



Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024

Term 1

I can't quite believe that we are almost at the end of term 1 or that the children in EYFS have been coming to school for a whole term already! Where does the time go?

The children across the school have been working very hard, and as always, have been a credit to our school. It has been a particularly long term for the children and I've no doubt that they are ready for a well-deserved half term break.

When we come back after the holidays, there will be lots to look forward, the first event being the Friends of Discovery School (PTA) annual firework night. This is always a highlight of the school calendar, so for anyone that hasn't been before, you are in for a treat! After that, we will begin the count-down to Christmas (only 68 sleeps to go...) – a Christmas craft afternoon, Year 1 Christmas Nativity plays, Carols on the Playground, our Christingle assemblies, the Christmas Fayre, Christmas parties and so much more!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

T. Gobell

Miss T Gobell - Headteacher



Attendance

With school attendance continuing to feature prominently in the Department for Education's (DfE) priorities for improvement, schools have been required to review their Attendance Policies to include government expectations. With this in mind, our Governing Body has recently agreed its revised school policy. This will be shared with parents and carers shortly, with any key changes highlighted for you. Attendance at The Discovery School continues to be good, but we will continue to do all we can to improve this where we can. Overall attendance so far for the year 2024/25 is 96.35%

Best Class Attendance:

Well done Seacole and Thunberg Classes (week ending 27th September 2024) - 100%

Well done to Jenner Class (week ending 4th October 2024) – 99%

Well done to Galileo Class (week ending 11th October 2024) – 99%



FODS Halloween Raffle – last call for ticket purchases!

Tickets can be purchased using the below link:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/fodsha1loween2024>

ONLY £1 PER TICKET – Prize draw is on 21st October.

www.discovery.kent.sch.uk



Wellbeing Award for Schools

2020-2023



Value Points

All of the children have been working hard to uphold our school values of Honesty, Kindness, Perseverance, Friendship and Respect. In week one, all of the houses shared first place together!

Winning House (week ending 27th September – Peridot and Topaz Houses 😊)

Winning House (week ending 4th October – Citrine House 😊)

Winning House (week ending 11th October – Peridot House 😊)



With thanks to one of our parents who is also a practising doctor, who has kindly wishes to signpost parents and carers to the following website:

<https://www.saferasthma.co.uk/>

If your child suffers from asthma, you may find the website helpful. Kent and Medway Health Trust is also encouraging all parents with a child who has asthma, to have a regular asthma review.



Scooters:

This is a polite reminder that children must not ride bikes and scooters while on the school grounds' as it is dangerous for pedestrians. Please can you speak to your children about this to reinforce our conversations in school.



Goodbye and Good Luck

At the end of this term we have to say farewell and good luck to Mrs. Moore, Teaching Assistant, who is off to start a new adventure at Demelza House Children's Hospice.

We also say farewell to Miss Micoud one of our SEND support assistants, who is also starting a new career working with young people in the prison system. Finally, we say farewell to Ms. Taylor, our Finance Officer who is moving onto a full-time business role. We will miss them and wish them every happiness for the future.



Collecting your child during the day:

Please can we remind parents that you should allow at least ten minutes for us to collect your children from class if you are taking them to an appointment during the school day. We aren't being deliberately slow; it can take children a little while to collect their things together and walk to the school office. It can take even longer if the appointment coincides with morning or afternoon playtimes or lunchtime, as it can take time for children to be located on the playground.



Adventure Trim Trails:

Please can we ask parents not to allow your children, including younger siblings, to play on the adventure trim trails at the end of the school day. Staff cannot monitor use of the equipment during these times and there has recently been a spate of accidents after school because children have been left to play unsupervised on the equipment after they have been collected.



2020-2023

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EYFS



Early Years have been learning all about themselves, as they settle into school. To support this, the children have recently taken part in a wonderful 'Elmer' craft workshop run by Get Groovy.

The children had so much fun listening to different Elmer stories, making their own exciting Elmer patchwork puppets and dancing to a range of fun, jungle music! All the children's Elmer puppets were unique, just like them!



This workshop was fantastic for developing a range of skills, such as, physical development, communication and language skills, as well as expressive arts and design.

Well done, children!





Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates for the next few weeks:

- 21st October – Halloween raffle
- 21st October – KS2 Heart Restart assembly
- 21st to 24th October – Harvest Food Bank collection
- 24th October – YearR&6 NHS Height & Weight measuring
- 24th October – Diwali assembly
- 25th October – **End of Term 1**
- 4th November – **Start of Term 2**
- 4th, 7th & 8th November – Year 5 Music@Malling workshops
- 6th November – New Entrant’s Tour
- 9th November - FODS Firework Display
- 12th November – Odd Socks Day
- 12th November – New entrant’s Tour
- 18th November – New Entrant’s Tour
- 19th Novemebr – Parent Consultations (letter to follow)
- 21st November – Parent Consultations (letter to follow)
- 22nd Novemebr – INSET Day (school closed for children)



Message from Mr. Matthew Scott, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner:

Today I am launching my Annual Youth Survey. I run this every year to ask young people about their experiences of social media, online bullying and safety. This year, I am also asking parents and guardians for their views for the first time. We use these results to influence my work locally. Please find below the link to the survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ParentSurveyKent/>



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Super Star Corner

Well done to Ted, Arya, Olivia, Hermione, Isabelle and Maia in Seacole Class – they recently had a very exciting time at the School of Panto launch show 'all board'!



Well done to Reece Banfield in Seacole Class who has been working very hard during his karate lessons and recently achieved his white and red stripe belt – great news Reece!



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Football News:

On Monday 23rd September, a group of Year 6 boys took part in the U11s Boys Football Tournament at The Gallagher Stadium in Maidstone. We started strongly, winning two of our opening three games, before drawing our final two group fixtures that sealed our place in the last 16 knockouts. Unfortunately, this is where our journey ended, conceding a last-minute goal to a strong Barming side which prevented us from reaching the quarter finals. We are now looking forward to the league fixtures starting in a couple of weeks and putting in some more strong performances.



On Monday 14th October 2024, a group of seven Year 5 and 6 girls took part in the SITC Girls Football Tournament. They did brilliantly, winning their group stage and making it through to the knockout stages. We just missed out on a place in the final, after losing 1-0 to Snodland in the Semi-Finals. The children played really well as a team and we are really proud of them for getting to the semi-finals - well done!

Finally...Prize draw:

Thank you to everyone who entered our Tesco prize draw - congratulations to our lucky winner!



2020-2023

Super Star Corner

Well done to Edie Cella in Galileo Class who won 1st place in a recent Latin dance competition – a great job Edie!



Well done to Myah Wood in Jenner Class who has recently achieved her 20m badge in swimming – great news Myah!

