



Civitas Academy

Summer Bulletin – Friday 12th May 2023 – Message from Salima Ducker – Executive Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, can I say a huge congratulations to all our Year 6 children, families and team for a fantastic week. It has been a week full of focus, fun and friendship, long may it continue! Thank you for all the support that has been shown from our whole school community.

Over the next few weeks our children in Year 2 will be participating in their KS1 SATs, they have been working just as hard, we wish them the very best. Please continue to support them to be **'READY'** by making sure they've had a good night's sleep, a good breakfast and are here, in school on time, thank you.

Following on from my reminder about being **'READY'** for school with part of this including following our uniform policy; I'd like to highlight the importance around earrings. If your child is wearing earrings to school they must be small, plain studs only, hoops are not permitted at all, these can be quite dangerous, particularly when children are running around in the playground.



Examples of appropriate earrings include:

Another really important element of being **'READY'** for school is being here and being here on time. For children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly, and your child should be at school in good time for the start of the school day, every day the school is open, unless they are genuinely ill or there is some other unavoidable reason.

Some children are reluctant to go to school and say they do not feel well. It is for you as the adult, to judge whether they are genuinely unwell, or just unwilling. It will be better for them in the long run to go to school, rather than avoid it, as days off mean they will fall further behind and make them even more reluctant. Any absence affects the child's learning, and the more they miss the harder it will be for them to catch up.

You may wonder why a school would be concerned if your child's attendance is 95%. This may make it easier to understand:

95% equates to half a day off every two weeks

90% equates to a day off every two weeks

85% equates to one and a half days off every two weeks

80% equates to one whole day off every week

Even the most enthusiastic learner will find it hard to keep up with their work with these levels of absence. That is why we encourage the highest attendance possible.

Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Dhruvan	For outstanding effort in his reading and writing.
Paddington	Stefy	For working so hard on her phonics
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Danny	For working hard to find halves of numbers in Maths.
Pinocchio:	Gregory	For working hard in Maths in to find halves.
BFG:	Ben	For working very hard to manage his emotions in times of challenge.
Matilda:	Deven	For trying really hard in Maths and becoming more confident when giving answers.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Rhythm	Working hard in Maths lessons and not giving up while adding money.
Kinney	Sana	For being a kind and respectful member of the class
Richards	Alaiyah	For being ready to learn and supporting her peers with their learning.
Murphy	Sanvit	For trying hard to remain focused and on task in every lesson.
Zephaniah	Kornelia	For a fantastic explanation text which she bravely shared with the whole class
Avery	Mason	For making a real effort to improve and try his best in his writing.
Draper	ALL OF YEAR 6	For trying so hard in their SATs!
Lewis	ALL OF YEAR 6	For trying so hard in their SATs!

House Points – Well done **TERRA** house for gaining the most house points this week.

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua	397	9521
Ignis	458	9475
Terra	511	9269
Atmos	443	9378

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	Shaheer
Paddington	Vladmir
Gruffalo	Alan
Pinocchio	Malak
BFG	Aoife
Matilda	Manveer
Kinney	Eva
Rosen	Jasmine
Murphy	NO P.E.
Richards	NO P.E.
Avery	Ali
Zephaniah	Saviir
Draper	NO P.E.
Lewis	NO P.E.

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, this is not accumulative from the beginning of the year.

Year Group	21/04	28/04	05/05	12/05	19/05	26/05
Reception	89.3%	93.1%	93.5%	92.8%		
Year 1	87.1%	93.4%	94.9%	98.6%		
Year 2	94.5%	94.7%	97.2%	95.4%		
Year 3	84.9%	96.9%	96.8%	91.9%		
Year 4	92.6%	95.2%	98.3%	89.5%		
Year 5	93.4%	96.9%	94.5%	97.6%		
Year 6	88.2%	92.9%	93.9%	99.3%		

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

This week we continued to focus on the text 'Where's the elephant'. We looked at the differences between a jungle and a rainforest. We discovered that there are different kinds of rainforests. We looked at the animals that live here, and why some of them are endangered. The children continued to learn about deforestation, and why this happens. This book encourages children to think carefully about the impact humans have on the environment. What can we do to prevent deforestation? We discussed palm oil production as it is said to have been responsible for a certain amount of the world's deforestation. In maths this week, we have been focusing on 'adding more'. We used real objects to add more. We have been creating number stories using 10 frames, number tracks and fingers. In art, we have been making crocodiles. It was so lovely to see so many children writing about the story using their phonics. The children also thought about capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children used their cutting skills to cut out jungle animal masks and used them in the role play areas. Next Friday, it will be Mrs. De Sousa's last day in EY. We would like to thank her for being such a fantastic and lovely teacher and colleague. We will all miss her, and the Early Years team and children would like to wish her all the best for the future!

Year 1: This week in English, Year 1 have read a new text called 'Dear Greenpeace' written by Simon James. We made fantastic predictions, explored the pictures in detail and discussed the meaning of new vocabulary including words like 'endangered' and 'migratory'. In Maths, we will be learning about fractions, so we have focused on finding halves of numbers. We discussed how to share things equally investigating numbers that can be halved and numbers that cannot. Year 1 classrooms were polluted with plastic instead of the recycling bin! In Geography, we learnt about the meaning of plastic pollution and discussed how we can protect the planet. This links to our global learning theme of sustainable development. In Art, we learnt a new technique called weaving – we practised this using different coloured paper. For Science, we learnt about how seasons affect the length of the day by looking at various diagrams to identify the season! It has been a lovely week ending with a surprise workshop and performance of 'Peter Pan'!



Year 2: Year 2 have been working their socks off in preparation for their SATs that will commence over the next two weeks of half term. We have been revising shape, time, money, fractions and length. The children have been focusing on inference and retrieval skills which are the most common question types that come up in their Reading SATs. They have worked very hard on this, and it will be good to keep practicing at home in their comprehension workbooks. In Geography, we have looked at aerial maps to compare green spaces in London and Reading and how we could spruce up Victoria Park for the local community. In Science, the children recapped their 5 senses, body parts and we then discussed what objects are dead, alive or never living.

Key Stage 2

Year 3: This week in Maths we used pounds and pence in addition and subtraction sums, found change and completed a final assessment. The majority of children know their TT Rockstars passwords and usernames and can log on independently to the iPads and computers. Please ensure your child can practice their timetables daily whether it is on TT Rockstars or not. In English we started our new unit of study, an explanation text. Our first lesson was learning about the process of mummification. This was in equal parts gory as it was interesting! We started identifying explanatory text features and using time adverbials in our writing. Science is becoming the favourite lesson of the week! There is magic in magnets. In Rosen class our student teacher, Miss Mcknight set out an experiment for us to complete to see if magnetic force can act at a distance. In Kinney class we made out paperclips dance! In Art we have created our portraits in the style of Kimmy Cantrell and are now planning and using colour. We have been learning the song Momma Mia in our music lessons. Last week we learnt pulse, rhythm and pitch through playing games. Today we used our previous knowledge to help us get the correct pulse using the glockenspiel to find the note 'G' and play along with the song. In our Global learning theme 'Power and Governance' we learnt about democracy and the right to vote. We voted on which flavour ice cream was the best, Rosen class's democratic vote revealed that chocolate was the majority of members choice, in Kinney class the majority voted for strawberry ice cream.



Year 4: Year 4 have had a fun-filled week this week! We started our week exploring our new English writing topic – instructions. We have learned all about the different features and found them in a range of different examples. Next week, we will be putting our knowledge of these features to the test during our skills week before we write our own set of instructions! In maths this week we have finished our decimals topic and moved on to money. We have used fake money to understand the value of each coin and have even started converting pounds to pence! Throughout our afternoon lessons we have started to link our English writing to our Science. We have made lot's of different circuits and explored a range of conductors and insulators. As we progress, we will begin to use this knowledge to write a set of instructions for an electrical board game that we will be making as part of our DT project.

Year 5: This week in year 5 we have been drafting and editing our own explanation texts all about the crime and punishment in the Victorian era. In maths this week we have begun our new maths topic of angles and shape. We have been exploring the different types of angles through our angle game and used protractors to measure a range of angles. In Global Learning this week we have been exploring crime and punishment throughout the ages and compared this to modern preventative strategies. We have linked this to our Guided Reading though our book, Street Child, and have been exploring why someone might commit these crimes in the Victorian era.

Year 6:



Well done to all of Year 6 for completing their SATS – you can now have a well-deserved weekend rest and get ready for our fun summer ahead.

NEW PE timetable:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 4 am	Year 5 Avery am	Year 5 Zephaniah am	Year 3 am	
Year 6 am	Year 1 pm	EYFS pm	Year 2 pm	

News items from this week

Monday 22nd May – Cultural Diversity Day:



We are inviting our children to come dressed in traditional clothing they feel best represents their culture. If they don't want to dress up they can bring something in to show and tell.

NSPCC – Speak out, Stay safe day – Friday 26th May



On Friday 26th May we will be hosting an NSPCC Speak out, stay safe awareness day. Children are invited to wear green to school and we will be holding a 'Danceathon.' We are asking all children to make a £1 donation via SCOPay to the NSPCC charity button.

Dates for the Diary:

Thursday 18 th May	School Census
Monday 22 nd May	Diversity day – info above
Friday 26 th May	Last day of term and NSPCC day
Monday 29 th May-Friday 2 nd June	May half term
Monday 5 th June	Children return to school
Tuesday 27 th June	Provisional – EYFS and KS1 Sports day
Wednesday 28 th June	Provisional – KS2 Sports day
Friday 30 th June	Break the rules day – info to follow
Monday 3 rd July	Inset day – school closed
Thursday 13 th July	Summer Family Funday – info TBC
Friday 21 st July	Last day of term

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

