



Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool, Lancashire. FY2 0TS **Tel:** 01253 355493

**Email:** admin@unity.fcat.org.uk www.unity.blackpool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

22nd November 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you have all had a good week, a week that has certainly seen winter hit! I have received some feedback regarding this update and a request to group the messages. I have tried to do this below and grouped them as New Messages, Key messages (our RRS and WOW moments), repeated messages (i.e. messages that have been on previous updates) and Standing messages (these are items that are on each week).

#### **New Messages**

### **Colder Weather (All Parents/ Carers)**

The weather has turned much colder and dark evenings are with us. As children wear coats etc to school can I remind all parents to ensure that these are named clearly.

# Prohibited Items in school (All Parents/ Carers)

We have seen an increase in children bringing in a variety of items into school which are not allowed. Could I ask all parents to be vigilant and ensure you are fully aware of what children are bringing in bags etc.

#### PTFA (All Parents/ Carers)

I have been approached by a parent who has raised the prospect of starting a PTFA in order to support activities and fundraising in school. Whilst a PTFA would be a great asset to the academy, it would rely on volunteers to run this and go through the legal process to set up the group and operate it. We are happy to arrange an initial open meeting to support parents who are keen to set this up but would like to gauge interest. If any parents are interested in finding out more, please can you register your interest by emailing <a href="mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk">admin@unity.fcat.org.uk</a> to confirm your interest.

#### Catering Service (All Parents/ Carers)

We have received some feedback regarding the catering service and food offer from students and parents. Catering in school is not provided by the academy but is provided by an external catering provider (Blackpool Catering Service). We have spoken to them about the concerns and they are responding to these. They have agreed to hold a meeting in January with parents/students after school in order to listen to and receive feedback from all groups but have asked for some time between now and then to rectify some of the things we have shared with them.







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#### **Key Messages**

#### Ready, Respectful, Safe (All Parents/ Carers)

Our Behaviour Curriculum in primary this week has focused on moving safely and sensibly in and around school. We talked about how important it is to keep ourselves and other people safe and how holding doors open for people shows kindness and respect. We then discussed the different areas in school and how the rules of a particular space may be slightly different e.g. The sports hall, library, a classroom, the playground and the drama hall. The children could confidently talk about the differences in how they should move, talk and behave in these spaces. Next week we will be talking about 'Belonging' using the story 'A Little Spot of Belonging' By Diane Alber. This is a story about the importance of including others and being kind.

This week in the secondary phase of our RRS curriculum, we focused on safe movement within the classroom as part of our ongoing theme of 'Safe'. Students explored the importance of personal space and learned how to navigate around others safely. Activities included an interactive obstacle course to practise safe movement while avoiding hazards and discussions and demonstrations on asking for permission before leaving their seats. These activities promote a calm and respectful classroom environment where everyone feels secure.

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

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

- Mia H has impressed us all with an incredible piece of portrait art she designed on the computer.
- Year 11 have completed their mock exams and showed great resilience in doing so.
- Well done to the Y9 Basketball team who came runners up out of 8 teams! They all played brilliantly and were very respectful to the referees and other teams throughout the tournament.
- Year 7 for their increased effort in meeting our RRS expectations this week.

# Repeated Messages

### **Blackpool FC Community Trust Appeal (All Parents/ Carers)**

I have added a banner with a QR link to the appeal for Blackpool FC Community Trust. This appeal intends to ensure that all children in Blackpool receive a present at Christmas. A number of Unity families have benefited from this appeal in the past and if anyone is able to donate, it would be appreciated.

## Mental Health and SEND Drop In (All Parents/ Carers)

I have included a flyer to our SEND parent drop in at the end of this update.







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#### Pupil Admission Number Consultation - Reception (All Parents/ Carers)

Due to falling birth rates in the area, we are consulting on reducing the admission number for primary from 60 to 30 from September 2026. This would mean that we would only admit 30 children from this year onwards. Parents may be aware that we only have one group in the current Reception due to these falling numbers. Many schools in the area have also consulted on these changes. Click here for the full consultation.

#### **Standing Messages**

## My Child at School App (All Parents/ Carers)

<u>Please click here</u> 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 and achievement/ behaviour information on the My Child at School app.

#### **Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers)**

Please click here to view the primary newsletter.

#### Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

The link to reporting concerns is now live again. Please remember that this is the mechanism to raise concerns. We have shared this with secondary students again in assembly this week so all students know how to access this link.

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

Click <u>here</u> 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:

<u>Sign up tutorial video - https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough</u> <u>Sign up for The National College - https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool</u>

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Cooke Headteacher



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# **ADHD North West**

**Supporting Families** 

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26th November 2024 Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30am and 6pm

Please get in touch by calling 01254 886886

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reception@adhdnorthwest.org.uk









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# Friday 6th December



Does your child need support with their SEND or SEMH needs?

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

Meet our school SEND & SEMH team and other agencies involved in supporting young people in Blackpool









