

Dear families...

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and looking forward to the half term break. This half term has been incredibly long and we certainly have seen all the pupils struggle at some point or other with tiredness. We are mindful that the journey to and from school often extends their school day and often adds to their tiredness. This alongside the darker mornings makes your jobs as families increasingly challenging so a huge well done to you for getting your children up and ready for school. It has been great to see so many families in school this half term sharing their child's learning and meeting with each other. Our family charter visit this half term went very well and I do intend to share the report with you once we have received it formally. Thankyou to those of you who joined in with that day, we really appreciated your ideas on opinions on our strengths as a school and thoughts on how we can become even better.

I do hope you have a wonderful week with your children and manage to get out in the fresh air together.

Take Care, Mrs Windle



This Mental Health Awareness Day we said hello to yellow!

We turned our school yellow to show that we stand together for our young people's mental health. We took part in class activities focusing on strategies to improve our mental health and deepen our understanding. Each class thought about how we can best keep mentally health and how we can support others around us.



Discovery FC!

During our time at Abbey School we played against several other schools in the Nexus Trust in eight-minute quick round matches.

Each of our players played with a sense of pride and passion that showed the other schools what we are made of.

I am super proud of the team and how they played, especially as they never lost a game, kept the game alive and encouraging each other along the way. - Miss Adlington



In assemblies this half term we've been learning all about the protected characteristic 'Disability'.

We have learnt about autism, being deaf, Louis Braille and ADHD.



Disability

Double, double, toil and trouble!

Upper 6 have been studying William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in preparation for their GCSEs.

They have discussed the struggle for power, the supernatural themes and are getting to grips with the language techniques used.

They have been creating scrap books and answering GCSE style questions about the text.



Life Skills

This half term we launched our new Life Skills curriculum. I asked two teachers what their classes have been up to.

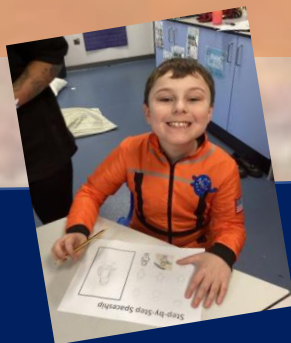
"Both road safety and sports leadership develop essential life skills like responsibility, decision-making, and communication that are valuable in everyday life, this is why U5 have been focusing on this half term."

"L4 have been developing their independence through a range of activities. We looked at brushing teeth, how do we do it and why it is important. We have used our fine motor skills to work towards being able to tie our own shoe laces and we have looked at a variety of hygiene products and how we use them."



Space Day

On Friday 4th October Discovery staff and students blasted off to space to celebrate World Space Week. L1 had a fun morning of space themed crafts and activities and shared their favourite space books. Lower school got to experience launching the incredible water rocket in Norfolk Park, blasting over 30m into the sky! Upper school put their maths skills to the test by comparing the size and distance of planets in the solar system. Did you know over 1 million Earths would fit inside the sun! Well done to all students for getting stuck in and trying something new.



Jamaican Heroes Week

This week we have been celebrating Jamaican heroes. We have sang to Bob Marley, followed recipes by Levi Roots and learnt all about Jamaican culture!



Autumn 2	
Monday 11 th of November	Remembrance Day Assembly
Wednesday 13 th of November	Family coffee morning
Wednesday 13 th of November	Anti-bullying day
Friday 15 th of November	Children in need
Thursday 28 th of November	Christmas Fair
Friday 29 th November	INSET Day
Monday 2 nd December	INSET Day
Wednesday 4 th of December	Whole School Pantomime Visit
Friday 6 th of December	Carol singing in the community
Wednesday 11 th of December	Upper School Christmas Show
Tuesday 17 th of December	Whole School Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 18 th of December	Lower School Christmas Show
Friday 20 th December	INSET Day

We hope everyone has a restful half term. We cannot for more fun in Half Term 2 #DiscoveryCrew!

