

Discovering Times

Summer 2019



Discovery Academy

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As another year draws to a close I would like to thank each and every pupil, parent, extended family member and staff member for all the hard work and team work that goes into creating a Good school. Without the fantastic community spirit and us all working together we would not have the amazing children that we

have.

As the weather is getting warmer (dare we say too warm!) all the staff at Discovery wish you a enjoyable summer break with your families and we look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday September 5th.



Welcome!

A big welcome to our new families!

We are looking forward to welcoming lots of new children to join our Discovery Academy family in September.

We got to meet lots of the new Nursery children and everyone enjoyed getting to know them during our 'Stay and play' session.

Our next year's Reception children experienced their new learning areas and got to meet their new teacher and friends.



We are really excited to be part of each and everyone's learning journey here at Discovery Academy.

Summer BootFest 2019

On Saturday 6th July, the grey skies were overhead, but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of our staff, pupils, parents and members of our community here at Discovery Academy.



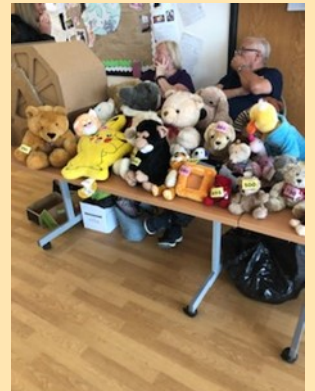
Mr Hopwood was amazing in goal on 'Beat the Goalie' and is hoping to replace Jordan Pickford for England!

Other activities 'Hook a Duck', the 'Bottle, Teddy and Sweet Tombola', 'Hoopla', 'Coin Toss' and 'Pick a Straw' had lots of enthusiastic players and winners. The 'Bouncy Castle' proved very popular especially with the teachers who got to try it out first!



The drinks and snack station provided a welcome coffee and treat, and I can confirm that the flap jacks were delicious! As were the tasty hot dogs and burgers.

Our draw for the raffle took place in Family Assembly on Friday and lots of delighted families took home raffle prizes. We would like to say a huge thank you to all who volunteered their time during the fair.



An amazing £857.90 was raised - WELL DONE TO ALL!!

A special mention should be made to the following companies for their generous donations of prizes.



Focus On...

Miss Owen

What are your hobbies?

I absolutely love to read! I like spending time with my family and friends. Sometimes we stay in and spend time together, other times we go out exploring new places.

Who was your favourite teacher?

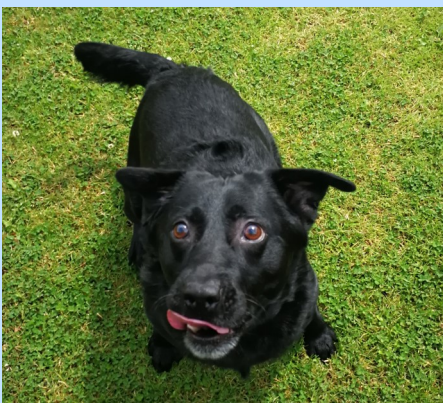
Miss Thompson. She was my geography teacher in secondary school and made the course work understandable. She was kind, funny and really helpful.

What's your favorite book and why?

There are just far too many books to choose from!

Who lives in your house?

I live with my parents and my crazy dog Sam.



What is your favorite subject to teach?

I love teaching maths but really love it when children share the same love for reading that I have. I will always try to ensure there is a class story and plenty of discussions about books read or shared.

If you could have any other job what would it be and why?

I have often wondered what it would be like to be a pilot...but my parking is terrible so it's probably not the best idea!

Why are you a teacher at Discovery Academy?

I came here as a temporary member of staff but cannot see myself teaching anywhere else. The sense of family and community within this setting is fantastic. I am very proud to now be a permanent member of the team.



Music Update

Guitar club

The children coming to Guitar club have continued to work hard, enjoying achieving my guitar shaped certificates for completing one of my challenges. Challenges have included learning chords to play 'London Bridge,' playing riffs such as 'Smoke on the Water' and tuning their guitars. The proudest moment though has been when 2 boys performed during Family assembly.



Choir

Choir have continued to work hard on different songs and I love the enthusiasm with which they sing. This term we have been working on 'Reach for the Stars' by S Club 7 and 'Can't stop the feeling' from the movie 'Trolls.'

Thank you to all the parents who returned my form for song suggestions, some of them have been introduced to the children during our class singing times. I was very excited to share our own Discovery Academy version of 'Shotgun' through Reception's Graduation assembly. For next year, I will be thinking about different ways to share with parents the songs the children are learning as our Family assemblies are now so busy with all the amazing extra-curricular activities the children are sharing with us.

Recently I met with some children from Year 2 to talk about their views on the music lessons we teach. They were very positive about their music lessons, especially enjoying learning how to play the recorder. Year 1 have been learning to play the Glockenspiel and their interest in this led to Miss Boyle offering the Year 1 children extra time to practise during Thursday lunchtime. Thank you Miss Boyle!

If you have any song suggestions or other ideas linked to music at Discovery Academy, please email me at jmayers@victoriousacademies.org

Thank you Mrs Mayers

Sports Day 2019



Sport in school is once again becoming a key focus area and at Discovery Academy it's something we take very seriously.

The children took part in this year's Sports Day on a sunny day earlier this month, watched on by a great crowd of mums, dads, nans, grandads, aunts, uncles and lots of other supportive influences.

We trailed the rotation of activities this year where the children took part in 9 activities that pitched them against the clock to score as many points as possible. House teams were split in two and each team completed the circuit. Once complete we collated the scores from both teams. This year the scores were very close and this is testament to the hard work from the children and the teachers.



The final result saw **Cavendish** run out as eventual winners but all teams did exceptionally well and the difference between 1st and 4th was only 27 points. The winning team was announced during family assembly on the Friday that followed. In the teachers race it was a close run event with Mrs Kirkbride and Miss Boyle coming very close but they were pipped to the post by Mrs Sullivan and Discovery's own energiser bunny Miss Goodson. On to the parents race and after a quick stretch we had some very competitive grown ups. There had to be a winner though and well done to Mr Leah for your valiant contribution to a

great day.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who completed the feedback forms and sent them in. We can only get better and develop with your invaluable support.



If you have any suggestions inked to PE and Sport at Discovery Academy, please email me at dhopwood@victoriousacademies.org

Thank you

Mr Hopwood

ICT CLUB



For the Summer term, our ICT club has been for Year 2 then Year 1 children. Year 2 had lots of fun using 2code on PurpleMash to make their own computer games. They were definitely discovering, improving and achieving each week. They were also caring in the way they helped each other and said why they liked each other's

games and inspired each other to test out different ideas.

The Year 1 children have enjoyed practising skills they have learnt in Year 1 and discovering new apps. They have especially enjoyed using ChatterPix to make objects talk and enjoyed making music using apps on PurpleMash.

As the computing subject leader I am always looking out for new apps and websites to support the children with their learning. Here are a few of my favourites

DoodleMaths - great for children in Reception onwards, the free version gives the children 5 or 10 questions a day to practise their Maths and it is tailored to their ability. The children earn stars for correct answers and can use these to make a robot or accessorise a character. I set up all children on DoodleMaths - if you have lost your child's login details please get in touch.

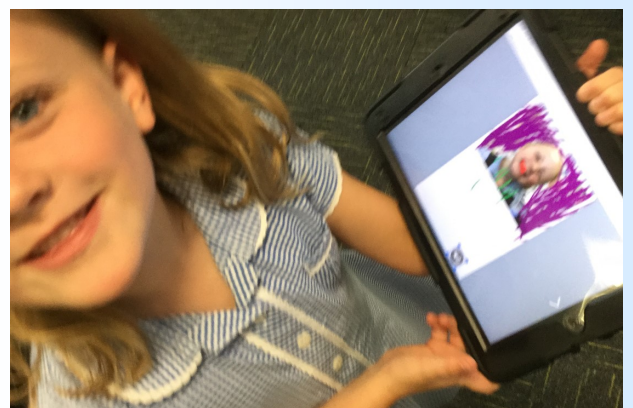
Teach Monster - a great app to help the children with their reading and phonics. The children practise different sounds as they travel through different planets. This is free to play through a laptop or computer or £4.99 for the app.

ChatterPix - a free app where the children can make photos talk by drawing on a mouth and recording a message. We have had lots of fun with this app, but Reception have also used it to support their learning. For example they were able to record what they have found when looking for shapes around school.

Topmarks.co.uk - this website has lots of great games for all ages. Some of them work on phones/tablets too.

If you have a website or app your child likes to use and think others would like it too, please tell me

about it by emailing me at jmayers@victoriousacademies.org



LEGO BUDDIES

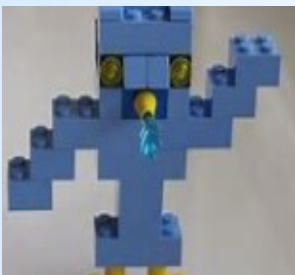


We have had so much fun working together, listening to each other, turn taking and problem solving. Who knew learning could be so much fun!

I have enjoyed working alongside the children as a facilitator. The children have all taken on a different role each week and used different skills. The Engineer has to read the instructions and inform the supplier what materials (Lego pieces they need). Only the engineer can see the instructions! The supplier must then give the materials to the builder who must position the pieces in the correct place.

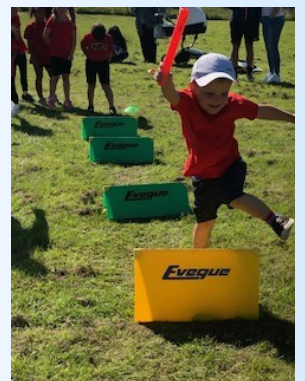


The children have enjoyed working together working on their skills using positional language, shape, size, colour, number, descriptive language and their imagination to build and create different models each week.



I have been very pleased with their positive attitude and watched the children's confidence and self-esteem grow each week working in their teams. The children are able to share their success and say what skills they need to practice on next time. Most importantly the children have worked as a team waiting their turn and are not afraid to ask for help if they don't understand!

I am looking forward to working alongside my new Lego buddies in September!



If your child takes part in Lego Buddies and you would like more information please email me at mkirkbride@victoriousacademies.org

Summer Term Review

Nursery

What a fantastic year we have had!

I have been so proud to have shared the first year of school with your children!

We have had so much fun learning, achieving, inspiring and caring for each other. I have watched the children grow in confidence and know that they are ready for their journey and the challenges in their reception classes. We have made some amazing memories.

The children have worked hard in all the topics.

They have particularly enjoyed the topic 'Growth' and enjoyed planting and caring for our plants and learning about human growth and the changes. We have had some special visitors Baby Leo and Nurse Lisa who inspired the children to care for others and become paramedics during our people who help us topic.

The children have ended this term learning about the ocean and the different sea creatures. The children discovered interesting facts and I have enjoyed watching the children in their storytelling, roleplaying and dressing up as sharks, mermaids and scary pirates, non as scary as pirate Peg Leg!

I have been very proud of the children's behavior and positive attitude to learning and hope they continue to shine in their new class and continue to be superstars. I will miss all the children who are leaving Discovery Academy and wish them the best of luck in their new school. Have a fantastic summer holiday.

Best wishes
Mrs Kirkbride



Summer Term Review

Reception

It's been a very busy year in Reception!

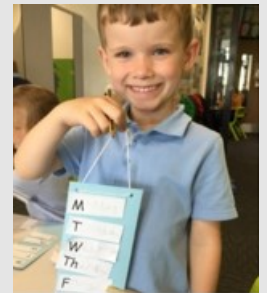
Here are some of my favourite moments.



Science week - I loved exploring bubbles with the children and when we made our own rainbows using objects we could find inside and outside

Our Nativity - I was incredibly proud of all the Nursery and Reception children, how they sang the songs and remembered their lines.

Our Talk for Writing story maps - these have been great fun to make, even with my terrible drawing and I loved watching the children act them out using great expression - especially when we did Jack and the Beanstalk!



Our Farm trip - it was lovely to see the smiles on the children's faces as they held and fed all the animals.

Our singing time - always puts a smile on my face, Reception have loved singing songs especially 'One call away,' 'Spring chicken,' and our Discovery 'Shotgun.'

Watching the caterpillars grow into butterflies, I loved to see the delight as the children watched the caterpillars change.



Our Sealife centre trip - lovely to hear the language the children could use to describe the sea creatures and ask the pirate interesting questions.

Our outdoor reading challenges - I have been so impressed with how hard the children tried with these.

Models in the creative area - from bottle lid earrings to beds for dolls and houses too. I love hearing about the children's ideas and watching them turn into models.

The ICT lesson where I taught the children how to take selfies and videos with the theme being - love yourself and tell others you love them.

Maths - exploring different numbers, "What can you make with 10 straws?" "Can you show me 6 in a different way?"

D.E.A.R - great for us all to drop everything and read!

My favourite thing has to be Watching each child grow and shine in their own unique and wonderful way.



I hope you all have a lovely, happy and safe holiday!

Mrs Mayers

Summer Term Review

Year 1

Year 1 have been so welcoming since I started here in February.

They are warm, friendly, so hardworking and really rather fun! We have discussed all the things we have done and compiled a list of what we think the best bits are.



The first day I joined school we went for a walk to **The Clough** where we spent the morning planting trees. We are all looking forward to visiting again to see how much they have grown.

Then we had a royal visit! The Queen came to visit us with her knight and royal cat Sir Humphrey. This was a real highlight for lots of the children. They all really enjoyed making the clay crowns, playing the parlour games and learning all about life in a castle.



We are really lucky to have so much land around our school and have made use of it by going on several local trips. **We walked to the Godley Hill War Memorial** after planning the route using a map of the area, we have been on wild flowers hunts, tree identifying walks and walks to gather ideas for our own school garden.



In DT we designed, made and evaluated our own kites. Then flew them on our school field. This was such good fun. Although flying them on our trip to Lytham was better! We have studied an artist called Andy Goldsworthy and created ephemeral art in the form of land sculptures when we went to the beach and have been looking at creating a lasting piece of art for our school garden using natural



materials.

The trip to Lytham was such a great day. Not only was it fun but the children consolidated so much learning whilst they were there. They showed each and every school value and behaved absolutely impeccably. We had discussions and comments about plants they could see in the park, the difference between physical and human geographical features and which are present in Lytham, children asking if Andy Goldsworthy would like the sculptures they made, comments about which senses were being used and how, explanations on why there was a war memorial and memorial bench and comparisons being made between Hattersley and Lytham. Not to mention the kite flying and soaking of Mrs Oldham!



It has been fantastic to be part of Year 1 and I am so very proud of each and every single child. They have all worked hard and rose to each challenge they have faced.

Have a fabulous Summer!

Miss Owen

Summer Term Review

Year 2

What a year it has been!

Looking back it doesn't feel like ten months since we all began the tricky journey together in year 2. Since then we have learned a lot, worked a lot and achieved a lot.

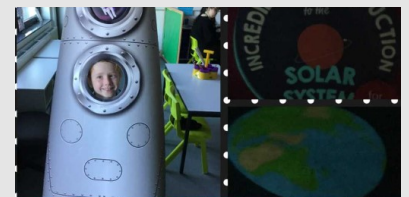
Today the Year 2 children paid their respects to those who gave their lives for us during battle. Then we made our way back to school for some hot chocolate with marshmallows and whipped cream.



In Autumn we looked at the changes in our local area and chose to focus on the proposal to develop Hattersley Train station. We visited to see for ourselves some of the work that needed doing, when then formulated an argument as to why we wanted to renovate this area and debated this with Year 1.

In Spring we turned our focus on to Sir Alan Turing and his heroic pursuits. We looked at who Turing was and why he was so widely praised as being the saviour of many lives and the man who ended the Second World War. We also looked at his work after the war and how it shaped modern life.

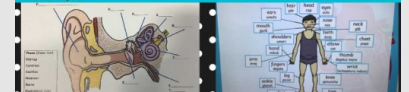
In summer Year 2 have been looking at two intrepid explorers. We have been looking closely at Christopher Columbus and his maiden voyage to the Americas, and astronaut Neil Armstrong's magnificent achievement of walking on the moon 50 years ago. We have looked at their lives, what their achievements have meant to civilisation today and how they ultimately compare in the Topp Trumps of explorers from history.



Today we had a visit from the Wandersome where we looked at the incredible achievements mankind has made in space exploration.



This afternoon we looked at biology, we wanted to find out more about what makes us, us!



Science week is in full swing with an awesome physics session with Year 2. We learned about Sir Isaac Newton and his law of gravity. We then designed and built a way of getting an egg from the balcony to the floor without breaking it, ask the children how we managed it!



In English this year we have learnt to expand sentences using new and exciting language, new conjunctions and we have started to vary our writing by using contractions, suffixes and prefixes. We have written high quality narratives, persuasive texts, in-depth instructions and non-chronological reports.

In maths children have developed their skills of the four mathematical operations, finding the most efficient method of solving problems. We have also looked at time, shape and fractions this year.

It has been an amazing journey and it has been a privilege sharing it with you all.

School council update



Our Members are;

Year 1 Harry, Lewis B, Laycie & Bobby P

Year 2 William, Chloe & Paisley



So our first year of the school council is done. I would like to thank our school councilors for their input and dedication over the last year.

We have covered topics such as playground games. The children put some ideas together as to what they would like outside in our KS1 and 2 playground the councilors asked the children in years one and two what they would like outside. They then passed on this information to the dinnertime staff who provided lots of different equipment and games during lunch break to engage the children.

The next thing on the agenda was the school hall. The councilors discussed the noise level and the manners of the children whilst eating their lunch. They found the hall very noisy and not many of the children were using their knife and fork or table manners. So from this the councilors threw some ideas out and came up with an idea to make some mats for the dinner tables as a reminder for what behaviors are expected at the table when eating,. They did this and over the last week we have notice a difference in table manners and noise level in the hall. We hope this continues to improve over the next coming months after all 'Manners really do cost nothing.'

In September we will be electing new councilors to join our already dedicated team.

Our school values are stronger than ever the children are continuing to show them in their day to day learning we are very proud of this here at Discovery.

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.

Achieving- getting something by working hard for it.

Keep an eye on our values boards in the hall to see our children showing our school values within school and out in the community.

Tameside Libraries Summer Reading Challenge



Take part in Space Chase this summer in all Tameside libraries. Children aged 4-11 years can sign up to take place over the summer holidays. It's local, fun and absolutely free!

Read 6 library books and collect goodie rewards along the way!

If you complete the challenge by 21/09/29 your certificate will be sent to school in time to be awarded to you in celebration assembly and your name will be added to a Tameside Wide prize draw to put you in with a chance to win an Active Tameside Attractions Annual pass!

At Discovery Academy all pupils who bring evidence of signing up to the challenge will be entered into a school draw to win a book and creative set.

Over the summer there will be lots of free space chase activities for children in all Tameside libraries.

For more details visit www.tameside.gov.uk/libraries

Academy Uniform

We want pupils to be proud of being part of our Academy. We believe that wearing a practical uniform enhances this feeling of belonging.



Pupils attending the Academy will be required to wear the uniform as described below:

- **Girls** - Dark **grey** skirt or trousers together with a light blue polo-shirt and academy sweatshirt or cardigan. In summer girls can wear summer checked dresses (not sun dresses). Black shoes - sensible and safe without flashing heels.
- **Boys** - Dark **grey** shorts or trousers together with a light blue polo-shirt and academy sweatshirt or cardigan. Black shoes - sensible and safe without flashing heels. These should **not** be trainer style shoes.



Trousers must not be black or of the skinny style even if purchased from a 'school shop' within a store.

Pupils can wear plain light blue polo-shirts (available from most supermarkets etc) or those embroidered with the Discovery emblem however we do stipulate that jumpers and/or cardigans are the official Discovery embroidered uniform.



Tights or socks should be plain in either white, blue, grey or black. **No patterns or characters.**

Bobbles should be plain and not include bows, glitter or embellishments. They should also be in school colours: black, blue, green or white.

Girls wishing to wear headscarves may do so and these should be plain and dark in colour.

In addition to the academy uniform above pupils will be required to wear PE kit for games. The same kit is required for boys and girls and will include:

- Black sports shorts and a plain white t-shirt
- A pair of pumps or trainers without flashing heels

The Academy uniform can be purchased from our two uniform suppliers:

Kids Stop

49 Market Street

Hyde

SK14 2AB

Telephone 0161 368 4500

Goodies Online shop

<http://discoveryacademy.gooddies.co.uk>

Free delivery to school

Home delivery option

HOLIDAY DATES 2019/20

HOLIDAY DATES 2019/20

Term and Holiday Dates for Academic Year 2019/2020

Term / Holiday		First Day	Last Day	No of Days
Autumn Term 1	Inset Days Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2019 (Children not in school)	Wednesday 4th September 2019	Friday 25 th October 2019	38
Autumn Holidays		Monday 28 th October 2019	Friday 1 st November 2019	
Autumn Term 2		Monday 4 th November 2019	Friday 20 th December 2019	35
Christmas Holidays		Monday 23 rd December 2019	Friday 3 rd January 2020	
Spring Term 1	Monday 6 th January	Tuesday 7 th January 2020	Friday 14 th February 2020	29
Spring Holidays		Monday 17 th February 2020	Friday 21 st February 2020	
Spring Term 2		Monday 24 th February 2020	Friday 3 rd April 2020	30
Easter Holidays		Monday 6 th April 2020	Friday 17 th April 2020	
Summer Term 1	Bank Holiday Friday 8 th May 2020	Monday 20 th April 2020	Friday 22 nd May 2020	24
Summer Half Term Holidays		Monday 25 th May 2020	Friday 5 th June 2020	
Summer Term 2		Monday 8 th June 2020	Thursday 23 rd July 2020	34
Total Pupil Days				190
Pupils are required to be in school for 190 days per academic year. Teachers are in school for 195 days per academic year 2nd September 2019 – Academy Inset Day 3rd September 2019 - Trust Inset Day 6 th January – Academy Inset Day Additional days taken as Inset Days or Twilight sessions across the academic year.				