



Discovery Special Academy Newsletter Summer 2023

Community at Discovery

Summer Fayre

We had a fabulous summer fayre last week, raising about £400. The Junior Leadership Team will look at what they would like to spend the money on in the autumn term. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. We think it was a lovely opportunity for families to come and share some time with their children as well as supporting the academy. The pupils were involved in designing and running the stalls and they did an incredible job.



We Will Rock You

Well, what do we say about We Will Rock You. Other than it was just amazing and our children and young people did us proud. Their commitment to learning lines, songs and dances was inspiring and their behaviour throughout rehearsals and shows was exemplary. For anyone who managed to go and see it, I am sure you will agree it was worthy of the praise received. Next year, we hope to host a Discovery performance, and then in 2024-2025 the Trust will be coming back together for another extravaganza.



Discovery Diamonds

Last week, we went to celebrate the Trust Diamonds. The Diamond standards are a celebration of all of the commitment, care, courage and curiosity that our whole community demonstrate. It is incredibly difficult to choose nominees for the awards each term, but staff complete nomination forms and then the results are counted and verified. Next year, we hope to open nomination up to our upper Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 pupils too.

This year, we were lucky enough to have one category winner, Jax Royer for curiosity. Jax has worked so hard this year in developing his exploration around the learning spaces in class. He now shows interest and curiosity when accessing a range of areas and activities both inside and outside. We are so proud of him, well done Jax.



We also had the overall adult winner, Becky Hill. Becky has worked at Tees Valley Education for 25 years, first at Pennyman for 20 years, and then at Discovery since the academy opened in 2018. Throughout her 25 years, she has shown commitment and dedication to all of the children and families she has worked with and working in EYFS for most of her career, she ensures that all children have the very best foundations to move forward in their educational journeys. She always demonstrates absolute care to her pupils and works hard to ensure they grow and develop holistically. She has been an integral part of so many young lives and has set them on the path to success, a true TVED diamond.



Library Sessions

This year, we were able to hold some stay and share reading sessions. Families came to read with their children and borrowed a book to take home and enjoy together later. It was a joy to see children and adults enjoying the new library space and together creating a real love of reading.

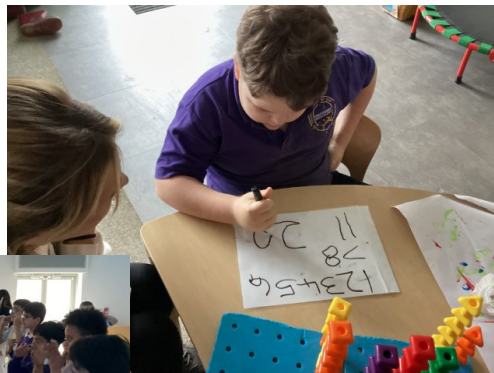
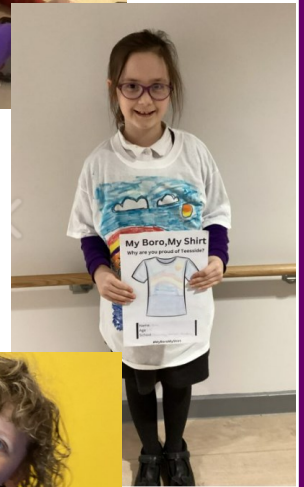


Sports Afternoon

The children all took part on a sports afternoon this year on our new field. They loved the activities and events. Next year, we are hoping to run a sports afternoon in the same way we did our summer fayre so we can invite families in to share in the session with their children.



Summer at Discovery



Find lots more amazing pictures at.....

<https://www.discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk/celebrating-discovery/academy-gallery-2022-23/>

Times of the Academy Day

You may have heard that all schools in the country must be open to pupils for 32.5 hours a week from September 2024. We are pleased to say, we already offer this and have published this information on the website since September 2022. Our buses arrive at 8:40am for children to be collected by staff to begin the day, and the last bus leaves site at 3:10pm.

Academy Day

The academy times of the day are:

- 8:40-9:00am: Children are collected from transport or from parents/Registration routines
- 9:00am: Morning Routines Begin
- 10:00 – 11:00am: Break taken between this time
- 11:30 – 12:30pm: EYFS Lunch
- 11:45- 12:45pm: Y1-Y7 Lunch
- 3:00pm: Children collected by parents and transport
- 3:10pm: Last transport leaves site

Teachers and support staff carry out playtime supervision and lunchtime supervision is carried out by support staff and lunch break supervisors.

Academy open 32.5 hours per week.

A reminder that pupils return to the academy for the autumn term on Tuesday 5th September.

It is really important that children are in the academy from this date.

If they miss the very beginning of term, this can have a significant impact on them being able to settle into their new classes and make friends.

There is also a lot of learning that takes place in these first two weeks that allow them to be independent and successful for the rest of the year.

We look forward to seeing them all on Tuesday 5th.

Have a fabulous summer break.

<https://www.discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk>