

Spring Bulletin

Friday 19th January 2024



Message from Salima Ducker, Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's certainly been a chilly week this week! Please continue to send the children into school with all the appropriate 'winter wrapping!' In addition to their winter jackets, it would be great if they had their scarfs, hats and gloves too.

Last week I briefly mentioned about some of our work around Internet Safety and some of the areas we will be addressing on Safer Internet Day; that day also falls during Children's Mental Health Week (5th-11th February 2024), where the theme this year is 'My Voice Matters.' We couldn't agree more, as part of our 'Pastoral Toolkit' at Civitas, our children are already familiar with using our 'Three Houses', 'Blob Trees' as tools to help express themselves.

'My Voice Matters,' focuses on ensuring we are empowering our children by providing them with all the different tools they may need to express themselves. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing.

As we approach Children's Mental Health week, we will share some more information with you so you can continue to support your child/children with this too 😊

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	Mustapha	For settling in so well this term and doing some excellent Phonics.
Paddington	Ira	For working very hard in all her learning challenges and being a kind friend.
KS1		
Pinocchio	Gurtaj	For creating a great story map in English.
Gruffalo	Aama	For super progress with her reading.
BFG	Supriya	For persevering when learning about money – using STEM sentences to explain her answers.
Matilda	Mira	For trying hard in all her lessons, working independently and not giving up!
KS2		
Rosen	Nithin	For his positive attitude and resilience despite any challenges.
Kinney	Angela	Working hard on sentence writing and applying her phonics knowledge to her writing.
Richards	Louize	For being resilient and always having a smile on her face.
Murphy	Mary	For starting to make great progress in her English and always smiling in class.
Avery	Amber	For continuing to be her best self and show resilience throughout the week.
Zephaniah	Shaina	For trying her best in her work and settling in well at Civitas.
Draper	Natalie	For showing care and compassion towards others.
Lewis	Ali	For consistently working hard and putting in maximum effort.

House	Total House Points this week	Total
Aqua	468	4143
Terra	448	4100
Ignis	485	3652
Atmos	412	4153

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

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Helena
Paddington	Ira
Gruffalo	Hassan
Pinocchio	Amelia
BFG	Alan
Matilda	Freddie
Kinney	Eudora
Rosen	Anaaya
Murphy	Mukunthan
Richards	Leen
Avery	Amber
Zephaniah	Advika
Draper	Dorian
Lewis	Fathima

Achievements outside of school

Name	Class	Achievement

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.

	12.01.24	19.01.24	26.01.24	02.02.24	09.02.24	
Reception	94.5%	93.2%				
Year 1	94.3%	94.1%				
Year 2	89.9%	91.9%				
Year 3	96.6%	95.5%				
Year 4	85.8%	88.1%				
Year 5	96.9%	97.5%				
Year 6	94.9%	94.8%				

What have we been learning this week?

Reception:

The children have worked very hard this week to get back into their learning routine, doing their daily Phonics lessons of the sounds **oo (moon), oo (book), ar (park), or (horn)**. Children have been practising their handwriting and ensuring they are writing on the line, learning their ascenders and descenders and using their phonics to sound out words. This week we have been learning all about King and King and how all forms of love are wonderful and to be celebrated. We have explored the concepts of love, acceptance, kindness and overcoming prejudice. The children have really enjoyed completing their Rainbow Challenges in counting one more, one less, practicing writing, reading, and spelling their tricky words **you, was and they** and improving their cutting skills by using scissors safely. We have welcomed some new children to Reception this term and the children have been very warm and welcoming and showed their new peers all the ways to be ready, respectful, and safe. In addition, the children have been improving their oracy (speaking) skills and children have been using their speaking skills to show off their learning at home to their class and to improve their confidence speaking in front of their peers. Thank you to all the parents who read and post learning on Tapestry each week. Any parents who need support to set up their eBooks and how to use Tapestry, please come and speak to the EYFS team and we will sit and help you! Thank you for your ongoing support, we are very grateful!

Key Stage 1

Year 1:

In Maths we learnt about the teen numbers and the value of each digit within the number. In English we created a story map for "Little Red Reading Hood" and learnt how to write questions. This term in History we are learning about Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. This week we learnt about the role of nurses. In Art we creating a realistic self-portrait using pencil and shading. This term we are learning about materials in Science; we searched for objects around our classroom made from different types of materials like wood, plastic and glass. In RE we learnt about the story of Zaccheus and how it is not always easy to be a good friend. Each child considered when they had been kind and what their actions were. In PSHE we discovered that there are steps that we would need to follow to achieve a goal.

Year 2:

What a busy week in Year 2! In English, we learnt about conjunctions and worked hard to include these when writing setting descriptions about Hermelin's attic! This will support us when we write our own narratives. In Maths, we are learning about money and comparing different amounts using the greater and less than symbols: it was important to remember to count pounds then pence. In Geography, we discovered how to use atlases appropriately and used them to locate and label the continents. During Science, we identified materials outside of the classroom and categorised them by use such as benches made from wood. In PSHE, we discussed the meaning of perseverance and setting smart targets to achieve our goals. As part of our Whole Class Reading lessons, we loved exploring our new text called 'The Dragonsitter' refining our reading skills. Homework books will be marked from Monday 22nd January – please ensure they are returned with your child.

Key Stage 2

Year 3:

This week in English, we have continued exploring features of a narrative. We have also been exploring dialogue, adverbs and prepositions, these features will help us write our narratives next week. In math we have been looking at partitioning 2-digit numbers when multiplying by a single digit number. We have continued to use arrays, place value charts and dienes to support us with this. In science we have been comparing rocks based on appearance and properties. Some of the key property vocabulary we have explored are: Permeable, impermeable, high density, low density, durable and less durable. We tested each rock on it's properties and recorded our results. In R.E we looked at a variety of pictures of children that may be facing challenges, we tried to prioritise the challenge seen in groups. We discussed challenges that we have faced or may face and what we can do to succeed at through these challenges.



Year 4:

This week in Year 4 we have been learning about this terms focusing in Design Technology lessons. We will be making and designing a quilt which we will make in class – here is an example of some our designs:

We have also been working hard at our new History topic on the Saxons and looking at classification of animals in Science.

However, the lesson we are most enjoying now is “James and the giant peach” as we are about to meet are new a magic character in the book.



Year 5:

During our English lessons this week, we have been delving deeper into the characteristics of narrative writing. Additionally, we have explored the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur, noting similarities between it and the myths we read last week. In maths, we have been focusing on column method multiplication, expanding our understanding to include multiplying 2, 3, and 4-digit numbers by two digits. Through daily practice, we have improved our ability to explore the method and achieve accurate results. In geography, we learned how to utilise the 6-figure reference grid to locate Athens in Greece. Furthermore, in PSHE, we learned about the importance of internet safety and strategies to safeguard ourselves online. Finally, our first swimming lesson went well, and we are eagerly anticipating our next session.

Year 6:

In English this week we have been focusing on a number of writing skills to build tension and suspense in our writing with a particular focus on dialogue. In maths we have continued working with decimal numbers, learning how to add and subtract and divide by 10, 100 and 1000. In DT we have been getting very creative. Our end of unit project is to design and make a hat for the Royal Ascot. The children have come up with theme ideas for their designs and then have created mood boards using different images, colours and textures. In music we have been learning to sing the song 'A New Year Carol' by Benjamin Britten and in history we have introduced our new unit for the term 'Pandemics Through Time'. We started the unit by sharing our own knowledge of the recent covid pandemic and we then introduced some of the other pandemics we will be studying of the course of the term including the Great Plague and the Black Death.

Communication to the school

Absence reporting still needs to be done via 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

Year 1: year1@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 2: year2@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 3: year3@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 4: year4@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 5: year5@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 6: year6@civitasacademy.co.uk

KEY DATES

- Wk beginning 22nd Jan – Clubs begin
- Wk beginning 5th Feb – Children's Mental Health Week – My Voice Matters
- Friday 2nd February – NSPCC Number Day – (Wear something number related)
- Tuesday 6th February – Safer Internet Day
- Friday 9th February – Wellbeing Friday (Non-uniform)