

Autumn Bulletin – Friday 8th October 2021

Message from Mrs Ducker Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

To continue to support collection at the end of the day we will continue with the cones and signs outside the school gate so our families can easily identify the two separate lines for R/Y1/Y2 at 3.15pm and Y3/4/5/6 at 3.25pm. We want a **safer** collection and to ensure we continue to **respectfully** queue and wait patiently; thank you for your support with this.

It's great to see so many more of our children using their scooters or bikes when coming to school, in order to travel **safely** please make sure our children are wearing their helmets when travelling on bikes or scooters, thank you.



Thank you to our families that have reported to us about the increase of needles that have been found in the park recently. This should be the safest of places for our children to enjoy their time with friends and family but please be mindful of the **UNSAFE** items that are often around. We are trying to work with our local community and residents to improve this area in particular.

Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Avie	For working hard in his phonics and making good progress with writing.
Paddington	Edvin	For always showing a positive attitude and being ready to learn.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Raisa	For fantastic listening and working hard in lessons.
Pinocchio:	Aryon	For always being so happy and cheerful at school.
BFG:	Wajiha	For wonderful effort in phonics and using her new knowledge to segment and blend words in her guided reading.
Matilda:	Mysha	For trying hard in maths and challenging herself.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Lacey	For always striving for excellence in her work.
Kinney	Divyanshu	For always demonstrating enthusiasm towards his learning.
Richards	Nicole	For being respectful, focused in all lessons and working well with others.
Murphy	Selena	For helping others and working hard in every lesson.
Zephaniah	Asher	For working hard in lesson and producing great work.
Avery	Meghana	For always being ready and respectful in Avery class.
Draper	Nathan	For his attitude towards learning, particularly in his literacy

Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 96+% - let's work together to be in school every day.

[Please refer to the email regarding attendance marks and how we can support you with your child's attendance.](#)

Year Group	10/9	17/9	24/9	01/10	08/10	15/10	22/10
Reception	93.2%	95.4%	94.4%	90.0%	82.9%		
Year 1	93.3%	87.2%	95.4%	92.8%	96.2%		
Year 2	95.4%	96.2%	93.8%	96.5%	94.3%		
Year 3	89.8%	81.0%	92.0%	94.1%	98.0%		
Year 4	93.8%	90.2%	93.0%	95.8%	95.2%		
Year 5	84.9%	88.6%	94.5%	97.0%	97.2%		
Year 6	90.0%	97.1%	97.9%	94.5%	94.5%		

House Points - Well done to Ignis house for gaining the most house points this week

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Atmos	471	1860
Terra	304	2190
Aqua	473	1724
Ignis	560	1838

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

This week in maths, Paddington and Elmer class have been learning about comparison. We have been doing lots of practical activities and using the vocabulary of 'more' and 'less', along with explaining why. In literacy we have spent time looking at the book 'Home', which has pictures of many different types of homes. The children have been encouraged to describe the homes with an emphasis on using adjectives. There have been 'home' activities for the children to participate in during independent learning. The sounds we have learnt in phonics this week are g, o, c, k with the tricky word 'go'.



Key Stage 1

Year 1

In English, we have been learning how to create a poster and read a story called 'The Spacesuit'. In maths we are still counting from 1 to 20, and back again. Our focus this week has been working with part-whole models. In our Geography lesson, we looked at human features and physical features around our town. In Music this term, we have been learning about the beat and pulse of a piece of music. We have had such fun dancing and singing along. Science allowed us to explore magnetic and non-magnetic materials in our classroom. We discovered that the most common magnetic material is metal. During our Art lesson, we were inspired by World Mental Health Day and created amazing Yellow artwork.

Year 2

We have been continuing with Addition and Subtraction in maths this week. The children learnt the number bonds to 100 and used the number bonds to 10 to help them. In English, year 2 have been learning about the Titanic and wrote diary entries as if they were a first- or third-class passenger. In DT, the children designed a tower that they would like to build next week. We had a great conversation during our Global Learning session about the importance of including others. We talked about how it would make people feel if they were excluded for their identity. We have also been comparing the geographical features of Reading and Port of Spain in Trinidad and Tobago. If anyone is from Trinidad and Tobago and can share information about the culture there, please let us know as this is what we will be learning next week.

Key Stage 2

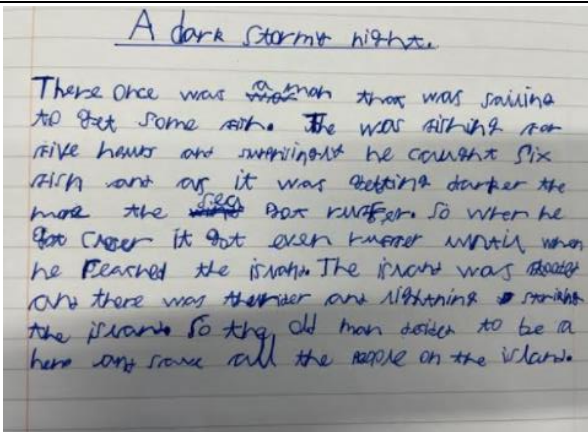
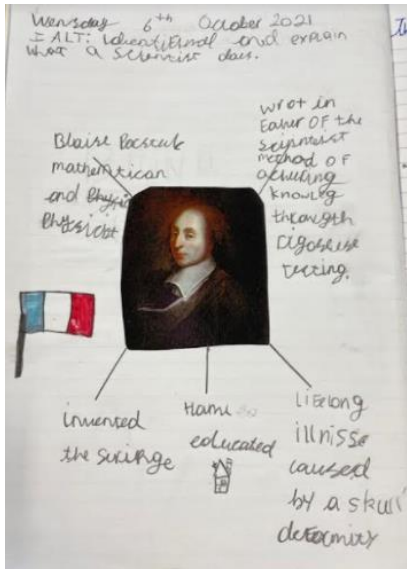
Year 3

We had an exciting week in Year 3 as we went on our first trip of the year! As our geography topic is rivers and clean water, we went for a walk to the River Thames! We were so lucky to have the river close by to visit. During the trip, we looked for different features of the river and looked to see whether there was much pollution and rubbish in the river. When we got back to school, we wrote about our trip. Thank you so much for the parents who supported our trip! In maths this week, we have been adding and subtracting using column method. In English, we began looking at a new text called "The Robot and the Bluebird". We learnt about how to use conjunctions. In RE, this week, we learnt about Diwali and how it is celebrated. We then created our own Diwali lamps! In Science, we learnt about shadows and wrote funny stories about a person who had lost their shadow!



Year 4:

We continued to look at the climate zones around the world in our global curriculum lessons. We then shifted our focus to Science where we looked at the 3 states of matter – gas, liquid and solids and the arrangement of the particles of these forms of matter in their different states; describing how matter can change its’ state when it is cooled or heated. We melted chocolate at different temperatures to see how long it took to melt – unfortunately we did not get to eat any! The children were very engaged in this Science topic and lots of the children came up with interesting examples and questions relating to why certain things burn at different temperatures and the effects it can have on the objects! In Maths, we continued to find 1000 more or less of a number (+1000, -1,000), practised our 4 times table .We completed a fun and creative end of topic page in maths! In English we continued to create pieces of writing based on Azzi in Between, such as descriptions and letters including specific grammar features, such as, time adverbials, prepositional phrases and more. We wrote a spooky story based on a picture of a house stranded in the middle of the floor! In Whole Class Reading we continued reading ‘The Abominables’ and practising our VIPERS reading skills: vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation and retrieval using evidence from the text. A super week year 4!



Year 5:

In English this week we have started planning for our Newspaper report on “Running Wild” - we are trying to recall how to write a newspaper from our lessons in Year 4. We focused on what makes a good newspaper and the “5Ws”. In Maths, we have moved on slightly from addition and started to focus on subtraction. We subtracted numbers as far as the hundred thousand columns. We also produce some “Jackson Pollock” type art this week where we represented our feelings towards natural disasters with different coloured paints. This represented our feeling in colour.

News items from this week

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH

Just like thousands of other schools, on Friday, 15th October 2021, Civitas Academy will be participating in World Mental Health Day. We will be supporting YoungMinds by saying “Hello Yellow!” and turning Civitas Academy yellow. We are asking for children to come to school wearing their own yellow clothes. On this day we are asking if you are able for a small donation to help support young minds, donations to be paid via Tucasi. This contribution will be used to support the work YoungMinds do, fighting for a future where all young minds are supported and empowered, whatever the challenges. Dig out your yellow socks, custard scarf, banana hats and Pikachu costumes – Together Civitas can show young people they're not alone with their mental health!



Uniform/clothing – now that the weather is getting colder, please remember to bring/wear appropriate clothing to school.

We would also like to remind parents/carers to label their child’s uniform. We currently have just under 350 pupils in school, which is a lot of black jumpers, so to ensure it is returned to you, please make sure they are labelled.

Jewellery – children are only permitted to wear small studs in their ears. For PE they must be able to remove their earrings themselves, plasters cannot be worn.

Parking – a reminder to parents/carers to be mindful when parking on Great Knollys Street. The parking bays opposite the school entrance are residence parking only, please respect that residence will need to park here during school drop off and pick up.

COVID-19 reporting – A reminder to all parents regarding COVID-19 reporting: Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you have had close contact with someone who has tested positive you will usually be notified and advised to do so by NHS Test and Trace, including by the NHS COVID-19 app. If you believe that you are a contact of someone with COVID-19 but have not yet been notified by NHS Test and Trace, you should carefully follow the guidance on [how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19](#). In this circumstance you can arrange to take a PCR test, even if you do not have symptoms, because you may be at higher risk of being infected.

If you are concerned that you may have symptoms of COVID-19, or you live with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19, follow the [Stay at Home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19](#).

Contacting Class teachers – If you have a query and would like to contact your child’s class teacher, please see the relevant emails below. Absence reporting still needs to be done via office@civitasacademy.co.uk

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

Friday 15th October	World Mental Health Day - Wearing Yellow
Monday 11th October – Friday 15th October	Year 6 Residential to the Isle of Wight
Wednesday 20th October	Wellbeing Wednesday
Friday 22nd October	Last day of Autumn 1 term
Monday 25th – Friday 29th October	Half term Break
Monday 1st November	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 2nd November	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 9th November	Flu Vaccinations – All Year Groups
Tuesday 9th November and Wednesday 10th November	Parents’ Evening via TEAMS – Bookings will open on Tucasi next week.
Monday 29th November	School Photographs – Individual and school siblings

