



July 2024

# Newsletter

Term 6



I can't believe that it is already the end of another academic year – where has this year gone! 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 yesterday.

As we end the year, I would like to congratulate all of the children on their hard work and resilience – they really are the 'best they can be'. The children are a credit to our school and the values they exhibit on a daily basis a reflection of their supportive and loving families.

It has been an incredibly busy year and so I would also like to thank the staff and governors for their hard work and ongoing commitment for the benefit of our children and school.

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

T. Gobell With  
regards,



kind

## Attendance

ABSENCE



The Department for Education (DfE) continues to focus on returning attendance levels in schools,

back to pre-COVID-19 levels. As a school, we want to continue working with families to ensure children can attend school when they are able to. Overall, attendance for The Discovery School this year 2023/24 measured 95.1% (below expected attendance of 96%). Attendance nationally is also still very low (92.9%). As a result, the DfE will be introducing new attendance requirements in September 2024. The School's new Attendance Policy will be sent out on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, but in the meantime, we want to highlight that morning registration **will be closing five minutes earlier (at 8:55 a.m.)** to ensure our school continues to be complaint with the law. The gates will still be open between 8:40am and 8:50am each day.

## Best Class Attendance:

Well done Earhart and Johnson Classes (week ending 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024) – 98%

Well done Berners-Lee Class (week ending 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024) – 99.3%

Well done Jackson Class (week ending 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024) - 99%

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Miss T Gobell  
Head Teacher

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



### Super Star Corner

Well done to Amy Sugihara in Darwin Class, who has just completed her Stage 5 swimming level – great news Amy!



Well done to Sophia Dales and Holly Butler in Curie Class. The girls raised a fantastic £94.25 for our school at the recent Summer Fayre – a great job!



Welcome back to Miss Harris who returned from her Maternity Leave last week! It is lovely to have you back at the Discovery school!

### Value Points

All of the children have been working hard to uphold our school values of honesty, kindness, perseverance, friendship and respect.

Congratulations to Peridot House, which was the winning House for Term 5.



### **Year 6 Netball Team:**

The Year 6 netball team enjoyed their last netball training session with a game of netball against their parents. It was a close game but Year 6 remained victorious, with a 6-5 win over their parents. Thank you to all parents for coming along to their practice. As a team, the children have been amazing and Coach Keeper will miss you all. Good luck with your secondary school netball teams!



### **Please don't forget...**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 are INSET days (no children in school).

WAS

Wellbeing Award  
for Schools

2024 - 2027

# Sports Day 2024!



## Sports Day

It was lovely to see you all at our recent Sports Day events. The children displayed great sportsmanship throughout the three events – well done to Topaz House for winning Year 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day and well done to Citrine House for winning the Year 1, 2 and 3 Sports Day. Whilst there wasn't a winner in EYFS, the children all fully participated in their Sports Day events, in readiness for next year's competition!



## Super Star Corner

Well done to Jack Upton in Darwin Class. Jack has recently achieved his level 6 swimming award and been nominated as 'runner of the week' at his running club – two great achievements Jack!



Well done to Myra Bindra in Jackson in Class, who recently took part in a School of Panto show. Myra did a great job!



## **Football Success – 'It's Coming Home'**

Throughout the year, we have had a number of football teams playing fixtures against other local schools. I am delighted to write that both our Boys' and Girls' teams were crowned Tonbridge and Malling District League Champions! This is a great achievement for both teams and we are so proud of them. As we look forward to next year and our new football teams, we will be holding trials for the boys and girls at the start of the academic year. We know that there are so many wonderful coaches on Kings Hill and we are hoping that there will be some parents willing to help us with coaching the matches for both teams. We will be in touch in September!





### **Year 6 Finance Workshop:**

On Friday 28th June, Year Six invited Mark and Russel from Barclays into school for a Life Skills workshop. The children followed a story to see where missing money had gone and to see if they could solve the problems the characters in the story encountered along the way. They learnt about budgeting, how to look after money safely and about debt. It was a very informative workshop and the children learnt a lot! Thank you, Barclays.



### **Farewell!**

As we approach the end of the academic year, it is usual for there to be some staff we need to say goodbye to. This year we say farewell to Mrs. Wiggins, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. McLaughlin, three of our valued Key Workers. We also say farewell to Miss Mones, our SEND Assistant, who will be studying to become a doctor from September! Finally, we say goodbye to Miss Ledeczky, who has successfully completed her graduate teacher programme and will be taking up a new teaching post in September and Miss Meiners, who has decided not to return to school following the birth of her son earlier this year. We thank each and every one of them for their hard work and commitment during their time at The Discovery School; we will miss them but wish them well for the future.

We also need to congratulate Mrs. Patel, who becomes our joint Year 6 Leader from September, alongside Mr. Stannard and Mrs. Dey, who becomes our Year 3 Leader, until Mrs. Repsch returns from her maternity leave.



### **Tennis news:**

On Monday 8th July, groups of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children took part in the Taylor Made Tennis Competition at Kings Hill Sports Park. In the morning, we had two teams of Year 3 and 4 children represent the School. They all did a fantastic job; showing great perseverance and skills when competing against the 5 other teams involved. Both teams did exceptionally well. The Discovery School B team came 3rd overall and The Discovery School A Team won the whole competition! The afternoon was for our Year 5 and 6 children! Once again, we entered two teams who performed brilliantly; they showed great sportsmanship and knowledge of the tennis rules. The Discovery School B team did very well and made it through to the semi-finals and the Discovery School A team won the Y5 and Y6 competition! Well done to all those who participated in the tennis competition - you did us all proud. Also, a massive thank you to all the parents who came to support.

### **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!'





### Election Fever!

On Thursday 4th July, whilst the adults of the UK were voting for their next government, the children of The Discovery School

held their own election. The children had the chance to learn about how a national election worked and then had the opportunity to vote on the things that mattered to them most in school. The small hall was set up as a polling station and all the children had the chance to vote for their favourite candidate. The candidates were animals who each stood for something different. Shark was standing for a non-uniform day, hedgehog was standing for a biscuit at breaktime, gorilla stood for music at breaktime, peacock stood for an extra playtime and lion stood for juice in water bottles for one day. After all the votes were counted by the children in Year 5, the winner was announced as shark, who won by a majority of 122 votes!



### Wacky Hair Day

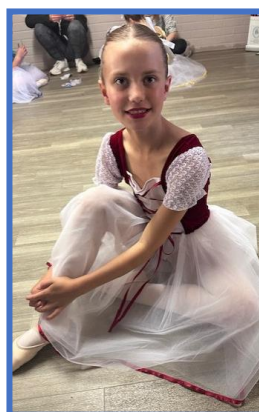
Thank you for your support for our recent 'Wacky Hair Day'. We raised £359.00 in total, which will be donated to the Marine Conservation Society and Cancer Research.

### Super Star Corner

Well done to Lottie Kemp in Jemison Class, who has been awarded her second Blue Peter badge. Lottie's latest badge is the Book Club Badge. To achieve it, she had to review a book of her choice and write about it – a great job Lottie!



Well done to Eleanore Bekker in Seacole Class, who has won 1st place at the annual Pegasus gymnastics competition. Eleanore has also been awarded an outstanding achievement medal for her dedication, improvement, hard work & progress at her dance class this term!





## Year 6 Enterprise:

Over the term, Year Six have been working hard to create business ideas for their Enterprise Project. They created adverts, made products to sell and collected other children's opinions about their initial ideas. On Friday 12th and Wednesday 17th July, the sales commenced and they were highly successful – raising over £1,600! The school community was buzzing with excitement and the younger children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the different stalls and spending their pocket money. A huge well done to the Year Six children for making the Enterprise so memorable and enjoyable!



## A message from the Chair of Governors

As the academic year comes to a close, the Governors would like to wish you and your children a wonderful summer.

It has been another wonderful year at The Discovery School and the we would like to thank the staff for all of their hard work and dedication. To the children, it has been amazing to be able to come in to school and see what you have been learning about and to celebrate all of your wonderful achievements.

For our Year 6 pupils, the Governors and I would like to wish you all the best in your new schools. You have been a fantastic year group; always upholding the school's values, being wonderful role models for the rest of the school and most recently showing your fantastic performance skills in your Year 6 Production!

Have a wonderful summer and the Governors and I look forward to seeing you in September.

**Annabel Cornall**

**Chair of Governors**



## Food Policy:

Finally, a reminder that from September 2024, we have a new Food Policy, which has further guidance on lunch-box contents and the stopping of sending in birthday treats. Please see the link below for the Food Policy (minus the typing errors included in the draft policy sent out by mistake last week – apologies for this, 'endoftermitis' I think!): <https://www.discovery.kent.sch.uk/about-us/policies/>

