



19th April 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a pleasant Easter break and are ready for the summer term.

Summer Term Uniform Information (All Parents/ Carers)

Believe it or not, we are at the start of the summer term and should see the weather starting to improve. Just a reminder to all parents that students in primary years are able to wear the red and white summer dresses during this term and students of all ages are able to wear black tailored shorts. Shorts must be black tailored style and not sports type (similar to [these](#)).

Ready, Respectful, Safe (All Parents/ Carers)

Our focus this week has been on showing compassion and understanding to each other. Examples included how you might show compassion to another student who was finding something difficult or dealing with conflict with other students.

Wow Moments in School this Week (All Parents/ Carers)

The Wow Moments for this week are below. Well done to everyone involved.

- A huge well done to the Y4 football team who came 2nd in the FCAT Cup recently. Thanks to all the staff who helped to arrange this.
- Well done to Mr. Gleave's Year 7 maths class who were showing some fantastic understanding of learning.
- A big well done to all students for their engagement in the termly house assemblies at the end of last term. Only one term left to get those house points!
- Well done to the Year 10 Sports Studies students who have taught sessions this week to Key Stage 2 as part of their course. Also, well done to the children who were being taught - you were all fab.

Age Restrictions on Social Media and Games (All Parents/ Carers)

We are seeing an increasing number of children who are quoting inappropriate lines from or engaging in inappropriate activities which we believe are due to things they have seen on social media or through multiplayer games such as Fortnite. They are certainly not behaviours or words which are being picked up from staff in school! Could I please remind all parents that they have a responsibility to supervise their children online and that many of these apps and games have age limits for a reason.

Unity does subscribe to a service to help parents with this. You can log into the national college and access lots of helpful advice about keeping your children safe online. The links to a [video explaining how are here](#) and the link to [sign up is here](#).



Parent Facebook Groups (All Parents/ Carers)

As I have outlined on several occasions, we are aware of a parent Facebook group but this is absolutely nothing to do with the academy. We simply do not have the resource (or expertise) to manage multiple social media channels for the academy.

Please can I remind parents that if we need to speak to you about something pertaining to your child, we will contact you. Unnecessary worry is currently being generated as parents have genuine and legitimate concerns following something seen in Facebook groups that don't directly affect their children.

Uniform Changes Letter (All Parents/ Carers)

All parents should have received a letter regarding the uniform changes over Easter. We are very grateful to parents who have taken the time to contact us since receiving this letter to share views. The changes were made after a large-scale consultation and the options chosen were those with the most votes across parents, students and staff combined. They were also the most popular options across each of the groups.

The main feedback is regarding ties and the request to make these optional (like the blazer). We did consider this and speak to uniform suppliers. It is simply not something that they can do in a way that is financially viable to them and therefore not something we can consider.

Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the Primary Newsletter.

Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

If you or your child needs to raise any bullying or pastoral concerns with the academy please [click here](#).

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/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool>

Yours sincerely,



Mr. S. Cooke, Headteacher