Civitas Academy Bulletin

29/01/18



**Welcome from Mr Wieder**

It has been another exciting week at Civitas. Thank you once again to children, staff, parents and carers who have spoken to me with ideas and how they would like to become more involved with the school. As a result of your feedback, many things have now been put into place and will continue to do so over the next few weeks. This week as promised I have included the key dates for the rest of the year. In the next few weeks, I will be looking to re-establish CAFFS and will add dates of their events to the existing calendar.

Last week in assemblies we discussed about how to make the right choices. We have talked about how it is important to think about your choices first before deciding on the best option. This week the focus will be on staying safe online.

**Becoming Involved with the School**

There are a number of ways in which you could become more involved with the school. You may wish to become a volunteer and help with reading and updating reading records. Alternatively, you may have a special skill that you could offer the school. If you would prefer a more flexible arrangement, then you may consider joining CAFFS. They would always welcome support in organising and running events throughout the year.

If you do have the time, we always appreciate the additional support. We do have a system where if you wish to volunteer, you will be deployed in a different class to your child.

If you are considering becoming a regular volunteer, then I would suggest that you visit the school office in order to collect the correct paperwork to perform a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. This is a criminal record check. As we have found with recent staffing appointments, this is taking several weeks to process. Once the check has been performed, we can then have a discussion about your role as a volunteer in school.

**Parking**

Please be considerate when parking your car outside the school. Hodsoll Road should not be blocked at any time. A growing number of parents are double parking on Great Knollys Street. This is causing a dangerous obstruction for pedestrians. On Wednesday, we were informed of a near miss where a child almost got ran over. I appreciate that there is a lack of parking in the nearby vicinity, so you will need to consider park and stride options.

**NSPCC Number Day Reminder: Friday 2nd February**

On Friday 2nd February, Civitas Academy will be raising money for the NSPCC by celebrating Number Day. We will be doing the following:

* Children may come into school wearing clothing with numbers. To do this, £2 must be donated.
* Parents/ carers will be welcome to enter their child’s classroom at the start of the day and stay until 9:25 to participate in number based activities with their child. Parents with more than one child in the school may want to split their time between classes.

**Mathematics Resources**

Following the recent question and answer session, I have added more resources on the Civitas website about how we currently teach mathematics at the school. I have included a calculation policy for the school alongside some guidance. I have also attached what Y1 and Y2 are currently learning in class with the appropriate models and images. As a school we use a concrete, pictorial, abstract approach to teaching mathematics. What this basically means is that children use objects or resources first and then when they are secure, they move onto drawing what they did. This is then refined further and numbers are used. As the children progress through the school, they will work towards the standard methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of which many parents and carers are more familiar with. If parents would like further guidance about how mathematics is taught throughout the school, we will be running a workshop next half term.

**2018-19 Term Dates**

Please find the term dates for the next academic year at the end of this bulletin. These will also be displayed on the website.

**2017-18 Key Events**

As mentioned in my previous bulletin, please find the dates of key events for the rest of this academic year below. These are the main events that will be happening in school. At the moment, we are still planning school trips and when this information becomes available we will let you know. Following feedback, we have tried to include different timings to accommodate more parents and carers.

**Spring Term**

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** | **Description of Event** | **Intended Audience** |
| Friday 2nd February  (8:55-9:25am) | NSPCC Number Day | Parents can take part in mathematics learning with their child.  Children may dress up with an outfit with numbers on in return for a donation of £2. | All |
| Wednesday 7th February (3:15pm-3:45pm) | Reception Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Reception parents and carers |
| Thursday 8th February (3:15-3:45pm | Year 1 and Year 2 Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Y1 and Y2 parents and carers |
| Wednesday 21st February (5pm-5:30pm) | Year 2 SATS Information Meeting | Information Meeting | Y2 parents and carers |
| Tuesday 27th February (2:50-3:15pm) | Mathematics in KS1 at Civitas | Information Meeting | Y1 and Y2 parents and carers |
| Thursday 1st March (8:55- 9:25am) | World Book Day | Parents can visit and read with their child in class.  Children may dress up as a book character. | All |
| Thursday 8th March (9:00-9:30am) | Head of School Question and Answer Session | An opportunity for parents and carers to highlight strengths and improvement areas for the school. | All |
| Wednesday 14th March (3:30-6pm) | Parents Evening | Progress Meeting | All |
| Thursday 15th March  (3:30-6pm) | Parents Evening | Progress Meeting | All |
| Friday 16th March  (All day) | Reception School Trip to Odds Farm | School Trip | Reception children |
| Monday 19th March  (3:15-3:45pm) | Reception and Y1 Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Reception/ Y1 parents and carers |
| Tuesday 20th March  (3:15-3:45pm) | Y2 Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Y2 parents and carers |
| Friday 23rd March  (8:10-8:40) | Sports Relief | Fitness activity for parents, children and staff together at the start of the day.  Children may dress in sports clothes in return for a donation of £1 to Sports Relief | All |

**Summer Term**

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** | **Description of Event** | **Intended Audience** |
| Friday 13th April (3:15-3:45) | Reception, Y1 and Y2 Curriculum Meetings | Information- find out what your child will be learning this term. | All |
| Thursday 26th April (5-5:30pm) | Head of School Question and Answer Session | An opportunity for parents and carers to highlight strengths and improvement areas for the school. | All |
| Monday 21st May (3:15-3:45pm) | Reception and Y2 Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Reception/ Y2 parents and carers |
| Tuesday 22nd May  (3:15-3:45pm) | Y1 Project Celebration | Celebration Event | Y1 parents and carers |
| Thursday 14th June (9-9:30am) | Head of School Question and Answer Session | An opportunity for parents and carers to highlight strengths and improvement areas for the school | All |
| Friday 29th June  (9:15-10:30am) | Sports Day | Children take part in a series of different races.  Parents/ carers remember your trainers for your race! | All |
| Friday 13th July  (9:15-10:30am) | Sports Day (reserve date if the event on the 29th June needs to cancelled due to poor weather) | All |

**Civitas, The Palmer and Ranikhet Academies Term Dates 2018-2019**

**Term 1**

**Staff Inset Days – Tuesday 4th September 2018**

**Wednesday 5th September 2018 (Visible Learning Training)**

**Pupil start date – Thursday 6th September 2018**

**Pupil end date – Friday 19th October 2018**

**Holiday: Monday 22nd October to Friday 26th October 2018**

**Term 2**

**Pupil start date - Monday 29th October 2018**

**Pupil end date - Friday 21st December 2018**

**Holiday: Wednesday 24th December to Friday 4th January 2019**

**Term 3**

**Staff Inset Day – Monday 7th January 2019 (Visible Learning Training)**

**Staff Inset Day – Tuesday 8th January 2019**

**Pupil start date – Wednesday 9th January 2019**

**Pupil end date – Friday 15th February 2019**

**Holiday: Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February 2019**

**Term 4**

**Pupil start date – Monday 25th February 2019**

**Pupil end date – Friday 5th April 2019**

**Holiday: Monday 8th April to Friday 19th April 2019**

**Term 5**

**Staff Inset Day - Tuesday 23rd April 2019 (Visible Learning Training)**

**Pupil start date – Wednesday 24th April 2019**

**Term end date – Friday 24th May 2019**

**Holiday: Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2019**

**Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2019**

**Term 6**

**Staff Inset Day - Monday 3rd June 2019**

**Pupil start date - Tuesday 4th June 2019**

**Pupil end date – Wednesday 24th July 2019**