



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
11/10/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

What a week! It has been so busy, yet only feels two minutes since it was Monday! One more week to go until the two week break. I think the children are ready for it now.

Teaching and Learning

We held our first Celebrating Cultures assembly on Monday and learnt all about Yom Kippur. The children loved learning about what can and cannot be done during Yom Kippur and took time to reflect on their own beliefs in comparison. They were then invited to make a Kindness reminder to give to someone they love or keep themselves as a reminder to always show kindness to others.

Year 1 were doing Maths when I visited them. They have been learning to use the part, part, whole method and had moved on to writing matching number sentences. They were showing such resilience as it's not an easy thing to do. Well done Year 1.

Year 3 have been learning about Famous Women in History. Isaac and Harvey could remember who they had been learning about this week and could recall that Gertrude Ederle swam the English Channel when I put them on the spot in assembly this morning.

Recalling facts like these is so important which is why we use Do Now at the start of every lesson as it focuses on knowledge recall and retention.

Some of our Year 6 children went on a residential this week. I visited them after school on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. I always try my best to go as it's good to see the children in an environment away from school and I think it shows the team that I appreciate the fact that they are giving up their own time to take our children. I watched Goodnight Mr Tom with 6MB and watched the sun set with 6VA. Amongst other things, the children commented that they had really enjoyed canoeing, rafting, toasting marshmallows around the campfire and having a late night with their friends. Huge thanks to the team for the organisation of the whole event.

In our Behaviour Curriculum this week, we focused on what it means to be '**Emotionally ready for learning**'. We talked about the different emotions we might feel and how they can present. I used my own daughter as an example and said that her mood changes drastically if she gets hungry. Emotions and their impact on our behaviour are hard to understand as an adult so it is a very tricky thing for children to recognise and deal with. Next week we will move onto '**regulating our emotions and responding to situations**'.

Communication

If you have any concerns or issues regarding your child, please do not hesitate to come directly to us at school. We can only discuss your child and will not discuss anything in regard to other children. We're always here to listen and work together to find the best solution. It's important to remember that every child and situation is different, so try not to be influenced by conversations or opinions from other parents, as this can sometimes lead to unnecessary stress. Please also remember that a child's perception of something can be very different from another child's and also what actually happened. We take time to unpick situations so that we can deal with things in a consistent and fair way and will always try to feedback in a timely manner. We value open, calm communication and are here to support both you and your child.

Your first port of call is always your child's class teacher. Following on from them are the Heads of Years - Miss Hanvey for N/Rec/Y1. Miss Gleadell for y2/3/4 and Mr Tomes for Y5/6. Mrs Bradshaw and Miss Boucher are also available. Mr Brimley will pick up things at the next tier before finally coming to me in my role as Head of Primary Standards. The reason we have this in place is so that we can escalate up should we need to. Like I say though, just talk to us, we truly are here to help and want to work with you for the benefit of your child.

Don't forget about our Parental Messages/ Contact form which can be filled in. Details are on this newsletter each week and can be found below.

Diary Dates

- 14th October - Diwali Assembly for primary Children

- 15th October - Y4 Roman Day
- 16th October - Y6 Hangar 42 trip
- 17th October - AIM High Maths Day
- 18th October - School closes for half term
- 4th November - School reopens for Autumn 2
- 4 - 7th November - Y6 Mock SATs

And finally ...

Lian has been reminding me for weeks that 'our' birthday is coming up and tomorrow is the day. Huge thanks to Phoebe who scoffed this morning when I told her I was 25. I'm clearly not 25 but even so! I do love that we can laugh and joke with our children - it shows the strong relationship we have with them.

Have a fabulous weekend everyone!



• 1MT	95.83	13
• 2BH	87.50	10
• 2AP	89.88	5
• 3KG	89.90	14
• 3HB	84.26	9
• 4JB	93.06	4
• 4CBL	94.58	7
• 5TT	96.12	12
• 5NO	88.33	11
• 6MB	94.17	4
• 6VA	94.17	11

Keeping children safe!



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, links and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this: filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

- 1 KNOW THE TYPES**
While parental control software can apply to any internet device, it's more often to be found on desktop computers and laptops. For example, the Windows Family Safety app is available for Windows 10 PCs, while the iOS Family Sharing app is available for iPhones and iPads. Check the settings of any new app you download and review your options.
- 2 COVER ALL DEVICES**
Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of falling victim to the internet's safety minefield. Controls on a phone will apply wherever a child has their device, for instance – and you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up on all devices. However, not all parental control products, like the internet, require a Wi-Fi connection. So, be aware that some parental control products may require you to set everything up again.
- 3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH**
While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that parental controls on your entire network. Parental controls can be set up on a shared Wi-Fi network, so that anything connected to your Wi-Fi, no matter how or where you use it, is covered. This means that unapproved apps, phones and tablets are protected too.
- 4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS**
Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only can excessive screen time be addictive enough to distract from other duties, but it can also impact on a child's mental health, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some form of time limit – either blocking access to certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.
- 5 BLOCK APP SPENDING**
Seemingly free apps can sometimes include in-app purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of children's apps are free, some parents attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional content or features. You can add up to hundreds of pounds if children are not aware. Thankfully, you can adjust a setting to show you to block in-app purchases, preventing any charges.
- 6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT**
Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unhelpful content can end up sneaking past, so it's important to remember that setting up these measures isn't a one-and-done deal. Regularly check in with your young person, explain how the controls work and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as the benefits.
- 7 MIND THE GAPS**
There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you consider it. For example, if you use a mobile device, you'll need to be aware that some content can be accessed outside the home. For that reason, it's important to be open and honest with children about the more unpredictable aspects of social media and the web.
- 8 KEEP THINGS SECURE**
Some children can react poorly to parental controls, so it's important to discuss them first. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.
- 9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY**
Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental controls provide the wrong message to a child, but they can also be a bit of a hassle. It's important to let your child know why you're using them, but also to let them know that you're open to their input. Regularly checking in means that if a child has found a way to get around the controls, you'll be the first to know.
- 10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP**
The point at which you should stop monitoring for a seven-year-old probably isn't the same as for a 13-year-old, so as a young person approaches adulthood, build on the good habits you've established. Encourage children to get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without as many in-app warnings.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Morris is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alpha. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New York Times, CNN, the Evening Standard, Wired, Bank Issue, Telegraph, Guardian, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, Techradar and Trusted Reviews.

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Celebrating Culture and Difference





Sunday 20th marks the first reading of Guru Granth Sahib and the Sikh scripture being installed in the Golden Temple [Click here to learn more about the Golden Temple](#)

In collaboration with Lightpool and Blackpool Illuminations, Blackpool is hosting its first-ever Diwali Lights Switch-On at the Comedy Carpet on the Festival Tower headland.

****Event Details:****

Diwali Lights Switch-On

Date: 2nd November 2024
Carpet, Tower Festival Headland

Time: Build-up begins at 5:00 PM

Location: Comedy

FYLDE COAST HINDU SOCIETY PRESENT

Diwali Celebrations

Sat 02 November 2024

Special Diwali Switch-On
FREE EVENT
Comedy Carpet - 17:00

Diwali Dhamaka Party
Winter Gardens - 18:30

Featuring
DJ Tarun and Host Jazzy J,
mouth-watering Indian Food,
Dance, entertainment and much more.

Tickets
Adults: £45.00
Children (5-12): £25.00
Group prices available on request.

Members / Group Bookings
www.fyldecoasthindusociety.org

More Info & Tickets
www.WGBPL.co.uk

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Nursery



This week in Nursery we have continued our autumn topic. We have looked again at the signs of autumn and the changes we are seeing in the environment. We have also discussed hibernation and what this means. The children have made a autumnal soup with lots of different vegetables, it was so tasty and we really enjoyed it.

Reception



Yet another busy week in Reception!

This week we have been reading *Room on the Broom*. The children have really loved this story and join in with the repeated parts when we read it together. We have been writing some ingredients for what we would put into a cauldron. The children are trying so hard in hearing sounds in words. Keep practising at home!

In Geography we have been looking at maps and have learnt that we live in the United Kingdom and more specifically Blackpool. We have talked about Blackpool being a seaside

town and have thought about the exciting things we have here like the beach, the pleasure beach and the illuminations.

Our outdoor area is really coming along now. Mrs Shaw is hoping it will be finished after the holidays. We can't wait to use it!

Have a great weekend everyone, Mrs Hanvey and Mrs Hillier

Year 1



What a wonderful week in Year 1!

In Year 1 we have been finishing off our writing challenge which was to alter part of the story 'What the Ladybird Heard'. We have been really impressed with the quality and imagination

of the children's stories. Lots of children have also been trying incredibly hard with their presentation, all of you should be very proud!

In Maths we have been continuing our learning surrounding part-part-whole models, progressing our knowledge to support our writing of number sentences.

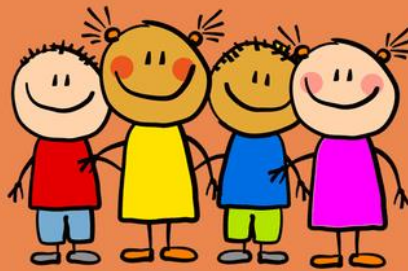
We have also been really enjoying our learning within History where we have been learning about Old and New, we have particularly enjoyed learning about past and present communication methods. The children were wowed when we discussed the past use of carrier pigeons!

This week we have also begun our final art pieces to complete our learning surrounding Kandinsky. We have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and are very excited to see all of our final pieces next week!

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 1 team.

Year 2

Year 2



This week in Maths Year 2 have been focusing on using the dines to practice making number sentences using tens and ones. In English we have continued ready the book Beegu and wrote about the next adventure Beegu goes on. In science we have been looking at different food chains and then made our our food chain making a paper chain. In Art we have been learning about Henry Moore ready to start making sculptures using clay next week.

Well Done Year 2! We hope you have a great weekend

Year 3



Another busy week in year 3!

This week, in **English** we have been looking at alternative versions of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have begun changing the characters, items and settings to write our very own version of the story! You can watch one of the stories here: [Goldy Luck and the Three Pandas](#)

In **Maths**, we are looking at addition and subtraction using column method. We have focused on setting out our method clearly and continued to practice our number bonds to 10 and 100.

In **History** this week we have looked at Gertrude Ederle, the first woman to swim across the English Channel, as part of our ongoing Fantastic Women through History topic.

Please continue to read 3 times weekly at home and ensure that reading books and reading records are in school **every day**.

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 4



We have enjoyed lots of fun activities in Year 4 this week. We have decorated our pebbles following on from Mr Brimley's Yom Kippur assembly.

In English, we have started to plan our stories to enter into the BBC 500 words competition. We even created our characters using AI based on the characters we wrote. The children were so excited to see their characters come to life.

In Science, we have continued to learn all about the digestive system including looking at all the different functions of each part.

Spellings:

extreme height notice women surprise naughty straight heard describe busy

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 4 team

Year 5



We have had an exciting week!

We have enjoyed lots of fun activities in Year 5. We have decorated our pebbles following on from Mr Brimley's Yom Kippur assembly.

In Science, we have explored air resistance, made our own parachutes and tested them to test which materials work best to create air resistance as gravity pulls objects to the ground.

In Art, we have begun making our Banksy art, with key messages that are important to use. We have created stencils and used sponges or paintbrushes to create a stippling effect, similar to how Banksy would have used a spray can. We can't wait to see their finished products!

Have a fabulous weekend, The Year 5

Year 6



A very different week for Year 6 this week!

The majority of us attended the Bibby's Farm residential and managed to experience four things as a part of our enrichment curriculum:

- Watching the sunset
- Attending a residential
- Budgeting
- Walking in a forest

Those who were unable to attend still managed to tick off the final two on the list within school, completing a budgeting task and walking in our own forest schools area. We had a super time at Bibby's Farm taking part in all sorts of exciting activities: orienteering through Elwood Forest, a badger trail, pedal cars, archery, canoeing and rafting. We also spent our

money in the shop, being able to budget accordingly and we enjoyed toasting marshmallows by the camp fire followed by watching the film linked to our class text Goodnight Mister Tom. The children were brilliant at taking responsibility for their own washing up and tidying of rooms. Thank you Year 6 for a lovely week :)

Upcoming dates for the diary:

6VA trip to Hangar 42 - Wednesday 16th October (usual drop off and pick up times)

Mock SATs - week beginning 4th November, finishing on 8th November.

Star of the Week



RHH - James - For always being ready to learn, respecting our classroom environment and being a good friend!

1CL - Twyla-Marie - For showing such enthusiasm for learning, trying her best in her work and even creating her own book in choosing time!

1MT - Cindy - For being a fantastic role model for our school values; ready, respectful and safe.

2BH - Jaxon A - For a fantastic creative writing piece within our English lesson.

2AP - Jaxon H - For his resilience during his Arithmetic check and always putting 100% effort into his work.

3KG - Harvey - For always putting 100% effort into everything he does and being ready to learn!

3HB - Jacob - For putting 100% effort into everything he does!

4JB - Scarlett - For a fantastic character description of her new character for an original story

4CBL - Anshika - For always being ready to learn and going the extra mile.

5TT - William - Really trying hard and writing an excellent letter in English.

5NO - Honey - For writing a fantastic formal letter.

6MB - Ollie - For being helpful and supportive during our Y6 residential

6VA - Bobby - For making great links between film and text

School Uniform



Revised policy from September: From September our uniform is changing. The decision was made following consultation with children, parents and staff. Large numbers of people shared their thoughts for the options given and the vast majority voted for a change to some aspects of our uniform.

As a reminder, please have a look at the list below and make sure your children are correctly dressed for both the school day and PE. To request items of uniform please click [here](#) and complete the short form. We will do our best to meet your needs, stock permitting.

Nursery Uniform

- Black sweatshirt with logo
- White polo shirt
- Black trousers, tracksuit bottoms or skirt
- Black shoes if wearing trousers or skirt or Trainers (preferably black) if wearing tracksuit bottoms.

Primary uniform - All students should wear:

- Black V Neck school jumper with embroidered Unity Academy logo - **this item is compulsory!**
- Plain White Shirt or blouse
- Plain **black** socks or tights
- House Badge (Provided by the academy initially, replacements can be purchased from the academy)
- All black footwear with no identifiable markings. If this footwear is a boot it must be no bigger than ankle length. No crocs!

Students have a choice of: (students must wear one of these)

- Plain black tailored skirt
- Plain black trousers or shorts (tailored type, not tracksuit bottoms/ jeans)
- A Black Blazer with the Unity logo is optional

P.E. Kit - Red polo shirt Black shorts Black socks Black Pumps

Summer Uniform








- Red check dress with white ankle socks
- Black short trousers








If your child has outgrown any uniform items and they are in good condition, please do send them into school where they can be added to our supply for other parents to access. Thank you

The branded uniform will be stocked at Blispham Clothing (01253 276647) and Ragamuffins (01253 390717). If you need any assistance with purchasing uniform please contact Alyson at <https://www.schoolwear-blackpool.com/> or Kath at Ragamuffins. Non branded items may be bought from a wide range of retailers.

UNITY UNIFORM

COMPULSORY ITEMS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM 2024/2025
You must wear these items every day to school.

 Plain white shirt No logo or branding	or	 Unity logo jumper Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 Unity logo cardigan Plain black cardigan with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 Tailored Skirt Plain black	or	 Trousers Plain black, no logo or branding.	or	 Plain black tights No logo, branding or pattern. Available at many retailers.	 Plain black socks
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 Shorts Plain black	 Summer dress	 Plain white socks (To be worn with summer dress)	 Black Blazer with the Unity logo	 Red polo shirt	 Black shorts	 Black Pumps or Trainers
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Optional Uniform


PE Uniform
(No children in any year group are to come to school wearing P.E. kit)

Unity Academy Footwear

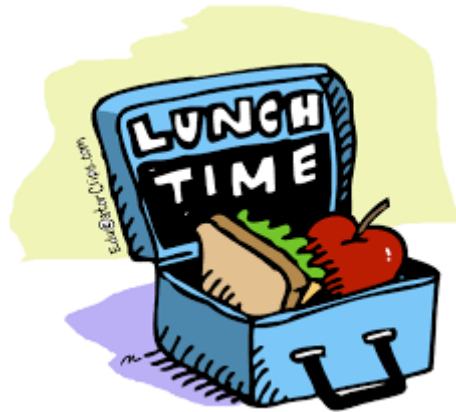
Footwear should be all black with no identifiable markings. If this footwear is a boot it must be no bigger than ankle length. No crocs or sandals are permitted. Trainers are permitted as long as they are fully black. Please check the guide opposite

Jewellery and Hair

A maximum of 2 earrings can be worn in each ear. These should be stud-type earrings. No other visible piercings are allowed. If children have ear piercings, they should be able to remove and replace them independently for PE. Children should not wear rings for school. It is unsafe on play equipment. Any necklaces and/or bracelets are to be kept inside the shirt and removed for PE. Primary aged students are expected to have long hair tied back for health and safety reasons. Bows and bobbles should be black, white or red. The school will not allow students to have wordlogos shaved into their hair. The school will have due regard to equality laws when considering hair styles. Hairdyes and head coverings that are part of the culture and identity of an ethnic or racial group will be respected. The school would prefer children's hair to be of a natural colour but will tolerate hair which has been coloured. Children should not have very bright, non-natural hair colourants (e.g. green, blue etc.)



Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wholegrain pasta , tomato sauce & wholemeal bread	Roast chicken dinner, broccoli, cauliflower and mash potatoes	Beef burger in a bun, potato wedges and beans	Beef lasagne with crusty wholemeal bread, seasonal veg or salad	Crispy salmon fillet, chips and peas
Stir fry veggie noodles	Cheese lattice, broccoli, cauliflower and mash potatoes	Hot dog, potato wedges and beans	Mexican mixed vegetable tortilla wrap, seasonal veg or salad	Cheese and tomato pizza, chips and peas
Jacket potato and baked beans	Jacket potato and tuna mayo	Jacket potato and cheese	Jacket potato and baked beans	Jacket potato, beans and cheese
Grated cheese sandwich	Roast ham sandwich	Savoury cheese sandwich	Tuna mayo sandwich	Egg mayo sandwich