



7th February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a great week and although it has been cold, it has been good to see blue skies and the sun making a welcome appearance!

What have we been up to this week?

A highlight of this week was seeing some of our children performing at the Winter Gardens in School's Alive. We are so incredibly proud of them! Hayley Kay was the compere for the event and said that the stage is the second biggest in Europe! What a thing to be able to say, that you have danced, sang or played an instrument on it. Well done to all children who were excellent representatives of Unity. They absolutely shone like the stars that they are! Things like this don't just happen so I would like to add my thanks to the team involved with rehearsals, organisation, costumes and the staffing of the event.



Both Year 5 classes visited UCLan this week and took part in sessions where they learnt all about Space. As expected, they behaved impeccably. This was commented on too by the person who organised the event who said "The children are a real credit to your school". Well done Year 5!

Y11 students for their focus and commitment leading up to the GCSEs. A special mention to: Joe B and Ewa M for their focus and commitment to English, Kandie C and Eloise K for their commitment to maths intervention, Adam B for his engagement with the Blackpool Sixth Form Excellence programme, and all students working with the representative from Oxford University.

This week, we welcomed Year 9 students and their families to our Options Evening, where they had the opportunity to explore the wide range of subjects available for GCSE and vocational study. Staff were on hand to provide guidance and answer any questions, helping students make informed decisions about their next steps. We also launched our revised Compass curriculum offer for Year 9 this week, including partnerships with Blackpool Sixth Form, Blackpool and Fylde College, Myerscough College, and Blackpool Football Club. This expanded provision provides students with greater opportunities to develop their skills, experience a range of vocational pathways, and engage with local industry leaders, ensuring they are well-prepared for their future careers.

New Messages

Ready, Respectful, Safe

In our RRS Behaviour Curriculum this week we have focused on 'Understanding Others'. We shared a lovely story by Kerascoet called 'I forgive Alex'. [Click here](#) to share it together at home - I would watch it at 0.25 speed to give you



time to look at each page closely. This story is beautiful! It has no words so it is really useful to promote discussion about how accidents can happen and how we can fix things if we make a mistake. Next week we will move onto 'Making Good Choices'. This will also look at the consequences of our actions.

This week in secondary, we have revisited the importance of respectful conversations as part of the *Ready, Respectful, Safe* (RRS) curriculum, encouraging students to communicate with empathy, active listening, and appropriate language. Through discussions and real-life scenarios, they have explored how to express their views clearly while navigating disagreements constructively. Staff have reinforced these principles in lessons and social spaces, modelling positive interactions and guiding students in resolving conflicts amicably. By embedding respectful conversations into daily routines, we continue to foster a school culture where every voice is valued and mutual respect underpins all interactions.

Repeated Messages

Year 6

A reminder that there is a **VERY important meeting on Monday 10th February for all parents of Year 6 children**. 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. 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! Your attendance at this meeting will earn your child their first credit!

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 **12 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.



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](#).

Please remind your child that the correct footwear must be worn when using the MUGA at break and lunch. To protect the surface and ensure safety, only trainers or appropriate sports footwear are allowed—no school shoes, boots, or inappropriate footwear. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation.

[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



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