



14th March 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you are well and have had a good week. This week at Unity there have been a number of mock examinations taking place for years 6, 10 & 11, and it has been a pleasure to see our students in these year groups showing a high level of resilience and working very hard.

[What have we been up to this week?](#)

This week, Year 9 students have been selecting their options for Years 10 and 11, including their choices for the Compass curriculum. As part of this, they will have the opportunity to attend taster sessions at Blackpool and Fylde College, Blackpool Sixth Form, Myerscough College, and Blackpool Football Club over the next two weeks. Meanwhile, Year 11 have completed their final set of mock exams, focusing on core subjects, while Year 10 have just begun their first set of mocks. Well done to all students for their hard work and commitment!

Congratulations to Abigail C whose winning park poster, promoting smoke & vape free parks in Blackpool, is now in the process of being put up around the community.

Well done to 7Y who showed some real depth of learning in being able to put several chords together in order to play the Ukulele along to Taylor Swift (a recording obviously!).

Y3 performed their World Book Day Assembly this week. The children worked so hard on their performance. They read with confidence, enthusiasm and really did themselves proud!

[New Messages](#)

Additional INSET day - IMPORTANT

Following the publication of the recent Ofsted report, there is a need to create some additional time for staff training. With this in mind, we are going to add some additional INSET days to the calendar for this academic year. These are training days for staff, and children will not attend on these dates. Whilst we know this will be an inconvenience, we are trying to schedule these to be as convenient as possible.

The first of these additional INSET days will be on Tuesday 22nd April 2025. School is closed on Monday 21st April 2025 for Bank Holiday Monday. As such school will now reopen for students on **Wednesday 23rd April 2025**. The term dates on the website will be updated to reflect this.

There will be two additional INSET days towards the end of the academic year in preparation for September. We will confirm the dates of these as soon as possible.



Punctuality and Attendance

In order to support our efforts to maximise learning time and increase outcomes, we are focusing on improving punctuality and reducing minutes late to lessons with students. Unfortunately, this remains very high for a number of students and they are missing valuable learning time. Moving forward to support our conversations at school, we will keep you informed about your child's punctuality to lessons via a daily text message. This text will be automated from our register systems and if you would like to speak to a member of staff regarding your child's punctuality, please contact the school.

Post Ofsted Parent Information Session

Thank you to the parents who attended this session on Monday. For those who were unable to attend the slides are available on the website [here](#) for you to view.

Unity Read Fair

On Friday, March 21st, and Monday, March 24th, we will be hosting our Unity Book Fair, supported by Scholastic Travelling Books. During the day, all students will have the opportunity to visit the Unity Book Fair and purchase exciting, affordable books, with prices starting from just 99p.

The book fair will also be open to parents and carers on both days:

- Secondary parents and carers are invited to visit on Friday, March 21st, from 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm.
- Primary parents and carers are invited to visit on Monday, March 24th, from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

How to purchase books:

1. Send your child with cash on the day of the book fair.
2. Visit the book fair with your child after school on the designated date.
3. Pay online using the QR code on the poster.

For more details, please see the bottom of the poster.

Y10 Attendance Competition

Attendance is key to your child's success, we need them to be present every day and ready to engage in all lessons. For an added incentive for this half term, if your child has 96% plus attendance they will be rewarded with an invite to a takeaway afternoon on Thursday 3rd April. A reminder that being late to school and lessons will affect your child's attendance! This will be running from Monday 10th March - Thursday 3rd April. We want to see as many Year 10s as possible at the takeaway afternoon to celebrate their consistent attendance at school.



Ready, Respectful, Safe

In our RRS Behaviour Curriculum this week, primary have focused on being prepared for learning. Mrs Shaw spoke to the children about taking responsibility for their own learning! Things like a healthy diet, a good night's sleep and a positive attitude are important in ensuring they are ready for learning. They then went onto talking about the importance of communicating with a Trusted Adult if something or someone is being a barrier to their learning. Mrs Shaw used the story Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival to demonstrate how sharing a worry can help to ease it. [Click here to watch it at home](#). Next week, primary will move onto 'Solving a problem'. This will focus on conflicts with friends and how we can fix them.

This week in the secondary Ready, Respectful and Safe curriculum, we have focused on the importance of punctuality—both to school and to lessons. This will remain a key focus next week, with a consistent and structured approach to sanctions for students who are persistently late. Missing the start of a lesson means missing the 'Do Now' task, a crucial element designed to reinforce prior learning and support knowledge retention. By ensuring all students arrive on time, we can maximise learning time and maintain our high expectations across the school.

Repeated Messages

Secondary standards

We have noticed a slight dip in uniform standards this week and would like to remind parents and carers of our expectations. **Students should be wearing a black jumper with the Unity logo and plain black footwear** as part of their daily uniform. Additionally, all phones should be kept in **Yondr pouches** throughout the school day. If a student has lost their pouch, replacements can be purchased via **ParentPay**. We have also become aware that some students are not being truthful when they say they do not have their phones with them. To ensure consistency, we will be increasing random Yondr checks to address this. Your support in reinforcing these expectations at home is greatly appreciated.

Primary Parents Evening



Details of our Primary Parents Evening went out earlier this week. It will take place on Monday 24th March and appointments can be booked via our MCAS App. We look forward to welcoming you into school to discuss your child's progress so far this year. If you **do not** have access to the MCAS App, please complete the electronic form by scanning this QR code. An appointment will be made and the time will be confirmed with you. If you have more than one child in school, please complete the form for each child separately. Moving forward, all Parents Evenings bookings will be via MCAS so please download the app ASAP. We look forward to welcoming you into school on 24th March to discuss your child's progress so far this year. If you have any questions regarding Parents' Evening or booking an appointment, you can contact Mr Cooper via the main school office.



Y11 GCSE Countdown

Thank you to all parents/ carers who have been supporting and encouraging their child to actively engage with the self-study tasks shared each week. Revision at home really does make a difference to student outcomes at the end of the year. More information can be found on the school website.

It's now **8 weeks** and counting until the first GCSE examination for Year 11. The expectation at Unity is that all Year 11 children commit to completing at least one task each day. Details of these will also be emailed directly to students via their school email address.

How can you help?

By encouraging your child to complete self-study tasks every day and monitor this. Recognising their commitment and effort goes a long way to building their confidence in the run up to their exams. As always, if you require any additional advice or support around self-study, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

This week's tasks can be found [here](#).

[Standing Messages](#)

Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers) - Please click [here](#) to view the primary newsletter.

My Child at School App (All Parents/ Carers)

[Please click here](#) for a link to the site. If you access this on a mobile device you can access the links for the apps.

If you have not signed up, please download the app from the relevant app store and click 'sign up' and use the school postcode (FY2 0TS) or school ID (14676) to register. You must register with the email address we hold on our system for you. Parents are now able to access attendance information on the My Child at School app.

UPDATE - Behaviour reports (Positive and Negative) are now available on MCAS for parents following some technical issues.

Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

The link to raise a concern remains on the website. Click on the three lines and choose to raise a pastoral/bullying concern under the parents heading. These concerns are reviewed by the senior team and allocated to the most appropriate member of staff to investigate and communicate with parents.



Online Safety Support for Parents/ Carers (All Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the link to this week's online safety guide for parents. You can also sign up for The National College for free and view a wide range of resources and videos to support your family with online safety. To do this follow the link below:

Sign up tutorial video - <https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough>

Sign up for The National College - <https://nationalcollege.com/enroll/unity-academy-blackpool>

Yours sincerely,

S. Cooke

Mr. S. Cooke
Headteacher



21ST & 24TH MARCH

UNITY ACADEMY BOOK FAIR



IN UNITY WE READ



SECONDARY FAIR: FRIDAY 21ST

PRIMARY FAIR: MONDAY 24TH



**PARENTS &
CARERS ARE
WELCOME!**

SECONDARY PARENTS/CARERS:
3.15PM UNTIL 4.15PM, FRIDAY 21ST

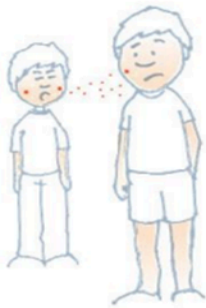
PRIMARY PARENTS/CARERS:
3.30PM UNTIL 6.30PM, MONDAY
24TH



Public Health Commissioning Team
NHS England North West
(Lancashire, South Cumbria, Cheshire and Merseyside)

March 2025

Measles spreads quickly and can be very serious.



Vaccinations stop children catching some diseases such as: Measles, Mumps and Rubella.



Dear Parent/Carer,

The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is one of the most studied vaccines and millions of doses are given every year.

As your child starts school, we recommend that they have had two doses of the MMR vaccine to ensure they are fully protected, as the complications of measles can be severe and life changing. You will also be protecting them against mumps and rubella, which can also be serious illnesses.

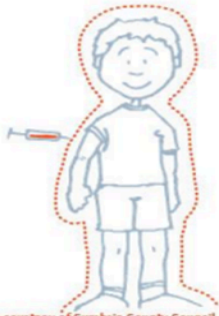
Measles cases are rising in the North West so it is important that you check your child's red book to see if they have had their pre-school booster vaccine and two doses of MMR. If not, contact your GP surgery to make an appointment.

Please scan the QR code below for further information on the MMR vaccine.

This year your child will also be eligible for a free nasal flu vaccine, and this will be offered to them at their school during the autumn term.

Yours sincerely,

If you're not vaccinated, you're not protected.



Images courtesy of Cumbria County Council

Your child needs 2 doses of MMR. Ask your nurse, health visitor or doctor for advice about children's vaccines.



P Spedding

Tricia Spedding

Head of Public Health, NHS England North West



Community First Aid Course

Do you worry about how you would cope in a medical emergency?

This free informal course is designed to build confidence in dealing with everyday emergencies with basic First Aid

Lunch will be provided on the day!

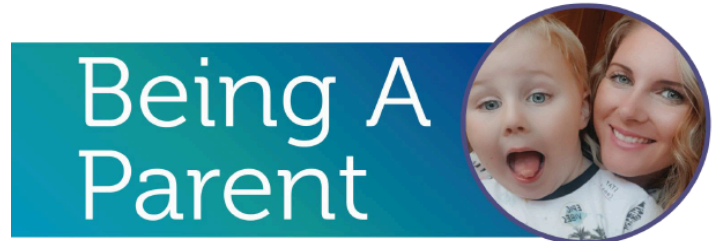
Date: Friday 11th April 2025
Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm
Venue: Claremont Park Community Centre, Claremont Rd, Blackpool FY1 2QJ

Contact Us!

To book your place please email:
Laura.James@bitc.org.uk



This course is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.



These fantastic free sessions are run by friendly local parents. They provide practical tips and advice on how to bring up confident happy and co-operative children. The group lasts for 9 weeks and free childcare is available.

Time	Venue	Starting	Ending
6.00pm – 8.00pm	Online using Google Meet	Tuesday 22 nd April	Tuesday 2 nd July
9.30am – 11.30am	North Family Hub Dingle Ave FY3 7NX	Wednesday 23 rd April	Wednesday 3 rd July

Topics covered include:

- Communicating with your child
- Understanding their behaviour
- Discipline strategies
- Listening skills
- Coping with stress

"The course wasn't what I expected at all. It's shown me that I'm not alone and given me the confidence boost I needed. I've learned there's no such thing as a perfect parent and my relationship with my son has grown so much stronger."

For more information or to book, contact Blackpool Learning Rooms on 07796 994783 or email learning.rooms@blackpool.gov.uk

