

Autumn Bulletin

Friday 8th December 2023



Message from Sean English, Deputy Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to this week's bulletin. We hope you have all had a wonderful week, even if it has been a bit frosty at times! This week has been another great week at Civitas, filled with learning and some excellent experiences in each of the different year groups. I have had the pleasure of hearing our Year Two children during their rehearsals for their Christmas performance and I can tell you all that you are in for a treat! We look forward to seeing many of you for the first full performance on Thursday the 14th December, next week.

The festivities have continued this week with decorations around the school and also our Christmas jumper day. I was so impressed with the range of different jumpers on show, with some classes even seemingly coordinating a theme with the colours they were wearing!

Alongside these festive activities, the children have also been exploring a range of different topics within their learning. I was lucky enough to see some of the work our Year Five children have been producing within their English lessons, where they have been exploring the environment. In this, the children have researched a range of different areas and created impassioned announcements. We certainly have some talented writers here at Civitas!

Next week, we will continue with our learning across the school, with some additional events, which are noted in the key dates section. As a reminder, there will be no after school clubs next week. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

PE Timetable – Autumn 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Year 4	Year 3	Year 5	Year 6
PM	Year 1	Reception	Year 2	

Celebrations and Achievements

Reception		
Elmer	Gowtham	For being a fantastic role model to his peers.
Paddington	Harper-Rae	For excellent personal progress in her Phonics and writing. Well done!
KS1		
Pinocchio	Chidinma	For working well to understand 3D shapes in maths.
Gruffalo	Jeswika	For wonderful progress in learning by demonstrating hardwork, determination and attention to detail.
BFG	Avie	For showing amazing enthusiasm when practising for the Christmas performance and working hard in Science!
Matilda	Luca	For using great acting skills whilst practising for the Christmas play!
KS2		
Rosen	Musa	For always working hard in lessons and putting lots of effort into his work.
Kinney	Sabrina	For working hard to manage her distractions in class.
Richards	Artjom	For being a resilient learner and working hard on his phonics to support his English vocabulary.
Murphy	Gabi	For working hard to keep concentration in class and keep up with the workload in school.
Avery	Latifa	For consistently modelling ready, respectful and safe choices.
Zephaniah	Ishani	For consistently demonstrating organisational skills to show readiness for learning.
Draper	Kornelia	For improved ability to think of others and accompanying acts of kindness.
Lewis	Vinnie	For his deeper thinking and valuable contributions in lessons.

House	Total House Points this week	Total
Aqua	488	3054
Terra	463	3106
Ignis	471	2635
Atmos	525	3244

Well done **TERRA** house for achieving the most house points this week.

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Idris
Paddington	Chaarvi

Gruffalo	Ayira
Pinocchio	Elias
BFG	Ivan
Matilda	Illia
Kinney	Zahra
Rosen	Nithin
Murphy	David
Richards	Eva
Avery	David
Zephaniah	Atarah
Draper	Sneha
Lewis	Vinnie

Achievements outside of school

Name	Class	Achievement
Venba V	BFG	Preliminary medal with a high commendation.



Attendance

Our overall school target for the year is 96% - let's work together to be in school every day.

Each week we will share attendance for each Year group for that week, this is **not** accumulative from the beginning of the year.

	30.10.23	06.11.23	13.11.23	20.11.23	27.11.23	04.12.23	11.12.23
Reception	94.7%	83.9%	85.62%	91.76%	94.87%	94.07%	
Year 1	94.5%	95.3%	92.72%	89.66%	89.66%	95.73%	
Year 2	92.5%	94.7%	93.96%	91.62%	91.4%	91.87%	
Year 3	89.7%	98.5%	95.21%	92.53%	91.73%	94.13%	
Year 4	94.3%	97.7%	97.27%	98.25%	95.09%	92.42%	
Year 5	96.7%	97.6%	98.17%	93.3%	87.19%	97.61%	
Year 6	93.8%	93.3%	96.36%	96%	93.62	92.07%	

What have we been learning this week?

Reception:

We had another lovely week with exciting challenges and new learning opportunities. In maths we have been learning about squares and rectangles and their properties such as knowing how many corners these shapes have. In phonics this week we have been recapping th, ng, ch and nk including words moth, long, chip and pink etc. We have been learning tricky words he, she and push. The children are trying hard to learn to recognise all the tricky words. In Literacy and Global Learning, we have been looking at the book '10 pomegranate street'. This book is about a group of people all making different food and sharing it. The book includes recipes of how to make the food. The children got to make jam sandwiches this week and sequence the order of how they made the sandwiches. The children were thinking about healthy and unhealthy food and grouping them. The children also using a paper plate and arts and crafts made a healthy plate of food.

Can you also please make sure you are logged on to Collins eBooks so you can access the books and tapestry to access the homework. If you have any problems logging in please let your teacher know.

Key Stage 1

Year 1:

This week we have started to work on our project outcome which is to perform about identity and diversity. In music we are enjoying practising our singing in preparation for our performance next week. We have been learning about the properties of 3D and 2D shapes and comparing the similarities and differences between shapes. In Phonics we have begun assessing each child's next steps and have also started revising our newly learnt digraphs. In PSHE we have celebrated all the differences that make us each special and unique. In Maths we have explored 3D shapes and their properties. In Science, we learned about how we should take care of animals and what they need to be healthy and happy. We continued making our umbrellas in DT by putting on the canopy. In RE thought about the gifts that we could give for 'free', such as tidying my bedroom or helping mum to set the dinner table. In Music, we are continuing to learn our Christmas songs ready for our production which we are really enjoying.

Year 2:

This week in Year 2, we have been working hard to evaluate our human right vlogs and self-assess our speeches. We discussed what went well and how it could be improved in the future. In Maths, we consolidated our knowledge of x2, x5 and x10 times tables knowledge. The pupils had to solve a number of problems to find the missing clues to reveal the hidden treasure of marbles! In PSHE, we discussed the importance of celebrating our differences and how we can support one another. For Computing, we focused on lighting and explored how light affects a photograph. In Science, we investigated food chains and described their relationships. Please remember to send your child with their homework books and reading books on Monday. Please remember to read the Collins e-books and ask class teachers to assign new books if completed. Year 2 will be creating an exciting DT project with wool and materials next term. If you have any spare buttons, wool, felt or sewing needles we would be very grateful to receive them.

Key Stage 2

Year 3:

This week in English we have been looking at rhetorical questions and fronted adverbials. We created some of our own rhetorical questions to use in our letter writing next week. In maths we have looked at our 8 times tables briefly, looking at how to multiply and divide by 8. We have used our array's and pictorial methods to support our learning. In Geography we looked at different types of map showing North America, we discussed why each map looked different and explored what they were showing us e.g, topographical features, farm land. In science we created a fact page illustrating all of the fantastic

facts and information we have learnt about humans and animals over this past half term. In D.T we evaluated our pop up designs, we discussed we worked well, what we could do differently next time and how effective they were.

Year 4:

We've had a very busy week in year. In Maths we've continued with our topic of multiplication and division. This week's focus has been the 7, 11 and 12 times table. We have been working really hard learning these and will continue practice through year 4. In English we have started to plan our narrative based on our text 'A story like the wind'. This links with our globe learning theme peace and conflict. In our humanities lesson this week we have been learning about food banks and how important they can be to help people, especially at Christmas time. As part of our global learning project outcome Year 4 are helping organise a food donation for a local food bank in Reading, ReadiFood. We have asked where people can to donate tinned and dried foods. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Year 5:

During this week, in Year 5, we have been busy with various learning activities. Our main focus is to write public service announcements addressing climate change, inspired by Greta Thunberg's speech. We started by attempting our first draft and look forward to completing our final write next week. In maths, we explored how to compare and order fractions greater than 1 and also learned how to add and subtract those with the same denominators. In science, we compared the human life cycle with those of birds, insects, mammals, and amphibians, which helped us to appreciate the diversity of life on Earth. Through this, we understood the different stages of life and how they vary among other species. Overall, it was an engaging and explorative week for Year 5, and we are excited to continue our learning journey.

Year 6:

We've continued our work on fractions and have become experts at adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. In English we have honed specific skills required to write a successful newspaper report; we can confidently identify the 5 Ws, decipher facts from opinions, use passive voice and are extremely knowledgeable about The Blitz. Next week we will write our newspaper reports and hope to share our results with you at the end of the week. In PSHE we learnt more about what constitutes bullying and why bullies bully. Our cushions are well and truly on their way and some of us have begun to sew our designs onto the fabric. Finally, you should have received an email from us requesting permission for your son/daughter to watch the PG certified film Goodnight Mister Tom the last day of term. If you haven't received this, please get in contact on the email below.

Communication to the school

Absence reporting still needs to be done via office@civitasacademy.co.uk

If you have a query and would like to contact your child's class teacher, please see the relevant emails below.

Reception: earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 1: year1@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 2: year2@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 3: year3@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 4: year4@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 5: year5@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 6: year6@civitasacademy.co.uk

Office News

Dear Parents & Carers,

We kindly request the following:

**School lunches must be booked a week in advance. We are unable to facilitate food orders at the school office. If you need access to Scopay, please send an email to Office@civitasacademy.co.uk
All school meals must be ordered on Scopay, including children receiving free school meals.**

Please use capital letters only when writing your child's name on the late register.

Bikes and scooters are stored in the bike shed, drop off for the bike shed is at the main school gate.

Please remember to label your child's uniform and personal belongings, as this helps us return the item.

If you are dropping items off for your child at reception, please pre-label them with your child's name and class name.

Where possible please always use email as the primary form of communication. Email can be used for info/questions, child pick up request, appointments, sickness, absences, lateness, absent from school request, lost property, etc. Email - Office@civitasacademy.co.uk

Looking forward to assisting you all,
Kind regards,

Maura Ammundsen & Kate Bevan

KEY DATES

7th December – Christmas Jumper Day

14th December – EYFS/KS1 – Productions – Details to follow followed by uniform sale after school

18th December – Christmas Dinner day – let's wear our jumpers again 😊

19th December – Wellbeing Day/End of Term Discos after school – Details to follow

20th December – Last day of term