

Summer Bulletin

Friday 19th April 2024



Message from Salima Ducker, Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful way to start this term. It has been great to see the sun out, even if we have had a few showers! This week the children have come back in such a settled and calm way and it's wonderful to see that they are all ready and prepared to start their learning.

Throughout this half term we have a range of exciting and different activities that will be taking place and we are looking forward to seeing how the pupils progress and bloom during these next few months.

Message from our Eco-Warriors:

Key stage 2 had a wonderful visit from Nature Design, The University of Reading and Stantec to start our new clean air program where we started to focus on our air quality and our environment around the school. We have been given air quality filters and have allowed the students to apply to collect the data which will be used by the University of Reading to prompt healthy living and sustainability around Reading. Civitas means community, and we as a school are taking care of our community and the space we live in by collecting data on air quality and making a sustainable change to improve it.



We started to use one as a practise before implementing air quality monitors around the school. This was one we used in the staff room.



This is what the children will be monitoring and collecting – any areas we cannot make great air quality we will be planning on how we can implement changes for this.

PE Timetable – Summer 1

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	Oliver	For making great progress in Phonics and Writing.
Paddington	Ibrahim	For making great progress in his Phonics and Reading.
KS1		
Pinocchio	Arlo	For being cheerful and happy in the classroom.
Gruffalo	Srishte	For a wonderful start to Civitas Academy and working hard on her reading at school and at home.
BFG	Pujya	For settling into Civitas Academy well and following the ready, respectful and safe rules.
Matilda		
KS2		
Rosen	Viaan	Fantastic effort and confidence with his times tables.
Kinney	Sabrina	For managing her distractions and focusing on her work in class.
Richards	Ronak	For showing great commitment to his learning timetables both at school and outside of school.
Murphy	Umair	For always contributing to the class and making sure he is involved in all the work and discussions.
Avery	Rose	Coming back to school with a positive attitude towards learning and being a good friend to all her peers.
Zephaniah	Smyra	For consistently contributing within lessons and always being able to support others on her table.
Draper	Sasha	Interesting contributions to class discussions
Lewis	Sparsha	For always demonstrating the school values and supporting their peers.

House	Total House Points this week	Total
Aqua	247	8676
Terra	465	8958
Ignis	173	7641
Atmos	387	7927

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

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.

	19.04.24	26.04.24	03.05.24	10.05.24	17.05.24	24.05.24
Reception	88.64%					
Year 1	88.17%					
Year 2	89.83%					
Year 3	87.33%					
Year 4	89.49%					
Year 5	93.33%					
Year 6	95.83%					

What have we been learning this week?

Reception:

In Reception, we have been learning all about 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as part of our new Global Learning theme of Sustainable Development: Endangered Animals. Children have been learning all about the life cycle of the butterfly, telling the story in chronological order, using funky fingers to cut out and make caterpillar chains and discussing all the ways we can protect minibeasts. This term we will be doing lots of exploration outdoors investigating minibeasts, their habitats, their lifecycles and how to protect them. Children have also worked hard to use ten frames to add two numbers together eg. $6 + 4 = 10$, $8 + 2 = 10$. In PSED, we also learned all about our favourite food and ensuring that we know when to wash our hands before food and how best to wash our hands to ensure we do not spread germs.

Key Stage 1:

Year 1:

In Year 1 we have started exploring a new text about Dougal's Deep-Sea Diary and have focused on predicting what the book will be about by looking at the clues on the front cover and reading the blurb at the back of the book. In Maths, we have started learning about counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Please remember to use the Summer maths CGP book to practice your maths activities each week. In Computing, we are focusing on using a keyboard to write on a computer. We opened a Word document and typed our names as well as friend's names. In Science this term, we will be learning about the changing seasons. We know what the 4 seasons are and what type of weather to expect in each season. In PSHE we focused on our families and how they are special to each of us. We looked at how our families can be different, and how it feels to be part of a family. In Art, we explored the works of William De Morgan – a potter and Kate Malone – a ceramic artist. We are looking forward to working with clay this term to create our own works of art. In RE, we are exploring the religion of Judaism and how families spend Shabbat. In order to prepare ourselves for the expectations in Year 2, we have started to practice joining up our handwriting. We have focused on the bottom letter joins - au, ay, ai and ea.

Year 2:

What a fantastic first week back – we loved finding out how the children spent their Easter break and welcoming back our trainee teacher, Miss McDonald! In English, we made predictions about our new

text called 'The Promise' written by Nicola Davies and then recapped our knowledge about adverbs, coordinating conjunctions and apostrophes for contraction. Our new unit of learning in Maths is about fun fractions; this week, we learnt about parts/whole, equal/unequal and recognising and finding a half. This week's Science lesson focused on observing changes across the season. As part of our history unit this term, we will be learning about the history of our very own town, Reading! To begin, we investigated similarities and differences between Reading in past years like 1820, 1967 to modern day Reading in 2024. This connects to our new global learning theme which is 'power and governance'. In DT, we studied the evolution of drawbridges and researched different types. As part of our whole class reading lessons, we were introduced to the popular text, Fantastic Mr Fox written by Roald Dahl! Your child received their new CGP Maths homework books on Monday, there will be no comprehension books this term. Please ensure that homework and reading books/records are returned on a Monday. Thank you.

Key Stage 2:

Year 3:

We have had a lovely settled start to summer and it was great to welcome everyone back!

This week in English we have been exploring our new text 'River'. We have been identifying features of a narrative using a variety of texts and WAGOLL's. The children spent some time using pictures of the book to annotate their thoughts and feelings on what they think each picture tells us. In maths we have been focusing on Capacity and volume. We have compared capacities and volumes of jugs and liquids while using the measurements of litres and millilitres. In History, we started our new topic 'Ancient Egypt'. We learnt about the start of Egyptian civilization and used our current knowledge of Ancient Egypt to discuss artefacts from that time frame. We annotated a variety of pictures explaining our current knowledge and what we would also like to find out about them. In Science we are focusing on forces and magnets looking at pushing, pulling and friction. Next week we will use toy cars, a ramp and a variety of materials to test the push and pull motion

Year 4:

In Year 4 we welcomed back the students into Year 4 going straight into it with Times Tables practice. Congratulations to Richards class, who won the competition over Easter to who could get the most points on Times Tables Rock Stars!! Today we have launched a new Timestable Battel on Timetable Rock Stars, Year 4 Girls vs Year 4 Boys. This battle will end on Monday 29th April 2024. We look forward to announcing the winners!



We have started our new Global Learning Theme which is Social Justice and Equity and have started our topic and reading around the Windrush generation. We have started reading our book by Benjamin Zephaniah called the Windrush Child and we are including it in all our learning until the half term. We will also include Science in much of our learning this half term as we will be learning how to make a circuit and writing instructions on how to do so for the other year groups.

Year 5:

It has been a wonderful first week of the summer term for year 5. We started off the week with a hook on our new writing genre – a playscript. We explored the features of a playscript by having a go at acting out a scene from Harry Potter. Later in the week, we explored a playscript from Oliver Twist and used this to dive into our own theme of a Victorian court scene. In maths this week we have been exploring finding the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and estimating the area of unusual shapes. In history this week we have begun our new topic of Crime and Punishment through the ages. We explored the different punishments for crimes throughout history and placed them on a timeline to match the punishment to the correct era. We will be using this throughout the term to support us in all our learning.

Year 6:

In English the children started a new topic in persuasive letter writing. To introduce the topic, the children received a letter attempting to persuade them that reducing their break times would a benefit to their learning. This of course provoked a brilliant discussion as to why that should not happen. We explored the writing features of the letter and the purpose of the use of features to help support us in writing our own responses in the next 2 weeks. In maths the children enjoyed learning about angles, measuring angles and how to solve missing angle questions without using a protractor. In geography we started our new topic learning about regions with a focus on Southern Denmark and in DT we designed our own 3 course menu. In science we reviewed our previous knowledge of electricity and discussed the difference between a closed circuit and a series circuit.

Communication to the school

Absence reporting can also 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