Civitas Academy Bulletin

04/06/19



**Welcome from Mr Wieder**

Welcome back everybody. I hope that you all had a restful break and had the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine. Happy Eid to all the families celebrating today. Next week Y2 classes will be running a special assembly about Eid. All are welcome to attend.

On the Friday of half term, playground markings were installed. I am sure the children will find many exciting new games to play on these markings.

Apologies for the late notice of the Y3 trip to Reading being cancelled on the last week of term. We had a sickness bug with several members of staff out and this combined with news of an incident on the Oxford Road, a decision was made to postpone this trip. Children had their picnic within school and took part in special activities on that day. We have rearranged the trip for this Friday.

**Trips and Visits: Y1 Trip Risks Cancellation**

Before half term, I shared information about the amount still outstanding in each year group for trips and visits. Letters also went out to all families outlining the amount still outstanding. As explained previously the school has to use the phrase ‘voluntary contribution’ and cannot discriminate if some pay and others do not. Each contribution is calculated by the total for all the trips and visits in the year divided by the amount of pupils. The school does not make any money on the trips and what each family pays is their share of the total cost. If any family does not pay, then this is the money that the school has to redeploy from other parts of the budget. The school cannot afford to do this and if we do not receive enough voluntary contributions, then we will have to cancel the trip and pro-rata refunds to families that have paid.

For the forthcoming Y1 trip to Ruislip Lido, the school is in a lose-lose position. Currently, £955 is still outstanding for all the trips and visits that have taken place this year. The cost of the two coaches is £950. When booking two or more coaches, if you cancel at any point after booking, you lose 50% of the total cost (£475). When it gets to ten days before the trip, the percentage that you pay to the coach company if you cancel increases further. Therefore if the school runs the trip as it currently stands, we lose £955. If we cancel the trip, when refunds are factored in for families that have paid the voluntary contribution, we still stand to lose a similar amount. We will look at how much money has been received by Friday and make a decision on whether the trip will go ahead then. This will be communicated in next week’s bulletin.

If any family is struggling to pay the voluntary contribution, please could I reiterate that they make an appointment with me to discuss this further.

**Y1 and Y2 Phonics Check**

This will be taking place next week for all children in Y1 and children in Y2 who did not pass the check last year in Y1. The check involves children reading a selection of words, some real and some not real (pseudo) words. There are 40 words in total and in the past, children have needed to get around 32 words correct in order to pass the check. Any child that does not pass the check in Y1 gets continued support in phonics in Y2.

**CAFFS Update**

An email was sent out before half term about a CAFFS meeting on Wednesday 5th June. This meeting will plan out the Doughnut for Dads event and discuss future events. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Please find the list of upcoming CAFFS dates:

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| Wednesday 5th June (9am) | CAFFS Meeting |
| Monday 17th June  | Doughnuts for Dads |

**Summer Key Dates (new events in yellow)**

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| Monday 10th June to Friday 14th June | Y1 Phonics Check |
| Tuesday 11th June (9:10- 9:40am) | Y2 Eid Assembly |
| Monday 17th June (8:55-9:25am) | Doughnut for Dads |
| Thursday 20th  June  | Y1 trip to Ruislip Lido |
| Tuesday 2nd July (AM) | Sports Day |
| Wednesday 3rd July | Transition Day |
| Thursday 4th July | Reception trip to Chessington Sea Life Centre |
| Friday 5th July | Sports Day (Reserve date in case of bad weather on Tuesday 2nd July) |
| Thursday 11th July | Question and Answer Session with Head of School |
| Tuesday 16th July | Y3 trip to Ufton Court |
| Wednesday 24th July | Last Day of Term |