

Autumn Bulletin – Friday 10th September 2021

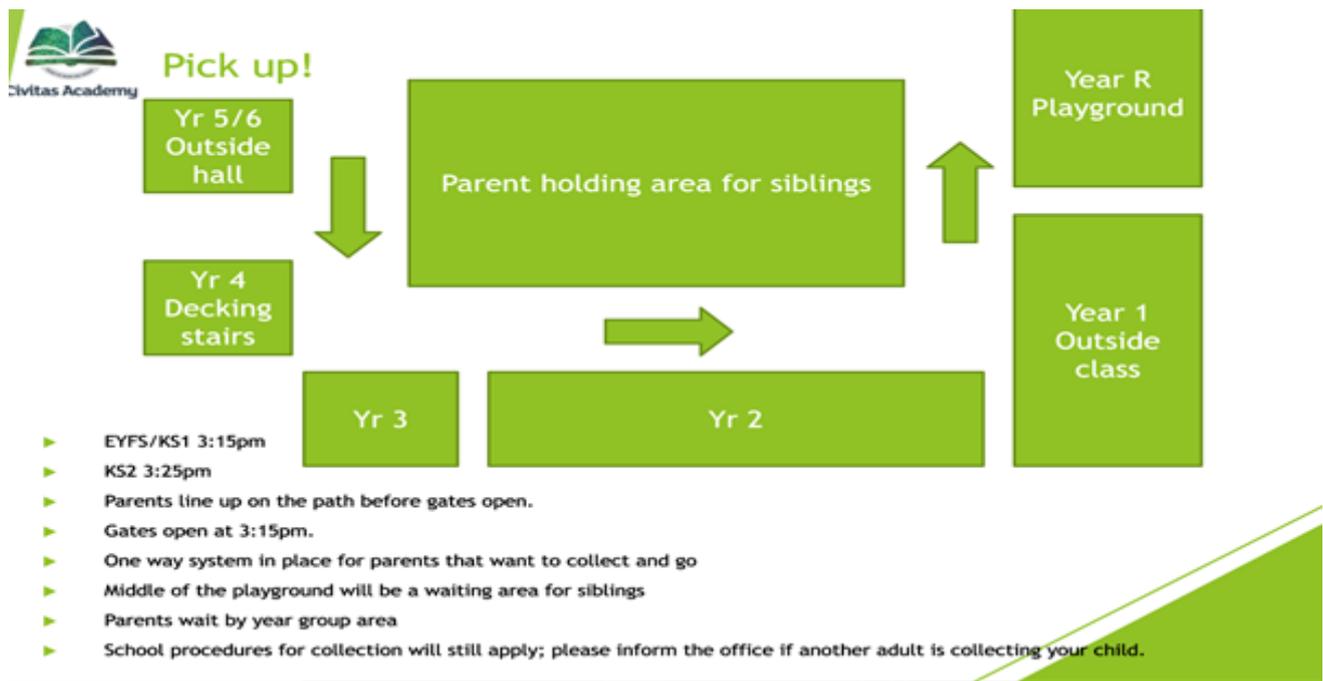
Message from Mrs Ducker – Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to have our first full week here at Civitas with classes all the way from Reception to Year 6. Our children are settling in really well, getting to know new staffing teams and learning the routines for making school as successful as it can be.

As we have grown to be a full school, we were always aware that due to the location of the site and access points into the school that drop offs and collection could become a challenge. We have really appreciated our families support in ensuring we continue to keep safe as we have kept to a one-way system at collection time; we were never going to be able to have over 700 people on the playground at any one time!

In the morning the gates open at 8:40 to allow for a 'soft start' and support safe entry and close at 8:55 when children are expected to be in their classes ready to start the school day. At the end of the day, we welcome our families onto the playground to collect the children using the one-way system and have kept the square in the middle of the playground for families collecting siblings. Reception, Year1 and Year2 finish at **3:15pm** and Years 3, 4,5, and 6 at **3:25pm**. We will continue to take feedback from staff, families, and our residents as to how this is impacting safety around the school and our local area.



Parking outside school

We recognise there is limited parking near school, and this can become frustrating both for yourselves and our residents. It may be that families need to park further away from the school entrance and walk down to the gates. To keep everyone safe you must NOT double park or park in front of the entrance gate on Hodsoll Road. We have asked for additional support from our local PCSOs, so our children, staff and families continue to stay safe.



We will be taking part in this year's Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 17th September. 1 in 25 children has a genetic disorder that makes their life very difficult. Simply by wearing our jeans and donating, we will change the lives of these children. All children and staff are invited to wear their jeans and any other denim on Friday 17th September. The children do not need to wear uniform on this day. We'd like everyone to take part so please send your child into school on the day wearing their jeans and with some coins for their donation. Class teachers will be carrying out some activities related to this charity with our children on the day.

The 'Jeans for Genes Day' organisation have a series of powerful films to explain how your child's donation will make a difference. Each film provides a compelling and personal insight, introducing some amazing children living with genetic disorders, sharing first-hand what life is like with their condition. Please visit [Jeans for Genes Campaign - who we are and the difference we make](#) for more information and to view these films.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Message from Miss Heslop – Education Welfare Pastoral Lead



Civitas Education Welfare and Pastoral Support Offer 2021

Hello Parents and Carers,

Civitas aim to ensure that each child and their families are offered the support they need to ensure that every child gets a positive experience at school, enabling progress academically and emotionally.

Attendance to school is an important part of the journey to the best outcomes; routine, being part of the community of school and the knowledge of the curriculum content support good emotional well-being.

As a reminder our school gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.55am, it is important that children arrive within this time period, so they can get the best start to their day.

We understand at times there may be personal circumstances that prevent punctuality and attendance, in the event that we observe repeated absence or lateness, we have a duty of care to support you and your child, and we will be in touch, our aim for is every child to reach 100% attendance.

Thank you for your time, and if you feel you would like to discuss attendance or need advice or support with other matters, please contact me via the school office.

Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer		To all the children for being independent in coming into class and settling in.
Paddington		To all the children for being independent in coming into class and settling in.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Isabelle	For coming in with confidence and being ready to learn.
Pinocchio:	Jamila	For showing kindness to her classmates.
BFG:	Tayyab	For wonderful listening in whole class reading and having a positive attitude towards his learning.
Matilda:	Giulia	For helping her friends during reading and writing
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Franklina	For showing a positive attitude to her learning.
Kinney	Alicja	For setting an excellent example to her peers by being ready, respectful and safe.
Richards	Pranav	For having a positive attitude to learning, participating in class and being a positive role model to his peers by being ready, respectful and safe.
Murphy	Hriday	For settling into year 4 fantastically and trying his best in all his work
Zephaniah	Alishba	For increased confidence to participate in class and caring about others.
Avery	Abdullah	For settling well into Year 5 and showing resilience when finding task difficult. You have shown you are ready for learning. Well done Abdullah.
Draper	Miruna	For showing a positive attitude towards her learning and giving her best.

Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 97% - let's work together to be in school everyday. Each week we will share attendance for each Year group for that week.

Year Group	10/9	17/9	24/9	01/10	08/10	15/10	22/10
Reception	93.2%						
Year 1	93.3%						
Year 2	95.4%						
Year 3	89.8%						
Year 4	93.8%						
Year 5	84.9%						
Year 6	90.0%						

What have we been learning this week?

Reception

This week we have been focussing on helping the children settle into class and learn the class routines. The children have been amazing in how quickly they have adapted to their new 'normal'. While we have not yet started any 'formal' teaching, we have been spending time getting to know the children, reading stories, playing, singing, finding out what they can or can't do and ensuring they are safe and happy. We have already begun to witness friendships forming both within their own class and across the year group. Tapestry will be available shortly so that you can share what they have been doing in school.

Key Stage 1

Year 1 have begun an exciting theme about Space. In English, we have been exploring our class story book. It is called 'Aliens love Underpants'. In maths we have been counting backwards and forwards within 20 and counting objects to 10. Our Topic lessons have focused on 'Feeling Special' and our new class.

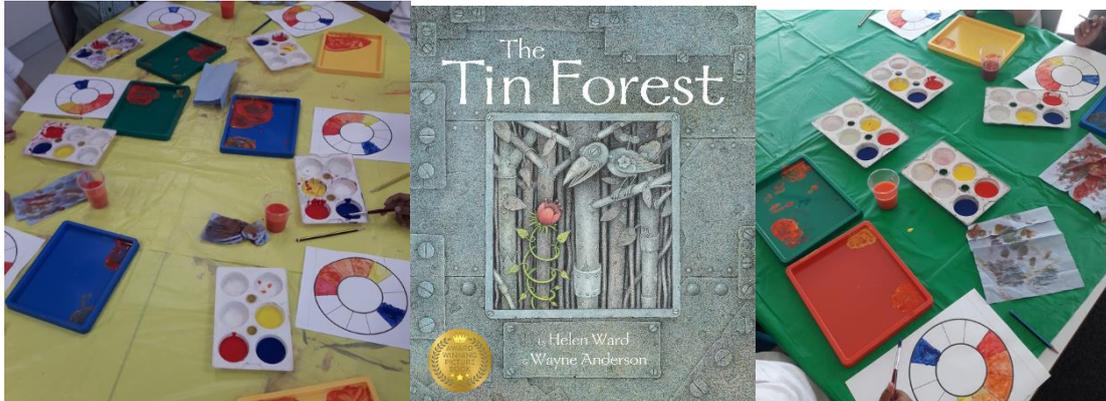
Year 2 This week, year 2 have been practising representing numbers to 100 in maths by using lots of different concrete resources then drawing them in their book. In English, BFG and Matilda class have read the book 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. They've rewritten the story by using a story map to help them sequence and include important key words. The children have been developing their friendship skills in the afternoon setting them up to have a great year in year 2. We have also been reading the book George's Marvellous Medicine and we can't wait to find out what George puts in the medicine for his grandma.



Key Stage 2

Year 3

This week in Year 3, we have begun our maths topic of place value. We have learnt to count in hundreds, represent numbers in a place value chart and investigated what one thousand looks like. In English, we have used adjectives to describe pictures from our new text, "The Tin Forest". We are excited to begin reading the text next week! We also focussed on PSHE this week and discussed our different emotions and worked with partners to act these out. We also discussed friendship and how to play safely. In Art, we created colour wheels by mixing primary colours to create secondary and tertiary colours. We loved our first PE session with Mr Young and Mr K.

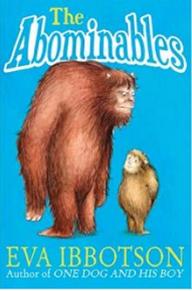
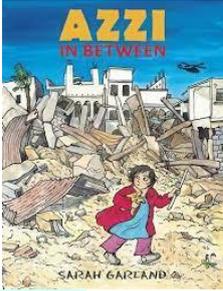


Year 4:

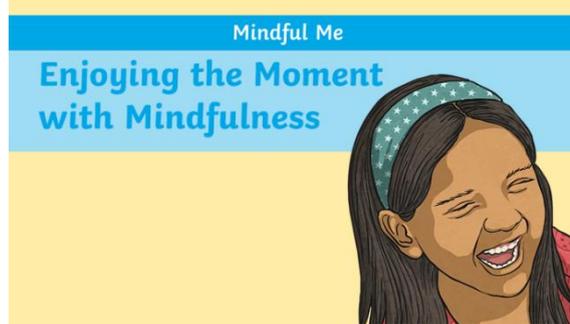
This week in Maths we are focusing on place value and have looked at numbers in the thousands and at rounding to 10. For English, we are reading Azzi in Between and practising our skills in writing descriptions. We are focusing on our use of the "a" and "an" articles correctly, using expanding noun phrases and similes for effect on the reader. Our classes have started to read "The Abominable" to practise the VIPERS reading skills of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation and summary. During PSHE, we have had discussions on Safe Play and practising Mindfulness. In Year 4 Topic, we have looked at the world map and discussed where we come from in the world and wrote descriptions of this.

Ten Thousands (T Th)	Thousands (Th)	Hundreds (H)	Tens (T)	Ones (O)
1	3	5	4	8

Place value of 1 = 10 000
Place value of 3 = 3 000
Place value of 5 = 500 → 1 3 5 4 8
Place value of 4 = 40
Place value of 8 = 8

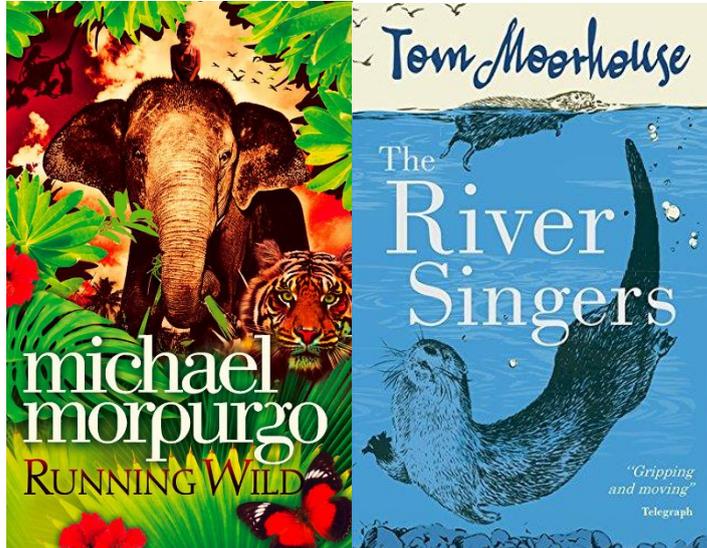


1. What does safe play look like?
2. When have you not seen safe play?



Year 5:

We are so happy to be back and have had a wonderful first week with the students. Miss Parry and Mrs Rapley would like to say a massive well done to all the children who have settled well into Year 5. In English, we started to read our new book "Running Wild" by Michael Morpurgo. We are investigating what it would be like in Indonesia and how we would describe the characters. We have mainly focused on Noun, adjectives, verbs and adverbs this week and we will be looking into more writing features next week.



In maths we have focused on place value and have been really impressed with how much the children remembered from last year. We are now experts at rounding to 10, 100 and 1,000. We have also set Tournaments on TTRS so make sure you play against the Teachers. We have been concentrating on PSHE and wellbeing this week, remembering how we behave in School (Ready, Respectful and Safe), our Rights, Responsibilities, rewards and consequences.

Year 6:

It has been fantastic to have our first ever Year 6 back in school this week. We have talked about their responsibilities, both in school and the wider community. This has linked well with our overarching topic "Global Citizenship" which will underpin our humanities studies.

Rose is thinking of a 6-digit number.

The greatest digit has the largest possible value.
The second digit is double the last digit.
The first and last digits add up to 11.
The last 3 digits add up to 14.
The value of the digit in the thousands column is 3.
The value of the digit in the hundreds column is 7.

What is Rose's number?

Extensions: Write a number and cover it with a post-it note. Write your own clues on the post-it for a friend to guess the number.

Use the digit cards and statements to work out my number.

0 3 3 5 5 6 7

- The ten thousands and hundreds have the same digit.
- The hundred thousand digit is double the tens digit.
- It is a six-digit number.
- It is less than six hundred and fifty-five thousand.

Is this the only possible solution?

Gorillas

Gorillas are commonly referred to as a type of ape, but we also know they are mammals and, according to WWF (World Wildlife Federation), are the world's largest primate. The vast majority of apes have long arms and no tail. There are two main types of gorilla: the western gorilla and the eastern gorilla. Interestingly, they have fur-covered bodies, wide shoulders, and human-like hands with opposable thumbs - just like you or I!

Habitat: Gorillas are mainly found in central Africa and are native to countries such as the Congo. The Democratic Republic of Congo is believed to be one of only 3 countries with the endangered mountain gorilla species. Research has shown that Gorillas live in family groups, much like humans, and the majority are found in forests or mountains. Mountain gorillas (scientifically known as Gorilla beringei beringei) have thick fur to protect them from the cold. Furthermore, scientists have observed these incredible creatures building nests - using leaves and branches - to sleep in each night. Surprisingly, older Gorillas build these nests on the ground whilst younger members of the species build them in the trees.

Diet: Gorillas are herbivores so the majority of their diet consists of leaves, which make up around 80%-95% of their diet. They also use tools, which scientists believe help to improve the gorilla's digestion.

In Maths, we have begun to practice our arithmetic skills and focused on our place value knowledge. Miss Frain and I have been incredibly impressed with how the children have adapted to the Year 6 expectations.

In literacy, the children have been exploring the features of an effective non-chronological report. They will then be using their understanding of these skills to create their own non-chronological report.

News items from this week

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](#).

Allergies and Medication – Please make sure that if your child suffers from any allergies or receives any medication, you have informed the office team. Any medication bought into school needs to be signed off by the office and a form completed and signed by the parent/carer.

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

Bike/Scooter shed – From the 20th September we will be reopening our bike/scooter storage shed. These will be left at the owner risk. We advise all children travelling to school on Bikes/Scooters to be wearing a helmet.

Uniform from Brigade – We are aware that Brigade are experiencing difficulties with fulfilling their orders. We have been advised that this may take until the start of October.

Friday 17th September	Jeans for Genes
Friday 15th October	World Mental Health Day
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