

Summer Bulletin – Friday 24th June 2022

Message from Jo Rapley – UKS2 Lead

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week I had the pleasure of meeting with Maria Trevis, the Chair of Victoria Park Community Group (VPCG), who was interested to learn that the word Civitas itself means 'community.' VPCG is a brand-new association representing residents in the Great Knollys Street and George Street area to the west of Reading town centre. Helping to generate some community spirit, they are a completely independent non-profit organisation run by volunteers. VPCG's aims are to:

- Bring residents together for activities that conserve, protect or improve the character of the area.
- Bring residents together for activities that reduce isolation and build community spirit.

Despite only being constituted in March, they've already undertaken a bulb planting project and a platinum jubilee party in the park and are planning a range of activities including litter picks and campaigns for the future. Additionally, they are working with Reading Borough Council on the consultation for redevelopment of the play area in Victoria Park and in discussions with Thames Valley Police on anti-social behaviour issues.

What can you do to support?

You can find out more information by visiting their website <https://vpcg.org.uk/about-us/> and you could become a member of the group by emailing vicpkcommunity@outlook.com. Alternatively, you will have the opportunity to meet members of the Community Group at our Summer festival.



VPCG highly recommend downloading the app 'Love Clean Streets' to your phones from Google Play or Apple Store. For those of you who aren't aware, the App enables you to report environmental issues, such as fly-tipping, dog mess or potholes, quickly and directly to your local authority in a four-step process, for free.

On Sunday 3rd July they will be carrying out a litter pick of the area. Hi-vis and equipment will be provided. If you would like to get involved, then please contact Quinten Taylor (secretary) for more information.

quintentaylor@yahoo.co.uk

Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Luca	For working very hard in his phonics.
Paddington	Matias	For trying hard with his phonics and writing
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Shehreen	For always being ready, respectful and safe – a great role model!
Pinocchio:	Mikaela	For being a kind and helpful member of the Pinocchio class.
BFG:	Anjana	For always having a positive attitude towards her work and for showing her peers how to be ready to learn.
Matilda:	Alya	For settling in well and developing her confidence.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Thanvi	For always being helpful and kind to everyone, at every opportunity
Kinney	Mytra	For showing some great creativity during art and D.T
Richards	Vahin	For working consistently hard in every lesson
Murphy	Julius	For showing a readiness for his learning
Zephaniah	Aridunu	For following Civitas' behaviour policy accordingly. This has led to an improvement in his academic work.
Avery	Steve	For always being ready, respectful and safe and being a role model to the class.
Draper	All the Year 6 writers	For excellent work with their writing.

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	10/06	17/06	24/06	01/07	08/07	15/07
Reception	92.7%	94.6%	93.0%			
Year 1	92.8%	93.0%	97.2%			
Year 2	97.4%	90.5%	94.3%			
Year 3	95.6%	94.3%	94.5%			
Year 4	94.5%	95.2%	95.2%			
Year 5	96.9%	95.7%	96.4%			
Year 6	94.4%	95.6%	98.2%			

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

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Atmos	341	17206
Terra	303	15381
Aqua	226	17126
Ignis	273	16758

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

This week in Literacy, we have read the book 'All my stripes' by Shaina Rudolph and Danielle Royer. In this book, Zane the zebra feels different from the rest of his classmates. He worries that all they notice about him is his "autism stripe." With the help of his mum, Zane comes to appreciate all his stripes — the unique strengths that make him who he is. We discussed what the children think what they are best at, and we talked about if it matters that we are all good at different things. The children looked at their own strengths and have been writing about them. In Art this week, we have been drawing zebras with charcoal. The children have been playing 'school' in the role play area and it was lovely to hear and see them teaching each other. In math, we have been looking at odd and even numbers. The children sorted the different numicons into odds and evens. We have also been looking at positional language. We have been building different unifix cubes towers and looked at what colour cube was 'in front of, 'next to' and on top of' for example.

Key Stage 1

Year 1: This week in English, we have been writing character profiles for a character in the story "Cops and Robbers". We learnt what an address is, and we made up, and wrote, an address for one of the robbers in the story. In maths, we have been comparing numbers to identify those that are greater and those that are smaller, and we have been using the symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$ to compare numbers. We have been ordering numbers from least to greatest and vice versa, and have found one more and one less than a number. In science, we enjoyed conducting an experiment to find out what happens to lit candles when oxygen is removed, by placing a glass over it. In geography, we learned what a green space is and the importance of green space within a city. In Art, we learned about the qualities of materials. We used the laptops again in Computing. This week we learned about the space bar, backspace button and enter key, and we used these to type sentences. In PSHE we have been talking about growing up. We had lots of fun looking at our baby photos and guessing who they were! Thank you for all the photos that were emailed in. It was fantastic to see so many of you watching our song performance this week. The children did an amazing job! Thank you for all the donations in aid of Ukraine - we raised a fantastic £164!

Year 2: This week year 2 have been continuing to read the book 'The Big Book of Blue'. Over the past week the children have worked really hard creating some lovely fact files about different sea creatures. They were able to add extra detail, clear facts, and include many features of a fact file, before publishing their work. In Maths this week Year 2 have recapped subtraction. They have used a variety of resources to work out their answers and were able to check their answers by doing the inverse! In PSHE our topic is "Changing me". We looked at all the different ways we have changed from a baby to now and created our own timeline. Next week we will be finding more about our bodies and learning the correct vocabulary for our body parts. We had an extremely exciting lesson for our humanities topic of "Sustainable Development" this week! Year 2 painted their own sustainable bird feeders! They all look great!



Key Stage 2

Year 3: This week in English we used the story of 'Cinderella of the Nile' as our base and rewrote it using different characters, settings, and problems. We have written our first draft, edited it, wrote a second draft, and published our work. We have ensured that we have included all the features of a narrative in our writing. We have had a busy time with end of year assessments. In PSHE we have learnt about outward changes that will happen to our bodies as we enter puberty. In PSHE we explored how a non-Hindu would explore the river Ganges and what they would do if they visited it. In DT we learnt about the need for a chassis, as well as an axle for a cars wheels. We looked at the importance of an axle and why it is needed for the wheels to move. We created an exploded drawing, mindful of what will be needed in our own construction. Next week we are going to begin creating our own car with an axle and chassis and are starting to collect recyclable materials such as milk bottle tops for this. In the study of Power and Government we learnt about the history of women in the UK and how difficult it has

been for them as they did not have the same rights as men. This topic tied in very nicely with our guided reading book 'Secrets of a Sun King' where one of the characters is discriminated against as she is a woman. This theme extended cross curricular to science too. We learnt about the scientist Marie Curie who was also discriminated against as she was a woman and could not go to university in her own country as women were not allowed to! She went on to discover the x-ray machine.



Year 4: This week, we have been learning more about our global curriculum topic, identity and diversity. We have been learning about hidden disabilities and how they impact people's lives. We created posters, writing and pictures based around the sunflower which is the symbol for hidden disabilities. In maths and English, we have been working hard to complete our assessment papers. On Friday morning, we completed our sponsored run for the DEC Appeal in honour of Refugee week. We raised a whopping £298!! Thank you so much to all of the people who donated to this cause.

Year 5: In English, we have been busy practising our skills – such as using colons, semi-colons and parenthesis - that will help us to write a playscript next week. Moreover, we have been practising our oracy skills at the start of our English lessons to enhance our articulation and improve our debating skills. We have been continuing with our shape module this term and building on our previous learning from Year Four. We enjoyed performing scenarios last week in Drama, which were based on a courtroom. This will help us to build up towards our end of module topic in Global Learning.

Year 6:



We have had a fantastic week in Year 6. The children were able to visit the Bayer Lab this week and get a taste of what it is like to be scientists in a laboratory setting. The children learnt about dye, pigmentation and how we see colour. They then used a pestle and mortar, along with pipets and weighing scales to create chemical reaction.



The children were also lucky enough to have a guest speaker visit and talk to them about his experiences in with gang, drug and knife culture. A fantastic insight into the culture we want to protect our children from, but also educate them about. This comes on the 2 year anniversary of the young boy who was stabbed and killed in Reading and is therefore even more relevant. The children were able to ask open and honest questions and Paul answered in a similar fashion.

News items from this week

GO Beanies

GO BEANIES BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB @ CIVITAS ACADEMY – Places Available

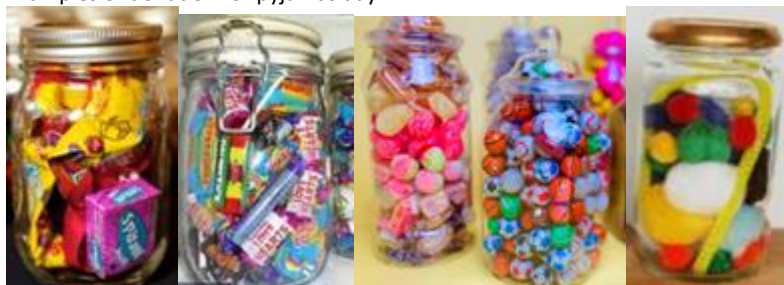
The Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am to 8:45am; and the After-School Club runs from 3:15pm to 5:45pm for working parents with children from FS2 to Year 6.

Our daily programme offers outdoor activities, sports, games, arts & crafts, play and relaxation with breakfast and afternoon teas also included. Please email info@gobeanies.org or text message us on 07710566727 to book your child's place. Spaces are allocated on a first come/first booked basis.

Summer festival:

Pyjamas day: On **Thursday 30th June 2022** Children will be invited to wear their pyjamas to school for the day in exchange for a decorated empty jar filled with sweets/treats/small items/party filler/crafts.

Examples of donation for pyjamas day:



Raffle tickets: Thank you to our wonderful Y6 children who kindly sorted out our raffle tickets, these have gone home this week. If you have not received any tickets or would like to purchase some more, please speak to the school office.

Class Competition: Mrs Aram is holding a class competition! The class with the most Summer Festival helpers will receive a special treat from Mrs Aram! Will your class be the winning class? Sign up today by popping into the school office or emailing office@civitasacademy.co.uk. Thank you for your ongoing support! Our Summer Festival would not be possible without our Civitas community support!

Donations: Our Y6's have been very busy this week! They have been creating some lovely hampers for our raffle! We are looking for a few more items to finish our beautiful **Grand Hamper!** Do you have any unused gifts that are collecting dust? Toiletries sat in a cupboard? Or maybe some delicious goods that represent your culture? We are happy to take any items that are new/unused that we can make into hampers.

Sports day: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 sports day will be held on Wednesday 13th July (KS1). Year 3,4,5,6 will be held on Thursday 14th July (KS2). Timings TBC

Dates for Diary:

27 th June	Year 2 walk to View Island (afternoon)
28 th June	Class Photos in school
30 th June 2022	Pyjamas day for a decorated jam jar full of crafts/sweets/small items.
5 th July	Tea Towel sale (on the playground after school)
6 th July	Art afternoon with parents/carers - 'connecting across generations' - more info TBC
8 th July	Project celebration – all parents invited in at 3:40pm to look at the learning this term.
13 th July	KS1 Sports day – times TBC
14 th July	KS2 Sports day – times TBC
14 th July	Summer Festival – 3.45pm – 5.45pm
30 th September	Make or Break a REAch2 Record Colour Run – info TBC

Contacting Class teachers: If you have a query and would like to contact your child's class teacher, please see the relevant emails below. Absencereporting 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

[Oracy homework:](#)

Oracy home learning challenge



Talking Point: Looking to the Future

We don't have a crystal ball to tell us what's in store for the future but it's good to talk together about our ideas, plans, hopes and fears.

Watch this [short video](#) about hope and share your reflections about the future with a classmate or someone at home.

Activity

After watching the video, discuss the following with a classmate or someone at home:

Being successful in the future means.....because.....

Talk tactics you can use in the discussion:



Instigate

In my opinion...
I think...



Build

I agree and would like to add..
Your point made me think...



Clarify

Do you mean...?
So are you saying...?