Civitas Academy Bulletin

07/05/19



**Welcome from Mr Wieder**

I hope that everybody enjoyed the long bank holiday weekend. Last week we had another busy week at the school with visitors, curriculum overview meetings and another sporting success.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the staff for all of their hard work in continuing to make the environment look great around the school. We had visits from the Deputy Regional Director and a trustee of Reach2 last week. Both visitors were really impressed with the school and gave great feedback. As ever, the children were working really hard and trying their best. I would like to share with everyone a piece of feedback that the trustee fed back after his visit on Thursday:

*‘The school had a great feel to it. It was friendly and calm and a sense of the children paying attention and being relaxed! It was like being transported into another world.’*

We also had more sporting success this week qualifying for another Berkshire School Games Finals. Well done to all the children that took part in the Change4Life sporting competition at the John Madjeski Academy. The team finished second overall, which meant that we qualified for our second ever county finals. Well done to all of the children that took part and I will look forward to the Berkshire finals on June 28th. Thank you to Miss Vaal for all of her hard work in preparing the children for this competition.

**Clubs**

Summer clubs begin this week and run until Friday 28th June. As ever, clubs have proven to be extremely popular and were massively oversubscribed. This time round, Miss Vaal has had to limit children to one club only. I would like to apologise for any child who was not able to get into a club this time round, particularly those in Reception.

This term, we were able to offer 130 free club spaces in the following clubs: Change4Life, striking games, cosmic yoga, netball, arts and crafts, athletics, football and summer sports. Thank you to all of the staff that have given up their own free time to run these clubs. Miss Vaal tracks the children that take part in clubs in great detail. Last week, she shared the amazing statistic that 90% of children in the school will have attended an extra-curricular club this academic year. I have never known a figure as high as this in any school that I have worked in previously. This is amazing and I hope that we can add to our club provision to ensure that we can aim even higher next year!

**Key Stage 1 SATS**

At Civitas, we have opted to run the national Y2 tests between Tuesday 14th May and Tuesday 21st May. Good luck to all of the children completing these national tests next week. The key message that we want to reiterate to families and children in the school is that these tests are an opportunity to show off what they have learnt so far at the school. There is no need for children to be anxious and the school expectation is that we just want the children to try their best. The test score is used with ongoing teacher assessment to make the overall judgement, which is communicated 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**

Last week I communicated that the school is likely to be moving towards a single governing body. I made an error in the last paragraph. It should have read:

*You do* ***not*** *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.*

I would like to reiterate that the role of a governor is open to everybody and is a chance to help shape the future of the school. If you are thinking of the possibility of being a governor, please speak to me. Equally, if you are aware of somebody in the local community, who you feel would be a good governor, please point them in the direction of the school.

**Data Sheet/ Acceptable User Agreements**

Thank you for parents who have already returned the data sheets and IT agreement sheet. These went out to Y3 in the first instance. 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.

**School Dinners**

I would like to reiterate the message that was sent out last week about ordering meals in advance on Tucasi. We have to submit orders a week in advance to our caterers. On some occasions, we have had up to ten children turn up to school with no lunch indicated or provided. This is unacceptable and cannot continue. Fortunately, so far we have been able to provide food. However, the school cannot afford to order additional dinners in case some families cannot provide lunch on that particular day.

**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.

Also if anyone would like to provide feedback about what is working well or what they consider needs improving, this would also be the ideal forum to bring these points forward. We are currently reviewing a range of processes, looking at what is working well but also identifying what we need to improve upon next academic year.

**Lost Property**

We are planning to put all outstanding lost property on the benches outside the library on Friday after school. If your child has lost any items, please come and look through at this time.

**CAFFS Update**

Please find the list of upcoming CAFFS dates:

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

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date and Time** | **Event** |
| 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 |