can use our Houses more in school – not just for Sports Day and Assemblies.

If you have any ideas about how we can use our Houses more, please let the Diversity Council know via Mrs. Wilce-Cordner: jwilce@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Best wishes from

The Diversity Council



Welcome

Welcome to our newest member of staff, Mrs Katie Cox. Mrs Cox has joined EYFS as an additional teaching Assistant. I am sure you will join me in welcoming her to Team Discovery!



Good Luck

We wish two of our staff good luck as they move onto pastures new. Mrs Kimberley Moore is beginning a new career path after five years at The Discovery School. Mrs Kelly Hayes is moving on from her Key Worker position to take up her first Teaching Assistant post – we wish them both well.

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 6th January 2023 – Citrine House 😊

Winning House (week ending 13th January 2023 – Topaz House 😊

The winning House last term was Shackleton (now Topaz) – well done, you will have a non-uniform day on Friday 20th January 2023 😊

Super Star Corner

Well done to Caroline Deng in Seacole Class. Caroline was announced as a winner in the Tom Tugendhat Christmas Card Competition – congratulations Caroline!



Well done to Enya Mullings in Earhart Class. Enya recently achieved her Level 2 swimming award. Well done Enya – you should be so proud of yourself!





Severe Weather

As lovely as snow is for a little while, let us hope that there won't be any more this year!

However, just in case, please see our website for details about arrangements for school closures due to severe weather:

<https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/about-us/severe-weather/>



Football Player Escorts

On Tuesday 2nd January, the children from The Discovery School mini-world cup winning team were invited to be player escorts for

Maidstone United at the Gallagher Stadium. During the afternoon, the children were able to meet the players and the Manager of Maidstone United. Despite Maidstone United losing, the children all had a great time and were a credit to our School.



Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Ryia Sinha in Johnson Class who has recently passed her Grade 2 piano exam with merit – well done Ryia!



Well done to Frank Dobinson in Attenborough Class. Just before Christmas, Frank helped the Maidstone Winter Shelter. Frank used his own pocket money to purchase much needed items for the Shelter's Christmas dinner for the homeless. Well done Frank for upholding our school value of kindness in such a positive way – you should be so proud of yourself!

