

## Spring Bulletin – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Message from Mrs Ducker – Executive Headteacher and Mrs Aram – PSHE/RSE Lead

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just a very quick message from me this week to say that our uniform survey will be coming out to our families on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February, we'd really appreciate as much feedback as possible to support us with any amendments to our uniform policy, thank you.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day.** The children will take part in an assembly and activities around the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. "Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively." (Safer Internet Day website)

If you have any concerns or want further guidance on how to support your children at home, these are a few useful websites:

- [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org)
- [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)
- [www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)

**Children's Mental Health Week** will take place on **7-13 February**. This year's theme is **Growing Together**. We will be encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown, and how they can help others to grow. For more information on guidance, have a look at the link below:

[Children's Mental Health Week - Place2Be](#)



### Message from Mrs Aram

We are very thankful to all parents for your wonderful donations and money raised from our 'Winter Festival'. This event raised over £2000. With this money we have purchased play equipment for each Year group.

At Civitas, we are always looking for different ways to explore and support our learning in class and in the playground. We are always looking for different ways of counting, telling stories and investigating. If you are creative, want an extra project or have some spare time, then we would appreciate your help with making extra exciting resources. Here are some ideas!



## Civitas Wish List

If you would like to donate any items to the school them, please see our new “Amazon style” Civitas wish list, this will be updated termly.

- Pre-loved Non-fiction books, young chapter books, books in a variety of languages.
- Crafts – Playdough, felt tip pens, straws, lollipop sticks etc.
- Preloved construction – Duplo/Lego, blocks, stickle bricks, cars etc.
- Large plastic tubs

## PTA

**In preparation of getting the PTA up and running we will need a PTA admin team. We are looking for parents, carers and grandparents for the following positions.**

**Chair** – Are you a leader?

Main job role: To lead the committee, ensuring the PTA is run in line with the constitution and according to the wishes of all members.

**Treasurer** – Do you have experience with accounting? Are you good at saving?

Main job role: To manage and control the PTA funds according to the wishes of the committee.

**Secretary** – Are you organised?

Main job role: to ensure the PTA runs smoothly through efficiently through the preparation and organisation of the committee paperwork and communication.

**If any of these roles are of interest to you, please send an email to Mrs. Aram at [Year2@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:Year2@civitasacademy.co.uk) to share your interest and for further information.**

# Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Mohamed	For settling into his new class well
Paddington	George	For being resilient and ready to learn.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Rosi	For working really hard and excellent listening
Pinocchio:	Nehemiah	For making a good effort in his learning this week.
BFG:	Sreshta	For always trying her best and having a positive attitude towards her work.
Matilda:	Max	For trying really hard in Maths with arithmetic and reasoning.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	David	Being so positive towards his learning.
Kinney	Teni	For always contributing interesting and valuable answers to class discussions.
Richards	Maia	For working well with others at school, showing good team working skills.
Murphy	Vihaan	For settling into the class well and speaking up in class, even though he does not yet know much English.
Zephaniah	Davidas	For all your hard work and your concentration in all lessons. Well done, Davidas.
Avery	Brendel	For coming back to school with a great attitude for learning and keeping up those high behaviour expectations.
Draper	Weronika	For her incredible reading score in the mock SATs! Well done!

Weekly Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 96+% - let's work together to be in school every day. The attendance shown is weekly for each year group.

Year Group	14/01	21/01	28/01	04/02	11/02	18/02
Reception	91.0%	91.5%	87.8%	94.5%		
Year 1	92.1%	91.6%	76.0%	94.9%		
Year 2	93.4%	94.0%	89.1%	91.6%		
Year 3	92.1%	84.0%	81.3%	74.4%		
Year 4	94.0%	90.8%	85.4%	87.7%		
Year 5	90.8%	83.1%	62.4%	82.7%		
Year 6	92.9%	86.3%	76.8%	79.7%		

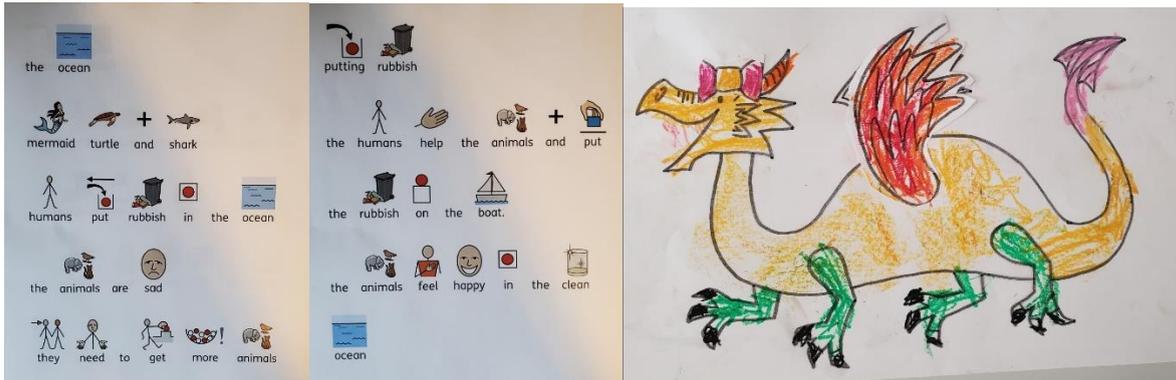
House Points - Well done **Aqua** house for gaining the most house points this week

House:	Points this week:	Total:
<b>Atmos</b>	319	10374
<b>Terra</b>	290	9611
<b>Aqua</b>	467	10303
<b>Ignis</b>	294	10552

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception

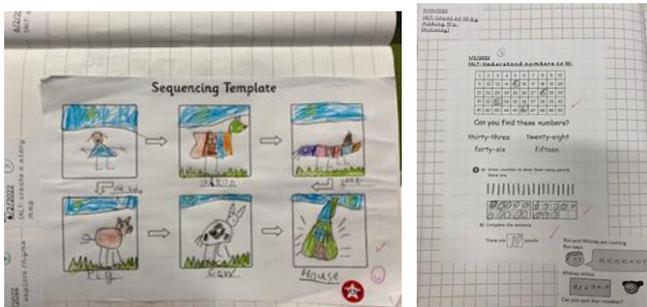
In Reception, we have been learning about Chinese New Year. In Literacy, we read the book, Amy Wu and the patchwork dragon, by Kat Zhang. We have learned facts about Chinese New Year, and we have been using our phonics to write about them. We also decorated dragons. The children could make them unique by cutting out legs, wings, hats, etc. In Maths, we are learning about Representing 6, 7 and 8 in different ways and how to order them. We are also still learning about capacity. The children have been using the tuff tray this week to fill different size containers with water, and we have used the language of empty, nearly empty, half full, nearly full and full. Last Friday the children created a story map as a class. They changed characters and scenes. As promised last week, please see the story map below.



## Key Stage 1

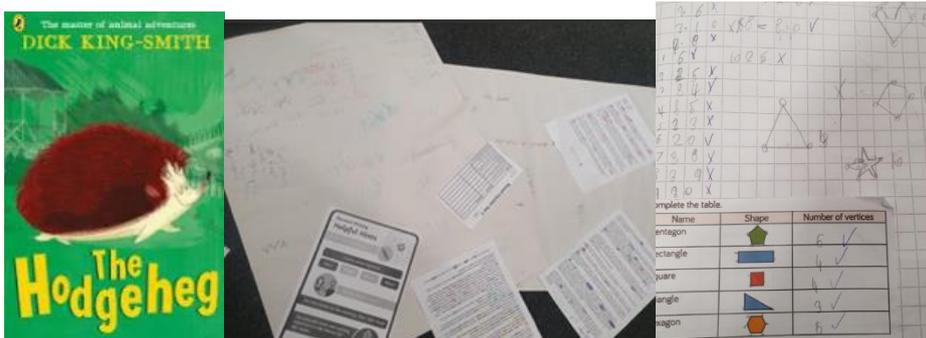
### Year 1:

This week, we have focused on the story, 'A Squash and a Squeeze'. We have created our own story maps for the story and added actions to each part of the story. In Geography, we are learning about different climates and what sort of weather we would experience. We are learning about Place value to 50 in Maths and have been getting to know our way around a number square. In Art, we are still learning about sculptures and will be using 'junk' and recyclables to create our own amazing sculptures. In Science, we are investigating evergreen and deciduous trees.



### Year 2:

In year 2, the children have started learning about shape in maths. They are recognising a variety of different shapes, counting the sides and vertices as well as creating shape patterns. In English, they have started reading the book 'The Last Garden' and have created actions to help remember the beginning of the story. They have been working in groups to identify key features of recounts and to see what features they will need to include in their writing to make it the best it can be. In whole class reading, we are continuing to learn about the adventures of Max by reading Dick King Smith's The Hodgeheg.



**Key Stage 2**

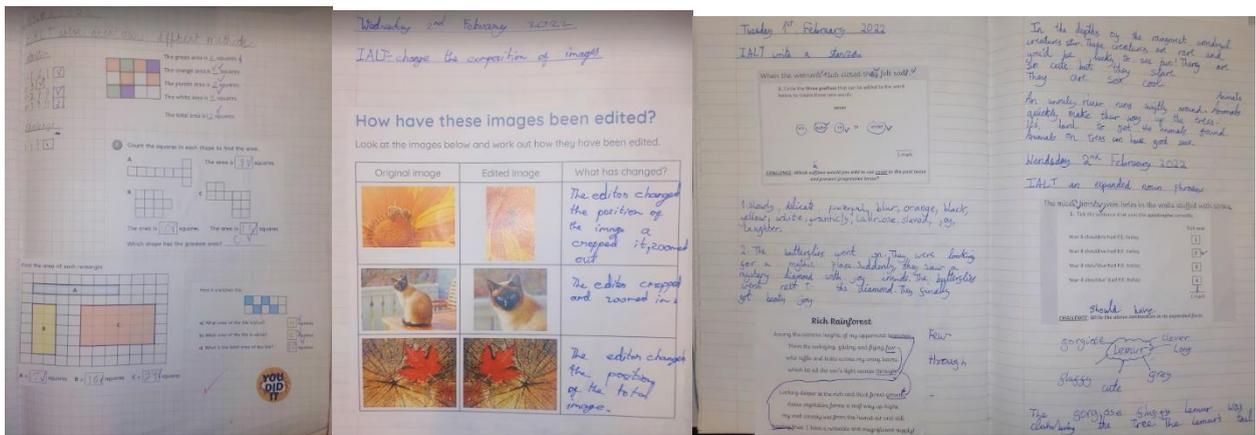
**Year 3:**

We have had a busy week in Year 3 this week! In maths, the children have converted pence to pounds and added and subtracted money. In English, we learnt about a Glossary, planned an introduction, main paragraph and conclusion to our explanation text discussing how our school rules protect our human rights. In geography, we have learnt about physical and human features including those that can be found in Reading. In Science, we studied the parts of a flower. We learnt different scientific names for the different parts e.g. style, stigma and stamen. In RE, we learnt about another miracle from the Christian bible of Jesus rising Lazarus from the dead. In Spanish, we practised our counting through the number song. In art, we finished painting patterns on our clay snails. In whole class reading, we are enjoying the humour of Croakbag the Raven as he tells the story of 'Romans on the Rampage'.



**Year 4:**

We have had an exciting time in Year 4. We have started our quilting project in design and technology lessons and our fabrics are looking fantastic! Next week, we start personalising them with our patterns and designs! In computing we have continued retouching pictures – cropping and adding different pictures together to make a new picture. We have looked at how easily pictures can be retouched to change the appearance and how this changes the meaning to the person looking at that picture. In Geography, we have explored and discussed different causes for climate change and its impact on our natural environment, animal habitats, temperature and weather changes. In maths, we started an entirely new topic – Measurement of Area and the homework to revise this is on MyMaths. In English we have practised our poetry skills and are ready to plan and write our own poems about rainforest animals next week. In reading lessons we are reading our exciting text based on Vikings, the children have also practised their VIPERS reading skills in our comprehension activity to explore different genres of writing and have completed a Star Reader assessment. The children have taken home their new books to complete their Accelerated Reader quizzes at home. We are learning new things and having fun at the same time!



**What is Quilting?  
Why do people do it?  
How is it done?**



**What Is Climate Change?**

Climate change is the name given to changes in weather and temperatures that pose a challenge for us now and in the future. These changes are a result of human activity and are not good for the planet.

Then: Now:

### Year 5:

In English this week we have been continuing our argument on “Why women belong in STEM” by looking at grammatical features we could use to make our piece of writing emotive. We have decided to inspire our readers and understand what we need to incorporate. In Maths we are investigating improper and mixed fractions and how to convert them to each other. We have continued our learning in comparing Afghanistan to UK. We compared where we live in the world, the climate that may influence farming and the different lives people in their countries.



We have finished our book the Street Child and have completed a very exciting book review on it. We found it amazing when we realised that this was the starting story for Dr Barnardo’s Charity which has since helped thousands of children feel safe and get a home. In Art this week we have used paper pulp to make sculptures before we move to the clay, it was really messy, but the students really loved it.

### Year 6:

Moving forward, we are giving the children the responsibility of explaining what they have learnt each week. This week, four of the children are explaining our Science and Geography sessions.



Written by Mehmood and Jewel

This week in Science we learned about the circulatory system, nutrients and why we need them. We need nutrients to grow and for our bodies to work properly. We completed some research and then wrote a fact file about it all. We also used the iPads to go to an app which allowed us to explore the body through augmented reality. We could view different parts of the body including going inside the heart and the small intestines – both of which are very important in supporting our body to transport nutrients and water.

Written by Winefred and Miruna

This week in Geography we learned about the extreme measures of segregation that happened in the United States. Things got so bad that Victor H. Green invented the Green Book. This book told black people safe places where they could eat, sleep and visit. In these places they would get five-star service no matter the colour of their skin. This book began with sixteen pages and went to over a hundred, but compared to all the places where white people could go it was tiny. It was written in the 1930s and went out of print in 1966 because segregation.

# News items from this week

<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Children’s Mental Health Week
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Safer Internet Day
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Wellbeing Wednesday
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Last day of term
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Half-Term Break
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Return to school – Staff and Pupils
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 5 and 6 Bikeability

**Thank you to New Beginning Charity** – As you will be aware, we regularly support a local charity – New Beginnings. Their aim is to support the prevention and relief of poverty and financial hardship of people and families within Reading. They are currently asking for donations of tinned and cupboard food. Please see below for drop off address and times.



**NEW  
BEGINNINGS  
READING**

Queens Arms, Great Knollys Street,  
RG1 7HL  
Monday 9 to 5  
Tuesday 9 to 7  
Wednesday 11 to 1  
Thursday 9 to 7  
Friday 5 to 7

## **Updated Covid guidelines -**

In line with new government guidelines, if you test positive on a LFD test without having any symptoms, no further PCR test is required. If your child is displaying one of the main 3 symptoms – 1. high fever 2. new continuous cough 3. loss of taste and smell, you should isolate immediately and book a PCR test.

## **Please inform the school straight away if your child is displaying symptoms or you have tested positive on a LFD test or PCR test.**

In terms of isolation period if your child does test positive, from the day they showed positive on the LFD, you can re-test again on day 5 and 6. If both tests are negative, your child can return on day 6. If either are still positive, you will need to wait until you have 2 consecutive negative tests, or you reach the 10 days, whichever comes first.

We ask that you stay vigilant of any symptoms, including headaches and stomach aches in your child. Regular LFD testing will help identify cases quicker and to stop the spread.

**Contacting Class teachers** – If you have a query and would like to contact your child’s class teacher, please see the relevant emails below. Absence reporting still needs to be done via [office@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@civitasacademy.co.uk)

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)

