



# Newsletter

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022

Week 7 Term 6

I can't believe that it is already the end of another academic year – where have the last 12 months gone! It has been a busy and eventful year, not without its residual 'COVID' challenges during the first half of the year, but how lovely to have finally returned to 'business as usual'. This term has been busy with school visits, FODS events, workshops in school, Sports Days, Year 6 leaver's events and of course – the Year 6 Prom today.

The last few weeks have been a personal challenge and I was very sorry not to be able to be in school due to illness, however, I was very touched by the kind wishes sent by parents. My absence is the reason for the delay in sending out a newsletter, but I was determined that the children featured in today's edition had their wonderful achievements recognised.

As we end the year, I would like to congratulate all of the children on their hard work and resilience – particularly as they continue to navigate the disruption caused to their education by the pandemic. The children really are a credit to our school and the values they exhibit on a daily basis a reflection of their supportive and loving families.

I would also like to thank the staff and governors for their hard work and commitment. In particular, I would like to thank Mrs. Catriona Stringer, Vice-Chair of Governors, for her dedication to our lovely school. After eight years as a governor, she has decided it is time to hand the reins over to someone else.

Mrs. Stringer initially joined our Governing Body as a Parent Governor, and despite her own daughter moving to secondary school several years ago, continued as a Co-opted Governor. In her time on the Governing Body, she has been both the Vice-Chair and Chair of Governors, a substantial responsibility carried out on a voluntary basis. The School has been very fortunate to benefit from her wisdom and support over the years. We will miss her presence in school and thank her most sincerely for her generous time and passion for The Discovery School.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support throughout the last 12 months. On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer break!

With kind regards,

*T. Gobell*

Miss T Gobell  
Head Teacher



## Don't Forget...

1st and 2nd September 2022 are INSET Days (no children in school).

5th September 2022 – First day back to school for the children!



Wellbeing Award  
for Schools

2020-2023

[www.discovery.kent.sch.uk](http://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk)





### **Attendance:**

Attendance at The Discovery School has always been high, but has been adversely affected by COVID-19 cases this year. The latter part of this year has seen a return to higher levels of attendance overall and next year we look forward to an even better year.

Overall attendance for the year 2021/22: 94.7%. When excluding COVID-19 cases from our absence data, attendance is 96.9%.

**Best Class Attendance for the year - Well done Faraday Class - 97.5%**

### **Value Points**

Winning House (week ending 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022)  
– Shackleton House

The overall winning House for Term 6 was a draw – with every House winning two stars each!

Well done children – this means you will all have a non-uniform day as a reward when we return to school in September!

### **Sports Day**

It was lovely to see you all at our recent Sports Day events. The overall combined scores for all three events are as follows:

- 1st - Cook - 349 points
- 2nd - Franklin - 315 points
- 3rd - Scott - 309 points
- 4th - Shackleton - 275 points

Well done Cook House!



**Thank you:** The FODS (PTA) was very thankful to receive a £460 donation from the online Christmas and Spring Markets that were run locally to benefit the three local schools on Kings Hill – thank you!



**Congratulations:** To mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate the occasion, the Chairman of Kent County Council, Mrs Lesley Game, invited children across Kent in three age groups to take part in a baking competition. The challenge was to design 6 cupcakes with a Platinum Jubilee theme and send in a photo or drawing of the designs, including a list of ingredients and description of the design, including any flavours or special decorations.

Five finalists from each age group were then invited to take part in the final event held on Friday 1 July. The cupcakes were judged by a panel of judges: Lesley Game, Chairman of Kent County Council, Roger Gough, Leader of Kent County Council, Shellina Prendergrast Cabinet Director for Children, Young People and Education and Rosemary Dymond, Deputy Lieutenant of Kent.



We are delighted to announce that Olivia Dorfler in Winston Class was the winner of the KS2 category. Olivia baked three different flavours of cupcake with three different designs. As her prize, Olivia received a £30 One for All voucher, presented to her on the award evening, plus a £100 book voucher for our school.

**South-East in Bloom:** We are delighted to have again been awarded a Gold Medal by the judging panel for South-East in Bloom. Particular thanks for this achievement go to Mrs. Chapman and her Eco-Club warriors for their fantastic hard work!



## Super Star Corner

Well done to Mia Lowing in Johnson Class – Mia and her cheerleading team recently competed in the National Cheerleading finals in Bournemouth. The team had an amazing run and scored a zero deduction routine, came first and were crowned national champions for their division! A fantastic achievement Mia!



**Commonwealth Games Festival:** On Friday 24th June, we took some Year 2 children to a

Commonwealth Games Festival and had great fun. We got to try out lots of different sports: yoga, tennis, hockey, volleyball, archery, cricket and football, as well as participating in some activities about how to lead a healthy life. All of the children showed great perseverance when trying out the new activities and enjoyed all of them. They did the Discovery School proud!



Congratulations to Leah Laubscher in Berners-Lee Class. Leah recently competed in two gymnastics tournaments – coming 3rd at the Kent Intermediate Level, Floor and Vault Championships and 5th at the South East Regional, Intermediate, Floor and Vault Competition. Brilliant news Leah!







## Quiz Club National Science

**Finals:** On Monday 4th July 2022, The Discovery School science team made their way to the Light auditorium in London to put their science

knowledge to the test in the Quiz Club National Finals. The team, made up of Edward, Aiden, Aimee and Ruby competed against 26 other teams who had travelled from as far away as Bristol, Manchester and even Wales! The teams had worked hard to make it through the online semi-finals and quarter-final to be there.

The auditorium buzzed with excitement and nerves as the children settled down and devised their strategies while the quiz-master, Simon, put all of the children at ease. Once the rules of the quiz were explained, silence fell upon the room and the first question was asked. You could have cut the tension with a knife!

1	Alpha Prep	1620	12	The Study School	1535
2	Northwood	1780	13	Green Street Green	1535
3	Cranleigh Prep	1745	14	Salisbury Prep	1495
4	Westminster Team 2	1735	15	Bancroft Prep	1485
5	UCS Team 2	1730	16	Northwood Prep Team 1	1475
6	The Discovery School	1730	17	Northwood High School	1465
7	Westminster Prep Team 1	1700	18	Chesham Prep	1395
8	Westminster Team 1	1685	19	Westminster Prep	1375
9	St Thomas Better School	1635	20	Alton Court Prep	1355
10	Cranleigh Prep	1600	21	Stambridge House	1295
11	UCS Team 1	1590	22	House Green House	1270

Despite some of the questions being challenging, the children conferred, persevered and worked incredibly well as a team. At the end of round One,

The Discovery School were in 4th place. In the following rounds, The Discovery School team kept us all on tenterhooks, dropping down to 24th but then moving steadily up and we finished in an amazing joint 5th place! The Discovery School was the top placed state school in the country!

We are all so very proud of the children's achievements and thankful to their parents for coming along to cheer them on. In addition, a big thank you to Mrs Dey for holding practice sessions at school so that the children were cool, calm and collected on the big day! We cannot wait to do it again next year!

If you're wondering if you'd make the team, here's a taster of some of the questions the children were asked:

Who do we associate with the discovery of radium and polonium?

- A) Marie Curie B) Rosalind Franklin  
C) Alexander Fleming D) Humphry Davy

What is the chemical symbol for lead?

- A) Pl B) Pb C) L D) Lu

Friction makes what kind of motion impossible?

- A) Reciprocating motion B) Oscillating motion  
C) Rotary motion D) Perpetual motion

Answers: A, B, D



**Staffing news:** Welcome back to Mrs. Healey who returned from her Maternity Leave this week! We also welcome two new members of staff to our school in September: Mrs. Ball who will be a new Key worker and Mrs. Moore who will be a new Teaching Assistant.

### Super Star Corner

Well done to Lacey Hudgell who has been awarded a place at the Royal Ballet School in London next year – brilliant news Lacey!



### Super Star Corner

On Monday 13th June, children in Years 3 – 6, from local schools, took part in a Tennis Tournament at Kings Hill Community Tennis Club. Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 Team from The Discovery School for winning their event and bringing back an amazing trophy for the school! Well done to all the children who took part!



Congratulations to Ivan Kulik in Jemison Class who recently won the Kent Tudor Cup competing for the Tonbridge Swimming Club. Throughout the season Ivan has won all of his individual and relay races – brilliant news Ivan!



### Good Luck!



Good luck to all of our Year 6 children as you prepare to move on to the next phase of your lives. Each and every one of you has played a special part in making our school a happy and exciting place to learn. We wish you all every happiness for the future – and always remember to be the 'best that you can be!'



# Year 6 Residential 2022

Recently, Year 6 had an amazing adventure at Marchants Hill PGL in Surrey. They started their weekend with a very competitive team game of Task Master before throwing themselves into a weekend of activities. They got to take part in rifle shooting, giant swing, Jacob's ladder and a 'Campfire's got talent'.

Throughout the residential, the children supported each other and showed great perseverance and team work – we were very proud of them. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and so did the staff!

What a great way to end their Primary School adventure!

