

# Discovering Times



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I am not sure where 2019 is going... I can not believe it is Easter already!.

We have worked so hard again this term and the recent parents consultations have shown how much progress the children are making and also how happy you are as parents with the work your children are achieving. It is fantastic that we have had such support from parents and the community in raising the profile of the school. As a result we have seen a significant increase in pupil requests for places in Nursery and Reception as well as a number of children transferring into school.

Everyone at the Academy thanks you for your ongoing support and we wish you all a restful Easter break.

## Garden Update

We have planted some fruit trees with the ASC children on the back playground. The green house has also started to be built along with some planters to begin growing for the school. Over the coming weeks we will start to paint the pallets on the back playground and the children will be planting Strawberry plants.





# MATHS WEEK

In the lead up to NSPCC Number Day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb, Discovery Academy held their very first Maths Week with the focus on Maths Mastery, problem solving and Number.

We started the week with a special Assembly where we competed against the Who Wants to be a Mathionaire game to see if we could beat the challenges. We were very good at solving the questions and I was super impressed that the children knew words like vertices (corners), cuboid and cylinder.

During the week every classroom was a hive of fun and exciting maths lessons ranging from addition and subtraction, reading number books, representing numbers in different ways, part part whole of a number, covering the numicon board with numicon (this is much harder than you think and not only requires counting skills but also shape and space awareness skills) ... the list was endless.

Unfortunately, the snow on Wednesday spoilt our parents learning about Maths Mastery during Maths week, but the date has been rescheduled.

On NSPCC Number Day the children worked in house teams to work together to solve problems linked to weight, length, statistics and number. Mrs Mayers and Miss Flynn worked on measuring length of strides and dinosaur feet. Mrs Sullivan and Miss Goodson worked on conducting questionnaires and creating tally charts, Mrs Kirkbride and Miss Boyle worked on making weighing scales and weighing objects whilst Mr Humphreys and I helped children solve problems to crack the sweet box code. It was a good job so many children were good at working together so that everyone in the school won the 'Sweet Treat' Reward.

The children enjoyed maths week and NSPCC Number Day. Not only were they *Discovering* about Maths but they were also *Improving* and *Achieving* whilst working together to be *Inspiring* and *Caring*! We raised £76 for the NSPCC which was a fantastic end to the week.

## Mrs Oldham – Maths Leader



# ART WEEK

As part of art week we worked in our house teams to create pieces of art work to display our school values. On Tuesday morning each team worked together to create a large 3D bee in their house colour incorporating the school value it stands for.

**Warf- yellow- Achieving.**  
**Cavendish- Blue- Discovering**  
**Grovenor- Green-- Improving**  
**Rycroft- Red- Inspiring**

The staff even joined in and worked together as a team to create a purple bee to show the caring value.

Every team worked really hard using different materials to collage, paint, papier mache, glitter, stick, fold and much more. On Wednesday afternoon the whole school made their own individual bees using different collage materials in colour of the house they belong to. The bees have been displayed down the corridor as a reminder that every child has agreed to our school values.



**Well done everyone!**

**Miss Boyle**

**Art and DT Leader**





# Focus On...

## Miss Goodson

### Who lives in your house?

I live with my daughter Lucie, Lucie is 15 years old going on 25!! Although Lucie can be a typical moody teenager she is a great girl I am very proud of the young lady she has turned into. When Lucie leaves school she wants to be a speech and language therapist and have some involvement with children whether it be in a school or nursery.



### What are your hobbies?

My hobbies are running and hiking with friends. I like to enter running events from 10k events to marathons (26.2 miles) I have raised over £3,000 in the last 3 years for various charities doing running and walking events. On the 7th of April I am running Manchester marathon for a charity called Daisy Garland this is a charity who helps families with children who suffer with epilepsy so far I have raised £350. Running and raising money for charities makes all the blood, sweat and tears I encounter during my training worthwhile!

### What is your favorite book?

The Hungry Caterpillar was and still is a favorite book of mine, my dad was in the army when I was a little girl and often worked away when he was home this is a book he read to me it brings back happy memories.

### What made you get into teaching?

When I left school I went on to do equine studies, I gained all my British Horse Society (BHS) qualification up to level 4. Teaching people and children in the equine world was something I loved to do, once I had Lucie I decided it was time for a career change I loved working with children in my previous job so decided I wanted to continue a role with children. I started working in a private day nursery worked my way up to a senior room leader, when Lucie came along I wanted to spend more time with her so trained to be a teaching assistant so I could get into a school and also spend time with Lucie in the school holidays.

### How long have you been teaching?

I have been working as a teaching assistant level three for 9 years. Discovery Academy is the second primary school I have worked in.

### What is your favorite subject to teach?

P.E is my favorite subject to teach as I love being active and know how important fitness is not only for physical wellbeing but it plays a massive part in mental health and wellbeing.

# Music

I love music. If you see me walking to school, you will often hear me too, singing along to songs I like or need to sing to get me ready for the day. Music definitely makes me feel better!

I believe that music can help children learn, recently the children in Reception have been singing along to 'Subtract with a Pirate' and 'Dancing Doubles.' I also think music can help children focus, we often have music in the background while we are practising our handwriting and to help us practice our sounds in a fun way during phonics. I always look forward to our Reception music session and this term we have enjoyed copying rhythms and learning about orchestras. I love watching the children make music inside and outside using the instruments or the iPads.

To be able to share my love of music with the children through Choir and Guitar Club is an absolute pleasure.

The children in our choir at the moment are enthusiastic about singing and a delight to sing with. This term we have been working on the assembly songs, 'A Million Dreams' and our own Discovery Academy version of 'Shotgun.' The children have worked hard to learn the lyrics and their smiles as they sing are a delight to see.

The way that the Year 2 Guitar club has grown has been amazing. I think the children will agree that it isn't easy learning to play an instrument but the children are keen to learn and their confidence grows every week. This term we have been learning simple chords and melody patterns and the children are now starting to discover what they can play with the skills they have learnt.

As we move into the Summer Term I will be supporting with the children with their confidence so that they feel happy performing to others. I can't wait to see the children shine!

Mrs Mayers



# Spring Term Review

## Reception

This term our topics have been 'What is Hattersley like?' and 'What do we eat?'

In our 'What is Hattersley like?' topic the children enjoyed learning about different houses we see and about houses around the world. The children enjoyed their walk around Hattersley talking about similarities and differences, natural and man-made features and the signs they could see. They enjoyed making their own map of Hattersley. The children looked at the story 'The Three Little Pigs' and after exploring strong and not strong materials the children wrote their own versions of the story.

In our 'What do we eat?' topic the children learnt about different foods and what foods they need to eat to stay healthy. They talked about their favourite foods. During the topic we made toast, pancakes, jam sandwiches and bread. They learnt about ingredients, equipment, recipes and the method and how we get ready for cooking. We looked at the stories 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and 'The Little Red Hen.'

## Year 2

This term Year 2 have been exploring lots of different and exciting topics. We started with English and we went on the look for a strange sighting of a magical, blue creature. We found him sitting in the woods watching, a Bog Baby, would you believe it! We welcomed him and used our growing knowledge to describe him and eventually to write a story about his adventures.

In Maths we have been busy learning and practicing the 4 basic operations in maths. Children have learnt efficient methods for solving lots of types of problems. In our topic work we have been looking at the life of Sir Alan Turing. His work during WW2 helped to save the lives of thousands of people on both sides. He then went on to shape our lives by inventing the first processing computer. In science we have been investigating our senses, what happens when one is taken away and how we can use them to our advantage.

Next term,

Look out for our review  
of the year from all our  
wonderful classes

# Discovery Values

## Mission

It is our mission to provide an educational journey and experience that is second to none, to be a beacon in our communities and to leave our children and families with the lasting impact of a fulfilled potential and a lifelong love of learning. In providing excellent educational services we aim to become the school of choice in our local area and provide a place where children can thrive educationally and personally day after day.

## Vision

We believe in aspiration for all. This means nurturing, supporting and developing every aspect of every single child in our care. We want to create a world where the sky is the limit for all of our pupils; building pathways for all and focusing on personal and academic success and eventually progress to successful employment.

## Values

We have a wonderfully supportive ethos at Discovery Academy which ensures that our pupils are well behaved, hardworking, friendly and kind. All characteristics that we believe make for happy and successful children.

## Our values are:

Discovering – finding out about our world we live in;  
Inspiring – making somebody else want to do something positive;  
Caring – looking after each other and thinking about others;  
Improving – getting better at things because we keep trying; and  
Achieving – getting something by working hard for it.

# Inspiring



Thank you for all your support we raised a fantastic

£212.66  
for Children in need

£ 77.22  
for the NSPCC

and

£83  
for Red Nose Day

# Caring





## School council update

Our Members are:

Year 1 Harry, Lewis B, Laycie & Bobby P

Year 2 William, Lola, Elise & Paisley

The school council monitored play outside at lunch time and came up with an idea to introduce various lunchtime clubs in order to give pupils at Discovery chance to try out different activities.

The council approached Mrs Oldham with their ideas and suggestions and we are pleased to announce that during lunchtime play now during the week there is a lunch time club available each day. The clubs include Lego with Mr Hopwood, Phonics and reading with Miss Boyle, Board games with Miss Goodson and Mindfulness with Mrs Oldham.





# After School Club

In the last school term afterschool club have been very busy. We have got up to lots of fun activities which included reading the book Each Peach Pear Plum. At the end of the week we went on a hunt around the school to see if we could find where the characters were hiding.

At Chinese New Year we celebrated by having noodles and prawn crackers for our snack. We made our own dragons to hang from the ceiling and coloured in pictures for our display board.

We have done lots of baking and decorated biscuits and we have also made Rice Krispy cakes. We have made our own bowling pins out of used milk bottles. It was lots of fun playing with them. Fridays club has turned into our new game's night. We enjoy playing board games, doing jigsaws and bingo! The children love this and count down the days during the week.

We have celebrated Ms Hodson's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, we did her a surprise party, we had party food for snack and enjoyed some party games.

We have made the most of the nice weather. The children have been playing a lot in the EYFS playground enjoying the climbing frame, playing tig, writing with chalk and playing on the bikes.

More recently we have created a spring display which is very colourful and vibrant. We have also read the book The Scarecrows Wedding. Our other display is of this showing the two main characters on their wedding day. The children had lots of fun creating this.

We now have our own twitter page which is Discovery Academy - Afterschool club @mrsclare2.



# After School Club









# HOLIDAY DATES 2018/19

Term / Holiday		First Day	Last Day	No of Days
Autumn Term 1	Inset Day Monday 3rd Sept. 2018 (Children not in school)	Tuesday 4th September 2018	Friday 26th October 2018	39
Autumn Holidays		Monday 29th October 2018	Friday 2nd November 2018	5
Autumn Term 2		Monday 5th November 2018	Friday 21st December 2018	35
Christmas Holidays		Monday 24th December 2018	Friday 4th January 2019	10
Spring Term 1	Inset Day Monday 7th Jan. 2019 (Children not in school)	Tuesday 8th January 2019	Friday 15th February 2019	29
Spring Holidays		Monday 18th February 2019	Friday 22nd February 2019	5
Spring Term 2		Monday 25th February 2019	Friday 5th April 2019	30
Easter Holidays		Monday 8th April 2019	Monday 22nd April 2019	11
Summer Term 1	Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2019 (Children not in school)	Tuesday 23rd April 2019	Friday 24th May 2019	23
Summer Half Term Holidays		Monday 27th May 2019	Friday 7th June 2019	10
Summer Term 2	Inset Day Friday 26th Jul. 2019 (Children not in school)	Monday 10th June 2019	Thursday 25th July 2019	34



Happy Easter Everyone