



31st January 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I always feel that whilst January has the same number of days as many other months - it seems to go on forever. It does also make me realise that we are over half way through this academic year!

[What have we been up to this week?](#)

I visited Year 8 music with Miss Stones this week and they demonstrated what they had learnt on the ukulele. They were absolutely brilliant and did challenge me to have a go. I am not sure I would be anywhere near as good as them.

Some things happen on such a regular occurrence that it takes time to sit back and reflect on them before you realise how special they are. One example of these is Mason in Year 8 who every time I visit his lessons, he challenges me by asking me a question linked to the essential knowledge for that lesson. He caught me out twice this week - once in music but also in History where his question was incredibly specific and detailed. Well done Mason.

Year three children have recently been tested to see the progress they are making in their reading ages. Some of the children have made excellent progress within a short pace of time. Very well done!

Reception children have been learning about Chinese New Year this week. They have learned a Dragon song and dance and have also learnt how families prepare for the celebrations. They then compared it to the celebrations and festivals they have previously learnt about so that the children can recognise any similarities and differences.

[New Messages](#)

Year 6

All parents of Year 6 children are invited to attend an important meeting in the Drama Hall on **Monday 10th February at 3:30pm**. At this meeting, we will be sharing up to date mock SAT results and crucial information about the upcoming Year 6 SATs tests. We will also be providing details of the targeted precision tutoring sessions that we will be offering along with a reward system that you and your child can earn credits towards. By attending this meeting you will earn your child their first credit! I cannot stress enough the importance of your attendance at this session. You are more than welcome to bring your child along too so that they hear the same message!

Uniform (All Parents/ Carers)

I realise this was shared last week but sadly we are seeing the same issues. I must insist that parents take notice of these issues and prioritise these. If any parents/carers are having particular issues that they need support with, please contact the students support team at school.



- Students in Reception and upwards can not wear leggings or tracksuit bottoms for school. They are able to wear black trousers. We have allowed students to wear flared style black trousers and are told these cost the same as leggings. Please ensure students are not wearing leggings or tracksuit bottoms to school.
- We changed the rules to allow plain black footwear with no identifiable markings. This has allowed students to wear plain black trainers and supported parents with the cost of footwear. White trainers, black trainers with white markings and black Crocs are not acceptable footwear for school.
- The black V neck jumper with a logo is a compulsory part of the uniform. We are happy to allow primary aged students to wear black cardigans with the Unity logo as an alternative. This is the only item that requires a logo and we would ask parents to support us with ensuring students are in the correct uniform.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

In our primary RRS Curriculum this week, we have learnt all about Respect. How to show it to others, how important it is to have self-respect and Key Stage 2 children also focused on what to do if someone is being disrespectful towards you. Teachers have commented that there were some really thoughtful conversations in the classrooms in the follow-up sessions. Next week we will move on to the importance of 'Understanding Others'.

This week in our secondary RRS curriculum, we have been focusing on **active listening**—a key skill that helps students engage positively in their learning and interactions. We have explored the importance of giving full attention to the speaker, making eye contact, avoiding interruptions, and responding thoughtfully. Encouraging active listening at home can help reinforce these skills, supporting respectful conversations and stronger communication.

Repeated Messages

Holiday Vouchers - Feb Half Term (All Parents/ Carers)

I am pleased to be able to confirm that Blackpool Council have informed us that they will be able to provide vouchers for £15 for each child entitled to free school meals to cover the February half term break. These will be issued in the usual way just before half term.

Y11 GCSE Countdown

Thank you to all parents/ carers who have been supporting and encouraging their child to actively engage with the self-study tasks shared each week. Revision at home really does make a difference to student outcomes at the end of the year. More information can be found on the school website.

It's now **13 weeks** and counting until the first GCSE examination for Year 11. The expectation at Unity is that all Year 11 children commit to completing at least one task each day. Details of these will also be emailed directly to students via their school email address.



UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

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How can you help?

By encouraging your child to complete self-study tasks every day and monitor this. Recognising their commitment and effort goes a long way to building their confidence in the run up to their exams. As always, if you require any additional advice or support around self-study, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

This week's tasks can be found [here](#).

[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 information on the My Child at School app. **We are working hard to provide behaviour information to parents through the app.**

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

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 [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



Friday 7th February

**Student Support
&**

SEND

Parents Drop In

8:45 - 10:15

@The Hub

Have you got any SEND or pastoral questions about your child?

Come and meet the SEND and pastoral team at school.

A chance to discuss any concerns or worries you may have over a coffee.

