



1st December 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely if very cold week. With the temperature dropping, it certainly feels like Christmas is just around the corner.

Activities from the Christmas Calendar Next Week (All Parents/ Carers)

- Wear your house colour (or one item of another house colour) to school day on Tuesday, 5th December. Students are invited to wear one item of clothing in their house colour (or another house colour if they don't own something in the correct colour) in exchange for one non-perishable item for our Christmas appeal. The letter from Miss. McGuire is copied at the end of this update.
- 1st December - Deadline for Nursery to Year 6 Christmas Dinner Numbers
- 5th December - Y2 Parent Christmas Sewing activity
- 7th December - Year 1 - Year 6 Pantomime trip to Beauty and the Beast
- 8th December - Y1 Christmas Crafts with parents

Ofsted HMI Visit - Wednesday 29th November 2023 (All Parents/ Carers)

The school was subject to a monitoring visit by Ofsted on 29th November 2023. This was undertaken by Amanda Downing, HMI. As this was a monitoring visit and not a graded inspection, we did not have any letters to send to parents in advance of the visit. The visit was incredibly helpful and has offered a great deal of validation about our improvement journey and plans. The inspector will write a letter to confirm her findings and we will share this with parents once it is published.

Parent Governor Nominations (All Parents/ Carers)

We have a vacancy for a parent governor on our Governing Body. Parent governors are full members of the governing body who act in the same capacity as all governors but are a parent of a child at the academy. They are not representatives of the parents but a governor who is a parent.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, please complete the nomination form [here](#) by 12 noon on Monday 11th December 2023. In the event of more than one person applying for the same position, an election will be held amongst all the parents of your school, and the candidate with the highest number of votes will be appointed.

If you would like more information or to discuss the requirements of the role, please contact Mrs. K. Linney at the academy.



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

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

- Our children performed very well on the UKS2 maths trip this week with some outstanding demonstrations of their knowledge.
- Y11 student participation on their geography field trip to Liverpool.
- Excellent knowledge demonstrated by Y7 students in geography.
- Nimisha in Y9 for her weekly commitment to furthering her learning and sharing it with her teacher.

SEND Drop In (All Parents/ Carers)

Following the success of the Mental Health Day drop in, we are running another drop in event in the community hub around SEND. This will take place on the 6th December 2023, 8:30AM - 10:30AM. I have included a flyer for this event with this update.

Year 11 Prom Bake Sale (Year 7-11 Parents/ Carers)

Year 11 will be running a cake sale on Wednesday 6th December to raise money towards their prom. If students want to bring some money to spend, Y11 would really appreciate it.

Coping at Christmas (All Parents/ Carers)

We have included some links below to support when Christmas is difficult.

[Christmas Coping Tips](#) - [Coping with grief at Christmas](#) - [Finding Christmas hard](#) - [Hints and Tips](#)

Reporting Bullying or Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

The link to report a concern has now been put back onto the website. Simply click on 'Menu' and under the 'Parents' heading choose 'Raise a concern' or [click here](#).

And finally...



UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

There is a lot of information in this week's bulletin. It is coming up to twelve months since we started sharing this weekly update and we would like your views on how useful it is, how you access it, whether a video format would be a useful addition and also how we can improve it. [Please click here to give your feedback.](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Cooke
Headteacher



Unity Christmas Calendar 2023



<u>When</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Event</u>
1/12/2023	N-6	Primary Christmas dinner numbers deadline date
5/12/2023	2	Christmas sewing - Parental Engagement
7/12/2023	Y1-6	Years 1-6 Panto Trip - Beauty & the Beast
8/12/2023	Y1	Year 1 Christmas Crafts
11/12/2023	N/R	Wriggly Nativity Dress Rehearsal (Years 2 & 3 to watch)
W/c 11/12/2023	All	Christmas Appeal Preparation - Details to follow
12/12/2023	Various students	Blackpool Music Service Christmas Festival
12/12/2023	N/R	Wriggly Nativity Performance for Parents 9:30–10.15am, 2:15–3pm
14/12/2023	N-6	Elf Run Primary - details to follow
14/12/2023	N/R	Wriggly Nativity Performance for Parents 9:30 – 10.15am
15/12/2023	N-11	Christmas Jumper (Save the children) Day
15/12/2023	N-6	Primary Christmas Lunch
W/c 18/12/2023	All	Christmas Appeal Delivery
W/c 18/12/2023	7-11	Secondary Christmas Lunch
18/12/2023	4/ Choir	Carols by candlelight 2:15pm
18/12/2023	R-6	Christmas Parties. Children can bring treats from home.
19/12/2023	R-6	Rewards afternoon - Christmas Films/ Hot Choc
20/12/2023	N/R	Christmas Children's Entertainer
21/12/2023	5 - 6	Santa Visit - Santa will visit the Y5/6 classrooms to drop off gifts.
21/12/2023	N-4	Santa Visit 12:30-3pm - Individual visit to collect a gift.
22/12/2023	5-11	Staff Pantomime
22/12/2023	N-11	Non Uniform day - Finish at 12.30pm





Wednesday December 6th

SEND
Parents Drop In
8:30 - 10:30
@The Hub

Does your child/young person need support with SEND needs?

Do you have questions about SEND or mental health provision in Blackpool?

Come and meet the school SEND team and external agencies involved in supporting young people in Blackpool.





Christmas Hamper Appeal for Our Community

As the festive season approaches, we at Unity Academy are excited to embark on a heartwarming initiative to support our local community. In the spirit of giving, we are organising a Christmas Hamper Appeal to collect non-perishable foods and essential items for those in need.

On **Tuesday, 5th December**, we invite all students to participate in our special "Wear Your House Colour to School" day. Students are encouraged to wear one item of clothing that represents the colour of their respective House:

- Walliams House (Green)
- Worsley House (Blue)
- Rowling House (Purple)
- Shakespeare House (Orange)
- Rosen House (Yellow)

For those who do not have a coloured item representing their House, please feel free to choose from the alternative House colours listed above.

We kindly request that each student brings in at least one non-perishable food item on the designated day. The collected items will be assembled into festive hampers and distributed to families who may benefit from a helping hand during the festive season.

Below is a list of suggested items suitable for donation:

- Canned goods (vegetables, fruits, soups)
- Pasta and rice
- Cereal and oatmeal
- Cooking oil
- Canned beans and lentils
- Long-life milk
- Baby formula, nappies and baby wipes
- Hygiene products (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo)
- Non-perishable snacks (granola bars, crackers)
- Warm clothing items (gloves, socks, hats)

Additionally, we are unable to accept alcohol or other items that may not be suitable for families.

Drop-off locations for donations will be set up at the school entrance on the morning of **Tuesday, 5th December**. Let's come together as a school community to make a positive impact and bring joy to those in need during the festive season.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.