

Autumn Bulletin

Friday 8th September 2023

Message from Salima Ducker Executive Headteacher

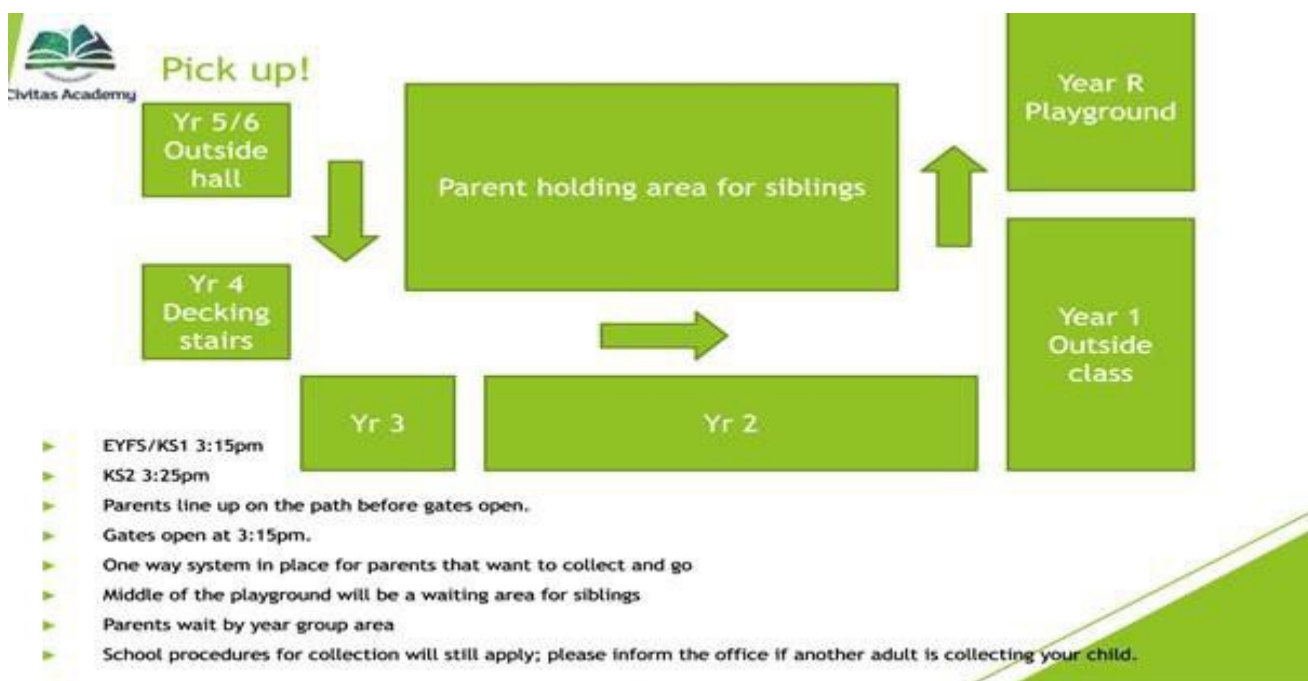


Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our new families who have joined us in Reception and in other year groups this year, our new staffing team members and a welcome back to all our Civitas community. 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.

We have really appreciated our families' support in ensuring we continue to keep safe as we continue with our one-way system at collection time; we're definitely not going to be able to have over 800 people on the playground at any one time!

In the morning the gates open at 8:40 to 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**.



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.

A reminder to all our families that we are a 'Nut free' School. Please ensure packed lunches are checked carefully for all products placed in packed lunch boxes, thank you.



PE TIMETABLE – Autumn Term – PE takes place Tuesdays to Fridays and begins from Tuesday 12th September.

On the day they are scheduled to have PE, children can come into school in their PE kits and remain in their PE kits for the day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Year 4	Year 3	Year 5	Year 6
PM	Year 1	Reception	Year 2	



Today we say our sad farewell to 'Mr. Scott.' We are so grateful for everything you have done for all of us here at Civitas Academy, it has meant so very much. We will miss you but know that not travelling for over an hour on the bus and having a job nearer home means spending more time with Marshall is everything. We wish you the very best in your new role as a Maintenance and Farming Manager, be happy always Scott!

Celebrations and Achievements

Celebrations and achievements will be awarded from the week beginning 11th September 2023

Reception		
Elmer		
Paddington		
KS1		
Gruffalo		
Pinocchio		

BFG		
Matilda		
KS2		
Kinney		
Rosen		
Murphy		
Richards		
Avery		
Zephaniah		
Draper		
Lewis		

Class	Sports Star of the Week
Elmer	
Paddington	
Gruffalo	
Pinocchio	
BFG	
Matilda	
Kinney	
Rosen	
Murphy	
Richards	
Avery	
Zephaniah	
Draper	
Lewis	

House Points

Well done ... house for gaining the most house points this week!

	Points this week:	Total:
Aqua		
Ignis		
Terra		
Atmos		

Attendance

Our overall school target for the year is 96% - 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.

	08/09	15/09	22/09	29/09	6/10	13/10	20/10
Reception							
Year 1	83%						
Year 2	90%						
Year 3	95%						
Year 4	88%						
Year 5	94%						
Year 6	90%						

What have we been learning this week?

Reception:

Paddington and Elmer classes had their very first week in school this week and the children were very brave when saying goodbye to parents at the gate each morning. The children have developed great confidence in exploring their learning environment and making new friends. The children have been doing some nursery rhymes, storytelling, counting to ten, writing numbers and letters and using scissors to cut. Children have also been learning the names of their trusted adults and friends and learning about the classroom routines, rules and expectations in their new school.

We have some new staff in Early Years this year who we are excited to introduce you to. Miss O'Reilly and Mrs Mortimer will be teaching in Paddington Class. Miss Pearce will be teaching in Elmer Class. The learning support assistants are Mrs Hussain, Miss Arooj and Miss Ryan. If parents have any questions, please come to speak with teachers in Reception.

Your children have had a marvellous week and will commence with full school days from next Monday 11th September from 8:40 to 3:15pm. We will communicate with parents through the Tapestry portal with notices, settling in photos of your children, so please ensure that you set up your Tapestry account this week via the link that has been emailed to you all 😊
In addition, if you have any questions or concerns, email our team on earlyyears@civitasacademy.co.uk

Key Stage 1

Year 1:

What a privilege it has been to welcome our children into Year 1 this week. The children in both Gruffalo and Pinocchio classes have both had a wonderful start to the year and we are very proud of them. Their learning has already been very varied where the children have practiced many new skills including phonics, handwriting and skipping. In English we have started exploring our new text called, "Beegu" by Alexis Deacon. In Maths we have sorted objects, counted them accurately and practiced our number formation. We have celebrated our wonderful world and how we can take care of it in RE.

Mrs Watson is the Gruffalo Class Teacher and Ms Inwood the Pinocchio Class Teacher. We are looking forward to meeting you at the Parents' Meetings shortly and hope you can join us. Please feel free to contact us via the Year 1 e-mail as we want to work in partnership with you- Year1@civitasacademy.co.uk

Year 2:

What a great, sunny start to Year 2! Despite the warm weather, the pupils have settled in exceptionally well with changes to a new floor and new teachers. We have started the week recapping our trusted adults, Civitas school rules and spending some time catching up about our busy summer holidays! In English, we have explored our new text called 'Angus rides the Goods train' focusing on predictions and the illustrations. In Whole Class Reading, we have started reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl. As part of our hook, we created our very own marvellous medicines filled with gruesome ingredients! In Maths, we are learning about place value and recapping our times tables learnt in Year 1. Thank you for the warm welcome to Year 2! We look forward to next week's learning!

Key Stage 2

Year 3: We have had a fantastic start to year 3! It has been lovely getting to know the children and they have all settled in really well. We started our week with some 'settling in' activities and getting to know each other better. In English we have been re-capping some important features of writing such as capital letters and full stops. Our text this term is 'The patchwork Path' which ties in with our global learning theme 'Human rights'. We will explore this book more next week. In maths we have been exploring place value and using dienes to represent numbers. We had our first Spanish lesson which the children loved, they will be learning colours, numbers, greetings and much more! In humanities this week we explored The underground railroad as part of our history. It is a focus on slavery and the routes people took to flee. In art, we revisited primary and secondary colours to create colour wheels. We had a great time mixing colours using our colour charts.

We look forward to another great week next week (and hopefully a little bit cooler!)

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Year 4:

What a wonderful start to the year! Our classes have come in very well and have been ready, respectful and safe. We have started this year looking into our new reading book called "The Abominable" about a kind group of Yetis would venture into the human world and learn some lessons on the way. Alongside this book, we have started to plan to write a diary entry in English as one of the people who knew the yetis and stayed with them throughout their time in the human world. In maths, we have been recapping over place value as it is very important to understand the value of the numbers before adding anything else to it. We are very excited to start our new humanities topic which looking into the different life's currently living in the Ukraine and the United Kingdom. We look forward to the next week when we can get further into our topics and continue to work really well in class.

Year 5:

What a wonderful first week we have had in year 5! It was fantastic to meet all our new year 5s. We have started our school year by introducing our first English writing genre – a diary entry inspired by the incredible story of William Kamkwamba also known as *The Boy who Harnessed the Wind*. We created our own ways of harnessing wind through making model wind turbines and discussed the difference between harnessing wind and creating wind. In maths this week we began our new topic of place value and Roman numerals. In guided reading we have begun our new book – *The River Singers* – and explored how we can find information about the book from the cover and blurb. Year 5 also put their previous learning of coordinates to the test in Geography this week by using longitude and latitude to describe locations of countries on a world map. This week has been packed full of excitement and we can't wait to see what the rest of the year has in store for us.

We look forward to meeting the families of our lovely year 5s at the meet the parents evening, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us through year5@civitasacademy.co.uk.

Year 6:

It's been fantastic to see our Year 6s return as wonderful role-models for the rest of the school. This week we've enjoyed hearing about the year 6 opportunities and responsibilities and cannot wait to apply for these positions. In maths we've focused on place value, specifically numbers up to ten million. When writing these numbers, we know exactly where to insert the commas! We will be building up to writing a narrative in English and have read the story of *The Lion and the Unicorn*. The book is about a boy named Lenny who was evacuated during WW2. Not only have we enjoyed listening to the story, we've admired the illustrations and used them to create a story map. In our reading lessons we've started the book *Goodnight Mister Tom*. Our teachers have made us aware of Rosenshine's Principles – including what the symbols mean that we see on our lesson slides. They show us how we effectively learn and help us be our best versions.

Dates for the Diary:

- Tuesday 19th Sept – R-Y3 – Parent Drop ins
- Wednesday 20th Sept – Y4-Y6 Parent Drop ins
- Thursday 21st Sept – Jeans 4 Genes – (School uniform with your jeans)
- Wednesday 18th October – Wellbeing Wednesday
- Friday 20th October – Last day of term
- Monday 23rd Oct – Friday 27th October – Half Term Break
- Monday 30th October – INSET Day
- Tuesday 31st October – Children return to school

A note from Simon Uttley (Headmaster at Blessed Hugh Faringdon) for our Year 6 parents:

I am delighted to have the opportunity to visit Civitas Academy on Thursday 14th September at 15.40 to introduce myself and talk about the transition of your child going into a secondary school. I will also be joined by two of our Year 8 students, who will be speaking about their experience. In addition, we will be holding Year 7 Open Days:

Ofsted GRADED GOOD

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre

True Teaching
Serving the Community in Reading since 1952

Year 7 Entry 2024

OPEN DAY

Thursday

21st September 2023

Morning 9am - 12pm
Evening 5pm - 7.30pm

(10.15am, 5.45pm & 6.30pm Headmaster's Address)

Fawley Road, Southcote
Reading, RG30 3EP

01189 574 730
www.hughfaringdon.org
admin@hughfaringdon.org

Facebook: bhfcs, Twitter: @bhfcs, Instagram: bhfcs

'Outstanding School ... Section 48 Inspection'

PORTSMOUTH CATHOLIC DIOCESE

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

