



# Discovery Primary Academy

Aspire

Discover

Achieve

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## Maths Afternoons

Wow! Another amazing turnout for the Maths afternoons this week. Mrs Crick and Mrs Blackler would like to say a huge thank you to the parents/carers of years 3 and 4 who attended. Again, we hope we have supported you all to understand how you can help your child/children with times tables and number bonds at home. If the children can do these quickly and easily, they can focus on the maths problem they are solving rather than thinking about the calculation.



## Attendance Matters!



This week the overall academy attendance was **92%**. Well done to **Beagle & Normandy** who both achieved the highest at **97%**.

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

**[Discovery Primary Academy - Afterschool Clubs](#)**

## Netball Final

Congratulations to the Netball team who took part in the Peterborough finals at Arthur Mellows Village College today. They finished fifth out of at least twelve other schools. They really enjoyed themselves and once again were real sports ambassadors for the academy. Mrs Hovell and Mr Diehm were very impressed with their performance. Thank you to the staff for taking them but also thank you to Miss Hovell and Mrs Savidge for developing their netball talent by running an after-school netball club.



## Ukulele Concert

On Wednesday the pupils in Invaders class (Year 4) attended a music concert organised by The Peterborough Music Hub. Schools from across the city were invited to perform and play instruments that they have been learning over the last half term.

Invaders played their Ukuleles and sang "Shotgun" (George Ezra).

Mrs Barnes and Mrs Alexander were extremely proud of the children, not only for their brilliant performance but also for the way the class represented the academy throughout the morning.

## Britten Sinfonia

Britten Sinfonia came into the academy this week to perform to the year 1 and 2 classes. The children had learnt the songs with Mrs Barnes in their music lessons. The children absolutely loved joining in and were a fantastic audience. Britten Sinfonia said that they were the best audience they had had for a very long time.

Thank you to Mrs Barnes for helping the children in music so they could participate and enjoy their morning.

## Sports for Schools

We are thrilled to be able to share some more information about our upcoming Sports for Schools event. We are excited to announce that the athlete who will be visiting us on the 25<sup>th</sup> April will be **Sean Rose** who is a double winter Paralympian as well as a skiing and water skiing champion.

On the event day, all pupils will take part in a sponsored fitness circuit run by their athlete, a terrific way to get all children excited about sport and realise that getting moving is fun! Their athlete will then share their incredible sporting journey, a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly. There will also be an opportunity to ask any burning questions in a Q&A session with their inspiring role-model at the end!

Sponsor forms have been sent home this week. The money raised for the event will go towards new important resources to improve levels of physical activity in our academy, such as new sports equipment!



**SEAN ROSE**



James Mayhew with Britten Sinfonia will be at the Key Theatre on Tuesday 2nd April for two concerts showcasing beautiful classical music blended with live illustrations. A super family concert suitable for all ages.

### Uniform

With the weather hopefully warming up for the next term you may want to change to the summer uniform. Please see the link for the uniform guide which is on our website.

<https://www.discoveryprimary.com/site/data/files/DA710EC5091DDFA358795089BD6720B1.pdf>

There will be a price increase from 1<sup>st</sup> May for Total Clothing items.

### Headlice

We have had several reports of headlice within the academy this week. Please see attached a guide on how to fight them.

### Dates for Your Calendar

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024**- Summer Term Begins  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024** – Sports for School Event  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024** – May Day Bank Holiday  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024** – Foundation Trip  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024** – Half-Term

### Phase Leader Updates

Thank you to all our phase leaders for sharing the wonderful things the children have done this term. The children have been super busy and have had many different opportunities. Thank you to all the staff for all your hard work. Thank you to all parents/carers for your support this term. Everyone at Discovery Primary Academy wishes you all a lovely restful break. We will see you all on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.



## An update from Foundation Stage

This half term has been very busy in Foundation Stage. The half term started with us celebrating 100 days at school. The children enjoyed making 100-day hats and badges and counting out 100 blocks, crisps and biscuits. We finished the day with some yummy treats and dancing!

Our topics this term have focused on life in the past. We have thought about life in Victorian times, the Ancient Egyptians and Dinosaurs and prehistoric animals. The children have really loved making pyramids, dinosaur models and looking at artefacts from the past. This week we have been thinking about Spring and Easter and have enjoyed looking for signs of Spring on the academy grounds and in the forest.



The children are still trying really hard with their phonics and are really impressing us with their fantastic reading skills. We are still learning digraphs and using those within our reading and writing. Please keep reading at home 5 times a week as it really does make a difference to the children's progress. We are also working hard on our writing and have been practising using the correct letter formation and writing simple sentences.



Next Term we will be thinking about how to look after our bodies and keep our teeth clean. We are also hoping to do some growing and minibeast hunts. Please don't forget to keep checking the class Dojo pages for more updates about what we have been up to.



## Years 1 and Year 2

There has been a lot going on for Year One and Two pupils in the last few weeks, and much more to come!

The parents came into the academy to see how we play and learn on Numbots and Times Tables Rockstars. It was lovely to see parents and children in our classrooms. The turnout was amazing - thank you to all the parents that came for your support.

This week, we are extremely lucky to have Britten Sinfonia coming to perform for and with the children. They have been learning songs and actions from The Bluebird and the Robot in Music lessons, in preparation to sing along with the Chamber Orchestra musicians. We are very excited to welcome the orchestra back for a second year and are looking forward to the performance.

### Year One trip to Ramsey Heights

In Science, Year One have been learning how to identify plants, trees and the parts of a plant. This learning continued at Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve.

The children had a fun trip and loved spending the day in the fresh air. We had activities organised by our guides who were lovely and knowledgeable. It was a very muddy experience but so enjoyable.

They took part in den building, playing in a mud kitchen, and went on a wildlife trail with binoculars. They made a recycled plant pot from newspaper and planted a seed to take home.

Our guides at the venue and the coach driver commented on how well behaved the children were.

The driver asked if he could give 2 dojo points to each child!

Thank you to everyone who made the trip possible.

Well done everyone!





## Year Two Race to Read

In Year Two all of the classes achieved 100 squares on the Race to Read in the same week! This means that all the children have their class choice of a fun activity as a reward. Apollo class chose baking, Neptune chose to play with toys, and Diana class is going to have a teddy bears picnic. I don't think this has been achieved before - Well done Year Two children!



This week we are having the Police as visitors, which links with our PSHE curriculum. We can find out how the emergency services help us to be safe.

We are looking forward to the summer term with all the fun that brings. Have a lovely Spring break and don't forget to keep practicing reading and Numbots or TTRS.

## Year Three and Four

**We are now at the end of our second term of this Academic year. It may have been a short half term but we have still managed to fit a lot into the past 24 days!**

**As always, we continue to focus on reading 5 times a week and TTRS weekly sessions. We really do appreciate all those parents who support their children at home. Those of you who came to the Maths meetings will know just how valuable this support is in helping the children with their everyday Maths in the academy.**

**There was lots of fun on World Book Day!**



Year 3 have had a practical half term learning about Forces and Magnets in Science and Structures in Design Technology. The children explored pushing and pulling, gravity and friction. They also investigated magnets' force learning about poles, attraction, and repelling. In Design Technology the children found out about why packaging is so important, explored nets and then created their own box (which could hold their precious cargo of an Easter egg) and decorated it.



In this last week of term, the children have used their oracy skills to learn about the festival of Easter and its importance to Christians.

In Writing the children have written non-chronological reports using their knowledge of ancient Egypt. In Maths the children have applied



their times tables skills to work on Fractions and then start working on money.

Year 4 are currently writing a diary about a Viking raid. The teachers are so pleased with the super progress that all the children have made with their writing. The children have loved learning all about the Anglo-Saxons, they all know that the name England comes from Angleland.

In Maths, the children have all done very well learning about Fractions. The children have been working hard to prepare for the MTC in June and they are thoroughly enjoying Maths Mastery every morning.

Yesterday Invaders Class went to a ukelele concert. Mrs Alexander and Mrs Barnes were very impressed by the children, saying, "They absolutely smashed it!"



Enjoy the Easter holidays. Make the most of any time that you may have with family and friends. Keep safe and take good care of each other.

Mrs Nightingale

## Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and 6 have had another busy half term in the lead up to Easter.

### Year 5

Year 5 began this half term learning about Population in Geography. We learnt about how the global population has changed throughout history and what impacted this huge increase to over 8 billion people on Earth! We also learnt about why people live in certain areas, including how human and physical geography make some areas more appealing for settlements to develop.

Following this, in our RE work, we have learnt about the traditions and celebrations of Easter. We have learnt about Lent and Holy Week, and the key days during this time for Christians. We also created a leaflet to show the different ways that Christians celebrate their most important festival.

In our writing lessons, we have spent this half term looking at Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After learning the plot of the play, we initially created a synopsis to explain the key events. Following this, we looked at the structure and format of playscripts in more detail, so that we could create one scene from the play as our own playscript. We have had a lot of fun acting out different characters, especially the mischievous Puck and the love-struck Bottom!



In science, we have been learning about Earth and space. We have really enjoyed learning about our solar system and how we fit into the wider universe. We have also demonstrated why we have night and day on Earth and why the moon appears to look different at different times of the lunar month. To top off our topic, we enjoyed an amazing visit to the Space Centre in Leicester. It was incredible to see rockets and satellites that had actually been to space, moon rock and the development of space travel over time. We were also very lucky to experience the planetarium, which was really awe-inspiring.

### Year 6

Year 6 have had another very busy and successful half term, working especially hard in the final full half term before SATs. In maths, we have continued our work on geometry, learning about angles in triangles and interpreting information from pie charts and graphs.



In our writing lessons, we have created persuasive pieces about environmental issues, which built on nicely from our work on David Attenborough last half term. We have also created a setting description about wartime, writing in-role as a soldier. Meanwhile, in our reading lessons, we have enjoyed reading *How to Live Forever*, *Kensuke's Kingdom* and a new firm favourite *Pig Heart Boy*.

In Science, Year 6 have learnt about the circulatory system, including the parts of the heart, the components of blood and the way in which this is transported around the body. We have also been incredibly lucky to experience an animal heart dissection, courtesy of Miss Norris and the science team at Queen Katherine Academy. It was incredible to see the anatomy of the heart up close and to deepen our understanding of our work in science.



Some Year 5 and 6 children also competed in a number of sports competitions this half term, including the netball and football tournaments. The netball team did an amazing job and came in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, so were through to the semi-finals. The children all represented DPA fantastically and had great fun.

To celebrate all of our hard work this half term and for all three classes reaching 100 on Race to Read, Year 6 enjoyed a free-sport afternoon on Thursday. We all had lots of fun choosing sports activities that we enjoyed as part of our treat and spending some time with friends.

Another excellent half term, Year 5 and 6. Very well done! Enjoy your Easter break, keep up the great work with TTRS and reading, and we look forward to even more exciting learning in the Summer Term.



