



Discovery Primary Academy



Friday 19th July 2024

Farewell

We say a sad farewell to the year 6 children today. They are all moving onto new schools in September. The children have worked incredibly hard since September and achieved so much. I hope you enjoyed your final assembly yesterday at Queen Katharine Academy. I know all the staff and parents were very proud of each one of you. Have a lovely summer and keep reaching for the stars.

Attendance Matters!



This week the overall academy attendance was **90.8%**. Well done to **Thor** who achieved the highest at **98.9%**.

A Staff Farewell

The following staff are leaving the academy today for new careers or to continue their teaching careers in other schools. They are Mrs Nightingale, Miss McEnroe, Mrs Alexander and Mrs Fisher. We would all like to thank them for everything they have done for the children at Discovery. I am sure all parents, staff and the community would like to join me in thanking them for all their hard work and wish them luck with their new roles.

Academy Meals

Due to rising costs for supplies and staffing, there will be a slight increase in the price of pupil hot meals from **January 2025**. Although the amount has not been decided yet, we do not anticipate the new price exceeding £2.60 per day.

Free School Meals Eligibility

If you believe your child may qualify for means-tested free school meals, please see the information link below.

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Year 6 Residential

The children had a great time this week on the residential trip. They have been taking part in several activities and enjoying the forest. Thank you to Mrs Torrens, Mrs Canham, Miss McEnroe, Miss Norris, Miss Da Costa and Mr Diehm for accompanying the children.



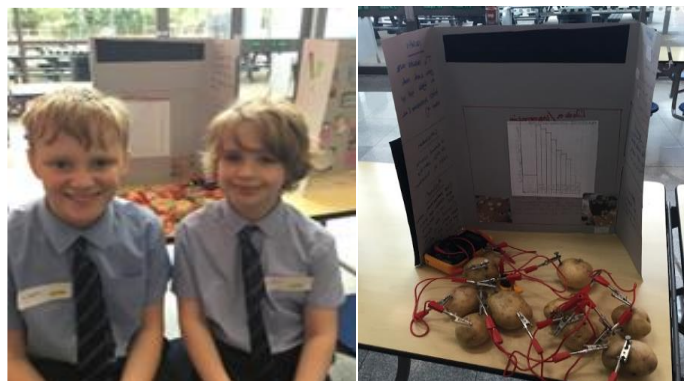
Our **Maths Challenge** shield has finally arrived, and it is so impressive, just like our maths champions! The children are the first to win this trophy and the current Year 3 children are determined to win it again next year, with the help of the new Year 3s.

Challenge accepted! =



Science Fair

Last Thursday, 6 children from Year 5 took part in a Science Fair at Queen Katharine Academy. The children worked exceptionally hard to create a project, which they then wrote about and displayed as part of the fair. Lauren and Alysia's project was all about the stages of metamorphosis. They documented the journey from caterpillar to butterfly, as Year 5 were lucky enough to experience this first-hand in the classroom. Niall and Milo explored potato power and measured the voltage of a circuit made purely of potato batteries! Mary-Jealah and Olivia investigated the process of osmosis, observing which liquid made a gummy bear increase in size the most. We are so proud of what the children achieved, and their work was proudly presented alongside work from Queen Katharine Academy children from Year 7 and 8. Many of the children picked up prizes for their achievements, well done!



Phase Leader Updates

I hope you enjoy reading the phase leader updates at the end of this newsletter. It really does clearly demonstrate that not only do our children learn to read, write and be able to be mathematicians, they also have lots of other exciting experiences. Thank you to all the staff that work at Discovery to provide our children with lots of opportunities. The children certainly really enjoy being in the academy and enjoy all the activities they do, so, thank you once again.

Dates for Your Calendar

Monday 2nd September – Training Day
Tuesday 3rd September – Training Day
Wednesday 4th September – Autumn Term Begins

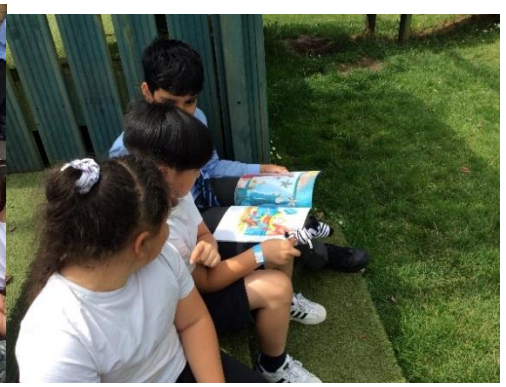
Summer Break

All the staff and Governors at Discovery Primary Academy wish you a lovely summer break. We look forward to seeing you all on the 4th September.

DPA Book Festival 2024

On Wednesday 17th July, the Reading Champions arranged a book festival for the whole academy. Each year group had a time slot to enable them to explore so many books! The children enjoyed reading with teddies, adults, Reading Champions and with each other.





The children also had the opportunity to enter a story writing competition and the winners are:



- EYFS – Joshua Szasz
- Y1 – Noah Clifton-Chambers
- Y2 – Wyatt Watson
- Y3 – Charmaine Mutani
- Y4 – Harriet Rist
- Y5 – Ruby Nelson
- Y6 – Jessica White



We hope they enjoy reading their new books over the summer holidays!

A big thank you to the Reading Champions for organising such a successful event!

An Update from Foundation Stage

It has been another very busy half term in Foundation stage.

In June the children took part in their first sports day. We were really proud of how hard they tried in all of their races. We had been practising hard during our PE lessons and the children really enjoyed showing their running, jumping and balancing skills to the parents that came to watch.

In between the rain showers we have been enjoying our outdoor area especially our new mud kitchen and water area. The children have had lots of fun!



We have been working hard to prepare the children for Year One. The children came back very excited after their move up day and enjoyed meeting their new teachers. We have also taken the children to assembly in the hall for the first time as a practise for when they are in Year One. We have been practising writing and letter formation over the last few weeks, especially writing on lines and making sure our letters are all a similar size.

It has been a wonderful year and we are really proud of all the progress and hard work we have seen in Foundation stage this year and wish everybody a wonderful summer holiday.

Year 1 and 2

We are extremely proud of the hard work that children in KS1 have achieved in the final term of the year. They have taken part in a full range of activities across the curriculum in Reading, Writing, Maths, History, Geography, PSHE, PE, Computing, Design Technology, Art and Science.

Sports day was lots of fun, despite the heat and the children enjoyed the races and cheering on their friends in all classes. Everyone was a good sport and thank you to all the parents and carers who could attend.

In Year One the children have worked hard on using their phonics to read and are now learning how to use the text to answer questions. The children have been learning how to tell the time and are enthusiastic about using the clock to tell us when it is o'clock and half past. In Maths they have been using water to learn about capacity and volume of containers and comparing the volume using 'more than' and 'less than'. They have loved learning about sculpture in Art and have been making sculptures from clay. They learned about using tools and joining techniques. The children learned about the Eatwell Plate and how to choose foods from all the food groups to plan, make and eat a healthy picnic lunch.

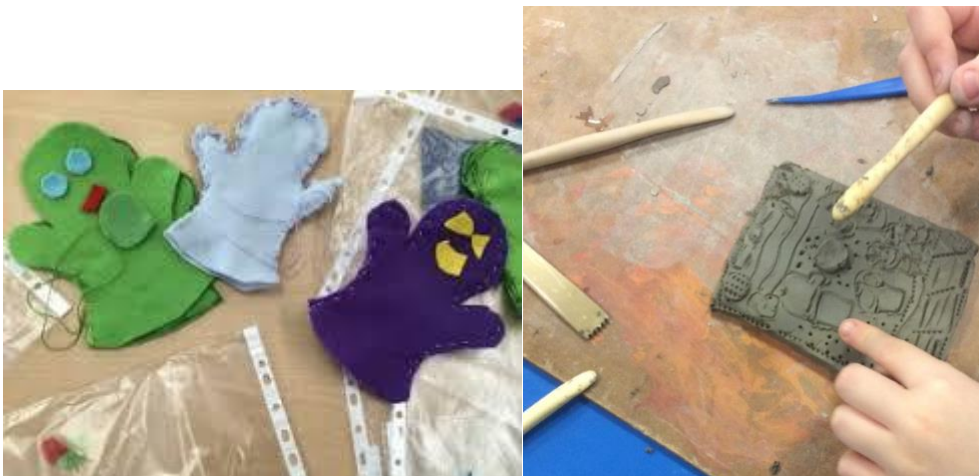
One target for all the Year One children is to see if they can get further along on Numbots over the Summer so they can complete it in Year Two. They also need to be able to count in 5s. Year Two children need to keep practising the 2, 5 and 10 times tables on TTRS.

In Year Two the children attended a fun morning of cricket at Arthur Mellows Village College. They were helped by the students from the college and had a great time. They have been learning about plants in science. They were keen to know about the different parts of a plant that we can eat. They are learning how to join materials in Design and Technology. The children are making a puppet and sewing part of it. They loved to talk about their design and how they got on with sewing!

The link below is to Dance Mat Typing. It is a game that helps children to use all their fingers to type on a keyboard. They have used it in Computing lessons and would like to play it at home if you are able.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z3c6tfr#zskfb7h>

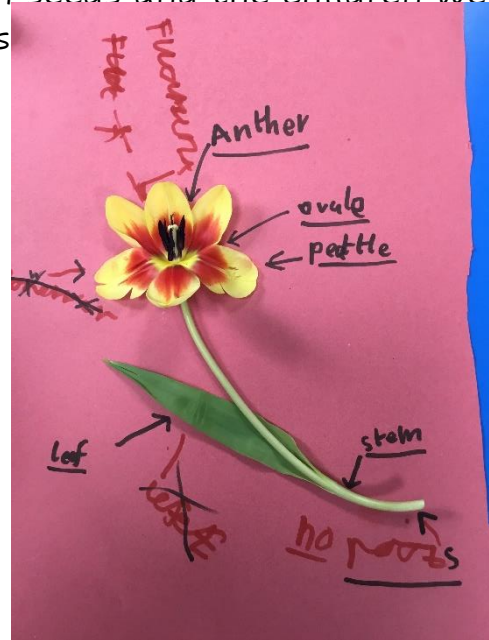
We wish all the children and their families a happy, healthy and relaxing summer after all their achievements this year. Congratulations all!



Year 3 and 4

Here is the final catch up of the year and my final one ever.

Year 3 have been learning about Plants and Light in Science. The children took apart flowering plants to look at their parts, learnt about life cycles and seed dispersal. It was great fun growing bean seeds and the children were so engaged with this; sending in lots of pictures everything is growing.



The children worked with determination on their sewing skills in Textiles. They designed and made a Roman coin purse. The children were proud of themselves for improving their skills and not giving up, to produce their finished product.





Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed exploring the painting, Tiger in a Tropical Storm by Henri Rousseau in Art. They developed their colour mixing and explored many shades of green in painting.



Year 3 really enjoyed their Computing, working on Digital Media; in particular their forced perspective photos.



Well done to these 5 children in Year 3 who have read at least 5 times a week AND completed their TTRS session every week for the WHOLE OF YEAR 3!
What an achievement!



The Big Kickabout was enjoyed by all the children.



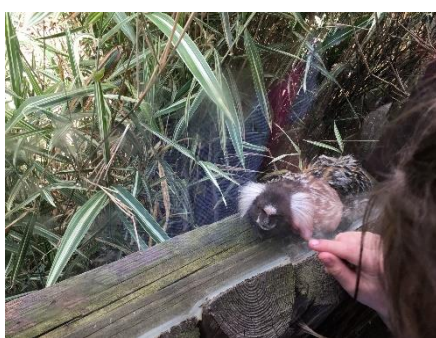
The first ever DPA Book Festival was a huge hit with everyone.



The final half term of the year has been a very busy one for Year 4! The children completed the Multiplication Check in June, and we were very impressed with their confidence and calm attitude; their scores reflect how hard they have worked this year to learn their times tables.

The children wrote some amazing news reports, they have made so much progress since September. In topic lessons, we have learned about migration in Geography; classified animals in science and made cheese scones in Design and Technology. In Computing, the children have written fantastic codes.

We had a great visit to Hamerton Zoo in June. The children were super ambassadors for the Academy, and we had a wonderful time looking at the animals that we had been studying in our Science lessons.



Some of our pupils represented the Academy in a Maths Challenge; not only were they super mathematicians, they showed excellent leadership skills as well.

Everyone enjoyed Sports Day and we were really impressed by the children's sense of teamwork and resilience.





I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their support over the past six years that I have worked at DPA and we wish Mrs Fisher and Mrs Alexander lots of luck and joy as they set off on their new adventures.

We hope that you all have a lovely summer holiday and wish you every success next year.

Mrs Nightingale and The Year Three and Four Team.

Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and 6 have had a fantastic end to the year.

Year 5

Year 5 began this half term continuing to learn about life cycles and living things. We had the joy and anticipation of watching our caterpillars grow, change and eventually metamorphose into butterflies, which was amazing to see!

We then continued our science work by learning about human and the incredible changes foetuses go through in the womb. on from this, in our PSHE work, we discovered the developments that bodies go through as we grow and enter



life cycles
Following
puberty.

In art, we have enjoyed learning about the movement of cubism. We considered cubist still life work and portraits, focussing on bold lines, colours and unusual perspectives. We then created our own cubist self-portraits, using paint skills to add colour and detail.



In writing, we have completed another myths and legends unit, this time learning about native American legends. We created our own version of a Wabanaki tribe myth about the mighty Glooskap, using dialogue, description and lots of imagination!

We have ended the term by creating our own products and writing formal, persuasive letters to an investor. The children have really enjoyed this and have come up with some amazing new inventions!

Year 6

We are very proud of all the Year 6 children for such a successful year.

Year 6 have had another busy term, covering a range of curriculum topics, from a local history study to evolution. All three classes have also enjoyed going swimming at Jack Hunt and revelled in their visit from Xidus Pain, who helped the children to create raps about their time at DPA. What a fantastic opportunity!

Last week, Year 6 held their Young Enterprise Day. The children created a huge range of imaginative products, from sketches, to slime, to masks, to friendship bracelets. All the

children repaid their business loans and made a profit - clearly, we have some budding entrepreneurs in Year 6!

Some Year 6 children also enjoyed a fun-filled time on the residential trip in Buxton, building shelters, campfires and making rockets. Meanwhile, in the academy, Year 6 had a great time building the strongest structures, being artists and musicians.



Yesterday, we were all lucky enough to gather at Queen Katharine Academy as a Year 5 and 6 phase to see the Year 6 leavers' assembly. The Year 6 children shared some excellent performances creating more memories that they will cherish from their time at DPA.

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What an amazing year of learning and experiences, Year 5 & 6! You have worked really hard this year and produced some outstanding work. We are really excited to welcome our Year 5 children back in September as our new Year 6 cohort and we wish all our current Year 6 children the very best of luck as they move on to secondary school.

The Year 5 and 6 team would like to thank parents, carers, families and friends for your ongoing support and wish you all a lovely summer holiday! 😊