

## *Autumn Bulletin – Friday 17th December 2021*

### *Message from Mrs Ducker – Executive Headteacher*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your children have been absolutely fantastic this term! They have done so well building their resilience with the changes they have faced adapting to the way school has had to make some changes to keep everyone safe and support their learning and wellbeing at the same time, whilst trying to keep as many things as 'normal' as possible. The staffing teams have done a fantastic job working with our children this term really focusing on what has been needed for our children to feel **safe** and **ready** and in a good place to learn.

Thank you to **you** too, without your support none of this would be possible. The last couple of weeks of term have been a little more challenging with increased cases of COVID in school and our local community, please continue to support all guidelines to help keep yourselves and others safe.

As sometimes happens in schools, we have a 'good-bye' to say to a member of our team! Mrs Alyson Read has been a supply teacher supporting us in Paddington class this term but will be finishing her time with us today. We would like to thank her for all the time she has given to our children in Early Years in helping them to settle into school and wish her well for her new adventures in the new year. Mrs Peters who we appointed as Early Year Lead in November will be increasing her days from January 2022.

**A reminder that Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 is an INSET day and pupils return to school Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

Have a wonderful break with friends and family, take care and stay safe 😊

# Celebrations and Achievements

Reception:		
Elmer	Mohamed	For working so hard in his phonics this week!
Paddington	Kwasi	For great effort in his independent morning writing.
Key Stage 1:		
Gruffalo:	Emilia	For being ready to learn and always being respectful
Pinocchio:	Kiara	For making steady progress with her reading and writing.
BFG:	Aairah	For building up her stamina in writing and attempting to self-correct her work independently in English.
Matilda:	Layla	For improving in writing by trying to use punctuation correctly.
Key Stage 2:		
Rosen	Alaiyah	For always being well motivated in her learning.
Kinney	Sai	For challenging herself and striving for excellence
Richards	Aida	For trying her best.
Murphy	Jayon	For working hard on his timetables.
Zephaniah	Leksha	For being ready, respectful and safe and making consistent improvements to her work.
Avery	Angelina	For keeping up the amazing resilience in class and working hard to be the best.
Draper	Harry	For his incredible effort during our morning interventions

Weekly Attendance – Our overall school target for the year is 96+% - let's work together to be in school every day. The attendance shown is weekly for each year group.

Year Group	05/11	12/11	19/11	26/11	03/12	10/12	17/12
Reception	90.2%	93.0%	88.8%	87.8%	93.1%	91.4%	85.0%
Year 1	95.8%	95.4%	91.1%	93.3%	91.4%	86.2%	84.4%
Year 2	94.7%	97.1%	93.7%	91.5%	96.6%	95.1%	83.5%
Year 3	96.1%	92.7%	92.5%	93.7%	91.3%	90.3%	90.4%
Year 4	93.2%	95.9%	97.8%	96.6%	96.3%	87.5%	84.0%
Year 5	91.5%	93.1%	91.6%	95.4%	96.1%	90.5%	91.6%
Year 6	92.6%	96.8%	96.6%	99.5%	94.1%	88.2%	92.9%

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

House:	Points this week:	Total:
Atmos	1006	7012
Terra	631	7170
Aqua	877	7330
Ignis	760	8112

# What have we been learning this week?

## Reception

This week in maths, Paddington and Elmer class have been consolidating learning on all the maths they have done this term, the children have been enjoying practical activities to support their understanding in a more structured environment. In literacy we have been exploring the book *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson and have enjoyed doing lots of Christmas activities related to this. The children have enjoyed performing their parts in the Nativity and have really loved all the singing this week. In phonics we have been consolidating the children's learning of the Phase 2 sounds and tricky words.

## Key Stage 1

### **Year 1:**

In English, we have been writing a winter story. We planned the beginning, middle, ending and decided who the characters are going to be and where the story takes place. In maths we have been recapping previous learning from this half term, including number bonds to 10 and tens and ones. In Science we collected information in the form of a tally and used this to answer questions about our favourite pets. We also went on a Minibeast hunt in our school grounds

### **Year 2:**

Year 2 have written an account of their trip by creating a story map, annotating it with key words and time conjunctions then using exclamation marks in the sentences to show emphasis. In maths, the children have been consolidating what they have learnt so far this term. They have been creating their vlogs in groups by planning, discussing, practising and giving feedback to each other on how they can make their vlogs better. You can find these vlogs on the Civitas Year 2 Team.

## Key Stage 2

### **Year 3:**

This week in Maths we revised sharing equally in groups and how this means the same as saying division. In English, we looked at our new stories book cover and predicted what the story was about. We then read the story 'The First Drawing'. This was re-enacted in small groups for the benefit of the class to much amusement. Using everything we learnt last week about a recount, we created a recount of the story. In Spanish we continued practising asking and answering what our name is. Music was a highlight, practising our Christmas carols and then such excitement singing for our parents and visitors. In RE we continued with the 'meaning of Christmas'. History has been very interesting as we have learnt all about the Iron Age. We created a topic page and summarised everything we learnt about the skeleton, muscles, tendons and joints this half term.

### **Year 4:**

Year 4 have had a brilliant week in English and worked hard on both planning, writing, editing and presenting their 'persuasive speeches' all about how and why we can 'Help the Refugees'. In our afternoon global curriculum lessons the children have finished decorating and filling their boxes with lots of gifts and notes welcoming the Afghan refugees to the UK. In Maths, we have focused on our multiplication and division with our 6 times tables and looked at fact families and investigated how times tables links to division. The children have really improved with their Guided reading and are showing real flair for finding the meaning and evidence to support their answers.

Now we will plan our writing.  
We will be using our WAGOLL to help us.

Rewrite the WAGOLL on 'Save our Oceans' to write an article about helping the refugees.

Children to update planning section from WAGOLL last week.

Findings	Notes/Examples	Plan
Download Question	How much rubbish would the ocean, for each time we get cleaned up the coast?	How do we work together to help the ocean? What are the signs of a clean ocean?

13.12.21  
IALT improve my times tables

Starter:

$$150 + \text{---} = 200$$
$$350 - \text{---} = 1$$
$$3 \times 4 + 3 =$$
$$\text{---} = 36 \div 6$$

Challenge:

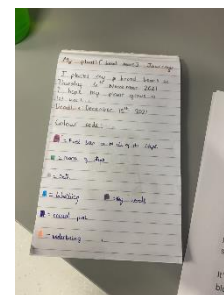
$$1,437 = 1,000 + \text{---} + 30 + 7$$

Daily 10 - 6 timestables

## Year 5:

In English, we continued to focus on writing a biography on William Kamkwamba and how to present it. We have been really impressed with the "Boy who harnessed the wind!" and have enjoyed our Global learning topic which was sustainable development. We have learnt about the effects of climate change, natural disasters, the effects of living longer and what could happen to the world if we reach over 1.5 degrees. I have been really impressed with how the students have been inspired to make a change at school.

In Maths we have continued with our Perimeter and Area module, we have been happy with all the good knowledge we have retained since last year.



We would also like to say a massive well done to the students who wrote diaries about their plants growth and bringing them in or sending pictures. It was great to see how much work and care went into making the plants thrive. Prizes and gifts will be given in January 2022. To complete our Global Curriculum, focus on Sustainable Development this term, we have created a PSA (Public service announcement) in Year 5 so the people outside of the school can see how serious we are about helping our planet. Please see the link here:

[Year 5 Public Service Announcement for Sustainable Development.](#)

We would like to say well done to the students this year; it has been a very long term. We are proud of the resilience we have seen from the children and how they have kept being READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE. Mrs Wareham and Mrs Rapley wish you and the students a restful break and look forward to seeing everyone in 2022!

## Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic first term and I hope you enjoyed seeing their product outcome – a fantastic art gallery based on the sustainable development project.

Please enjoy the rest and some time together over the coming weeks. We will be hitting the ground running when we come back and watch out for announcements on Maths and Reading workshops for parents to further support the children.

# News items from this week

**Lunch menu** - A new Spring menu is on our website please make sure you order for the first week back <https://civitasacademy.co.uk/parents/lunch-menu>

**Free School Meals** - You may be eligible for free school meals, if your financial circumstances have changed, please contact [office@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@civitasacademy.co.uk) with your name (parent), Date of birth and national insurance number, and we can check to see if you are eligible for free school meals. Alternatively please complete this form: [FSM application form](#)

If you need temporary support via a food parcel please contact [donna.heslop@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:donna.heslop@civitasacademy.co.uk), we will be able to refer you to Readifood.

**Updated Covid guidelines** - following advice from Reading Borough Council, any child or member of staff who has a household member test positive for Covid-19 or are identified as a close contact of a positive case, should be advised to take a daily lateral flow test for 7 days, in addition to taking a one-off PCR test. Anyone who is exempt from self-isolation (those aged under 18 or adults who are fully vaccinated) and who tests negative can continue to attend school during this period of daily lateral flow testing and whilst waiting for their PCR result (unless directed otherwise by the Health Protection Team (HPT) or Council), but must isolate immediately if they become symptomatic. If you have any question, please contact the office.

<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Staff Inset – school closed to pupils</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>School starts for Spring term 1 - gates open at 8:40am</b>

**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](mailto:office@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Reception: [earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 1: [year1@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year1@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 2: [year2@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year2@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 3: [year3@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year3@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 4: [year4@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year4@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 5: [year5@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year5@civitasacademy.co.uk)

Year 6: [year6@civitasacademy.co.uk](mailto:year6@civitasacademy.co.uk)

