Civitas Academy Bulletin

29/04/19



**Welcome from Mr Wieder**

I hope that everybody had a restful break and made the most of the great weather over the Easter weekend. It was great to see the children return to school last week refreshed and ready to learn.

The last week of term was certainly eventful with lots going on. Year 3 children performed a successful Easter assembly at Holy Trinity Church. I was really impressed with how all of the children had learnt of all of their lines, songs and actions. Well done to all involved! Project celebrations were well attended and it was great to see the children showing off their work and talking about their learning.

Muffins for mums on the Friday was also a success and thank you to CAFFS for their donation of muffins for this event.

The first three days back have also been busy with Reception going on a trip to Marwell Zoo and class photographs taking place on the Friday. We also hosted a meeting at the school on Thursday where teachers in Y2 across all of the schools in Reading came to compare teacher assessments in order to ensure consistency in judgments between schools.

**Key Stage 1 SATS**

Year 2 children around the country have to complete national assessments in reading and mathematics during the month of May. These results are used to inform teacher judgements that are submitted to the government in June. Each school has the flexibility to choose when they will complete the tests in May. At Civitas, we have opted to run the tests between Tuesday 14th May and Tuesday 21st May. A presentation for parents was ran earlier this year on the assessments and a copy of this can be found on the Y2 class pages on the school website. Teacher assessments will be recorded in the end of year reports.

**Y1 and Y2 Phonics Check**

Year 1 children around the country complete a national assessment to monitor the proportion of children working at the expected standard in phonics for their age. This will take place during the week of Monday 10th June. Children in Y2 who did not pass the check last year will re-do the test during that week. Results of this check will be included in the end of year report.

**EYFS**

At the end of Reception, teachers will need to make an assessment on whether or not the child has met or exceeded the Early Learning Goal for all 17 areas of the Early Years Framework. These results are submitted to the local authority in June and the results included in the end of year report

**Trips and Visits Reminder**

There still remains a large amount of money still outstanding. Please could anyone with an outstanding balance settle as soon as possible. We are hoping to run all planned trips. If anyone is going to have difficulties in paying, please could they arrange an appointment with myself.

**Governing Body**

Currently the school has a joint governing body with Palmer Academy. Previously Ranhiket Academy was also part of the joint governing body as well, but they moved to an individual governing body in January this year. With the school growing, it is likely that we will move to an individual governing body ourselves in September this year. As a result, we will be looking at appointing additional governors later this term (probably from June onwards) in preparation for the forthcoming change.

Being a governor at the school involves reading paperwork in advance, attending evening meetings that start at 5pm and last around two hours (currently 6 per year). At these meetings the role is to act as a ‘critical friend’ of the school providing support where required, but also asking challenging questions about what is being presented. There are also currently five further occasions where you spend a focus session (normally around 2-3 hours) seeing the school in action on a particular topic.

The governing body for an academy school is different to a governing body for a local authority school. The main difference being that the academy trust (Reach2) will control certain aspects and delegate other aspects to the local governing body. Currently the existing governing body has a focus on standards in school and community links.

There are different types of governor vacancies that are likely to arise, which may suit a range of you in the school community. At the moment, there are likely to be vacancies for parent governors and trust governors. The difference between a trust governor and a parent governor is that a parent governor is elected by the parents whereas a trust governor is selected by Reach2.

You do need to be an expert in education matters to be a good governor. In fact, most successful governing bodies have a diverse range of experiences and backgrounds. If you would like to find out more, please speak to me on the gate or arrange to make an appointment.

**Data Sheet**

Over the next few weeks, Mrs Newman will be sending out the data that the school currently holds for you. Please could you check to see if these are correct and annotate any changes that are required. Please could you then return the sheet in an envelope. If there are no changes, please write ‘no changes’ on the first page. We will begin the process with children in Y3. Thank you in advance for supporting us keep up to date records for your child.

**School Dinners**

Please could families book meals wherever possible using the Tucasi system. Children up the end of Y2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, however if no preference on Tucasi is indicated your child will be issued with a vegetarian meal. Children in Y3 upwards will need to purchase school meals, unless the child is eligible for a free school meal.

**Curriculum Overview Meeting: Thursday 2nd May**

This will take place in classes between 3:30 and 4pm on Thursday after school. For anyone unable to make it, the curriculum overviews for this term will be uploaded to the school website in due course.

**Head of School Question and Answer Session**

The next question and answer session will take place in the hall at 9am on Thursday 9th May. For anyone unable to make the session who has a question, please submit these via email. I will provide a summary of responses in a future bulletin.

**CAFFS Update**

Please find the list of upcoming CAFFS dates:

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| Monday 17th June  | Doughnuts for Dads |

**Summer Key Dates (new events in yellow)**

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| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| Thursday 2nd May | Year 3 Change4Life P.E. Festival (selected pupils) |
| Thursday 2nd May (3:30-4pm) | Summer Curriculum Overview Meeting |
| Monday 6th May | Bank Holiday- No School |
| Thursday 9th May (9am-9:30am) | Question and Answer Session with Head of School |
| Tuesday 14th May to Tuesday 21st May | KS1 SATS |
| Thursday 23rd May (3:30-4pm) | Project Celebration |
| Friday 24th May | Y1 Minibeast Bug Ball |
| Monday 3rd June | INSET Day (school closed to pupils) |
| Thursday 6th June | Year 3 TriGolf Competition (selected pupils) |
| Monday 10th June to Friday 14th June | Y1 Phonics Check |
| Tuesday 11th June (9:10- 9:40am) | Y2 Eid Assembly |
| Monday 17th June (8:55-9:25am) | Doughnut for Dads |
| Thursday 20th  June  | Y1 trip to Ruislip Lido |
| Tuesday 2nd July (AM) | Sports Day |
| Wednesday 3rd July | Transition Day |
| Thursday 4th July | Reception trip to Chessington Sea Life Centre |
| Friday 5th July | Sports Day (Reserve date in case of bad weather on Tuesday 2nd July) |
| Thursday 11th July | Question and Answer Session with Head of School |
| Tuesday 16th July | Y3 trip to Ufton Court |
| Wednesday 24th July | Last Day of Term |