



Email: admin@unity.fcat.org.uk www.unity.blackpool.org.uk Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

27th June 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Whilst school has been a little quieter this week now that Year 11 has left and we have been running numerous reward trips with our Year 6 students, things are still busy. The hot, humid and sometimes wet weather can leave us all feeling uncomfortable at times and usually by the end of the school day we are all feeling tired and ready to cool down. So I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff and students who have persevered and continued to work hard in these less than ideal conditions.

What have we been up to this week?

Our Reception children visited the Church this week as a part of their Enrichment Curriculum and it also tied in with their R.E. lessons. Mrs Hanvey was particularly impressed with the children's behaviour, their thoughtful questions and how articulately they shared their embedded knowledge.

Transition visits have continued for Year 6 into the secondary phase this week, with children taking part in a variety of lessons. The children are moving around school just like they will in September and are beginning to build relationships with their new teachers. The new Reception children also had their second visit this week to school and are beginning to get used to their new classroom environment. Next week all primary children will take part in 'Moving Up Day' and will spend Thursday in their new classroom and with their new teachers.

Some Year 6 children took part in their Reward Trips this week. These were awarded to children who took full advantage of our precision tutoring sessions and earned their attitude to learning credits. Well done to everyone who secured a place on one of our trips - we hope you had a fantastic time!



Year 8 have continued their workplace encounters this week, gaining valuable insights into different career paths and developing key employability skills. These experiences are an important part of preparing our students for the world beyond school.

Meanwhile, all secondary students took part in Town Sports on Friday, representing Unity with great energy and enthusiasm. It was fantastic to see our students engaging in healthy competition and showing true team spirit throughout the day.

New Messages

<u>NGRT</u>

All students in Years 7–10 will take the NGRT next week, starting Monday 30th June. This annual assessment helps us understand students' reading levels and provide targeted support. It's a short, multiple-choice test (30–50 minutes)



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that does not affect final grades but plays an important role in guiding teaching and intervention. Students should approach the test seriously and do their best. Please see the letter sent home with students, and sent out via MCAS, for further details.

Primary Parental Report Drop-In

Parents are invited to drop in for an informal chat with class teachers about their child's report on Monday 7th July between 3:15-4pm. This date has been on our calendar dates which are in our parental notice boards at the front of school since the start of the half term. If you are unable to attend this session, please contact your child's class teacher via the school office and I am sure a telephone conversation can be arranged should you need one!

Ready, Respectful, Safe

This week, as part of our primary RRS behaviour curriculum, we've been exploring what it means to be a good friend and a good sport. This week, we shared the story *Cheetah Learns to Play Nicely*, which helped children understand the importance of playing fairly, taking turns, and showing kindness—especially when games don't go their way. Through discussion and play, children learned how being *ready* to listen, *respectful* to others, and *safe* in their actions helps everyone enjoy playtime and build strong, positive relationships. Next week, we will move onto a focus on '**Building a Class Community**' with a link to our transition Moving-up Day.

This week in secondary, we're continuing to strengthen our culture of high expectations by consistently embedding the Ready, Respectful, Safe (RRS) principles throughout all areas of school life.

Ready means arriving on time, fully equipped—including Yondr pouches—and ready to learn.

Respectful is reinforced through staff modelling, clear expectations for behaviour and language, and adherence to uniform rules (e.g., small stud earrings only).

Safety remains non-negotiable, supported by structured consequences like lunchtime reflections that respect student wellbeing.

Uniform standards—Unity jumper and plain black footwear—are also being reinforced to support a calm, unified environment.

Positive behaviour is celebrated in assemblies and tutor time, with half-termly rewards for outstanding contributions. We also maintain strong home-school communication through regular texts, sharing praise and concerns, keeping families informed and involved.

Repeated Messages

Primary Classes for 2025-2026

Please see **<u>last week's</u>** primary newsletter for the class organisation for next year. A great deal of thought goes into this with the whole of primary in mind. You will see that there is only one class in Reception and Year One next year.







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This is due to a falling birth rate across the town and does not just affect Unity. With falling numbers though comes falling funding and so please, if you haven't already, fill in the form which is available from the office to see whether you are eligible for Pupil Premium funding.

Pupil Premium funding is additional government funding given to schools to help close the attainment gap between pupils and their peers. It is allocated for children who are eligible for free school meals, are in local authority care, or have parents in the armed forces. This funding is vital in providing targeted support, resources, and opportunities that can make a real difference to a child's learning and overall school experience. It allows us to remove barriers to learning and ensure every child has the best possible chance to succeed and thrive. If you think your child might be eligible, we encourage you to speak with the school office so we can ensure they receive the full benefit of this important support.

Sun Safety

A little reminder not to forget to apply sun cream to your child in the morning before school. We do suggest the 12-hour creams so that you can ensure your child is covered correctly. Primary staff can support but cannot directly apply sun-cream to children and that's why we ask that it is applied at home. We are sure you can imagine that applying sun-cream to 30 children is very time-consuming and our main focus, along with their welfare of course, is curriculum delivery! A sun hat is also recommended - the ones that cover the back of the neck are particularly useful. Children have access to fresh drinking water every day in school but a named water bottle is also a good idea. As we are now in the Summer Term, children are invited to wear the Summer uniform. Please see the uniform details at the bottom of the primary newsletter.

Transition activities

Our program of enhanced transition activities commences on Tuesday 17th June where we invite Y6 students from both Unity and Westminster primaries to experience taster lessons in our secondary classrooms. The timetable has been sent home with your child and is also available through MCAS.

As mentioned above, next week in Primary is 'Moving-Up Day'. Our Year 6 have a full transition day in Year 7 on Thursday 3rd July. All primary year groups spend the day in their new classrooms with their new teachers on this day and take part in a variety of lessons. They will also hear their teachers' expectations in regard to attitude to learning, behaviour, attendance and classroom rules.

Year 6 children will come into school via the main entrance on Thursday 3rd July and go straight to the Drama Hall where they will be registered and sit in their form groups before taking part in a full secondary timetable. Secondary lunch is later than the usual primary lunchtime so we would strongly suggest that the children have a full breakfast!







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Inset Day 21st July 2025

On Monday 21st July, Unity Academy will be closed to all pupils (Nursery through to Year 11) for an additional INSET day for staff. We're sharing this information in advance to help parents and carers make any necessary childcare arrangements. INSET days are an important part of ensuring your child receives the highest quality education by giving staff the time to plan, train and prepare effectively for the year ahead. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. A physical letter will be sent home to parents and carers regarding INSET, alongside a message via MCAS.

Standing Messages

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

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 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 <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,

Cooke

Mr. S. Cooke Headteacher

