



Discovery Primary Academy



Friday 26th May 2023

Special key dates are listed at the bottom of this newsletter

Sports Afternoons

The dates for sports days and the alternative days in case of bad weather are in the dates for your calendar section below. The times of the sports afternoons do vary depending on the age of the children.

- **Foundation Stage** Sports afternoons will start at 1.30pm. The gates will open just before 1.30pm to give everyone time to walk down to the field.
- **Years 1 and 2** sports afternoon will also start at 1.30pm. The gates will open just before.
- **Years 3,4,5 and 6** will start their sports afternoon slightly earlier at 1.15pm. The gates will open at 1pm so there is enough time for everyone to find a place to watch the races.

I would suggest that parents/carers bring a blanket to sit on or a fold up chair if you have one. There is little shade on the spectator's side of the track so please make sure you take this into account as most people will be there for the afternoon. A toilet is available for use during the afternoon. Staff will be around to give directions. Some parents/carers do like to bring their own drinks and snacks with them which is a good idea especially if it is warm. Please do take any rubbish away with you. Thank you.

Attendance

The overall attendance this week is **95%**.
A Huge well done to **Pyramids, Hercules, and Neptune** who all achieved an attendance of **100%**

Clubs

Tuesday. Yr. 3 Drama Club at lunchtime. Mrs Barnes.
Yr. 5 & 6 BoxFit. until 4pm. Mrs Torrens
Yr. 3,4,5 & 6 Girls Football. Until 4:15pm. Mr Wright.
Wednesday. Yr. 5 & 6 Netball club at lunchtime. Miss Hovell.
Yr. 4 Drama Club at lunchtime. Mrs Barnes
Yr. 3,4,5 & 6 multi-sports. Until 4:15pm. Mr Wright.
Thursday. Yr. 5 & 6 Boys Football. Until 4:15pm. Mr Wright.
Yr. 4.5 & 6 Gardening Club until 4pm. Mrs Drew

Nearly New Uniform

Please don't forget to check the nearly new uniform we have available in the entrance area of the academy. We also have shoes and wellies in certain sizes available. Many of these have not been worn.

As you could see we had a lot of unnamed lost property at the front of the academy over the last few days. Please remember to name your child's clothing so we can return them straight away.

Dates for Your Calendar

Monday 29th May – Half Term
Monday 5th June – Training Day
Tuesday 6th June – Start of the last half term.
Tuesday 20th June – KS1 Yr. 1 and 2 Sports day (Alternative day **Tuesday 27th June**) 1.30-3pm
Thursday 22nd June – KS2 Yr. 3,4,5 and 6 Sports day (Alternative day **Thursday 29th June**) 1.15-3pm
Monday 26th June – Foundation Stage Sports day 1.30-3pm (Alternative day **Monday 3rd July**)
Wednesday 5th July – Reports to Parents
Tuesday 18th July – Leavers Assembly 2-3pm
Wednesday 19th July – Academy closes

Discovery Pre-School are now offering 2 options for afterschool club. These are 3-4pm £5 or 3-6pm £15 per session. Please contact Alison for more information. discovery@pre-school.org.uk

We have had a very busy half term with lots of things going on. I hope you enjoy the Gardening club news and the phase leader updates at the end of the newsletter!! Have a lovely half term and please remember we are not back until **Tuesday 6th June**.

Discovery Primary Academy Gardening Club News

This term in the garden:

Mrs Drew and Mrs Armstrong have been busy in the garden with a team of Year 4, 5 and 6 children. They have been tidying, weeding, digging, planting and have put the hedgehog house out under the trees. We are still waiting to see if we will have a visitor.



We had a week of indoor gardening when there was torrential rain. During that session we planted bean seeds and made our own picture garden ornaments and decorated tin planters.



To mark King Charles' Coronation in May, all state funded primary schools were sent wildflower seeds to empower children across the country to discover the joys of nature.

We have received our packets of Wildflowers!



This government-funded project was inspired by His Majesty the King's love of nature and aims to encourage children to learn about and improve the biodiversity of school's green spaces, while making them nicer places to work and learn. Improving children's connection to nature and spending time outdoors can also help to support their mental and physical wellbeing.



EYFS Phase update

It has been another busy and exciting half term in Foundation Stage. This half term we have started our weekly PE lessons, we have focused on different ways of travelling and playing some team and turn taking games. Over the next few weeks, we will start to practise our races for sports day at the end of June.

Last week, we went on our first school trip to West Lodge Farm. During the day we were able to feed the goats and sheep as well as bottles of milk to the baby lambs. There were lots of animals we could pet and stroke, and we made sure we were gentle when stroking the rabbits, guinea pigs and chicks. On the tractor and trailer ride the Farmer told us about all the crops that were grown on the farm and showed us the cows grazing in the field. Before we came home, we watched a sheep race. The children all enjoyed cheering on their favourite as they raced round the field. We had such a lovely day and had lots of tired and happy children on the coach ride home.



In phonics we have continued to learn new digraphs and trigraphs and the children have been practising writing longer sentences using their new phonics skills. Our focus next half term is to try and use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence and remembering to put a full stop and the end. We are also working hard on making sure we are forming all our letters correctly.

Year 1 and 2 Phase Update

It has been a busy and productive half term in Key Stage One.

Year One children have been working very hard on learning phonics sounds and using these to read. They read real words and alien words and have their reading book to read at home 5 nights each week. In Science they've been learning about humans and animals, how we group animals into vertebrates, invertebrates, and the other groups. The children have learned about different parts of human and animal bodies and how they help us do different things. In History they really enjoyed learning about the space race, the Moon landings in 1969 and how this has led to more space flights taking place. They all want to be astronauts now!

Year Two children have been working very hard on their targets in Reading, Writing and Maths. In Science they've been on a fun minibeast hunt. Then they chose a minibeast to find out about, and they wrote a report about their chosen minibeast. Reading at home or at the library is important because if children can experience a wide range of books, they gain a wider understanding of the world and can use those ideas in their writing.

Homework: Most children from Year 1 & 2 have been using Numbots at home. They need to keep using it for 10 minutes each week to deepen their understanding of maths. It enables our small mathematicians to take their learning further. They get quicker and more skilled at doing mental maths.

The children need to read 5 nights each week to practice their reading skills and strategies. If they do this, they get a square on the race to read chart for their class. When they get to 100 squares the class wins a reward. Zeus and Apollo class were the most recent winners of their chosen reward.

Year 3 and 4 Phase Update

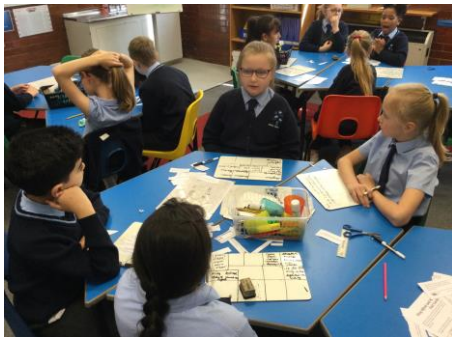
I really don't know how this has happened, but we now only have one half term left this academic year!

In Year 3, the children have been learning about the Romans in History. They have been fascinated to find out how the Romans lived and what their army was like. The children have been working on their oracy skills and have been talking about why the Romans came to Britain and the legacy that they left for us.



In Science, Year 3 have been exploring Plants. They have taken plants apart to look at the parts of a plant, found out how plants grow, transport water and what they need to survive.

Recently, Year 4 have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons and had some fantastic debates about who resisted the Vikings; the children's Oracy skills have significantly improved.



In Art, Year 4 has been printing, using complementary colours and in Geography lessons they have been discussing the push and pull factors that have led to people migrating to the UK over time.



All the children enjoyed learning more about The Coronation and we had a lovely day making crowns, designing badges and fact finding. The weather was not as kind as it could have been, so we had to enjoy our picnic in the classroom.



It would be wonderful if all the children could keep practising TTRS and reading for a small amount of time each day over half term; it so beneficial for the children's learning. It's not long now, Year 4, until your National Times Tables test in June.



Year 5 and Year 6 Phase Update

Year 5 and 6 have had a great start to a busy Summer Term.

Year 5

Year 5 began this half term learning about how the UK compares with Jamaica. We considered how their trade, natural resources and climate are different, and how their geographical position on Earth affects each country.

Following this, we began our final history unit of the year: The Tudors. The children have really enjoyed learning about this famous period of English history, including how the Tudor period began after the Wars of the Roses. We have learnt about the Tudor monarchs and have particularly focussed on Henry VIII, who we have written a biography about in our Writing lessons. Did you know that he spent almost £1million yearly on clothes? We also learnt about Tudor crime and punishment (which was very severe!) and how The Golden Age of Exploration led to new discoveries and knowledge during the Elizabethan era.



Year 5 are now learning about life cycles and living things. We have dissected flowers to identify the male and female parts, before understanding how each part is vital for pollination to take place. We have also learnt about metamorphosis and the life cycle of animals like frogs. Next half term, Year 5 will continue this science unit and learn about mammals.

Year 6

We are really proud of our Year 6 children for their commitment and effort towards their SATs, which they completed this half term. The children have worked incredibly hard all year and were fantastic during SATs week. Well done.



This half term, Year 6 have also begun a science topic about living things. We have learnt how to classify living things using classification keys (including the Linnaeus Classification system), as well as exploring how plants and animals can be grouped according to their structure and characteristics.

In writing, Year 6 have focussed on editing and improvement. The children have enjoyed researching famous British sports personalities, such as Lewis Hamilton, Beth Mead and Lizzy Yarnold, and presenting their findings.

In addition, it has been an exciting term for Year 6 as their transition meetings for secondary schools have begun. Some of the children have had the opportunity to meet with staff from their schools for September. Next half term, these meetings will continue, and the children are looking forward to completing some transition activities for their new schools. What an exciting time!

Another excellent half term, Year 5 and 6. Very well done! Have a lovely Half Term, keep up the great work with TTRS and reading, and we look forward to even more exciting learning next term.

Thank you for reading!
See you on Tuesday 6th June!