Autumn Bulletin – Friday 5th November 2021 Message from Mr Bond Deputy Headteacher





Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon all. I cannot believe we are already into November. With this comes some fantastic events which I hope you and your families can attend. One such event was Diwali this week and I would like to take the opportunity to wish all those who celebrated this incredible festival of light a Happy Diwali! Myself and my family will be off to a fireworks display this weekend and I am sure many of you will either be attending similar events or holding your own display at home or at a friend's. Can I please remind all our community that whilst this is always a fantastic spectacle, it is also a time to remain vigilant and more importantly – remain safe! Firework safety is incredibly important at this time of year and reminding your young children about this is very important. Here is a link to a video about fireworks safety aimed at young children. The teachers have shared this with their classes and I urge you to do the same.

https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/firework-advice-for-consumers/

Having said this, I do hope you have a lovely time and enjoy the shows. Wrap up warm as the weather is certainly beginning to turn. Please ensure children come appropriately dressed with coats etc. We would also encourage you to label gloves and hats as these are always items I seem to collect as the winter weather sets in. Much as I do like to wear a Paw Patrol woolly hat and Peppa Pig gloves – I think they look better on the children!

Have a fantastic weekend and stay safe.

Mr Bond



# **Celebrations and Achievements**

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	05/11	12/11	19/11	26/11	03/12	10/12	17/12
Reception	90.2%						
Year 1	<b>95.8</b> %						
Year 2	94.7%						
Year 3	96.1%						
Year 4	93.2%						
Year 5	91.5%						
Year 6	92.6%						

House Points - Well done to Atmos house for gaining the most house points this week

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Atmos	899	3301
Terra	745	3948
Aqua	445	3297
Ignis	827	4125

### What have we been learning this week?

#### **Reception**

This week in maths, Paddington and Elmer class have been exploring 2D shapes and using positional language. In literacy we have been looking at the book Tree by Britta Teckentrup, which explore the seasons and the changes we experience throughout the year. We have also enjoyed learning about Diwali and have been attempting to make our own rangoli patterns using 2D shapes. We are exploring Bonfire Night and learning a rhyme to help us remember this historically significant day. In phonics the children have learnt the sounds I, II, ss and the tricky word 'into'; meaning that they have now completed their initial learning on all phase 2 sounds! The children have had a great first week back after the half term and settled back into the school routine quickly.



#### Key Stage 1

#### Year 1:

In English, we have been reading 'Can I build another me?' In maths we are still counting from 1 to 20, and back again. Our focus this week has been learning about subtraction. In Computers, we learnt about Technology and how it can improve our lives. In Science we investigated different animals and how to identify them. In DT we are going to design and work towards making our own umbrella



#### Year 2:

Year 2 have been writing recounts of the journey a character called 'Floella' went on to get from Trinidad to England. They have learnt how to use verbs and adverbs in their sentences. In maths, year 2 have been learning about money. They have been recognising pounds and pence and selecting the coins they need to make an amount. In geography, they have been learning about the different map symbols and they created a simple map for our local community.

#### Key Stage 2

#### Year 3:

This week in Year 3, we have continued to hone our addition and subtraction skills involving one exchange. In English, we have been looking at features of writing instructions using the book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth.' We have written our own instructions on how to wash an animal of our choice focussing on our use of imperative verbs. In PSHE this week, we learnt about families and how to resolve conflict. In history, we begun to understand the different periods of the Stone Age - Paleolithic, Mesolithic and the Neolithic period.

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#### Year 4:

In Year 4 the children have continued practising their arithmetic, adding and subtracting using a number line and column method. The children have shared their different strategies for solving the same problems with the class, which the other children have learned from. They have produced some excellent descriptive writing, focusing on using powerful verbs and choosing some effective adjectives. In their whole class reading sessions the children have shown excellent progression in their skills for retrieving the information and using what is written in The Abominables to help answer their questions. In Science, the children have practised different ways of grouping animals by creating their own classification key. They have researched an endangered animal and produced a report on the causes for the animal being endangered and potential solutions. The children have finished off this week with practising their new spellings, discussing the meaning of the word and using those words in a sentence. They have also practised their arithmetic for our Arithmetic Fridays. They have been given a homework sheet to practise their 2 times tables, which is our focus for times tables this week. The children have also been recognised for all their effort in the homework they have practised at home. Well done Year 4!

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#### Year 5:

Year 5 welcomed back the former Miss Parry, now married and called Mrs Wareham – congratulations Mr & Mrs Wareham! In English, we have learnt what parenthesis is and how to use it correctly. We identified parenthesis in our new English novel 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind' and then used them in our writing to describe William Kamkwamba (who is also the author of this book). As well as using them in our writing, we have continued to identify them in our personal reading books too! In Maths, we carried on with our Statistics unit and have drawn our own line graphs paying careful attention to the scale we use on the Y axis. We are now able to understand and interpret tables too.



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Our Global Curriculum focus continues to be Sustainable Development hence our choice of English book 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind.' This is a truestory about an inspirational young man from Malawi, Africa who built a windmill - using junkyard scraps - to bring electricity to his home. In our global learning lesson we learnt more about COP26, which stands for the 'Conference of the Parties,' and created our own environmental laws. In Science we learnt about the parts of a flowering plant and can explain what the male and female parts are called. We even planted Broad Bean seeds and are looking forward to watching them grow whilst capturing photographs and writing a diary about their progress. On the 15<sup>th</sup> December we will submit our diaries and look forward to receiving a prize!

#### Year 6

A fantastic first week back in Year 6! The children have come back refreshed and ready to learn which is fantastic. It has been lovely hearing about what the children did with their half terms and it sounds like you all had fun.

In literacy we have begun exploring persuasive language and linked our oracy target of public speaking. The children looked at some of the very best speeches from the Barrack Obama and Greta Thunburg to pick up ideas and decide what made them so effective. This will help them as they begin to write their own speeches which they will then be delivering to others in the school.

In maths, the children have used their knowledge of timestables to explore factors and multiples. As we always say to the children, if they know their times tables, maths becomes a lot easier, so I urge you to encourage them to practice and use <u>https://ttrockstars.com/</u> to support this.

We look forward to seeing many of you at parents evening next week, if you haven't yet booked – or you are having trouble booking, please speak to Mrs Phillips in the office who can support you with this.



## News items from this week

<u>Parents evening</u> – parents evening is taking place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Please make sure you have accessed your Teams account prior to your appointment time. A reminder that all Teams account passwords have been reset to Civitas2021. Please let the office team know if you need any support.

Lunches – Please be reminded that if you would like your child to have a hot school lunch, this needs to be booked via Tucasi a week in advance. If you need support with booking, please contact the office.

Packed lunches need to contain a healthy lunch. Please remember we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL and this includes things like Nutella spread.

<u>COVID-19 reporting</u> – A reminder to all parents regarding COVID-19 reporting: Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay athome and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) 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

If you have had close contact with someone who has tested positive you will usually be notified and advised to do so by NHS Test and Trace, including by the NHS COVID-19 app. If you believe that you are a contact of someone with COVID-19 but have not yet been notified by NHS Test and Trace, you should carefully follow the guidance on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19. In this circumstance you can arrange to take a PCR test, even if you do not have symptoms, because you may be at higher risk of being infected.

If you are concerned that you may have symptoms of COVID-19, or you live with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19, follow the <u>Stay at Home:</u> guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19.

<u>Contacting Class teachers</u> – 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 <u>office@civitasacademy.co.uk</u>

Reception: <u>earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk</u> Year 1: <u>year1@civitasacademy.co.uk</u>

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

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations – All Year Groups
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening via TEAMs
November	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographs – Individual and school siblings
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Winter Festival - More information to follow after half term.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch on Wellbeing Wednesday!



# THE FIREWORK CODE ALWAYS FOLLOW THE FIREWORK CODE

- \* Do not buy fireworks from UNLICENCED retailers. These fireworks may be unsafe and illegal.
- \* Only buy fireworks that comply with current safety standards.\*
- \* Always keep fireworks in a closed box. Take them out one at a time and close the box.
- \* Never put fireworks in your pocket.
- \* Be considerate. Let your neighbours know you will be having a display, especially if they are elderly or they have pets or children.
- \* Avoid setting fireworks off late at night, particularly if it is a school-night.
- \* Ensure your pets are safe.
- \* Carefully follow the instructions on EACH firework.
- \* Never go back to a lit firework unless the instructions advise otherwise.
- \* Never throw fireworks; it is dangerous.
- \* Light fireworks one at a time, at the end of the fuse, and at arm's length.
- \* Light sparklers one at a time and wear suitable gloves, even when lighting them.
- \* Never give sparklers to a child under the age of 5.
- \* Never throw spent fireworks on a bonfire.

## STAY SAFE, BE CONSIDERATE, AND DON'T BECOME A NUISANCE.

\*All fireworks supplied by BFA members are tested to conform to the current safety standards. If you require more information, contact the seller or any member of the BFA.

