



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
11/7/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

The end of the year is in sight but we still have so much to do before then. I honestly feel like I am spinning so many plates right now. When it gets like this, the best place to be is in the classrooms!

### **Teaching and Learning**

We are very pleased to share that our Key Stage 2 SATs results this year are excellent. The outcomes show that many of our children have met national standards across all subjects and we have achieved an impressive 10% above national standards in the combined Reading, Writing, and Maths measure. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work and commitment of our children, staff, and families. While we are extremely proud of these outcomes, we know that these tests only tell part of the story. SATs do not measure the kindness, resilience, creativity, or helpfulness that your children show every day. These qualities matter just as much — and at Unity, we see them shining just as brightly as any test result. Individual results will be shared with children via a letter to bring home at the end of today.

Our Reception children have changed so much and it has been fantastic to see their confidence and friendships develop this year. I spent time with them on Wednesday and it

was so good to see their 'team' approach! Aabid, Tommy and Leo worked hard to create their own ramps using MANY wooden planks. They spent ages working together to build a really big course that went over and under pieces of furniture and then thoroughly enjoyed racing cars along it. Well done boys!

Year 5 held their Shakespeare performance this week and their interpretation of A Midsummer Night's Dream was quite simply phenomenal! The children spoke so confidently, sang beautifully and behaved excellently! It brought a tear to my eye as I saw them as the little Reception children they once were. Let's face it, it doesn't take much to make me cry though! I am incredibly proud of all the children for performing a Shakespeare play at such a young age. This is another example of how ambitious our curriculum is at Unity. Thanks must go to all staff involved in the production!

I saw James (Y4) on the corridor earlier this week with what looked like a monster in his hand. He explained that they had been making 'Moving Monsters' in Design Technology and learning about pneumatics. He could really share his understanding of how it worked. Well done James!

I would like to add in a special mention to Esme in Y1 who has been growing her hair for the Princess Trust who make wigs for children with cancer. She wanted to provide her hair to help a child and we are unbelievably proud of her. Esme raised a fantastic £270 for the Princess Trust.

### **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.

### **Diary Dates**

17th July - Primary Sports Day - weather permitting

21st July - INSET Day - School closed for ALL pupils

25th July - School closes for Summer holidays

**And finally ...** Have a lovely weekend everyone!



The Children's learning disability and ADHD service will be delivering their 'tea and talk' sessions the first Friday of each month in our Community Hub. Why not drop in!



# Blackpool Children's Learning Disability and ADHD Team Tea & Talk



For Parents/Carers

Advice &  
Support

Networking  
with  
Parents/Carers

Signposting  
Information

Pre-referral  
guidance

One Friday a month  
9:30am - 11:30am  
Please see dates on back  
Unity Academy Family Hub  
Warbreck Hill Road  
Blackpool  
FY2 0TS

Contact CYP LD and ADHD team for more  
information  
0800 121 7762 Option 5



# Upcoming Dates

## 25/26

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026

### ***A message from Central Library, Blackpool***

This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is The Story Garden, encouraging primary age children and their families to take their reading outside into the fresh air. As ever, we've got a full summer of stories and crafting sessions ahead across the Service to share with them all, but I'd be most grateful if you would put the information below on your Tapestry, Moodle, Dojo or other pages to ensure that the families know there are free sessions available at Central Library to keep the children and their attendant grown-ups entertained. Booking is required, but that's a simple matter of either popping in to the library, or giving us a call on 01253 478080, and reserving a place.

### **Central Library Junior Story & Craft sessions, Summer 2025**

- 24th July 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come along to our Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge Craft Launch event, to listen to Dear Earth and make yourself a bookish badge to take home. Booking essential
- 31st July 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come and join us to listen to the story of Sam Plants A Sunflower and, because it's a bit late to plant sunflowers, you can plant a nasturtium to take home and watch it grow, then eat it in a salad! Booking essential
- 7th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Beetle along to our creepy-crawly themed craft session, to listen to some minibeast facts and to make a Spotter's Guide zine to take home so you can look out for all sorts of tiny wildlife on your travels around town. Booking essential
- 14th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Join us for a roarsome time, to listen to "Where The Wild Things Are" and to make a nature-shapes crown to wear while you create your own wild rumpus! Free event, but booking essential
- 21st August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come along to Central Library to listen to "When The Bees Buzzed Off", hear some cool buggy facts and to make a rocking minibeast card to take away. Free event but booking is essential
- 28th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come on over to listen to the story of "Impossible!" and to make one of our ever-popular recycled materials balloon cars to help you zoom off on your own adventures! Free event but booking essential.



🐉 "Don't Be a Fool – Bring Your Lids to School" 🐉



Unity Academy Blackpool is encouraging students, staff, families, and the wider community to collect **plastic milk bottle lids** and bring them into school. These will be used to create a large-scale piece of artwork that highlights the dangers of plastic pollution in our oceans. The finished piece will be proudly displayed in the Houndshell Shopping Centre, Blackpool, helping raise awareness of how everyday waste can impact marine life around the world. Bottle lids (any colour) can be dropped off into clearly marked collection boxes located in **Main Reception**, the **Community Hub**, or **Mr. Cooper's Office**. Every lid counts—please join us in turning waste into something meaningful! We will be collecting plastic milk bottle lids until Friday 18th July.



# COLLECT PLASTIC LIDS!

 **UNITY**

## FROM MILK BOTTLES

Help us create a piece of artwork to be displayed in the Houndshill Shopping Centre in Blackpool, highlighting the dangers of plastic pollution in oceans around the world.



Milk bottle lids can be dropped off into collection boxes located in Main Reception, the Community Hub or Mr Cooper's Office



## Attendance



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <b>RHH</b>	<b>95.69</b>	<b>7</b>
• <b>1CL</b>	<b>96.43</b>	<b>7</b>
• <b>1MT</b>	<b>90.62</b>	<b>10</b>
• <b>2BH</b>	<b>88.46</b>	<b>6</b>
• <b>2AP</b>	<b>98.61</b>	<b>5</b>
• <b>3KG</b>	<b>94.02</b>	<b>8</b>
• <b>3HB</b>	<b>97.00</b>	<b>3</b>
• <b>4JB</b>	<b>90.28</b>	<b>6</b>
• <b>4CBL</b>	<b>95.98</b>	<b>5</b>
• <b>5MB</b>	<b>99.14</b>	<b>4</b>
• <b>5NO</b>	<b>94.58</b>	<b>3</b>
• <b>6TT</b>	<b>87.08</b>	<b>4</b>
• <b>6VA</b>	<b>97.41</b>	<b>5</b>

## Keeping children safe!



At the National Council, our WakeUp Wednesday games empower and engage parents, careers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to help informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally defined by National Online Safety, these games use address online topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalonline.org.uk](http://nationalonline.org.uk)

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers communicate with one another online. As we mentioned in our previous guide, the most common suggestion in in-game chat would be to use the in-game chat. There is also a text chat area where players can communicate with one another on the same platform. This is known as a 'voice chat' and is typically used by gamers who are playing together. Finally, there is a 'text chat' area where players can communicate with one another on the same platform. This is typically used by gamers who are playing together.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is a way for gamers to communicate with one another. This can be a good thing, as it allows gamers to find friends and play with them. However, it can also be a bad thing, as it allows gamers to communicate with strangers. This can be a risk, as strangers may try to trick gamers into giving them personal information or money. Gamers should be aware of this risk and should not give out personal information or money to anyone they do not know.

### DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older gamers who have pretended to be their age or to be someone they know. These gamers have then used this information to trick the young gamers into giving them personal information or money. This is known as 'grooming' and is a serious risk. Gamers should be aware of this risk and should not give out personal information or money to anyone they do not know.

### BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic, some can be helpful. Gamers who are engaged in in-game chat may be able to help one another and avoid any attempts to cheat or to get a better score. However, some gamers may use in-game chat to bully or abuse one another. This can be a risk, as gamers may be tricked into giving out personal information or money.

### POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like to one-on-one with another player, they can use the in-game chat. However, they can also use private chat. Private chat is a way for gamers to communicate with one another in a private setting. This can be a risk, as gamers may be tricked into giving out personal information or money.

### COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and some gamers may use in-game chat to try to trick one another. This can be a risk, as gamers may be tricked into giving out personal information or money. Gamers should be aware of this risk and should not give out personal information or money to anyone they do not know.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In games chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows parents to lock down their child's in-game chat. This can be a good thing, as it allows parents to prevent their child from communicating with strangers. However, it can also be a bad thing, as it may prevent the child from finding friends and playing with them.

### REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Games often offer a report function of reporting other players, so when you encounter a player who is behaving badly, you can report them. This can be a good thing, as it allows parents to prevent their child from communicating with strangers. However, it can also be a bad thing, as it may prevent the child from finding friends and playing with them.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third party service like Discord. These services allow gamers to talk to one another and avoid any attempts to cheat or to get a better score. However, they can also be a risk, as gamers may be tricked into giving out personal information or money.

### COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the importance of being careful and not giving out personal information or money to anyone they do not know. This can be a good thing, as it allows parents to prevent their child from communicating with strangers. However, it can also be a bad thing, as it may prevent the child from finding friends and playing with them.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr. Sarah Johnson is a child psychologist and has been working in the games industry for the past 10 years. She is a parent and a teacher and has a wealth of experience in helping children with their gaming habits. She is also a member of the National Council on Child Development and is a frequent speaker at conferences.

@wake\_up\_weds

[www.thenationalcouncil.org](http://www.thenationalcouncil.org)

@wakeup.wednesday

@wakeup.weds

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## Celebrating Culture and Difference



## Nursery



This week we have read the story 'The Sun Thief.' We have continued tolerance all about summer and how to keep safe in the sun. The children have enjoyed creating summer pictures and self portraits and have compared them to the self portraits we did at the beginning of the year.

The children have been counting objects and comparing to say which pile has the most/least and the same.

## Reception



## Year 1



What a great week Year 1 have had!

We have been learning all about money in Maths. We have been identifying different coins and notes. We have also been calculating the amounts together. The children have blown us away with their fantastic knowledge and have applied it to work out some really tricky questions.

In English we have been reading the classic story 'Where the wild things are'. The children have loved reading this story and have tried so hard to write some really good sentences including adjectives, verbs, adverbs as well as including capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. The children have improved their writing so much recently, it has made us so proud!



In other subjects we are beginning to come to the end of our curriculum, we are using this time to recap all the things we have learnt over the year and are being creative with how we are showing off our knowledge!

We are looking forward to another fun packed week as we come to the end of Year 1!

The Year 1 Team

Year 2



Year 2 have had a brilliant week!!

In English the children have been using their imagination to create their own story all about space. First the children had to create a plan which included the setting, characters, a problem and a solution to the problem then think about what might happen at the

beginning, middle and the end of the story. The children then wrote their stories and we were so impressed with the creativity and imagination the children put into these stories.

In Maths the children have continued learning about position and direction. The children have been learning the words clockwise and anticlockwise and explaining what they mean. The children have also been looking at repeating patterns and completed an LBQ to support them with this.

In art the children have been using the different using all the skills they have learnt over the past few weeks to create a piece of observational drawing art work. The children used the sketching pencils and the oil pastels to create some beautiful flower pictures.

Well done Year 2, you have worked extremely hard this week especially in this hot weather.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.





The hot weather and the count down to summer has not stopped year 3 trying their very best this week!

In Maths, we have been looking at Statistics in the form of pictograms, tally charts and bar charts. We have seen lots of these throughout year 3 in other topics, such as Computing and Science. We have been working so hard to interpret and understand this data!

In English, both classes have come together for our final piece of writing - a poem. We have reflected on all the different things we have done in Year 3, different topics we have learnt about and fun activities we have engaged in. In pairs, we have been writing rhyming poems to express our thoughts and feelings towards all the knowledge we have gathered this year!

As it is very sunny, please ensure your child has their water bottle with them in school.

Additionally, please ensure reading books and reading records are in school, as we will begin collecting these back in as the year comes to an end.

Have a fab weekend!

Year 4





What a fantastic performance yesterday! We are so proud of everyone in year 5 for their fantastic performance of A Midsummer Night's dream, they were wonderful. All their hard work and effort paid off during our dress rehearsal on Wednesday morning when they performed the play for year 3 children and the year 6 prefects and on Thursday to yourselves. Thank you so much for attending and making this such a memorable experience for the children, it was wonderful to see such a large audience and to hear your comments at the end of the show.

PGL reminder - please can any outstanding amounts be paid by Tuesday 15th July. A letter will be sent home with the kit list this week so that you have time over the summer to consider the items the children will need to take.

Hot weather note - please can children bring a hat for playtime and wear sunscreen during this hot weather we are having. Please can you check that jumpers have names in as we are suggesting that the children take them off in class and a bottle of water to drink during the day would be helpful.

We hope you have a lovely weekend, Year 5 team

## Year 6



As Mrs Shaw has previously said, we so proud to share that our Key Stage 2 SATs results this year are excellent. The outcomes show that many of our children have met national standards across all subjects and we have achieved an impressive 10% above national standards in the combined Reading, Writing, and Maths measure. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work and commitment of our children, staff, and families. While we are extremely proud of these outcomes, we know that these tests only tell part of the story. SATs do not measure the kindness, resilience, creativity, or helpfulness that your children show every day. These qualities matter just as much — and at Unity, we see them shining just as brightly as any test result. Individual results will be shared with children via a letter to bring home at the end of today.

This week has marked the end of our transition work which started in May. The children have responded really well to getting to know the high school environment and some new teachers, and it has definitely helped quell some nerves!

This morning, we engaged in an end of year assembly with Picture News. We have then acted as little reporters, writing our own news stories about things that matter to us in our community. We have also voted for our future Head Students which is one of our

enrichment opportunities. We can't wait to see who is awarded these prestigious positions. I wonder if we have any future Head Students amongst us?!

### *Star of the Week*



- ***RHH - Jessica - For brilliant focus and enthusiasm in phonics!***
- ***1CL - Evie-Rae - For going above and beyond in her writing, trying so hard on her handwriting and completing some amazing independent work!***
- ***1MT - Cindy - For the huge progress and resilience she has shown towards her writing!***
- ***2BH - Jaxon - For working really hard in meeting classroom expectations and going above and beyond in answering questions in all lessons.***
- ***2AP - Sebastian - For a huge improvement with his reading and independent writing.***
- ***3KG - Eli - For always having a positive attitude towards his learning***
- ***3HB - Ted - For the improvement he has made with his reading and making a great effort in phonics!***
- ***4JB - Caden - For always demonstrating our school values and being a perfect role model to the class!***
- ***4CBL - Junior - For the improvement in the content of his writing. Well done !***
- ***5MB - All - For an excellent performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream***
- ***5NO - All - For an excellent performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream***

- **6TT - Scarlett - For approaching her learning with a positive attitude and always having a smile on her face**
- **6VA - Jacob - For an improved attitude to school life and effort in class**

## 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/ cardigan 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**




**UNITY UNIFORM**

The branded uniform will be stocked at Blapham Clothing (01253 276047) and Ragamuffins (01253 390717).  
If you need any assistance with purchasing uniform please contact Aiyem at <https://www.schoolwear-blackpool.com/> or Kath at Ragamuffins. Non branded items may be bought from a wide range of retailers


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### COMPULSORY ITEMS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM 2024/2025


You must wear these items every day to school




**Plain white shirt**  
No logo or branding




**Unity logo jumper**  
Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest




**Unity logo cardigan**  
Plain black cardigan with Unity logo on the left chest




**Tailored Skirt**  
Plain black



**Trousers**  
Plain black, no logo or branding




**Plain black socks**




**Plain black tights**  
No logo, branding or pattern  
Available at many retailers

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#### Optional Uniform




**Shorts**  
Plain black



**Summer dress**




**Plain white socks**  
(To be worn with summer dress)




**Black Blazer**  
with the Unity logo

#### PE Uniform


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



**Red polo shirt**




**Black shorts**




**Black Pumps or Trainers**

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**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



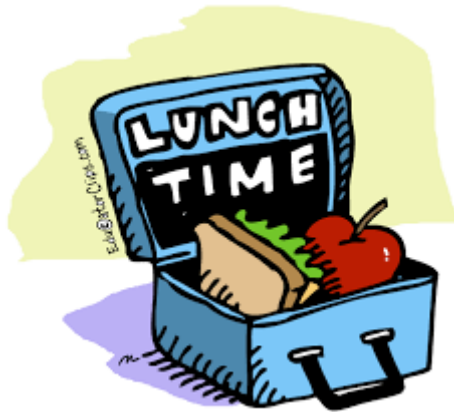
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**Jewellery and Hair**

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 brooches 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 words/logos shaved into their hair. The school will have due regard to equality laws when considering hair styles. Hairstyles 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.)



## Lunchtime menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homemade Pizza Margherita & Oven Baked Potatoes (v) Or Tomato & Basil Wholegrain Pasta (v)	Roast Chicken with Sage & Onion Stuffing, Mash Potato & Gravy Or Spicy Tomato & Broccoli Pasta Bake (v)	British Beef Burger, Potato Wedges & Coleslaw Or Vegetarian Hot Dog, Potato Wedges & Coleslaw (v)	Cook's Choice Chicken Curry with Wholegrain/White Rice Or Diddy Cheese & Tomato Pizza Panini with Coleslaw (v)	Sustainable Salmon Stars & Oven Baked Chips Or Vegetable & Cheese Bake & Oven Baked Chips (v)