Civitas Academy Bulletin

10/06/19



**Welcome from Mr Wieder**

Despite only having four days for the children, there was a lot going on last week. Children in Y1 took part in a drama workshop; Y3 children went on their trip to Reading Museum and Abbey; Y2 were busy preparing for their Eid assembly. This assembly will be shared with the school community this Tuesday. Selected children in Y2 and Y3 also had the opportunity to represent the school in a tri-golf competition.

I attended the CAFFS meeting held on Wednesday morning. We shared a lot of ideas, but many of these will depend on increasing the amount of volunteers. CAFFS intend to be at our Sports Day on the 2nd July and Transition Day on the 3rd July. They will also be running a tuck shop on alternate Fridays this half term, starting from this Friday. Please come and speak to the CAFFS team and sign up if you can help in anyway. The CAFFS team have also set up a Facebook page for parents that will always contain the most up to date information. There is also a WhatsApp group. One of our ‘Civitas Certainties’ is community and we are keen to build links whenever we can. CAFFS offers an ideal way in which the parent community can engage with the school. Eventually, CAFFS are looking towards a model where there can be classroom representatives, but before we get to that stage, CAFFS need more people involved. Please feel free to use one of the upcoming events this term to chat to some of the members of CAFFS.

**Doughnuts for Dads**

On Monday 17th June, CAFFS will be providing doughnuts for dads or a male member of the family to celebrate Father’s Day. This will take place in the hall from 8:30 onwards and will run in the same fashion as the Muffins for Mums event that was used to celebrate Mother’s Day earlier this year. Further information will be available on the CAFFS Facebook page.

**Staffing Update**

I am pleased to announce that all teachers working at the school next year have been recruited and all will be on permanent contracts. I am excited by the quality of the teachers joining the school that will add to our existing strong team of teachers.

As the school grows, we have also strengthened leadership capacity for 2019-20. Last half term, we appointed Miss Frain as the Y3/4 Phase Lead and English Lead for the school; Miss Boman as the Wider Curriculum Lead; Mrs Tailor as Acting Early Years Lead (maternity cover for Mrs Witkowski). In September, we will be looking to appoint a STEM Lead (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) from the team of teachers. Mrs Carey will be leading PSHE and Pupil Premium; Miss Bradburn will be the Phonics Lead.

In a future bulletin, I will publish the staff list for next academic year alongside the name of the class that they will be teaching. Due to high rates of pupil mobility within the school, a decision has been made to split the classes in Y1 upwards again. This will address imbalances between classes. Current teachers in Y1,Y2 and Y3 are carefully looking at classes to ensure that we get the best balance possible. EYFS classes will remain the same to support transition into Y1.

We are currently advertising for two learning support assistant roles within the school. Both will initially be on temporary contracts. Further details can be found on the front page of the school website. The deadline for applications is Monday 17th June. We will also be advertising for a caretaker shortly.

Mrs Betherwick (Mrs B) will the class teacher for Elmer Class on Monday and Friday for the remainder of the academic year.

**Trips and Visits: Y1 Trip**

Thank you to all the families that have paid or indicated that they will pay. As mentioned previously, the school is in a lose-lose position and I do not want the children to miss out. Therefore, a decision has been made to proceed with the trip with the hope that we can recover as much money as possible. Any contributions not made will mean that the budget for resources for children will be cut next academic year by the amount lost on trips this year. This is obviously not sustainable so next academic year we will be going back to the system where trips and visits are charged for on an individual basis. Therefore a decision on the viability of each trip can be considered.

**Y1 and Y2 Phonics Check**

This is taking place this 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.

**Birthday Sweets/Treats**

A reminder that if children wish to hand out birthday sweets and treats on the playground, this should not be immediately by the classroom door exit. There needs to be a space for children to pass through and exit safely at the end of the day.

**Baker Street: Play Street**

I have been informed of a community initiative where Baker Street will be closed to traffic in order to facilitate supervised play. This will take place from 3pm and run until 6pm on the following dates: 18th June, 2nd July and 16th July. Further details can be found on: <https://playingout.net/>

**Attendance Challenge**

The next attendance will take place from today and will last for the next five weeks. Each week the children will receive a 100% attendance card if they are in all week and on time. If your child is in school and on time for five successive weeks they will receive a 100% certificate and prize.

**Events List Update**

I have updated the events list with further events for this term. There are some additional sports competitions, a talent show for the children and a concert for parents in Y3.

**CAFFS Update**

Please find the list of upcoming CAFFS dates:

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| Friday 14th June (3:15pm) | CAFFS Tuck Shop/ Lost Property |
| Monday 17th June | Doughnuts for Dads |
| Monday 24th June (9:15am) | CAFFS Meeting |

**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 25th June | Y1 Multisport Event at Civitas |
| Wednesday 26th June | Y2 Multisport Event at Civitas |
| Friday 28th June (13:15-15:15 | Change4Life Berkshire School Games Final (selected pupils) at Bisham Abbey |
| 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) |
| Tuesday 9th July (9:30am) | Y3 Ukulele concert for parents |
| Thursday 11th July | Question and Answer Session with Head of School |
| Friday 12th July | Reports to parents |
| Tuesday 16th July | Y3 trip to Ufton Court |
| Tuesday 23rd July | Civitas Talent Show (children only) |
| Wednesday 24th July | Last Day of Term |