

## *Autumn Bulletin – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 – Message from Mrs Salima Ducker and Mrs Lisa Phillips*

Dear Parents and Carers,

We cannot believe that we are only a couple of weeks away before the end of term and it is fantastic to see so much great learning and community events continuing throughout.

Thank you to all of you for your continued support with our recent parent evenings, amazing help on school trips, either as parent volunteers assisting on the trips or via the additional donations made, which help to support many of our trips being viable 😊

Next week we are looking forward to our Winter Festival which is taking place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm - 5.15pm. Your generosity with donations to support this event has been fabulous, THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing you all there.



**Civitas Academy**

**WINTER FESTIVAL**  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 3.45-5.45pm

Santa's Grotto  
Raffle & Tombola  
Face Painting  
Stalls  
Food & Drink  
& much more...

**ENTRANCE  
FEE  
£1 per family**

Gates open at 3.45pm. £1 entrance fee per family to be paid at the gate.

All food and drink will be available on the main playground, including a seating area.

Santa's Grotto tickets have now sold out. Those who have booked, will receive a paper ticket next week, please bring these on the day.

A program and map will be emailed out to everyone in advance of the festival.

This will be a cash only event, please bring change.

All children must to be accompanied by an adult at all times.

# Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Seth	For making brilliant progress in phonics.
Paddington	Arham	For being kind and willing to help his classmates.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Danny	For engaging well in phonics and improving in his blending and spelling.
Pinocchio:	Maya	For trying hard to use Phonics in her writing.
BFG:	Shereen	For amazing English work.
Matilda:	Aryon	For making big improvements in his writing and contributing more in English.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Karen	Always being up for the challenge and ready to extend herself
Kinney	Kaleema	Working on her handwriting and sentence structure.
Richards	Smyra	For consistently contributing answers and ideas to class discussions.
Murphy	Amber	For being ready, respectful and safe at all times.
Zephaniah	Lucas	For an amazing piece of writing
Avery	Mason	For putting in lots more effort in his school work – especially in Maths
Draper	Megan	For showing great improvement in her work
Lewis	Supreeth	For always being a role model and having an excellent attitude to learning.

Class	Sports star of the week
Elmer	Arham
Paddington	Aram
Gruffalo	Supriya
Pinocchio	Junior
BFG	Sahas
Matilda	Musa
Kinney	Divine
Rosen	Atharv
Richards	Abhinav
Murphy	Ann-Marie
Zephaniah	Nicole
Avery	Smyla
Draper	Rouba
Lewis	Adithya

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua	525	4692
Ignis	804	4673
Terra	610	4318
Atmos	634	4507

House Points – Well done **IGNIS** house for gaining the most house points this week.

**Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 97% - let's work together to be in school every day. Each week we will share attendance for each Year group for that week.**

Year Group	31/10	7/11	14/11	21/11	28/11	05/12	12/12
Reception	90.0%	94.6%	80.4%	85.0%	91.3%		
Year 1	92.0%	95.4%	85.5%	86.0%	91.1%		
Year 2	91.4%	95.1%	88.5%	85.9%	93.9%		
Year 3	96.3%	97.3%	96.1%	91.6%	94.9%		
Year 4	94.1%	97.9%	94.6%	96.1%	96.3%		
Year 5	98.3%	96.5%	93.2%	91.5%	95.5%		
Year 6	88.1%	88.7%	92.7%	94.0%	95.4%		

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception

This week in Literacy, we have begun reading our new book with the story 'The Naughty Bus'. We have been focusing on sequencing the story, and the children have been writing about their favorite part of the story in their literacy books. They have been drawing and painting buses in the art area after looking at different types of buses. In the funky finger area, the children have been cutting out different parts of the bus and stacking them together to create their own bus. We had great fun creating a bus with the chairs to act out the story! We played maths games adding and taking away people in our bus and have been working out the total amount of people at the end of the ride. The children have been labeling a bus using their sound mats and it was lovely to see many children playing 'school' and teach each other how to write CVC words. The children have been very busy in the mud kitchen area outdoors baking pancakes and cupcakes, and we have been talking about what ingredients they need to use and that the cupcakes need to be baked in our 'oven'.

## Key Stage 1

**Year 1:** In English this week, we started looking at the skills we will need in order to write our factfiles. We might use questions, captions and third person. Next week, we will be writing a fact file on 'Gender Equality'. In maths, we revised the bar models and number bonds to 10. In DT, we used different waterproof materials to make our umbrellas. We used our designs to help us.

We loved seeing all the reptiles on Thursday. We saw a tortoise, three snakes and two lizards. We even held an 8-foot snake!

Venba said, "I liked the tortoise and the snake."

Leandra said, "I liked the snake, it went all round my neck and was licking me."

"I like the tortoise because the back is bumpy." said Aurora.

"I like the boy snake and I like the tortoise." said Matei.

"I like the long snake because it was so long, and I could hold it." said Ivan.

"I like the long snake because it was yellow." said Olaf.

**Year 2:** In English this week, we have started looking at the skills we will need in order to write our diary entry linked to our book "The Journey". We will be using first person in our diary entries and the children have really enjoyed writing sentences in first person. Next week we will be writing our diary entry. In maths, we have continued looking at 2D and 3D shapes. The children have enjoyed learning about vertical symmetry and what shapes have the vertical symmetry. In history, we have looked at Reading University and the children have enjoyed making their own timelines in their books about specific dates linked to Reading University.

## Key Stage 2

**Year 3:** In English we have begun reading our new book 'How to wash a woolly mammoth', the book shares instructions on how to wash a woolly mammoth. The children have explored the features of instructional writing and have created mind maps of the key and common features we need when writing instructions. In maths we have re-visited place value and found ways we can represent numbers to 100. We have used base 10 and part whole models to help us partition numbers. In P.S.H.E. this week, the children wrote lots of kind and wonderful comments about their class friends; we then shared them all and discussed how compliments and positive words can affect our mood and feelings. In science we have continued with human and animal bodies, this week we have explored the types of muscles we have in our bodies. We did different activities to see how our muscles functioned to help us move. /We felt our muscles relaxing and contracting and discovered some tendons! In DT we have started putting our 'Pop Up' designs into practice.

**Year 4:** This week, the children have been working hard in all lessons. We started the week with maths and exploring our 11- and 12-times tables. We played lots of games and had some great discussions around the reasoning behind the times tables. For example,  $11 \times 6$  is the same as  $6 \times 11$ .  $11 \times 6$  is 6 groups of 11 or 11 groups of 6. It was fantastic to see the children using their maths knowledge to explain and articulate this to each other. In English, we have been exploring biographies. We have read all about Usain Bolt and Roald Dahl and have completed a small amount of research into Boudicca – which links with our Roman topic. We have also had some great fun with fruit this week. We have been sketching a variety of fruit using different shades of pencil! The highlight of our week was the trip to Reading Museum. All the children had a fantastic time and were amazing role models for our school. They loved the Roman workshop and the hands-on experience this gave them as well as using their trails to answer some interesting questions from the various displays we visited.

**Year 5:** In year 5 this week we have been practising the skills we need to write brilliant public service announcements in English. We have been using formal language and making our writing emotional. In addition to this we have been exploring how reliable sources are for helping us understand what life was like in Benin between 400 – 1500 AD. We have been looking at both primary and secondary sources and explaining the difference between the two. We have also begun designing our year Christmas tree for the Christmas tree competition. Throughout the week we have been completing our assessments – Year 5 have worked very hard this week!

**Year 6:** This week we have been completing assessments which will show us how much we have improved in our learning in recent weeks. The teachers were very proud of the resilience and hard work of our Year 6! Well done.

We have started to make our recycled tree for our competition this year. We took some pictures of our construction:





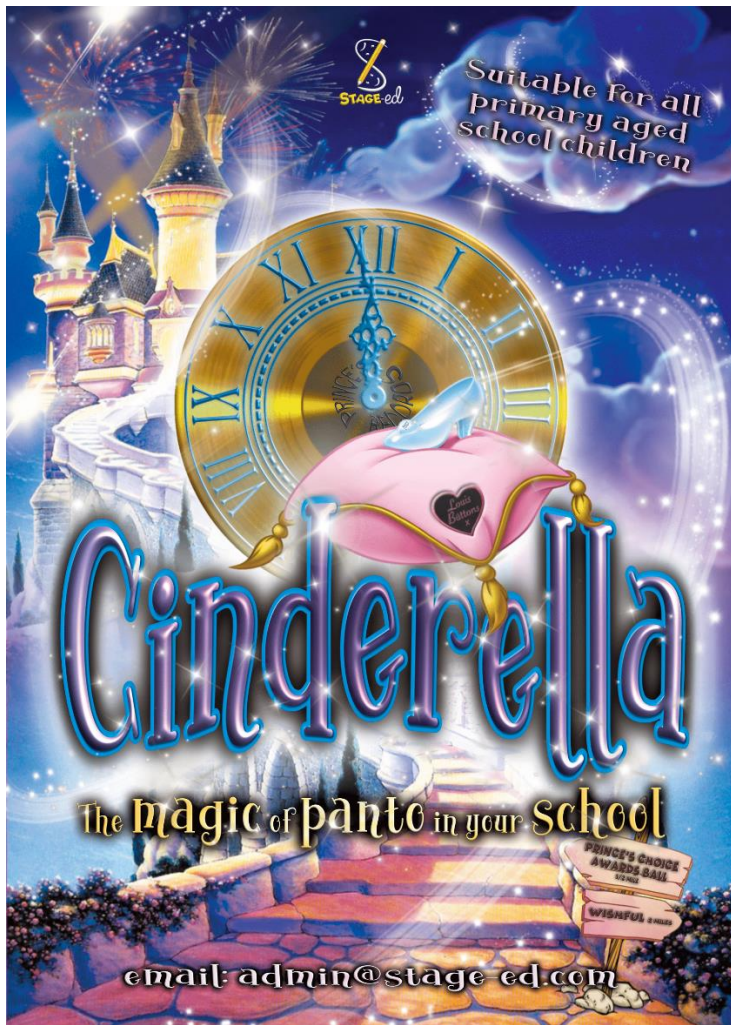
We have also continued reading Goodnight Mr. Tom and we are planning our podcast on the Rainforest of Congo for our Global learning topic. We look forward to posting it so you can listen to all our amazing learning.

## News items from this week

**School Governor Vacancy:** Would you be interested in becoming a school governor? Civitas Academy has a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join our team of dedicated volunteers. The Local Governance Board is responsible for providing the best possible education for our children and is seeking a committed parent who has a genuine interest in education to be a part of our team. You will be joining a diverse group of people, bringing a valuable range of experience, skills and knowledge to the school. Please see the form attached to the email if you are interested.

**Reception admissions for September:** We are still offering some school tours for children starting school in September. Please see our website for more details. Please also be advised the Brighter Futures for Children Admissions Portal is now open for any children who are due to start school in September to make their primary school application.

**School Pantomime:** We have a company visiting us for a school pantomime on Wednesday, please see details below:



**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)

**Bike/Scooter shed** –Our bike/scooter storage shed is available at school; these will be left at the owner's risk. We advise all children travelling to school on Bikes/Scooters to be wearing a helmet.

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	EYFS Show 2.00pm - Details to follow
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Pantomime in school – all year groups
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Winter Festival and Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	KS1 Show 2.00pm - Details to follow
<b>19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas lunch day
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Last day of term –school finishes at the normal time. - Wellbeing Day