

Edition 8: Summer 2021

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Discovering Inspiring Caring Improving Achieving



A reflection on the year.

What a year it has been. I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved this year and how, as a community, we have worked together to really show our caring value. This year has been just as challenging as last, if not more so as we begin to adapt to the fact that COVID will not disappear and we have to manage how we will work with it around. The support from families has been outstanding. I know the restrictions at times have seemed onerous, frustrating and sometime contradictory but the way you have worked with us has helped navigate this time together. Thank you.

On reflection, so much has still taken place. This edition of Discovering Times is still as packed full of enhancements, learning opportunities and events as any other year and I am sure you and your child will enjoy reading back on the year they have had.

Myself and all the staff at Discovery Academy hope you have a fantastic summer and enjoy the time you have with families and friends. We look forward to seeing you back on 6th September.

One Education Employee Wellbeing Gold Award



Throughout the last 18 months of the pandemic we have been working extremely hard and supporting our families and pupils the best we can. However, as key workers, our staff have been working non-stop to ensure that all of the children have still received good education, wellbeing and support. As a leadership team, we also focused on the wellbeing of our staff

and looked at ways to support them achieve positive wellbeing too. After a rigorous process of providing evidence and interviews, I am pleased to announce that Discovery Academy is now a Gold Award winner for Employee Wellbeing.

Curriculum Leader Update

It has been another fabulous term at Discovery Academy, with so many exciting things taking place in each year group! Here is a quick look at some of the highlights of what the children have been up to.

In March, we celebrated World Book Day. We focused on descriptive vocabulary and using ambitious word choices. As part of this, the children dressed up as



their favourite words. As always, the children went all out with their creative and inventive costumes. In the weeks leading up to World Book Day, the children put their detective skills to use to figure out who our mysterious masked readers were. It created so many debates across the school about who was who!

We love to discover at Discovery Academy – it's in our name! This is why we always have such enjoyable Science Days and this year was no exception. Whether it be looking at magnetism



in Nursery, or exploring plants in Year 2, every child was learning something new

through exploring. Another fantastic science experience this term was when Year 4 got the opportunity to meet British astronaut Tim Peake. The children asked lots of interesting questions and will no doubt always remember this exciting experience.

We were also lucky enough this year to have the Olympic Torch from the 2012 games visit

us. The torch did a lap of the school and was cheered on by each class in a wonderful celebration of international cultures. As well as getting ready for the Olympics, we also got ready for the Euros this term. Each class made flags and looked at the countries taking part. Additionally, all the children participated in sweepstake were the winners won a football.





Overall, it has been an enjoyable year but obviously, it has come with its challenges. All the staff at Discovery would like to sincerely thank you for your continuous support – it has been exceptional throughout. We have still managed to make many memorable moments for the children this year but we have truly

missed being able to share them with you. We cannot wait to get back to normality soon so you too can take part in these moments of magic.

Mr Walsh

Owl Visit

Year 2 and Year 3 were enthralled by the Wise Owl Bird of Prey Rescue who



came to visit us, all the way from Huddersfield. At the beginning of June. they provided us with an 'experience day' to help us launch our English topic all about 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. We

learnt lots of facts about

different owls and got to meet several different species. We were privileged to meet 2 baby 12 week old owls, who were hand reared from birth, before they went to their new homes. CUTE is an



understatement!



Here's a fun fact for you-did you know not all owls are nocturnal? We each got to hold a tiny owl but we had to

wear a special glove as her

claws were super sharp. We learnt that this is to help owls catch their prey. The adults got to hold Willow who is a very large eagle owl. Wayne and Katrina from Wise Owl Bird of Prey Rescue affectionately call Willow a BFG as she is so big and friendly.



Although Miss Owen looked a little nervous, Mrs Wood, Mrs Collins and Miss Goodson were all grinning from ear to ear. We even got to watch a flying demonstration! Here's another fun fact – did you know that you can tell when an owl sleeps by the colour of its eyes?

It really was a sensationOWL visit (see what we did there)!

Miss Owen

Year 3 teacher



Poetry Day 2021

On Wednesday 7th July the whole school had a visit from the poet, Matt Goodfellow. The children enjoyed a Key Stage Assembly with him first where they learnt some of his poems and laughed lots!







After each assembly, the children took part in a poetry workshop with him. They learnt some of his poems and had a go at creating their own. Some children performed their poems and some even wrote it out. Everyone had an inspiring day and couldn't wait to get stuck into poetry in class! Don't forget if you have one of his books, bring it into school for his signature.







Summer Reading Challenge

On the same day we launched the Summer Reading Challenge – even the rain couldn't stop us! Each class enjoyed a 'Booknic' in the library where they shared stories, poems and non-fiction books whilst munching



on biscuits and drinking juice. They got cosy on the cushions, snuggled upto the teddies and enjoyed reading for pleasure!

Don't forget to sign up at Hattersley library over the Summer.





Mrs Collins English Lead

Sports Day 2021



Excitement had built to a fever pitch by the time Friday 9th of July arrived and what a great day we all had. Due to the restrictions, we completed Sports day in classes and children were split into teams for their timeslots.

There was some fierce competitors in all classes and the activities were

taken as seriously as ever. Children had running, sack and egg and spoon races before moving on to some of the more whacky activities. The obstacle course challenged children in lots of ways before moving on the football shoot challenge. Children had to see how many dribble and goals they



could complete with their team in the time allowed.



Then it was on to the new addition to sports day this year, The Splish, Splash, Splosh! Teams has to use a sponge to carry water from one bucket and fill up another bucket at the other end of a track. This proved to be a tricky task but the children gave it

everything. If anyone wants to try this at home, we have some excellent trees in training in the reception and nursery classes.

It was a great day and fun for everyone, and hopefully, next year will be more settled and we can once again invite you back to enjoy and engage in this fantastic event with us.

Enjoy the summer and stay active!

Mr Hopwood

Sports Lead

Running Club



We are very excited to have running club back

for key stage 2. As a group, we came up with a name for the running club and we decided on "Discovery Striders."

We have been working on slowly getting our fitness back this is going well, each week I can see an improvement in the fitness of the children and their attitude towards running. We are very much looking forward to moving on with the club and hopefully getting some sponsored runs organised.

Watch out for the "Tour of Tameside" which is a four day running festival that takes place between 29th of July -1st of August .This event was founded by marathon legend Dr Ron Hill MBE (who has sadly past away recently) in 1981.



The fi<mark>nal</mark>e of the Tour of Tameside starts outside Hyde Town Hall with a 7 mile running route through Hyde Town centre and the surrounding area, including Hattersley Estate.

Watch out for me!

Miss Goodson

After School Club

We have enjoyed the fantastic weather this term and

enjoyed playing outside as much as we can. We have played basketball and played with the bat and balls as well as practising our throwing and catching skills. We have also enjoyed our weekly dance session and always ended with a fun game. We have some amazing dancers in after school club.

The snack menu has recently been changed and the children have really enjoyed the new healthy menu and loved eating the fresh fruit. The strawberries and melon go down very well! Children have been helping out by setting the tables and preparing snack and helping get the pots ready for the dishwasher. It has been nice to see how many keen helpers we have. Children have been playing with the toy kitchen and have made some amazing snacks of their own during role play.

We have made some lovely crafts and our window display shows some of the amazing under water themed crafts we have done. The mermaid and sparkly fish are really good and add some beautiful colour to our windows.

We can't wait until next term so we can start using our new craft area and make some more amazing things. Look out for our next window display.

Nursery What a fantastic term we have had!

Literacy: Under The Sea

We have enjoyed the topic under the sea. The children learnt facts about sea creatures and discovering what happens at the seaside. We read non-fiction books and shared what we learnt. We enjoyed reading Sharing a Shell, this enabled us to talk about our feelings in PSED and work together to share in the learning areas too. The children explored lots of texts including The Singing Mermaid, The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch and Billy's Bucket.

We welcomed a visitor, the poet Matt Goodfellow and we joined in with his rhyming stories and made up our own riddles and rhymes. We also enjoyed visiting the library and had a Book-nic party. We reviewed the books we read as we ate snacks and drank juice.





Maths

We have ordered numbers and used addition to add and subtract. We problem solved to share our pirate treasure. We designed our own patterned fish and talked about how we worked out our answers. We learnt about capacity and measured to see which jug held the most pirate punch.

Science

We explored magnets and looked for magnetic and non-magnetic treasure. We learnt about sinking and floating and selected different materials to make our own boats. We predicted and tested to see if our boats sank or floated.







Drama

The children have become more confident to talk and act out familiar stories in our drama lessons. It has been lovely to see the children express themselves and really get into character with an audience watching.



Achieving

We have had a great year and have learnt so much. I couldn't be any prouder of the individual achievements each child has made. The children have learnt to share, care and respect each other. The children have formed great friendships that I know they will carry on into their next class. They have learnt through play and been a true pleasure to teach. They are now ready to show their next teachers how truly amazing they are!

Reception What a year we have had in Reception!



As we reflect on this year, although it has not been as we expected, we have not let it stop us from having fun, learning lots of new things, having some great adventures and making new friends.

We have been very busy! We have been marvellous mathematicians working on numbers to 20 and beyond, using our problem solving and investigating skills discovering shapes, patterns, weighing, measuring and capacity.

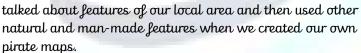


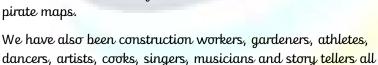
We have been actors on the stage and in the role play are and even been authors and wrote our own books about an animal that came to tea.



We have been scientists and done lots of investigations, We discovered which materials are water proof and not water proof, transparent and opaque, used our senses to describe changes in the seasons and learnt about what plants need to grow.

As well as this, we have used our geography skills when looking at our world, recorded local area maps,





this whilst looking after ourselves through a global pandemic!





Home learning has also been part of this year's journey. We have enjoyed story time sessions, completed on line learning challenges but our favourite activity was our bingo games. We have shown resilience, perseverance and can-do attitudes. The Reception staff have been impressed with the children this year and would also like to say a big thank you to all the parents for their efforts this year too!

Well done Reception all our values have been represented throughout the year; Discovering - Inspiring - Caring – Improving – Achieving, you should be proud of yourselves!



Year of the Fantasticos!

It's been another strange year here at Discovery Academy and I just want to start be saying a massive well done to all the children in every class.

As for Year 1, we have rolled with it and found opportunities to celebrate, be inspired and create memories along the way. Since Christmas, when we were plummeted back into lockdown and wide spread home learning, the children have risen to every challenge they have been faced with. We have had lots of success in English, and when Guy Parker-Rees joined us on zoom for an illustration lesson, the children felt inspired to begin writing and illustrating their own wonderful stories.





Guy was not the only special guest we have had visit us this year. We have had a live science lesson streamed all the way from Chester Zoo this year. The focus was on understanding why animals have their colours and markings. We had a virtual tea party where we all came together, whether that was children from home or at school and we rocked out with Mrs Oldham. We also has Disney royalty grace our class as Elsa popped up on our live feed and

treated us to a Frozen party as well. Our visits reached the pinnacle however when none other the Queen surprised us with a sneaky visit, she was spotted by a few of us around the school but we were a little suspicious when she asked to speak to 'da boss'.

It's not all been parties and dancing though as the children have worked hard on developing the skills that they will use throughout school.

Central to this has been the fantastic work Mrs Parkinson has been doing during Wellbeing.

Wednesdays. The children have been building confidence by acting out stories and putting on small group plays that have brought out some











amazing

acting skills. The children have also learnt about trust, friendship and good communication during these sessions as well and we have been impressed in how much better they speak to one another because of this.

It's been a challenging but rewarding year for us all and we should all be very proud of what has been achieved, especially with what we've had stood in our way. Well done Year 1, fantastic by name, fantastic by nature.

Year 2

What a wonderful year in Year 2!

Wow! What an amazing second half of the year we have had! All the children persevered

through the lockdown and came back fighting, determined not to be defeated by the challenges they faced. Their effort, enthusiasm and commitment this year has been commendable and I am proud of every single one of them!

They have enjoyed discovering and learning so many new things from superlative adjectives in Phonics to who George Washington-Carver and Jane Goodall are in Science to the history and geography of Hattersley and how multiplication, division, fractions and time are all linked. They have become amazing pattern detectives!





We've made our own dragon machines, reenacted the life of a pirate, had a campfire, a visit from the Wise Owl Birds of Prey Sanctuary and the poet Matt

Goodfellow, a letter from 'Plop' but most importantly we learnt the importance of communication in teamwork when we had to rescue Leaf (the polar bear) to take him home. From these inspiring experiences the children have written their own stories, diary entries, their own chapter story, a non-





chronological report on Discovery Academy, a set of directions and wrote their own free-verse poem. They

have embraced using plot points and grammar terminology well and taken it all in their stride, working well together to edit their work or deepen the moment.



They have enjoyed using practical apparatus in Maths and moving towards recording their working out using pictorial representations like bar modelling to find fractions of amounts. They even challenged themselves to find the times table link and how they can use their times tables to solve fractions and tell the time! They are all Maths Wizards and Writing Heroes!

It has been a pleasure teaching Year 2 this year and I can't wait to hear about their achievements in Year 3 next year!

Year 3

A great start to KS2!

We have had a fantastic term in Year 3. In English, we have really focused on delivering each topic in The Write stuff style which has really impacted on the children's writing. We have had several fantastic experience days including a visit from The Wise Owl Rescue, a campfire with s'mores and hot chocolate and a pirate obstacle course. The writing content and stamina of the children



has really improved and they have made great vocabulary choices. I think the texts that are my personal favourites



would be LEAF and The Owl Who is Afraid of the Dark as the stories the children invented afterwards really blew us away!

Maths has been focused on multiplication and division for the first part of the summer term and then fractions for the second part. The children have really impressed us with how hard they have been working on their times table knowledge. They have even challenged the adults on TTRockstars. Although closely contested, Miss Owen is the reigning class champion. Who will be the one to change that?

We really enjoyed learning about Ancient Egypt and Howard Carter, the archaeologist who discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun. The children completed some fantastic diary entries as Howard Carter on the day he made this monumental discovery.



We have also learnt all about forces and magnets, carrying out lots of different investigations. The children really enjoyed watching what happens to iron filings when a magnet is placed near them. In Summer 2, we focused on rocks and fossils as our topic in Science and I think it may possibly have been one of the children's favourites of the year! All of the children were really engaged with this topic and keen to hunt for and find fossils and rocks of their own. So much so Mrs Oldham had to ask them to stop digging next to the MUGA post as they were discovering lots of rocks there (cement holding the post in)!!

Geography this term has been all around natural disasters and the children have really taken on board the devastating effects that can happen as a result of the disaster. Their caring, kind natures were really highlighted in a lesson where they thought about ways in which we could offer help.

This was also evident when we learnt the song Stand By Me both singing and in Sign Language. The children were amazing just as they have been throughout this trying and difficult year.



Thank you Year 3 for a wonderful year of fun, laughter and smiles you really are all SUPERSTARS and we are all very, very proud of you.

Year 4! A summer of excitement in Year 4!

We have had a fabulous term in Year 4 and as always, had lots of Jun! One of the highlights of this term was our Mars Day. Not only did we get to see how robots on the red planet work, but we also had the opportunity to have an interview with British astronaut Tim Peake, who spoke to us about everything it takes to prepare for a trip to space. After this, we

created our own designs for rockets and robot that could explore Mars. It got us very excited about the topic and inspired some of the children so much that they are now determined to be work in aerospace.

This term, we have been doing lots of work on maps. We have been comparing the cities of Manchester and Chester and looking at the similarities and differences between them. The children have really impressed us in the way that





they can now use grid references to find something on a map as well as know what the symbols mean on an Ordinance Survey map. Finally, we put our skills to use as the children read their maps in a hunt around Hattersley.



We have had a very active term and taken part in lots of sporting events. We took part in the Tameside SSP daily challenges for a month and each day pushed ourselves to post our best scores. As well as this, we also had our Sports Day, where the children competed in both teams and as individuals. It was so impressive to see the way that the children motivated one another to do their best. In Year 4, we also celebrated Euro 2020. We began the tournament by having a reading from children's author Tom Palmer. In addition to this, we followed the

tournament each day by filling in a wallchart and taking part in a class sweepstake.

We have been very creative this term in many different ways. In Design Technology, we made cam toys. The children spent a long time researching different designs and deciding which features they liked. They were then given a brief, which they had to meet before creating their designs. Finally, the children were given all the resources they needed and used their plans to create their toys. We were very pleased with the outcome and it was great to see how proud the children were of what they had created. Another time where the children had to use their creative side, was on Poetry Day. We were fortunate enough to have the poet Matt Goodfellow attend the school and show us how he creates his ideas and writes his poems.



The children then did a workshop with him and created their own poems all about things that are important to them.

Overall, it has been an brilliant yet obviously unusual year. We have had a blast in Year 4 and are so proud of the children for all the effort they have put in and resilience they have shown throughout.

SPANISH



We have had a fantastic year learning Spanish.

I am very excited to introduce Guiomar to our team. Guiomar is a parent at our school and comes from Madrid she has kindly offered to come into school on Wednesdays to teach Year 3 and 4.

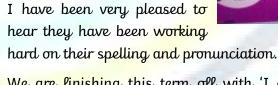
We are so lucky to have a native Spanish teacher who is doing a fantastic job helping the children with their pronunciation. Guiomar loves Discovery Academy so much she has been persuaded to teach Spanish to Early Years up to Key Stage 2 on a Monday afternoon. All



the children have so much fun and are excited to be learning a new language.

Year 3 and 4 Children have been working hard learning about different fruits (La Fruta). The children have been practising how to ask somebody in Spanish if they like a particular fruit and say what fruits they like and dislike.





We are finishing this term off with 'I can' (Puedo). The children are learning lots of new verbs and have been practising what they like to do. It has been lots of fun playing games, matching pictures to words and singing new songs.

I would like to say a big Big thank you to Guiomar and all the teaching staff for being so passionate about learning a new language and inspiring our children to learn. I am very proud of all the children for always trying their best! Have a great summer and keep on learning!

Mrs Kirkbride

MFL Lead Teacher

E-Safety

With the Summer holidays approaching I just want to remind you about the importance of e-safety.

Remember, the risks for children when they are online are linked to



Tell an adult you trust immediately if anything makes you worried or unhappy.

Twitter: @Discovery_Hyde

Here are some useful websites which have information about how to keep children safe online as well as what to do if you have any concerns



https://www.internetmatters.org/

Help and advice about issues and how to set and manage parental controls for different devices. This website also has advice for different age groups and stories about e-safety for you to read with your child.

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/

A very useful guide to the different apps children use.





https://www.nspcc.org.uk/

Lots of tips and advice about how to keep children safe online.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

information for parents and children about online safety





If you come across illegal content, such as images of child abuse, you can report this to the Internet Watch Foundation at www.iwf.org.uk.

As a result of entering the Safer Internet Day competition, parents are able to access a free one month trial of the SafeToNet safeguarding app. This app is especially useful if your child has their own phone or device. More details about the app can be found here https://safetonet.com/

In order to take advantage of this free trial, please simply:

- Visit: register.safetonet.com/sidc2021
- Enter the code: SIDC2021 (this is not case sensitive so all variations should be accepted)
- Follow the steps to create your SafeToNet account

Twitter: @Discovery_Hyde

 Download the SafeToNet App from the App Store or Google Play Store and log in using the details just created

Summer activities

Here's a list of free activities for you and your family to enjoy.

Outdoor Summer Theatre Series 2021

Denton – Little Red and the Big Bad Wolf Wednesday 28th July

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm
Victoria Park, Denton, M34 2AL
Tickets Free but limited*

Online Box Office: www.ticketsource.co.uk/tameside-mbc or call 0161 342 4144

Hyde - The Lost Colour Wednesday 11th August

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Hyde Park, Hyde, SK14 4JX Tickets Free but limited*

Online Box Office: www.ticketsource.co.uk/tameside-mbc or call 0161 342 4144

Dukinfield – SEED Wednesday 18th August

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm

Dukinfield Park, Dukinfield, SK16 4LG

Tickets Free but limited*

Online Box Office: www.ticketsource.co.uk/tameside-mbc or call 0161 342 4144

Audenshaw – Hare and the Moon Wednesday 25th August

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm

Ryecroft Hall Park, Audenshaw, M34 5ZJ

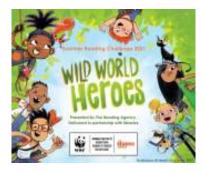
Tickets Free but limited*

Online Box Office: www.ticketsource.co.uk/tameside-mbc or call 0161 342 4144

Hattersley Projects

Visit the local community garden and show your support by feeding the flock, buying fresh produce or helping to grow new plants and vegetables in the plots available.

If you would prefer to get your hands dirty at home please visit the website **www.hattersleyprojects.co.uk** and explore the **Kids Zone** section that gives you some amazing ideas on planting, growing and getting creative.



Summer Reading Challenge

This years theme is Wild World Hero's. Visit your local library or online at www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to get involved. Remember to tweet @disco_library and @Discovery_Hyde with #WildWorldHeros and #SummerReadingChallenge2021 to tell us how you are getting on

Support Groups





Tameside South & Longdendale

Foodbank office details

Telephone
07901 786905
Address
Hattersley Baptist Church
Melandra Crescent
Hattersley

SK14 3RB

Project manager details

Susan Ayers info@tamesidesouthlongdendale.foodbank.org.uk

Term and Holiday Dates for Academic Year 2021/2022

Term / Holiday		First Day	Last Day	No of Days
Autumn Term 1	INSET DAYS 2nd and 3rd September 2021 Children not in school	Monday 6th September 2021	Friday 22nd October 2021	35
Autumn Half Term Holiday		Monday 25 th October 2021	Friday 29 th October 2021	
Autumn Term 2		Monday 1st November 2021	Friday 17th December 2021	35
Christmas Holiday		Monday 20th December 2021	Monday 3rd January 2022	
Spring Term 1	INSET DAY 4 th January 2022 Children not in school	Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Friday 18 th February 2022	33
Spring Half term Holiday	B	Monday 21st February 2022	Friday 25 th February 2022	
Spring Term 2		Monday 28 th February 2022	Friday 8 th April 2022	30
Easter Holiday		Monday 11 th April 2022	Friday 22 nd April 2022	
Summer Term 1	Bank Holiday - Monday 2 nd May 2021	Monday 25 th April 2022	Friday 27th May 2022	24
Summer Half Term Holiday		Monday 30 th May 2022	Friday 10 th June 2022	
Summer Term 2	28 th and 29 th July 2022 Children not in school	Monday 13 th June 2022	Wednesday 27 th July 2022	33
Total Days				190
Pupils are required to be in school for 190 days per academic year.				