

# Civitas Academy Bulletin

## 20/11/20



### Update from Mr Wieder

The leadership team at the school has continued to reflect and make adjustments to plans as it is likely that there will be no significant changes to restrictions over the next few months. We have decided to innovate with Christmas arrangements this year as our usual activities will not be able to happen in a way that we are all familiar with. This year, we will:

- Have Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December with a £1 donation to Save the children to be paid via Tucasi.
- Have online pantomimes that children are able to watch from their classrooms. Thank you to Miss Edwards for organising this.
- Reception will do a nativity within their classes and upload this onto Tapestry for parents to view by the end of term.
- Christmas dinners will be boxed up and eaten in classrooms on December 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner on that date, then this will need to be booked by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Children may also wear their Christmas jumper on that day.
- Children will also participate in Christmas crafts on December 17<sup>th</sup> within their individual classes.

In order to fund all of the above, we will be asking for a voluntary donation of £3 to paid via Tucasi which is broken down as £2 to cover the costs for the online pantomime and craft materials and £1 as a donation to Save the Children for Christmas Jumper Day. Please note that we will be unable to accept any physical money. The option to do this will go live on Tucasi on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

We have updated the events diary at the end of the bulletin with all planned events before the end of the year. We have made the decision to continue to postpone individual photographs and we will review this decision again in the new year.

I am also pleased to announce a new initiative that will be launching on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the Civitas Engagement Group. The idea of this stemmed from some of the discussions that took place during one of the Y3 bubble closure Zoom sessions, where there was real enthusiasm from families to support both the school and each other. Further details about this exciting new initiative can be found below.

### Civitas Engagement Group- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December (10am via Zoom)

#### **We need you!**

During the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we have all needed to evolve the way we do things and think outside the box. In our school family community, we have expertise in a range of areas e.g. IT, marketing, fund raising, finance, business, education amongst many other areas. Some people may have time to contribute ideas; others may have time to help and drive ideas forward. Imagine if we could put all this expertise together and the impact that could have on improving our children, our school and our community.

We will be holding an initial meeting via Zoom on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10am. It will be an opportunity for the school to share what it is currently working on, for you to ask questions, give feedback and to share ideas with Mr Wieder and Abby Stevens, the Chair of Governors at Civitas Academy. We will then be able to build upon plans from this meeting so that future plans for the school and our community can be influenced.

Zoom details about this meeting will be sent out alongside next week's edition of the bulletin. However, in the meantime, if anyone has any specific ideas, questions or feedback that they would like to be covered in the first Civitas Engagement Group meeting, please could this be sent via email to [office@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@civitasacademy.co.uk) by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Attendance**

Following on from my message about improving attendance last week, I am pleased to report that rates of attendance has continued to improve and whole school attendance now stands at 95.3%. It would be great if this could continue to improve and be in line with our minimum target of 96% by the end of the year. A reminder that the school does not authorise absence for runny noses and minor colds. Children with runny noses and minor colds are expected to be in school. All coughs and COVID related symptoms are authorised and are coded differently in our attendance system.

### **Shin Pads**

Children in Y3, Y4 and Y5 are currently learning football in P.E. lessons. Please could children in these year groups bring in shin pads from home on these days. If anyone is looking at buying shin pads, the type in the picture below is suggested:



Children in Y1 and Y2 will be learning football after Christmas.

### **Tuesday 24th November - KS2 Rock Star Day**

To launch our new Times Table Rock Stars online platform for learning, KS2 will be having a Rock Star day on Tuesday 24th November. Children from Years 3, 4 and 5 are welcome to come into school dressed as a rock star. On this day, they will receive their log ins for the program and complete a range of times table activities to promote learning. Miss Frain will also hold a workshop for parents to introduce this to them- date to be confirmed. Thank you for your support.

### **My Rising Stars - Parent Workshop (26<sup>th</sup> November 4pm via Zoom)**

Following feedback at parents evening appointments, the school will be offering a workshop on the new e-book system used in the school. Please see the message below from Miss Bradburn for guidance about using My Rising Stars:

For parents with children in Reception to Year 3, if you would like to use the e-book library please click on this link: <https://my.risingstars-uk.com/MyDynamicLearning.aspx> and put in your user details. Once you have signed in you will need to scroll down the list of books to search for one that is linked to your child's reading band; in most cases the colour is displayed in brackets after the title. After you have read the book, there will be a link in the bottom right hand corner this will take you to the quiz. If you are unsure how to use this resource please take a look at the parent guide [https://www.risingstars-uk.com/media/Rising-Stars/Series%20Images/Reading%20Planet/Reception-KS1-Pupil\\_user\\_guide.pdf](https://www.risingstars-uk.com/media/Rising-Stars/Series%20Images/Reading%20Planet/Reception-KS1-Pupil_user_guide.pdf) or join us for the My Rising Stars workshop on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm.

### **Year 2 Phonics Test**

Children in Y2 who would have taken their Y1 phonics test in June will now take a screening test in the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> December. The school will then need to submit results to the government and report on the proportion that passed the check. Any child that does not pass the check will have the opportunity to retake again in June 2021. Further information about what the phonics check entails as well as past papers can be found on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials#phonics-screening-check-resources>

### **COVID 19 Symptoms Procedure**

A reminder that the main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms. If you or your child present with any of these symptoms, you must not attend school and should arrange to get a coronavirus test. You should stay at home and do not have visitors until you get a test result-only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

You can book a coronavirus test on the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

You must inform the school if you suspect that you or your child requires a coronavirus test and you should inform us immediately if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus.

In the event of a child displaying any symptoms in school, we would move your child to our isolation room and you would be asked to collect, isolate and arrange for a test.

In the event of a confirmed case of coronavirus, parents would be informed and the children in the bubble would be required to isolate. Remote home learning would then be provided during that time.

#### **Events Diary**

| <b>Date (Time)</b>   | <b>Event</b>  |
|--|---|
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November | Anti-Bullying Week                                    |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Y3, Y4 and Y5 Dress as a Rock Star Day                |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November (4pm)                   | My Rising Stars Parent Workshop (Zoom)                |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December (10am)                  | Parent Engagement Group                               |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December                           | Christmas Jumper Day-£1 donation to be made on Tucasi |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December (PM)                     | KS2 Online Pantomime                                  |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                        | Flu Vaccinations                                      |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December (PM)                   | EYFS/ KS1 Online Pantomime                            |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December                         | Christmas Dinner                                      |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December                         | Christmas Crafts                                      |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December                           | Last Day of Term                                      |