



Discovery Primary Academy

Aspire

Discover

Achieve

Friday 15th December 2023

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fair. We have raised an amazing amount of money this year. On the night we raised £950. With the chocolate raffles and the selling of some more children's books next week we hope to hit the £1,000. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Attendance

Well done to **Carpathia** who achieved **97.8%** followed by **Raleigh** and **Goliath** with **96.5%**

This week the overall academy attendance was very low at 90.8%

Please see the link below, with a list of our current Afterschool Clubs

[Discovery Primary Academy - Afterschool Clubs](#)

We will be adding some more clubs in the

New Year!

Trips

We are pleased to announce we have finalised the trips for this year. The table below details the arranged dates and trips for each year group. Three year group letters have been sent out already, other year group letters will be sent out in the Spring term.

Year Group	Trip	Date	Letter
Foundation Stage	West Lodge Farm	15 th May 2024	Spring term
Year 1	Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve	21 st / 22 nd March (Group split over 2 days)	Before Autumn term ends
Year 2	Hunstanton including Sealife Centre	12 th June	Spring term
Year 3	Creswell Crags	9 th January 2024	Sent
Year 4	Hamerton Zoo Park	24 th June 2024	Spring term
Year 5	Leicester Space Centre	14 th March 2024	Sent
Year 6	London Eye, River cruise and Parliament walk.	28 th March 2024	Sent

Winter Wellbeing

Winter wellbeing idea are attached to this newsletter and sheets will also be coming home with the children, there are some fantastic ideas to boost their wellbeing during the holidays.

Books For Sale

We still have some lovely books that would make nice Christmas presents. We will have them for sale next week at the front of the academy if it is not raining.

Hampers

We had 30 hampers kindly donated to us by Kingsgate church. Following 77 requests and a randomiser selector the hampers have now been collected. Thank you.

Foundation Stage Nativity

What a lovely way to end the week. Well done to the Foundation Stage children and staff for a lovely performance.

Lost Property

Next week we will be putting out the lost property. It will be available in the mornings if it not raining.

Dates for Your Calendar

Monday 18th December 2023 - Christmas Party Afternoon
Tuesday 19th December 2023 – Discovery's Got Talent
Wednesday 20th December 2023 – Finish for Christmas
Friday 5th January 2024 – Spring Term Begins

Phase leader updates

We hope you enjoy reading all the phase leader updates at the end of this newsletter.

Foundation Stage

It has been another very busy half term in Foundation stage. This half term we have learnt about the Hindu festival of Diwali, Light and dark, Nocturnal animals and People who help us. We have also enjoyed exploring the forest during our forest school sessions. The children have enjoyed playing hide and seek, looking for mini beasts and climbing trees during these sessions and we look forward to continuing these in the Spring term.



It has been wonderful to see the children's reading skills developing during our phonics this half term. We have now learnt all the sounds for the letters of the alphabet and are now practising writing and reading simple words and sentences. We have given out lots of Class Dojo points to the children for reading 5 times a week too!

In recent weeks we have been rehearsing hard for our Nativity play. The children have really enjoyed learning the songs and actions. We are very proud of all of them and hope you have enjoyed watching them perform this week. We hope you have a lovely Christmas break.

Year One and Two

In Year One and Two the children have been very busy learning and having lots of great experiences.

All the children have been learning about how to write the letters in the correct way to make their handwriting look neat. When they write neatly it is clear to see how they are learning in their lovely books.

In Year One the children have learned about the History of the local area that they live in. They learned about Peterborough's features like the Lido, Brotherhood shopping area and the Cathedral. They have also learned about a church in R.E. They enjoyed visiting All Saints Church and walked there to find out about what is inside a church.

The Year One children investigated materials and found out that all materials have different properties. They tested materials with water to see which ones were waterproof. They had a challenge to make a raincoat for Pippin the Dog.



In Year Two the children also enjoyed a walk to the church as an R.E. lesson. They enjoyed a trip to the New Theatre to watch a performance of Mimi and the Dragon. As part of the Design Technology curriculum, the children designed and made a pizza. They tasted it and then evaluated it.

The Year Two children have worked hard on writing reports about hedgehogs. Their writing is full of facts they learned and is very informative.

To support the learning that takes place in the academy, each child in Year One and Two needs to read to an adult at home five times a week. Please remember to write in their reading record so we can count it! We also expect that the children play on Numbots three times a week for 5 minutes each time. Please talk to your child's teacher if you need support with this.

The Race to Read reward will be won by one of the classes very soon! Numbots certificates will be awarded in class each week to the most improved players.



Year 3 and 4

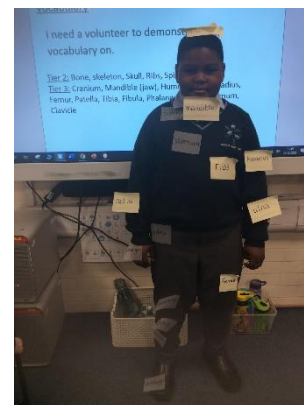
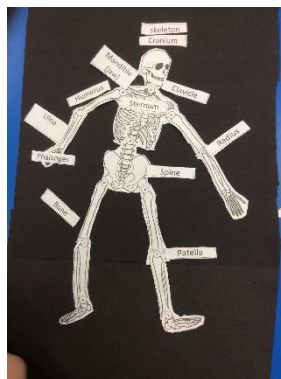
It is almost the Christmas holidays, and it is very hard to believe we have made it to the end of our first term; meaning we are one third of the way through the academic year!

The children in years 3 and 4 have worked extremely hard and have got off to a flying start with their learning. Talking to the teachers, so many children have made great progress and talking to the children, they are very enthusiastic in talking about what they have learnt and what they have enjoyed.

Lots of children read regularly and complete their TTRS sessions every week. Thank you to those of you who are giving your children lots of fabulous support at home. It really benefits your children so much and is a great help with their learning.

In Year 3, the children have worked in RE to find out about who is Jesus and why he is important to Christians.

In Science animals have been explored. They have grouped animals according to what they eat and explored skeletons and muscles and how important they are in animals' bodies.



In Design Technology the children have been developing their understanding of food technology to make soup. They tasted different soups, peeled and chopped vegetables to make their own soup which they then tasted and evaluated.



The children have been exploring Drawing in Art this week. They have learnt about using pencils in different ways, observed facial features and drawn their own self portrait.

Year 3 had a great time sharing their Country Dancing at Arthur Mellows Village College with a group of other schools. It was a lovely morning and they worked hard and also enjoyed watching other schools' dancing too.

Year 4 have been making cards in Design Technology. They were cards with a moving part, using levers and linkages. In Art the children have had great fun exploring Pop Art.



In Writing, the children wrote some persuasive adverts about E-Safety and included some rhetorical questions, bullet points, alliterations and slogans. They have also been working on first person diary entries; writing about their visit to Arthur Mellows for an Athletics event. In Maths, the children have been applying their knowledge of times tables in practising multiplication and related division facts and beginning to solve some word problems. There was lots of fun at our recent pantomime. The children who participated loved their Christmas dinner. We are now looking forward to the excitement of Christmas parties and Discovery's Got Talent next week.

Enjoy the Christmas holidays. I hope you can have a peaceful and happy time with friends and family. Keep safe and take care of each other.

Mrs Nightingale

Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and 6 have continued to develop their skills across the curriculum this half term.

Year 5

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this half term. In writing, the children have completed a third-person story based on the Russian folk tale of Babushka. This winter writing included some truly outstanding description and cultural references and the children were so proud of their final pieces of writing. They have also constructed a biography about Mae Jemison (the first black woman in space) and some very festive winter poems.



In Geography, Year 5 have shown great understanding of trade, its origins and development over time. The children learnt about the global supply chain and the ways in which we can all ensure that trade is fair for everyone across the world.



In DT, the children learnt about converting rotary to linear movement using cams. They designed, made and evaluated a model of an endangered animal, in order to raise awareness of these species. The children's problem-solving skills were really put to the test and they persevered to produce effective, working models. Well done!

All three Year 5 classes continue to work hard on their 5x weekly reading and the competition between classes on TTRS is still raging on! All three classes have now won in the weekly competitions – keep it up everyone! We would also like to say another huge thank you to all of the parents, family and friends who supported the Year 5 bake sale at the Christmas Fair. It was a great success thanks to your kindness and generosity.

Year 6

During this half term, Year 6 have also continued to work hard on completing their TTRS and reading homework to support their learning across the curriculum. As a result, all three classes won the Race to Read simultaneously and chose a non-uniform day treat for their efforts with home learning.

In their writing lessons, the children have written first-person moral stories, focussing particularly on accurate use of dialogue. They have also drawn on their learning in science to create an explanation text about how we see. This followed on from some fantastic investigative science lessons into how shadows are formed and can be changed.



Year 6 have also entered two writing competitions this half term: Remembrance Poetry and Crazy Creatures creative writing, both run by Young Writers. We have already heard that almost all of the children have had their poems chosen to be published and we have high hopes for the mini-sagas, too. Great work, Year 6!

In maths, the children have shown real dedication to their arithmetic skills, in particular. They have really risen to the challenge to build on their previous knowledge and have demonstrated determination to improve. This was particularly evident in their recent practice SATs week. We are so proud of their attitude and aspirations.



Another fantastic half term, Year 5 and 6. Very well done! Enjoy your festive break and we look forward to even more exciting learning in the New Year.

🎄 Wishing you all a very merry Christmas from the Year 5 and 6 Teams 🎄