

# Autumn Bulletin

## Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023



## Message from Salima Ducker, Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow, our last bulletin of the Autumn term, so much has been happening at Civitas and there are still three days next week, where albeit there will be some end of term excitement, I know the children are working so hard towards project outcomes.

This week it was fantastic to have so many of our EYFS and KS1 families in school, both for the phonics workshop and for our wonderful end of term show, 'Santa's Setbacks!' The children did an awesome job of learning so many new songs (as did our families!) and singing in front of so many different audiences! Thank you too to all our staffing team that worked so hard to support our children in their performance as well as their daily learning.

As sometimes happens at the end of a term, we have a couple of good-byes to say, Miss Majer has been supporting us as a cover teacher across the school this term. We would like to say thank you for all her contributions this term and wish her all the very best for the future.

Miss Haugvik started with us back in January 2023, she has been a tremendous asset to our school, supporting numerous children, individually or in groups across the year groups. We will miss seeing her face in the morning, meeting and greeting our children and working as part of our team but wish her the very best as she makes the move back home to Cornwall.

We wish all our families a wonderful restful break and to all of our families celebrating Christmas, a very Merry Christmas from all of us, to all of you.



at  
Christmas Time

## PE Timetable – Spring 1 – Please note the change in day for Y5 and Y6

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	Aniyahh	For working hard everyday to improve her reading.
Paddington	Sarah	For working very hard in her reading and singing for the Christmas show.
KS1		
Pinocchio	Adam	For being safe and sensible during our reptile visit.
Gruffalo	Dhrwan	For brilliant learning, wonderful behaviour and super manners.
BFG	Liyan	For showing good confidence on the stage.
Matilda	Gregory	For trying hard with his acting for the Christmas performance and making everyone smile.
KS2		
Rosen	Oladayo	For working really hard with his handwriting.
Kinney	Enoch	For being kind and compassionate to our new students
Richards	Layla	For always being compassionate and a supportive friend.
Murphy	Joel	For settling into Civitas so well and following the school rules well.
Avery	David	For his great contributions to class discussions
Zephaniah	Sabrina	For her hard work in reading and spelling.
Draper	Daniel	For putting in 100% effort in his work and showing resilience.

Lewis	Daniel	For his fantastic behaviours for learning.
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House	Total House Points this week	Total
Aqua	521	3575
Terra	546	3652
Ignis	572	3207
Atmos	497	3741

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

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Rishi
Paddington	Hashem
Gruffalo	Alexis
Pinocchio	Yaashvi
BFG	Aurora
Matilda	Shanvi
Kinney	Sahas
Rosen	Ritwika
Murphy	Jhanvi
Richards	Samaira
Avery	Muhammad
Zephaniah	Abhijay
Draper	Soraya
Lewis	Teodor

**Achievements outside of school**

Name	Class	Achievement
Well done to all of the girls who attend Virtue school of Gymnastics and have taken part in their productions this week!		

**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.

	30.10.23	06.11.23	13.11.23	20.11.23	27.11.23	04.12.23	11.12.23
Reception	94.7%	83.9%	85.62%	91.76%	94.87%	94.07%	93.2%
Year 1	94.5%	95.3%	92.72%	89.66%	89.66%	95.73%	94.07%
Year 2	92.5%	94.7%	93.96%	91.62%	91.4%	91.87%	85.8%
Year 3	89.7%	98.5%	95.21%	92.53%	91.73%	94.13%	93.48%
Year 4	94.3%	97.7%	97.27%	98.25%	95.09%	92.42%	91.67%
Year 5	96.7%	97.6%	98.17%	93.3%	87.19%	97.61%	93.44%
Year 6	93.8%	93.3%	96.36%	96%	93.62	92.07%	92.59%

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception:

We had another lovely week with exciting challenges and new learning opportunities. In maths we have been learning about 2d shapes and their properties and recognising numbers 1,2 and 3 without counting the objects. In phonics we have been recapping the sounds the children found tricky.

In Literacy and Global Learning, we have been looking at the book 'Stickman'. This book is about a stickman trying to get back to his family who live in the family tree. The children have been making their very own stickman with natural resources and also thinking how they could save stickman from different situations.

The children have really enjoyed practising the Christmas show and are really looking forward to their parents coming to watch.

## Key Stage 1

### **Year 1:**

This week we have continued working on our project outcome, practicing our performance on Identity and Diversity. In music we have put a few great actions together to go with our Christmas performance songs. We felt so proud having our grown-ups watch our Christmas performance. In maths, we have been exploring 2D shapes and their properties. We have also created patterns with 2D shapes. In Phonics we have revised our last few lessons. Thank you to the parents who attended the phonics workshop. Please do not worry if you missed it as there will be more to come in the new term. In PSHE we have celebrated all the differences that make us each special and unique and drew a portrait of our friend. In Science, we learned about how we could collect data and understand it. We counted up how many of us liked particular pets and we created a tally chart. We tested our umbrellas in DT to find out if they were waterproof. In RE we explored the various characters in the Christmas Nativity. We had a wonderful visit from Berkshire Reptile Encounters. We saw pythons, bearded dragons, a tortoise and many more amazing creatures. Some of us were brave enough to hold them! Next term in Art we are creating self portraits inspired by Picasso. Please can you save and bring into school any old magazines that you don't want so we can use them creatively in our Art next term. Thank you!



### **Year 2:**

What a busy week in Year 2 – we have worked extremely hard to practise and perform our Christmas production – Santa's Setbacks. Thank you for attending and supporting with the costumes - we are extremely proud of ourselves! In Phonics, we have revised our Phase 5 sounds and those completing 'bridge to spelling' have revised the rules learnt this term. In Computing, we explored how a photograph

can be changed using tools that create different effects. For Geography, we have completed our unit of learning about the United Kingdom and completed a short assessment to check our understanding. Similarly, in Science we have finished learning about animals including humans then used our knowledge to complete a fun quiz! We look forward to next week with fun activities and festivities including Christmas Lunch and Wellbeing Day! Year 2 will be creating an exciting DT project with wool and materials next term. If you have any spare buttons, wool, felt or sewing needles we would be very grateful to receive them.

## Key Stage 2

### **Year 3:**

This week in English we put together all our prior learning and created our persuasive letters. The children put together some fantastic pieces of writing showing off all the persuasive letter writing skills they have been learning. In Maths we have continued with multiplication division, focusing on the 8 times tables. The children are now confident in noticing and creating arrays to support their learning. These lessons have furthered their understanding of using inverse operations when creating number sentences. In Geography, we finished our last lesson by creating Venn diagrams to show the similarities and differences between the United Kingdom and North America. They used a variety of map types to explore the agricultural and topographical features of each country. In R.E we continued to look at Christian and non-Christian aspects of Christmas. We compared our own traditions to see the different ways we celebrate Christmas and the holidays. In P.S.H.E we listened to a scenario story and took notes on ways we could have dealt with situations better or how we may have felt if we were in particular situations. We then took a post it note with a child's name on and wrote a compliment about them. This was a great positive way to end our topic celebrating differences'.

### **Year 4:**

In Year 4, we would like to thank you for your generosity in donating food to the food bank ready for the holidays. The children loved to organise the food and created messages for the food bank to give to people who need help the most this time of year.



We have had a busy end of year with finishing off our pieces of writing about being lost at sea. We have practised our new holiday song and we have finished our topic in RE about the Christian Christmas Story. In PSHE we have finished our module about who we are and in Maths we have started to become secure in our timetables in plenty of time for our MTC in the summer.



Some of our children has also complete some extra work at home – up above is a picture of Zeon with a Star he made at home. We were so impressed with his extra work we just HAD to get a picture of it!

#### **Year 5:**

In year 5 we have been very busy finishing our final public service announcement all about saving the planet from global warming. We have also created posters alongside our speeches to boost awareness. In maths this week we have continued our fractions topic through addition and subtraction of fractions – including how to add and subtract fractions with different denominators. In history this week, we have finished our Mayan civilisation topic through a group presentation of all we have learnt this term. In DT we have begun to create our marble runs and will be testing our engineering skills throughout next week!

#### **Year 6:**

In maths we've continued our work on fractions and have learnt how to add and subtract mixed number and improper fractions. In English we have been planning our newspaper reports about the Blitz; we used our own research and class WAGOLL to structure and add our 6 writing features. In history we have come to the end of our unit on the British Empire. In this week's lesson we learnt the reasons why the British Empire ended after WW2. We have also written our podcast scripts about the Congo as part of our global learning project in geography. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their knowledge about conflict in the Congo and we look forward to recording. We are continuing to finish our sewing for our D.T cushions (please see pictures below). And finally, in PSHE, we learnt the importance of celebrating difference focusing on Paralympians.



#### **Communication to the school**

Absence reporting still needs to be done via [office@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto: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](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)

## KEY DATES

18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner day – let's wear our jumpers again 😊

19<sup>th</sup> December – Wellbeing Day – Non uniform/End of Term Discos after school

20<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – INSET Day – (School closed to all pupils)

9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 8.40am – Children return to school