

Spring Bulletin

Friday 2nd February 2024



Message from Salima Ducker, Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you so much for all your support to help us to make NSPCC Number Day such a success. At Civitas we really value the opportunity to work alongside an organization like the NSPCC who work tirelessly to ensure we all work together to keep our children safe.



As I mentioned last week, next week is the start of Children's Mental Health Week and on Tuesday 6th February, it's 'Safer Internet Day.' As a school children will have a focus on age-appropriate online safety. Understanding online safety can be tricky for all ages, the NSPCC have some wonderful guides that not only support us in schools as teachers, but also for

families too. There is good advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you are worried, helping our young people to manage their mental wellbeing online and getting advice on setting up parental controls to help keep your child safe online. Please click on the link for any further information, [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

Have a wonderful weekend.

PE Timetable – Spring 1 – Please note the change in day for Y5 and Y6

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	Safina	For communicating with adults and peers with increased confidence.
Paddington	Aiden	For excellent progress in all areas of learning and becoming more confident in using his voice.
KS1		
Pinocchio	Bhanuteja	For working hard to strengthen his cutting skills.
Gruffalo	Vladimir	For wonderful progress in Year 1 due to hardwork and determination
BFG	Ivan	For being the ultimate role model – consistently ready, respectful and safe inside and outside of the classroom.
Matilda	Akram	For using maths stem sentences to help with his learning.
Rosen	Aizah	For always being ready, respectful and safe and for working hard with her writing.
Kinney	Mark	For confidently contributing to class discussions and sharing his ideas
Richards	Amelia	For always showing patience inside and outside the classroom and being a supportive friend.
Murphy	Adit	For being a role model in class and for always contributing in class.
Avery	Mustafa	For his excellent work in narrative writing.
Zephaniah	Dhruv	For always challenging himself further in maths lessons.
Draper	Daniel	For outstanding effort and progress made in reading.
Lewis	Teodor	For his effort and improvement in maths

House	Total House Points this week	Total
Aqua	433	5233
Terra	489	4662
Ignis	446	4629
Atmos	533	4675

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

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Luca
Paddington	Dimitrij
Gruffalo	Jeswika
Pinocchio	Bhanuteja
BFG	Yousuf
Matilda	Sunshine Luca
Kinney	Phoebe
Rosen	Tadei
Murphy	Meilin
Richards	Wajiha
Avery	Darcey
Zephaniah	Divyanshu
Draper	Jasleen
Lewis	Vihaan

Achievements outside of school

Name	Class	Achievement

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.

	12.01.24	19.01.24	26.01.24	02.02.24	09.02.24	
Reception	94.5%	93.2%	93.7%	94.8%		
Year 1	94.3%	94.1%	93.2%	91.7%		
Year 2	89.9%	91.9%	90.2%	91.6%		
Year 3	96.6%	95.5%	94.8%	95.8%		
Year 4	85.8%	88.1%	92.7%	93.2%		
Year 5	96.9%	97.5%	96.7%	95.4%		
Year 6	94.9%	94.8%	96.5%	94.5%		

What have we been learning this week?

Reception:

In Phonics lessons this week we covered the sounds **air (chair)** and **er (bigger)**, as well as exploring words with **same letter digraphs** (e.g. ladder, digger and rabbit). Children have continued to focus on ensuring they are writing on the line and using their phonics to independently sound out words in their morning writing books. This week we have been reading 'Peter's Missing Puzzle Piece', a story about a young boy who struggles with selective mutism and the worries he has starting in school. The children really enjoyed completing their Rainbow Challenges exploring the composition of numbers 6, 7 and 8, creating story maps, reading and improving fine motor skills by practising using small tools. In maths this week we have been focusing exploring the numbers 6, 7 and 8, looking at the composition of each. We have also been recapping one more and one less of a given number. Thank you to all the parents who have continued to read and post learning on Tapestry each week. Any parents who need support to set up their eBooks and how to use Tapestry, please come and speak to the EYFS team and we will sit and help you! Thank you for your ongoing support, we are very grateful!

Key Stage 1

Year 1:

In English this week, we have planned and our own stories based on our class text, Little Red Reading Hood. We then used our plans to write our stories with an alternative ending. In Maths, we have been exploring number bonds to 20 by using ten frames and number lines to calculate answers. Thank you to the children who consistently complete their Maths homework in their CGP book. Please ensure that you show your homework to your teacher every Monday. In History we learnt about Mary Seacole and the wonderful work that she did and made a timeline of her life. In PSHE we learned how learning something new can stretch our learning. We created beautiful flowers with 'stretchy' stems. In Science, we continued exploring materials and their properties. In Art we experimented using colour on an abstract self-portrait. In RE we learned about being a good friend even when things are difficult. As part of our 11B411 promises, the entire school will spend some time bird watching to achieve the promise of 'wildlife warrior'. This will take place on Friday 9th February 2024. KS1 staff are challenging pupils to create a homemade bird feeder to bring in on Thursday 8th February. We will be taking the bird feeders outside before bird counting! As we are a nut free school, please be mindful to NOT include any nuts. We look forward to seeing your creations!

Year 2:

This week in English, Year 2 finished writing their narratives based on the story of Hermelin. The pupils are now learning about the features of a fact file as they will be writing their own once they have collected research about Dr Barnardo. In Maths, pupils have started their new unit of learning about multiplication and division focusing on recognising and making equal groups. They have been introduced to the multiplication symbol and explored multiplication number sentences. Year 2 loved their science lesson this week as we investigated if a material can change its shape through actions such as twisting, stretching, bending etc. For Geography, we continued learning about oceans and continents but focused on the meaning of equator, learning about northern and southern hemispheres. As part of our 11B411 promises, the entire school will spend some time bird watching to achieve the promise of 'wildlife warrior'. This will take place on Friday 9th February 2024. KS1 staff are challenging pupils to create a homemade bird feeder to bring in on Thursday 8th February. We will be taking the bird feeders outside before bird counting! As we are a nut free school, please be mindful to NOT include any nuts. We look forward to seeing your creations!

Key Stage 2

Year 3:

This week in English we have been exploring fact files. We have looked at WAGOLL's to identify the features needed to create a great fact file. In maths this week we have started to look at measurement. We have been focusing on centimeters and millimeters as our unit of measure. We have explored when and why we would use different units of measurement for different objects. In History this week we were learning about the Neolithic revolution. We looked at Skara Brae (the first stone houses) we looked at all of the incredible changes that happened after the Paleolithic period in time. We created fact files to show our understanding of the neolithic revolution.

This week we began our 9 mile walk over 9 days for our 11b411 promise 'hiking heroes'. So far we have completed 5 of the 9 miles. The children have been eager to get started with their walk each day and are happy to be just over halfway through their hike. Thank you to the parent helpers who have supported this week.

Year 4:

We have been very busy this week! We have started to come to the end of our Maths topic and will be taking the End of Module test at the end of the week. We have also been continuing our reading of the book James and the giant peach and the class have been doing the character voices when our teachers have been reading. We have also been learning about hidden disabilities in English ready for creating a fact file next week for our piece of writing.



In Year 4 we also had fun celebrating number day and continuing our learning of times tables ready for the MTC this summer. Next week is Mental health week and we will be focusing our learning on how to best look after ourselves and finish our writing on hidden disabilities.

Year 5:

This week in Year 5, we delved into the art of writing a fact file. We analysed the features present in our WAGOLL and practised implementing them ourselves, with a focus on using bullet points and the present perfect tense. Over in math, we tackled the multiplication of unit and non-unit fractions by integers, drawing on our prior knowledge to create personalised methods. In Geography, we learned about the stunning physical features of Greece. Who knew that Greece boasts the longest coastline in Europe and thousands of scattered islands? Needless to say, we were captivated by these fascinating facts.

Finally, in science, we were introduced to the pioneering work of the renowned scientist, Marie Curie. We were amazed to learn that she was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, not to mention the first woman to win two Nobel prizes in different fields - physics and chemistry.

Year 6:

This week year 6 have been finishing writing and editing their narratives. The aim of the narrative was to create suspense and tension using a variety of writing features such as dialogue and description -we can't wait to read them! In maths we have been learning about decimal and fraction equivalents and learning how to convert a fraction to a decimal through division. We had such an interesting history lesson this week, learning about the black death in the Middle Ages. The children enjoyed discovering interesting facts about the pandemic such as the treatments used and symptoms. We have continued learning the song 'A New Year Carol' by Benjamin Britten' in music. The children have made good progress and listening to the rhythm and beat of the song. We are looking forward to performing it in one of our assemblies.

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

KEY DATES

- Wk beginning 5th Feb – Children's Mental Health Week – My Voice Matters
- Tuesday 6th February – Safer Internet Day
- Friday 9th February – Wellbeing Friday (Non- uniform)/Last day of Term
- Monday 12th Feb – Friday – 16th – Half -Term
- Monday 19th February – Children return to school