



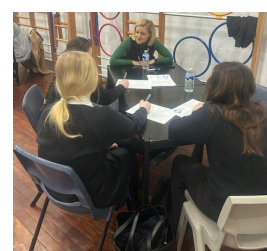
29th November 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Thank you for your feedback regarding the format of the update, I have made a minor modification to make sure that we are sharing the amazing things happening in school with you each week as well.

**What have we been up to this week?**

Year 11 have all taken part in a careers speed dating session organised by PiE (Pursuing Individual Excellence). Students were able to spend time chatting to inspirational role models from the world of work.



Year 3 went back to the Stone Age on Tuesday. We had our Stone Age Day in school where the children were able to join in by dressing up. Thank you to parents for your support with this. Our Stone Age Man also commented on how engaged the Year 3 children were. Parents also joined us for Stone Age Art yesterday.

Christmas Trees have popped up all over the academy this week. Thanks to Blackpool Christmas Trees who delivered our real trees for various places around the academy. Our class/form Christmas Tree decorating competition has also launched, where each class/form decorate the tree linked to the learning they have been doing.

In keeping with the Christmas theme, our all through choir performed at Abingdon Street Market last night. Sadly, it clashed with a Governors meeting which meant I couldn't attend personally but I have enjoyed watching the videos this week.



Year 7 and 8 students have also had sessions with PiE this week as they take part in Future Ready programmes of learning. These programmes are very successful and we were delighted to welcome back one of our former Head Students, Megan, who is now volunteering with PiE and supporting the delivery of these projects in school.

In Year 10 French Eloise, Nismicha, Scarlette, Molly, Janet, Abdu and James have been producing some excellent work. Tres Bien!



## UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool,  
Lancashire. FY2 0TS

Tel: 01253 355493

Email: [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk)

[www.unity.blackpool.org.uk](http://www.unity.blackpool.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

Year 10 has also been busy putting together applications to be prefects, we have had some amazing applications so far. We are also really pleased to report a 4% increase in Y10 attendance on Fridays since we have started the Compass Curriculum. As a reminder, Year 10 are all offered the chance to go to college to study for a course that we simply couldn't offer at school.

### [New Messages](#)

#### Christmas Calendar (All Parents/ Carers)

Our Christmas calendar will be shared with all parents/carers next week via My Child at School. Key dates are: -

- Primary Panto trips (9th/10th December)
- Blackpool Music Service Christmas Festival (10th December)
- Christmas Jumper Day (17th December)
- Christmas Dinners (Primary - 17th December, Secondary - 17th/18th December)
- Primary (including Nursery) Christmas parties (18th December)
- Non Uniform day for all children (20th December)
- School closes for Christmas at **12:30PM** (20th December)

We have also put in a request to the North Pole to see if Santa and one of his elves is available to pop in on the 19th December to visit our primary students. We will keep our ears alert for any Sleigh Bells on the 19th.

A full calendar will be shared next week.

#### PTFA (All Parents/ Carers)

I included information about a PTFA in last weeks update but fell into the trap of using an acronym without explaining what it is. A PTFA (Parents, Teacher and Friends Association) is a group that operates independently of the school (often as a separate charity with its own bank accounts etc) to support the school through helping with activities in school or by arranging events to support the school financially. All of the monies raised are then spent on resources for children which are agreed through the PTFA via a request from staff or children.

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 [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk) to confirm your interest.



Unity Academy Blackpool is a trading name of Fylde Coast Academy Trust.  
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 8364709 - Registered in England & Wales.  
Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY4 4RR



## **UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL**

Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool,  
Lancashire. FY2 0TS

**Tel:** 01253 355493

**Email:** [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk)

[www.unity.blackpool.org.uk](http://www.unity.blackpool.org.uk)

**Headteacher:** Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

### **Holiday Meal Vouchers (All Parents/ Carers)**

Blackpool Council have once again confirmed that they will support families of children entitled to Free School Meals with food vouchers for the Christmas break. These will start to be issued shortly.

### **Key Messages**

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

Our Behaviour Curriculum this week focused on '**Belonging**' and being kind and including others. Understanding how to treat each other with kindness and respect is so important especially from a young age so that we know how to do this as adults - ready for entering the world of work. Next week we will move onto knowing how to '**Support others**' using the story 'Giraffe is left out' by Sue Graves. It is a lovely short text that explores the feelings of various animals in the classroom of being "left out". The actions against Leopard eventually occur to Giraffe, who realises how upsetting it is to be excluded from a group. This builds on our work about belonging this week.

This week in our Ready, Respectful, Safe programme, we focused on Digital Safety, aiming to ensure students understand the importance of staying safe in the digital world. Activities included a discussion about online safety, covering topics such as privacy settings, recognising and responding to cyberbullying and maintaining respectful online behaviour. Students participated in creating a digital safety activity, committing to positive and responsible internet use including checking their own privacy settings across a range of social media.

### **Repeated Messages**

#### **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 often by accident. Could I ask all parents to be vigilant and ensure you are fully aware of what children are bringing in bags etc.

#### **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.



Unity Academy Blackpool is a trading name of Fylde Coast Academy Trust.  
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 8364709 - Registered in England & Wales.  
Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY4 4RR



## UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool,  
Lancashire. FY2 0TS

Tel: 01253 355493

Email: [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk)

[www.unity.blackpool.org.uk](http://www.unity.blackpool.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

### **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)**

[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 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 [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](https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough)

[Sign up for The National College - https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool](https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool)

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Cooke  
Headteacher



Unity Academy Blackpool is a trading name of Fylde Coast Academy Trust.  
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 8364709 - Registered in England & Wales.  
Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY4 4RR





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

Email: [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk)  
[www.unity.blackpool.org.uk](http://www.unity.blackpool.org.uk)  
 Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

Friday 6th December

MENTAL HEALTH  
 ~and~

**SEND**  
 Parents Drop In  
 08:45 - 10:15  
 @The Hub

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



NHS Talking Therapies Service provides a range of FREE therapy options recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for common mental health problems such as depression and anxiety.

**NHS Blackpool Talking Therapies**

**FREE Courses Available**

**MASTERING STRESS – Steps to Wellness**  
 30min introduction 2pm Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
 Followed 6 x 90min weekly online sessions. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January & 7<sup>th</sup> February.  
*Learn new skills and coping strategies*

**8-week Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy Course**  
 60min introduction 10am Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Followed by 8 x 2-hour session weekly online sessions.  
 Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> February 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> March  
*Learn to live in the present!*

A personalised link will be emailed and recordings accessible for 72hours

45min webinars, with recording available for 3 days

Resilience and Me 10am Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Anxiety and Worry 1pm Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Sleep and Relaxation 1pm Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Overcoming Low Mood 1pm Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Menopausal Wellbeing 10am Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan
---	--	---	---	--

AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE OVER 16 WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN LANCASHIRE OR SOUTH CUMBRIA

To self-refer, please call: 01253 955700 (Monday–Friday 9am–5pm)  
 email: [bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net](mailto:bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net)  
[www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies](http://www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies)

Scan here to visit our website

Blackpool Talking Therapies is not able to provide reports for compensation, legal or benefits claims or prescribe medication. We do not offer 24-hour or weekend access, crisis or emergency treatment, treatment for alcohol or drug problems or treatment for severe and enduring mental illness.  
 Please discuss these needs with your GP.

**Blackpool Talking Therapies**  
 for anxiety and depression

Service provided by Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



Unity Academy Blackpool is a trading name of Fylde Coast Academy Trust.  
 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 8364709 - Registered in England & Wales.  
 Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY4 4RR