



# Newsletter

November 2024

Term 2

As we approach the start of the festive season and head into December, we have lots of Christmas festivities to enjoy with the children. The Christmas season will begin on Saturday with the FODS Christmas Fayre, followed by a special Advent assembly on Monday, when we welcome Reverend Mark from St. Gabriel's to school. The festivities will then begin in earnest with Christmas dinner being served on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Included in this letter, is a run-down of all the events planned for the remainder of this term.

We hope to see lots of you at the Christmas Fayre on Saturday!

P.S Only 25 more sleeps until the big day...

Kind regards,

Miss T Gobell  
Headteacher



## **FODS Firework Display:**

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent FODS Firework display – thanks to your generosity and the great work of our fantastic volunteer FODS committee, nearly £6000 was raised for the school to spend on the children.



## **Attendance**

With school attendance continuing to feature prominently in the Department for Education's (DfE) priorities for improvement, our school continues to promote good attendance as a key feature of work to support our children. 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 95.5%

## **Best Class Attendance:**

Well done Jemison Class (week ending 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024) - 100%

Well done Curie Class and Galileo Class (week ending 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024) – 98.7%

Well done Galileo Class (week ending 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024) – 99.2%

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## **Remembrance Day:**

The children came together in remembrance on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November for a special Remembrance Day assembly. A wreath made by the children was also laid at the Kings Hill Remembrance Day service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November.



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# EYFS Fundraiser

## Super Star Corner

Well done to Hudson Harvey in Gilbert Class who recently won the Man of the Match trophy for his effort, attitude and determination – well done Hudson!



Well done to Holly Butler in Berners-Lee Class who won the gold medal at the Winter Wonderland gymnastics competition – a great job Holly!

Well done to Jude King in Attenborough Class who has just won the Supporters Player Award, for showing the best attitude, effort and teamwork in the first seven matches of the KHFC Mustangs under 7s football team.



The children in the Early Years Foundation Stage have been very busy raising money to buy some Tonie boxes for the Year R classrooms. The children took part in a sponsored 'Firework Dance', raising over £1000 pounds, which is AMAZING! Well done children – we are so proud of you!





## Countdown to Christmas!

Please find below a list of Christmas events planned for the rest of this term:

- **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November – FODS Christmas Fayre (12.00pm to 3.00pm)**  
Please come and support the School at this year's Christmas Fayre. The KS2 Choir will be singing around the Christmas Tree on the playground at 1.00pm – it will be great to see you all there!
- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Christmas Post Box opens**  
Children can send cards to their friends across the school by posting them in the special Christmas Post Box near the office. They must put children's first and last names as well as their class on the envelope.
- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Reverend Mark giving a special Advent assembly**
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – UKS2 Choir Carol Singing for the WI Christmas Lunch, 11.15am**  
Year 5 and 6 members of the choir will be performing a special Christmas concert for the Women's Institute.
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner**
- **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Carols Around the Christmas Tree Community Event at Kings Hill Community Centre, 5.00pm**  
The Discovery School KS2 Choir have been invited to sing in this wonderful community event alongside other primary schools on Kings Hill. Each school choir will be performing Christmas songs on the stage as part of the special service.
- **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Christmas Play performance to parents – 2.30pm**
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Y1 Christmas Play performance to parents – 9.30am**
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christingle Services for the children**
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS Christmas Craft Afternoon (2.00pm to 3.00pm)**  
EYFS will be having a festive 'Stay and Play' session which EYFS parents are invited to – there will even be some songs for you to enjoy!
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - iRock Music Concert (2.00pm - 3.00pm)**  
This is an opportunity for the children learning to play in a band with iRock to perform to their parents and siblings.
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Class Christmas Parties (pm)**  
Children can wear their own clothes to school for the day. All children will be given a paper food bag to take home on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, which they can name and decorate and then bring into school on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, filled with their own party food to eat in class.
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – The Discovery School Christmas Music Concert (4.30pm - 6.00pm)**  
The Discovery School KS1 & KS2 Choir, along with other children learning instruments in school, will be performing a selection of Christmas songs and musical numbers. There will be festive refreshments on sale before the concert for the audience.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS/KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) Carols on the Playground 2.15pm start.**  
Each year group will choose their own Christmas song to perform. There will also be two songs that all of the children will perform to introduce and end the event.
- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) Carols on the Playground 2.15pm start.**  
Each year group will choose their own Christmas songs to perform. There will also be two songs that all of the children will perform to introduce and end the event.



## FODS (PTA Annual Christmas Fayre

The FODS will be hosting their annual Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. The Fayre opens at 12:00 and closes at 3:00pm. As well as a range of stalls, food and drink to purchase and fun activities, the KS2 choir will be singing around the Christmas tree at 1:00pm. We look forward to seeing lots of you there!



### Upcoming dates for your diary

Please find below a list of key dates set for the remainder of Term 2. A separate list of Christmas dates is listed below:

- 29<sup>th</sup> November – Travelling Book Fair
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Travelling Book Fair
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Flu vaccinations
- 6<sup>th</sup> December – NELFT Coffee Morning

### 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 8<sup>th</sup> November) – Topaz House 😊

Winning House (week ending 15<sup>th</sup> November) – Peridot and Topaz Houses 😊

Winning House (week ending 22<sup>nd</sup> November) – Garnet and Citrine Houses 😊

# Anti-bullying Week

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, the children took part in 'Odd Socks Day' to support Anti-bullying Week. The reason we encouraged our children to wear odd socks was to highlight the fact that being different is good and that we should tolerate each others' differences.



This year's anti-bullying theme was 'Choose Respect', which echoes one of our core school values - respect. Children across the school took part in lessons linked to this theme to support the anti-bullying week message.

### Super Star Super Star Corner Superstar Corner

Well done to Adriel Akaho Earhart Class who was presented with the club trophy for Karate member of the week. Adriel also received his new belt grading!



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# Key Stage 2 Choir!



The Discovery School KS2 Choir made their debut performance of the year at West Malling Christmas Festival on Sunday. The children thoroughly enjoyed their first festive concert of the season and performed confidently on stage. One parent commented, "They sang beautifully, looked smart and very festive. Their behaviour was fantastic both on the stage and around the festival. They are a credit to the school." The Choir are looking forward to a busy season of concerts and carol singing. Their next performance will be at The Discovery School Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.



## Super Star Corner

Congratulations to Nancie Dadswell in Hawking Class, who was thrilled to win the gold medal at the Gymspire Gymnastics competition (combined floor and vault) on 23<sup>rd</sup> November – fantastic news Nancie!



Well done to Gabriella Jones in Turing Class and Olivia Jones in Nightingale Class, who successfully climbed Snowdon via the Rhyd Ddu path, all the way up to the summit – amazing perseverance!



Well done to Oliver Holder in Einstein Class who has just achieved Level 5 in gymnastics - a great job Oliver!

# Horton Kirby

The children in Year 6 recently had the incredible experience of going on a school trip to Horton Kirby, where they stepped back in time to experience what life was like as a child during World War Two. The day was filled with hands-on activities that brought history to life. Throughout the day, they discovered the challenges and adventures of being relocated to the countryside. They played with traditional 1940s toys, immersing themselves in the simpler joys of the past.

A highlight of the trip was entering a real air raid shelter, where the children were able to get a vivid sense of what it was like to seek safety during bombings. Furthermore, they also participated in a classroom session, which was taught in true 1940s style, complete with authentic teaching methods!



This trip allowed the children to connect with the past and enhanced their understanding of World War Two and its impact on everyday life.

