

# Spring Bulletin

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024



## Message from Salima Ducker, Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have been very excited this week to share their learning with me as I have dropped into classrooms, we have had a real focus on talking through our learning and thinking through processes before writing things down, particularly in maths and this is having a real impact on understanding.

As Mr English talked about last week, we are all looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, with everybody dressed as their favourite book characters, just in case you have too many favourites to choose from, you could always wear your favourite pyjamas you like to wear when you want to read 😊

### ABSENCE PROCEDURE REMINDERS:

These reminders are from our current policy

- Parents will be required to contact the school office via telephone as soon as possible on the first day of their child's absence.
- A telephone call will be made to the parent of any child who has not reported their child's absence on the first day that they do not attend school.
- If the parent does not answer the call, then a voicemail will be left asking them to contact the school. If we do not hear from the parent by 10am, then a text message is sent to all guardians listed on Arbor asking them to contact the school. If they still fail to contact the

school by lunchtime, then the absence is marked as unauthorised.

We recognize that sometimes it can be a really hard decision to know whether to send your child into school, especially if they are not feeling too great. The NHS have published some guidance which may help with this:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

We hope you all have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

## PE Timetable – Spring 2

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

## Celebrations and Achievements

Reception		
Elmer	Harry	For working hard to improve his writing during both phonics and literacy!
Paddington	Aadriti	For working hard to read words in phonics!
KS1		
Pinocchio	Aadhav	For making a good effort to use verbs in his sentence writing.
Gruffalo	Vanesa	For super listening, learning and leadership. A super role model!
BFG	Matei	For his commitment to excellence and perseverance upon his return to school!
Matilda	Maxwell	For working hard on his independence.
KS2		
Rosen	Lara	For always being ready, respectful and safe. A great role model!
Kinney	Zahra	For taking pride in her work both at school and at home.
Richards	Chakresh	For setting in well to Civitas and being fantastic role model to his peers.
Murphy	Atharv	For coming in with the biggest smile and being polite to staff and students.
Avery	Muhammad	For making fantastic contributions to classroom discussions
Zephaniah	Smyra	For always having a positive attitude and a smile on her face
Draper	Mitradev	For an innovative and exciting hat design
Lewis	Smyla	For welcoming our new starter in a warm and friendly manner

House	Total House Points this week	Total
<b>Aqua</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>6707</b>
<b>Terra</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>6221</b>
<b>Ignis</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>6019</b>
<b>Atmos</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>6216</b>

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

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Stuart
Paddington	Ansha
Gruffalo	Nirvani
Pinocchio	Amelia
BFG	Supriya
Matilda	Vedhanth
Kinney	Khaled
Rosen	Benyamin
Murphy	Derrick
Richards	Emily
Avery	Arfa
Zephaniah	Ana-Maria
Draper	Ethan
Lewis	Maia

### Achievements outside of school

Name	Class	Achievement
Eva	Richards	Congratulations on placing at your first gymnastic competition and receiving 2 gold and a silver medal!
Nevayah	Zephaniah	Congratulations on placing at your gymnastic competition and receiving 2 gold and a silver medal!

*Eva and Nevayah, congratulations, perhaps we can have a little display at school 😊 Mrs. Ducker.*

### 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.

	23.02.24	01.03.24	08.03.24	15.03.24	22.03.24	29.03.24
Reception	94.1%	93.9%				
Year 1	93.2%	93.2%				
Year 2	93.1%	93.4%				
Year 3	95.5%	95.4%				
Year 4	95.1%	94.8%				
Year 5	95.7%	95.6%				
Year 6	95.3%	95.2%				

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception:

In Reception, we have been reading "The Three Little Pigs", a classic tale which the children have loved discussing and exploring confidently. Our learning challenges have been to create a story map of the Three Little Pigs and add captions to the pictures, create little pig masks using various materials, and focus on our cutting skills. In Maths we have been looking at time, with particular focus on the days of the week and sequencing events. In phonics we have been consolidating our understanding of phase 3 sounds (ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, or, ar, ur, ow, oi, ear, air and er) and have been using 'chunking' method to read longer words. Thank you to everyone who puts pictures of learning you have done at home on Tapestry, the children have really enjoyed sharing their experiences with their peers.

## Key Stage 1

### **Year 1:**

In Year 1 we have started reading our new book, Grandad's Secret Giant by David Litchfield. We created a story map and put some exciting actions with each part of the story map. In Maths we have started exploring numbers to 50. We have used a hundred square as part of our lessons. We discovered that it is easier to count larger numbers when we make groups of tens and ones. In Science we have been excitedly watching our bean plants grow each day. We learnt about garden plants such as daffodils, roses and tulips, and we designed and drew our own gardens. In RE we continued our discussions about Palm Sunday and drew a picture of how we think a special visitor would be welcomed in our town. For Geography we learnt about St David's Day which we will be celebrating by wearing something bright this Friday. In Computing we are learning about grouping data. This week we learnt that it is much easier to sort through data when the same information is grouped. In PSHE this term, we are learning how to have a healthy life and wrote about some of the things we already do to keep ourselves healthy. In DT we explored 'beam bridges', 'suspension bridges' and 'truss bridges'. Please note that next week is World Book Day (7 March) and International Womens Day (8 March) – we look forward to seeing your creative, upcycled outfits and remember to send us photos of your child reading in an unusual place!



### **Year 2:**

In English, we have explored the features of a narrative linking back to our text "Yasmin's Hammer". This will support us when planning and writing our own narratives next week. In Maths, we recapped our knowledge of the x5 times tables. Using our multiplication and division knowledge, we completed our end of unit assessments. In Geography, we revisited human and physical features linking back to landmarks in the UK. Later, we researched and compared human and physical features of famous landmarks in Mumbai. Also, whilst exploring the map of India, lots of pupils from India were able to identify the cities that their families have moved from – well done! In RE, we are learning about

Christianity focusing on 'how important is it to Christians that Jesus came back to life after his crucifixion?'. This week, we learnt about the Easter story. For Computing, we used our knowledge of tally charts to create pictograms. As part of our Science unit about plants, we explored the meaning of 'bulb' and planted our very own garlic and kidney beans! We will be investigating and observing how roots grow using transparent containers. Stay tuned for our planting updates! Thank you to families for completing homework books with your child every week. Please note that next week is World Book Day and International Womens Day – we look forward to seeing your creative, upcycled outfits and remember to send us photos of your child reading in an unusual place!

### Key Stage 2

#### **Year 3:**

This week in English, we have been exploring the features of a recount that we identified last week. We have been looking further into questions that are answered in our text and we have been focusing on time conjunctions. These are important in our recount to ensure the reader knows when things happened. In maths we have continued working on length and perimeter. This week the children have been identifying missing measurements of a shape by using their multiplication and division knowledge.

In Science we have been exploring how water is transported through plants. We carried out an experiment where celery was left in water with food colouring overnight. As the celery absorbed the water, the children were able to see the food colouring running through the stem and leaves.



#### **Year 4:**

Year 4 have had a very busy week. In English, we have been continuing our learning about mental health and wellbeing. We have planned, edited and published letters to invite parents and carers to attend a bake sale and well-being workshop, that we will be hosting later on in Spring 1. In Maths, we have started our new topic of fractions. We started this topic off with learning about mixed numbers. In Art we have continued our learning about printing and have created our own prints with potatoes. In whole class reading we are still reading James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl, we have loved finding about all of James's exciting adventures. On Thursday, we also explored a non-fiction text all about Sir David Attenborough as World Wildlife Day is on the Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

#### **Year 5:**

Year 5 have had an exciting week this week. We have started our new writing genre of a balanced argument by beginning the week with a controversial change in rules – the girls were in charge! This

got us feeling passionate and able to debate. Was this fair? What rights do women have? We will use this passion and charge for motivation to write our own balanced argument about the statement 'Women should not be allowed to work in the STEM field'. In maths we have started our new topic of decimal numbers and have been investigating the correlation between decimals and fractions. We also had a very exciting science lesson where we investigated irreversible reactions through conducting the Coca-Cola and mentos experiment! We had great fun watching the reaction erupt.

#### **Year 6:**

This week in English the children have written their diary entries. They have thought carefully about time adverbials and synonyms - across paragraphs - to add cohesion to their writing. In maths we have begun our new unit on measurement and have learnt how to convert and calculate metric measures. We've learnt about imperial measures too and considered what is the same and what is different compared to metric measures. In geography we found out about another biome this week - the grassland biome. We used our research skills to answer questions such as 'what animals live there?' and 'what threatens the survival of the grassland biome?' and produced a fact page. In science we looked at how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environments and in D.T we finished off our hat structures.



#### **Communication to the school**

Absence reporting can also be done via [office@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 1: [year1@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year1@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 2: [year2@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year2@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 3: [year3@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year3@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 4: [year4@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year4@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 5: [year5@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year5@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 6: [year6@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year6@civitasacademy.co.uk)

## **KEY DATES**

- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – International Women's Day
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March – British Science Week
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day