

Autumn Bulletin – Friday 11th November 2022 – Message from Salima Ducker – Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Anti-Bullying Week 2022 takes place from Monday 14th – Friday 18th November with the theme '**Reach Out**'; we will be kicking off the week by encouraging staff and children to wear odd socks on Monday.



Bullying affects millions of lives and can leave us feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. We are encouraging our children to challenge it so that they can change it. And it starts by reaching out. Whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's urge our children to reach out and show each other the support they need. Reach out to someone they trust if they need to talk. Reach out to someone they know is being bullied. Reach out and consider a new approach. And it doesn't stop with our young people. From teachers to parents and influencers to politicians, we all have a responsibility to help each other reach out. Together, let's be the change we want to see. Let's reflect on our own behaviour, set positive examples and create kinder communities. It takes courage, but it can change lives. So, this Anti-Bullying Week, let's come together and reach out to stop bullying.

Keeping safe and being respectful – With over 400 of our children attending our school now, the end of the day can become very busy when families are collecting their children. All procedures that are in place are there to keep everyone as safe as possible. We have continued with the separate line ups outside the gates for Reception and KS1 families who collect at 3.15pm and for KS2 families who collect at 3.25pm. The coned one-way system is still in place in the playground and children must stay with their families once they have been collected especially if they are waiting for older siblings; the waiting area is in the middle of the playground. When leaving school, please be mindful that you are crossing Hodsoll Road, please cross over onto the pavement, do not walk on the road and remind your children to do the same. There may be times when we ask you to wait if a car drives along the road, please be patient and always speak with respect to staff members aiming to keep our children and yourselves safe. We are a school at the heart of our community, please be considerate when parking as we want to ensure we have the support of our local residents, always.

Reading Remembrance Service

The main Remembrance Sunday Service in Reading will be taking place at Reading Minster at 9.25am on 13 November and is open to all. A march through the town, led by The Waterloo Band and Bugles of the 7 Rifles, will follow at 10.15am and arrive at Forbury Gardens for laying of wreaths and a two-minute silence at 11am.



Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Luana	For amazing progress in phonics!
Paddington	Amelia	For great writing in her literacy book.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Olaf	For improving in his reading and spelling
Pinocchio:	Muskaan	For being much more settled when coming into school.
BFG:	Tanvi	For always being ready, respectful and safe.
Matilda:	Aizah	For becoming more independent and really focusing on her writing.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Yvonne	Working hard in Maths and always being ready to learn.
Kinney	Eva	For always following the school rules and being a great example of what a Civitas child is
Richards	Sandra	For consistently being ready, respectful and safe.
Murphy	Victoria	For always being ready, respectful and safe
Zephaniah	Natalie	For always being ready and being an excellent role model.
Avery	Umaimah	For being an excellent role model both in and out of class.
Draper	Alishba	For demonstrating a positive attitude and engaging in lessons.
Lewis	Hurdatt	For coming into school settled and putting smiles on everyone's faces

Class	Sports star of the week
Elmer	Lumibele
Paddington	Yaw
Gruffalo	Liyana
Pinocchio	Abdullah
BFG	Tanvi
Matilda	Sravya
Kinney	Samaira
Rosen	Ruhaan
Richards	Saanvi
Murphy	Amber
Zephaniah	Julius
Avery	Syeda
Draper	Megan
Lewis	Luca

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua	524	1896
Ignis	629	1587
Terra	608	1508
Atmos	695	1619

House Points - Well done **ATMOS** 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%					
Year 1	92.0%	95.4%					
Year 2	91.4%	95.1%					
Year 3	96.3%	97.3%					
Year 4	94.1%	97.9%					
Year 5	98.3%	96.5%					
Year 6	88.1%	88.7%					

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

Our global learning theme at the moment is 'Our Community and World Cultures' and at the moment we are focussing on 'The World'. In Literacy this week we have been reading the book 'Hello World' by Manya Stojic. This book is about greetings in different languages around the globe. In Reception, we have been looking at all the ways we know to greet each other in all our different languages. It was amazing to see how our children taught each other in the languages they are familiar with! We then looked at greetings in languages that were new to us and have also been singing a greeting song. We have looked at the world map to find different countries in the world. The children have been thinking and writing about what they want to be when they grow up. In Maths, we have been looking at the composition of the numbers one, two and three. We started Maths carousel activities this week, in which we have been making number three in different ways. In Art, the children have been using junk modelling to create a 'person'. They have also been drawing people in different occupations.

Key Stage 1

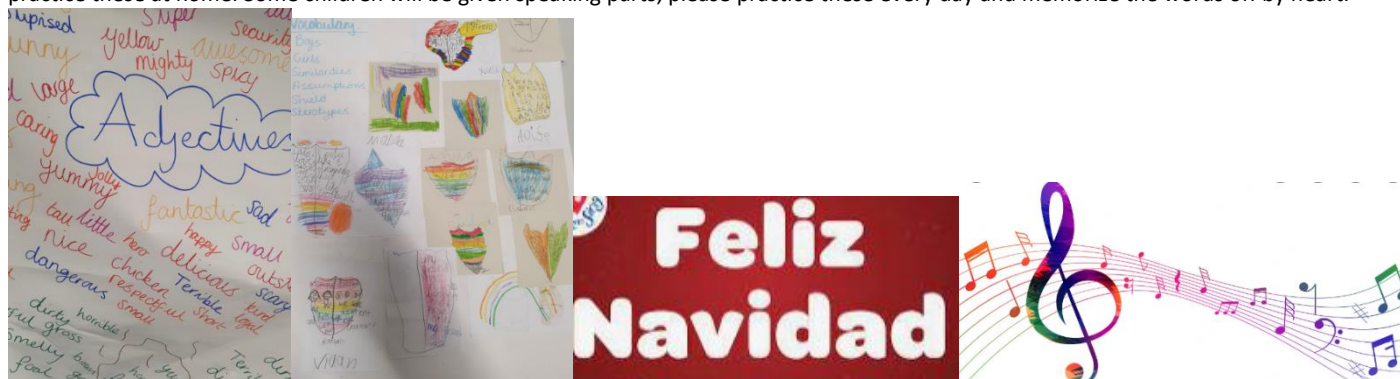
Year 1: In English this week, we have had a big focus on nouns and adjectives within our new text, 'Little Red Riding Hood'. We also looked at full stops and when to use capital letters in our writing. In Maths, we identified 2-D shapes. We spoke about their properties and discussed the different ways that we could sort them. In History, we learned how to describe a toy from 'today'. Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring toys from the past. It would be great for your child to have a discussion with a parent or grandparent about 'toys from the past'. In computing, we used the 'paintz app' on our laptops. We worked on using shapes and filling our shapes with colour. Our PSHE lesson was an opportunity for much discussion as we spoke about the differences between us and our classmates.

Year 2: What a great crazy hair day we had! Well Done Year 2 and parents for the amazing effort and donations!

This week Year 2 have continued to learn about Malala and her journey throughout her school life. We have begun to think about the features that we will need to write a narrative about Malala's life. We have explored different ways we can make our writing more interesting by using adjectives, similes and synonyms! Viaan said "Instead of using the word nice you can use the word delicious!" This was a great example of using an adjective and a synonym.

During PSHE we have been looking at similarities and differences. We now understand that it is okay for a boy to like the colour pink and for a girl to wear trousers to school. In year 2 we celebrate our differences! Alexa was able to share that she had blonde hair and Aizah had brown.

During music we are beginning to learn our KS1 performance songs, the lyrics have now been sent home. The songs can be found on YouTube. Please practice these at home. Some children will be given speaking parts, please practice these every day and memorize the words off by heart.



Key Stage 2

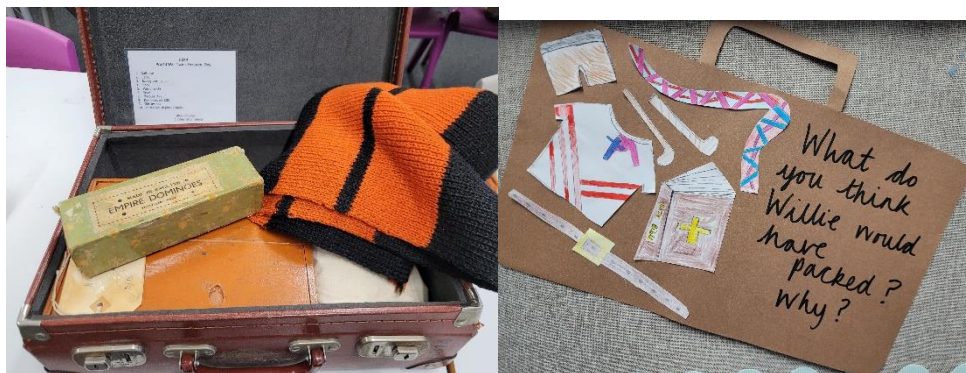
Year 3: This week in English the children have been exploring the key features of a recount. They have created keys, mind maps and planned to use these features ready to write their own recounts. In maths the children have been learning about multiplying and dividing by 3 and 4. They have used arrays and grouping to help them share into equal groups. In science this week the children enjoyed exploring and identifying different skeleton types. They looked at the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates and which animals are likely to have which skeleton types. They explored endoskeletons and exoskeletons and organized animals into groups based on this. In DT the children created their own pop-up cards after learning about Matthew Reinhardt, a children's book author, illustrator, and paper engineer. There were some great creations made by all the children.



Year 4: This week in English the children have been exploring the skills needed to write a diary entry. They learnt about adverbs for frequency, time conjunctions and first person perspective. In maths the children have been finishing their unit on area by comparing area and completing problems. In science this week the children enjoyed exploring the functions of different parts of the digestive system. They recapped the names of parts and looked at how these work to digest our food. In RE, the children continued our learning about the Nativity story and created story maps to retell the nativity. In PSHE, the children focused on understanding influences and how we respond to them. In history, the children learnt about Julius Caesar and Marc Antony.

Year 5: A great learning week in year 5! In English this week we have focused on the skills we will be using when we write out narratives next week. This included using the acronym DAD (dialogue, action, description) for including speech in our narratives and using expanded noun phrases for extra description. In Maths this week we have been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 as well as exploring square and cube numbers. In Global Learning we have been discovering more about the kingdom of Benin by developing an understanding of when in history the kingdom thrived and the creation story its inhabitants believed in.

Year 6: What an exciting week it has been! Year 6 started the week exploring several WW2 artefacts (including an evacuee's suitcase) that we borrowed from Reading Museum. This was to support their narrative writing in English, where the children will be writing about Willie's (a main character from our class novel Goodnight Mr Tom) experience of school. In maths we have been learning how to find equivalent fractions by multiplying and dividing (simplifying) and we have been learning ways of how to compare fractions. In Geography we have been learning about the Congo Basin and the current deforestation that has been taking place. Over the coming weeks the children will continue to learn more about the geography of the Congo and recent conflicts that have been taking place as part of our global learning theme 'peace and conflict'.



News items from this week

Christmas Lunch: This is being held on Monday 19th December. Please use the booking for below. Payments to be made via SCOPay.
[Christmas Lunch Booking Form – Click here](#)

Stevensons Uniform: Stevensons uniform shop is temporarily closing for some refurbishment work from now until January. If you do need to order any school uniform, this can be purchased from Brigade. <https://www.brigade.uk.com/>

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.

Parents evening: For our autumn parents evening, this will be held online. Please see the dates below for the different year groups. Appointment times have closed, if you still wish to book a time slot, please contact the office.

Year 1	16 th and 17 th November
Year 2	16 th and 17 th November
Year 3	Rosen 14 th and 15 th November
Year 4	14 th and 15 th November
Year 5	15 th and 17 th November
Year 6	14 th and 15 th November

Winter festival:

Date for your diary: Winter Festival 8th December, 3.45pm - 5.45pm.

To make the event a success, we would appreciate **donations of any luxury items** that can be used in our hampers.

A list of suggested items is below:

- Unwanted gift sets – Adult and children.
- Unused toiletries
- New Arts and crafts
- Christmas treats, Hamper food item, Biscuits, chocolates, tinned goods.

Please hand all items into the school office for Mrs Aram to collect. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Civitas Academy



Civitas Academy

WINTER FESTIVAL

Thursday 8th December 3.40-5.15pm

Santa's Grotto

Raffle & Tombola

Face Painting

Stalls

Food & Drink

& much more...

ENTRANCE
FEE

50p per person

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

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

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.

14th November	Start of Anti-bullying week and odd socks day
14th and 15th November	Year 3, 4 and 6 parents evening
15th and 17th November	Year 5 parents evening
16th and 17th November	Year 1 and 2 Parents evening
22nd November	Skip 2 Be fit workshop – whole school
23rd November	Reception – vision screening
24th November	Year 2 School trip
25th November	Year 4 School trip
30th November	Catch up Flu vaccinations
7th December	Pantomime in school – all year groups
8th December	Winter Festival and Christmas Jumper Day
19th December	Christmas lunch day
20th December	Last day of term –school finishes at normal time.