

## Autumn Bulletin – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – Message from Mr Williams – Maths Lead



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce maths here at Civitas. Our maths curriculum has been carefully designed to ensure that all children acquire a deep, long-term, secure and useable knowledge in maths, where they can apply their skills of reasoning and problem solving to a wide range of tasks. We use a spiral curriculum for our children’s learning. This means that areas of maths are revisited each year, giving our children the opportunity to build on prior knowledge and deeper their understanding of each topic. All children will access the appropriate tasks for their year group, with concrete and pictorial resources used to help the children visualise the learning and ensure connections are made to real life. During their time at our school, children will be encouraged to see mathematics as both a written and spoken language.

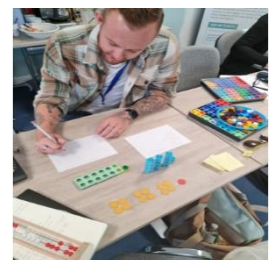
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn term	Number Place value <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Addition and subtraction <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Multiplication and division A <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Fractions A <a href="#">VIEW</a>					
Spring term	Number Multiplication and division B <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Fractions B <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Decimals and percentages <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Measurement Perimeter and area <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Statistics <a href="#">VIEW</a>			
Summer term	Geometry Shape <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Geometry Position and direction <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Decimals <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Number Negative numbers <a href="#">VIEW</a>	Measurement Converting units <a href="#">VIEW</a>		Measurement Volume <a href="#">VIEW</a>		

Our year 5 curriculum that evidences our spiral curriculum approach to allow children to revisit key skills throughout the year.

My own passion for maths started when I was younger. As a child, I used to find maths difficult, but it was something I really enjoyed learning. I always thought there was only one way to work out an answer and that was that, until one of my teachers showed me a different way to get to the same answer. The fact we can get to the same answer multiple different ways, ask so many questions and have open discussions about methods is a big part of why I love maths. Teaching students different approaches gives them tools to solve different problems, helps them understand concepts, and lets them choose an approach that makes the most sense to them.

As teachers we are all thriving to deliver the best possible teaching of maths for all of our children here at Civitas. We are constantly learning new approaches to teaching and how we can implement the use of manipulatives to further develop our children’s mathematical toolkit. Therefore, over the last year, we have set up local links, in Reading, with maths mastery specialist schools and Mr Williams and Miss Frain have been attending ‘Mastery Readiness’ training through NCETM which will bring new ideas that we can embed into our maths lessons.

Over the course of the year, we look forward to sharing lots of examples of children’s maths work with you through the bulletin and through our twitter account.



Mr William

# Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Aashrith	For being confident enough to share his amazing geography knowledge.
Paddington	Stefy	For improving so much in her Phonics.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Matei	For trying his best with his class activities.
Pinocchio:	Aafi	For working so hard at improving his handwriting.
BFG:	Jamila	For adding extra detail in her English work and offering wonderful ideas to support her peers.
Matilda:	Mikaela	For always being ready, respectful and safe.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Sofija	For being the embodiment of a Civitas child who is always Ready, Respectful and Safe
Kinney	Dharshan	Always participating in class discussions and having the confidence to share his ideas.
Richards	Melanie	For showing compassion and care towards her peers and for demonstrating fantastic maturity.
Murphy	Ahana	For putting in maximum effort into her writing this week.
Zephaniah	Kornelia	For being ready, respectful and safe.
Avery	Sabal	For contributing more in lessons and working hard.
Draper	Nicholas	For demonstrating a positive attitude and engaging in lessons.
Lewis	Angelina	For coming into school well and being really resilient in Maths.

Class	Sports star of the week
Elmer	Erisha
Paddington	Mina
Gruffalo	Danny
Pinocchio	Maddison
BFG	Raisa
Matilda	Angel
Kinney	Daniel-Elijah
Rosen	Hrithika
Richards	Dhruv
Murphy	Darcey
Zephaniah	Soraya
Avery	Mason
Draper	Cheryl
Lewis	Angelina

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua	1129	3024
Ignis	1077	2664
Terra	1056	2564
Atmos	1126	2745

House Points – Well done **AQUA** 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%				
Year 1	92.0%	95.4%	85.5%				
Year 2	91.4%	95.1%	88.5%				
Year 3	96.3%	97.3%	96.1%				
Year 4	94.1%	97.9%	94.6%				
Year 5	98.3%	96.5%	93.2%				
Year 6	88.1%	88.7%	92.7%				

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception

In Reception this week, we have been practicing our lines and songs for our Nativity play. We cannot wait to perform on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December! In Maths we have been learning about circles and triangles and we discovered that a circle has one curved side and a triangle's got three sides. The children then found out that triangles have three corners as well. We have done a lot of sorting and matching activities with these shapes this week. During Maths, we also looked at the artist Kandinsky's artwork, as he uses shapes in his art. The children were inspired by this and have been questioning about shapes in art. We will explore this further next week. In Literacy we have been reading the book 'Emma Jane's Aeroplane', a book written by Katie Haworth. We have been sequencing the events in the story. Emma Jane flies to different cities of the world and makes a crew of animal friends who save the day when the little plane gets into trouble. She visits places like London, Venice, Paris, New York, Sydney and Beijing where they visit all the famous landmarks like the Big Ben, the canals etc. As this week has been Anti-Bullying week, we enjoyed wearing odd socks and decorating socks in the art area.

## Key Stage 1

**Year 1:** In English this week, we have written our own stories about Little Red Riding Hood. It has been loads of fun thinking of alternate endings. We also practised using capital letters, full stops and adjectives. In Maths, we have been revising 1 more and 1 less. We have designed and drawn our own umbrellas in DT. We had to think carefully about what materials we would use when designing an umbrella. In computing, we have learned how to use shapes and lines to create pictures. History was all about exploring toys from the past. It was very interesting to see how different toys from the past are from toys of today.

**Year 2:** This week Year 2 have been working hard to produce some fantastic narratives about Malala and her magic pencil. The children were able to include the features that they have been taught over the past 2 weeks and include these in their writing to make it more interesting for the reader. In Maths we have continued to work on addition and subtraction, we are coming to the end of this topic and will soon be starting shape. In year 2 children need to identify 2D and 3D shapes and be able to describe the shape using the correct vocabulary. This week we started to identify some shapes around the classroom and the children are very excited about learning more soon.

This week was anti-bullying week. The children look fabulous in their odd socks on Monday. We took time this week to discuss the importance of friendship, including others and showing kindness. We used drama in PSHE act out different scenarios to help us think about how others may feel.

In music, Year 2 have been practicing their songs ready for our school performance in December. The children have been working very hard and we look forward to sharing this with you soon.

## Key Stage 2

**Year 3:** This week in maths the children have been continuing practicing their 3 times-table, they have also been learning to multiply and divide by 4. This has been very picture based where the children have used images to share into equal groups and group objects according to the multiplication sentences. In English the children have continued their focus around recounts of a story 'the first drawing'. They have written recounts of scenes in books and edited them into first person, all in preparation for writing their final recount of the story. In D.T this week the children have been brainstorming their ideas of making a class pop-up book. They looked at features that worked well in books to help them decide how theirs will look.

**Year 4:** This week, Year 4 have been working hard, planning, writing and editing their diary entries related to our text, Empire's End. The children have used the knowledge they gained last week to write in the first person perspective, use time conjunctions and adverbs to show frequency. In maths, they have begun their learning on multiplication and division. They have focused on multiplying and dividing by 9 and 6. In science, the children have learnt about the different human teeth and their functions. In history, the children compared Roman Britain to modern day Britain. In PSHE, they focused on understanding bullying which linked perfectly to anti-bullying week! In RE, we learnt how certain Christmas symbols relate to the Christian story of the first Christmas. In art, we explored using a range of different drawing pencils and learnt about the differences between h and b pencils.

**Year 5:** In year 5 this week we have begun writing our narratives based on the story of Ada's violin. We have explored how the features we studied last week can be used to make our narratives exciting and how we can edit our writing with a focus. In maths this week we have started our new unit – fractions! We have explored how we can find equivalent fractions using a range of methods, such as bar models, timelines and multiplication and division. In global learning this week we have discussed the COP27 meeting and how our world leaders are fighting for climate change. Another year 5 focus this week has been Anti-bullying week. We have made posters showcasing this year's theme, Reach out, and made pledges of how we can ensure our school is a safe and happy place to be!

**Year 6:** In Year 6 this week, we have been focusing on our verbs and modal verbs in English – ready to write our new narrative next week. In Maths, we have been recapping our knowledge of fractions: how to make them equivalent, add them, subtract them, and how to convert them into improper and mixed fractions. In science this week, we have been learning about the components of blood. We used everyday food to represent the various parts of blood, we used juice for the plasma, cheerios for the red blood cells, mints for the white blood cells and flour for the platelets. It was amazing to see how much blood is in our body.



The rest of the week we have been focusing on our global learning theme of 'Peace and Conflict'. The children have enjoyed learning more about the Congo Basin and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We look forward to next week when we plan and write out our big piece of writing.

## News items from this week

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

**Black Friday Uniform codes:**

Brigade:  
 Discount Amount: 10%  
 Dates: Friday 25th November to Midnight Sunday 27th November  
 Promotion code: BFNOV2022

**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 due to start school in September to make their primary school application.

## Winter festival:

**Parent Helpers:** We are in need of parent helpers to support our Winter Festival! If you are able to help on a stall please sign up at the office from Monday afternoon or email [Year2@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:Year2@civitasacademy.co.uk). The class with the most parent helpers will have a nice surprise from Mrs Aram on the last day of term!

**Date for Diary:** Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 – Own clothes day in exchange for chocolates or sweets.



## **Donations:**

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](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>22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	Skip 2 Be fit workshop – whole school
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	Reception – vision screening
<b>24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Year 2 School trip
<b>25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Year 4 School trip
<b>30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Catch up Flu vaccinations
<b>1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Own clothes day for chocolates or sweets
<b>7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Pantomime in school – all year groups
<b>8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Winter Festival and Christmas Jumper Day
<b>19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas lunch day
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Last day of term –school finishes at normal time.