



Civitas Academy

Spring Bulletin – Friday 24th February – Message from Mrs. Jeanette Fuchs, Design Technology Lead and Y3 Teacher

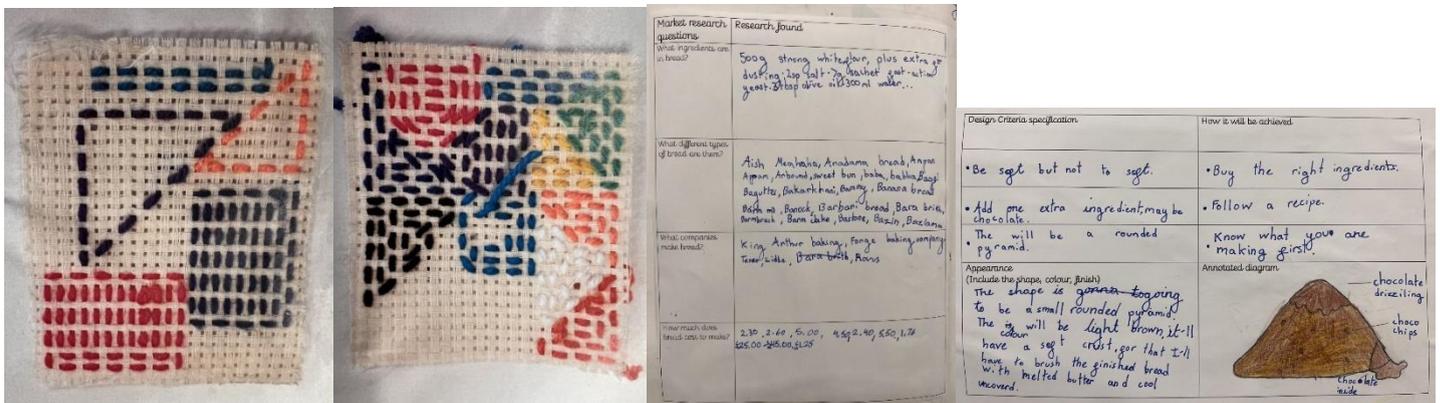


Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share our DT curriculum with you. At Civitas Academy, we pride ourselves on providing a subject with an approach that draws on skills learnt in other curriculum areas such as maths, science, computing, engineering, and art skills.

Risk-taking is often integral to DT. This encourages children to become resourceful, innovative, and enterprising in their interpretations and ideas. Our children are exposed to prominent figures in industry, both past, present, local, and globally who are innovative thinkers and leaders in their field. Innovation is key to experiencing a broad and balanced curriculum. We aim to help children understand the importance of design and technology and how it shapes society. Children explore a range of techniques and build on their knowledge and skills year after year.

At Civitas Design Technology lessons follow *Rosenshine's Ten Principles of Instruction Frameworks*, following the structure of the Design Process. This gives the children opportunities within every project to design, make and evaluate. Each project has key vocabulary, and an opportunity to research engineers or designers. The cross-curricular links enable over teaching to enrich and consolidate learning. Throughout Design Technology there are opportunities to explore food technology, computer design, building, textile design and construction.



Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Haadiya	For working so hard in her independent writing.
Paddington	Trae	For being resilient in all areas of learning
Gruffalo:	Shriyan	For settling in well to Gruffalo class!
Pinocchio:	Asher	For making a good effort to use capital letters and full stops in his writing.
BFG:	Adarsh	For trying his best in maths.
Matilda:	Mridhula	For settling in well and always being ready to learn.
Rosen	Dimitra	For putting a lot of effort into learning her spelling homework.
Kinney	Lily	For always following the school rules, setting a great example to her class and having a great sense of humour
Richards	Sabya	For returning to school with an eagerness to learn.
Murphy	Zaid	For being ready to learn in all of his lessons.
Zephaniah	Dorian	For his acts of kindness towards others
Avery	Stela	For great contributions towards our classroom debate.
Draper	Samardh	For always sharing his thoughts and ideas during lessons.
Lewis	Jude	For an excellent piece of recount writing.

House Points – Well done **IGNIS** house for gaining the most house points this week.

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua	254	7338
Ignis	351	7380
Terra	312	7116
Atmos	246	7232

Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 97% - let's work together to be in school every day. Each week we will share attendance for each Year group for that week.

Year Group	24/02	20/01	27/01	03/02	10/02
Reception	94.3%				
Year 1	92.3%				
Year 2	91.1%				
Year 3	91.1%				
Year 4	94.3%				
Year 5	93.7%				
Year 6	98.6%				

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

It was great to see all the children again after the half term break. We are delighted to welcome Miss Laura to our EY team. She is an Early Years Practitioner, and she will join our team 5 days a week in Reception. In Maths, we have been sorting and representing the numbers 9 and 10. We have been reading the book *Ten Black Dots* by Donald Crews. We looked at making pictures using 10 black dots. As our Global Learning Theme is Peace and Conflict and we are focusing on overcoming Prejudice, our inspirational writing book for Literacy for this week and next week is 'The Paper Bag Princess' by Robert Munsch. This story is raising questions about gender roles, identity and happiness. The children have been writing about this story and have been making paper bag princesses, using coffee filters and paper bags. It was lovely to see all the different creations! In our funky finger area, the children have been using their cutting skills to cut our dragons and have been giving them hats, legs, wings and bows. The children have enjoyed dressing up like princesses and princes to act out the story.

Key Stage 1

Year 1: In Maths, the pupils worked on numbers to fifty. We have discovered that making groups of 10, helps us to count larger numbers easily.

In English, we have created amazing fact files about our grannies, or older people in our community after being inspired by our text, 'My two Grannies'. In Science, we are learning about plants and are looking forward to watching our seeds grow. In Computing, the pupils have explored the importance of why objects need labels. In History, we learnt about the wonderful Mary Seacole. She overcame many challenges to help those in need.

Year 2: In maths, the children have been writing number sentences using the multiplication symbol (\times). We have used arrays to show multiplication and we are also beginning to look at dividing through both sharing and grouping. In PSHE, we have started looking at 'healthy me'. The children have discussed what fruits and vegetables are and how much healthy food they are eating! We have had a DT week and each child has designed and created a flower or plant using a range of resources. This has kick-started out new 'Plants' Science topic!



Key Stage 2

Year 3: In English, the children are learning about diary writing features. They have identified these in a diary entry. We are reading a book called 'Henry's Freedom Box.' It is a true story about a slave that escapes via the underground railroad. In Maths we are learning about fractions. We have explored denominators of unit fractions and numerators of non-unit fractions. We compared and ordered unit fractions and understood the whole. In RE this week, we learnt about how to rescue a situation and did a role play depicting this. In DT we were introduced to our new topic, 'You've been framed.' We looked at various frames and their different designs. We created our own criteria for a good frame that we will use when we finish this project to assess our creations. In Science we examined real live plants and identified their distinct parts. We enjoyed handling plants whilst looking at the roots, leaves and flowers. In Global learning we have explored historical sources that were either primary or secondary sources. These were pictures, drawings, photographs, and music from the 1800's in Americas past.



Year 4: It was lovely to welcome all of the year 4 children back after half-term. Everyone has returned with a real eagerness to learn and have already produced some fantastic work that they should be proud of! To start the week, we jumped straight into our new topic in maths – fractions! We have been learning all about how fractions are part of a whole and how we can use them to determine 'how much' of something we can have. We even started to

explore moving beyond 1 whilst using fractions. We have also started our new English topic – playscripts. Our new book, 'A Fish in a Tree' focuses on a young girl who is dealing with going to school with a hidden disability. This has created some fantastic and meaningful discussions where the children were extremely respectful towards each other and each other's opinions. This learning links in with our Identity and Diversity learning theme where the children have begun working towards their project outcome – delivering a workshop to all of our year 4 parents on mental health and well-being. In Science, we have started to learn all about States of Matter and explored how liquids turn to gases that can then turn into solids. It has been a great first week back in year 4 and we all look forward to continuing to learn all of our new topics!

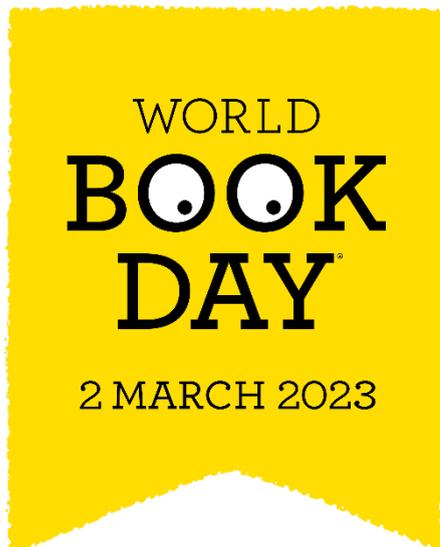
Year 5: It has been lovely to see year 5 again after the half term break! We have begun this half term by looking at our global learning theme, identity and diversity, through discussing and exploring gender stereotypes. We started the week with 5 minutes of 'girls in charge' which sparked heated debate about gender stereotypes and fairness. In our English lessons we will be using that debate to create a balanced argument on the statement 'girls should not be allowed to work in the STEM field'. We are also using our global learning lessons to study gender roles in Ancient Greece, following our learning of Modern Greece last half term. We will be using our learning this term to work on our project outcome – an exhibition challenging gender stereotypes. In Maths we have started our new topic – decimal numbers. We have been using our understanding of fractions from our previous topic to compare and convert decimal numbers. In PSHE we looked at the negative effects smoking has on the body and in science we explored soluble and insoluble materials and how we could separate them.

Year 6: It is great to see the children have returned ready and focused as we approach the final countdown to SATS. This week the Year 6's completed writing their diary entries from our protagonist's point of view from our focus novel 'Stella by Starlight'. The children have seriously impressed us by demonstrating their year 6 writing skills and diary entry features. Well done. In maths we have begun our new unit on fractions, decimals and percentages. We have learnt how to find fraction, percentage and decimal equivalents and have applied our new skills to answer many reasoning and problem-solving questions. In Science we have also started a new topic 'Evolution and inheritance'.

News items from this week

WORLD BOOK DAY – THURSDAY 2ND MARCH

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. Children are invited to dress up as any book character or object!



STORY STONES COMPETITION

To celebrate World Book Day next week, Miss Frain is launching a 'Story Stones' competition! The winners will receive a book-themed prize... **Please can all entries be bought in on Thursday 2nd March (World Book Day).**

To enter – please paint a stone or pebble to show a story, a setting, a character or an object. We will be displaying all entries

outside, so to help the stone withstand the weather please cover them with clear nail varnish or painting varnish.

Below are some examples and inspiration:



SCHOOL DISCO

Payment and consent to be made via SCOpay

CIVITAS ACADEMY
Wednesday 29th March

SCHOOL DISCO

£3.50 per child



Reception & Year 1—3.30-4.15pm
Year 2, 3 & 4—4.30-5.15pm
Year 5 & 6—5.30-6.15pm

£3.50 per ticket, ticket includes entry, a drink and a snack.
Please pay via Scopay by 24th March.
Drop off and collection details to follow.

New PE timetable:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Avery am	Zephaniah am	Y6 – Swimming am	Y3 am
	Year 2 pm	EYFS pm	Y1 pm	Y4 pm

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 2 nd March	World Book day – details to follow
Wednesday 8 th March	International Women’s day
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose day
w/c 20 th March	Parents evening – details TBC
Wednesday 29 th March	Wellbeing Wednesday and SCHOOL DISCO – info to follow
Friday 31 st March	Last day of term
3 rd April – 14 th April	Easter holidays
Monday 17 th April	Children return to school

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

