



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
12/7/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

I actually don't feel like I have been around school very much this week and have had one of those weeks where I've bounced from one meeting to another! Let's see what I have seen this week though!

Teaching and Learning

Well done to our Y6 children for trying their very best with their SATs last term. The results have come through this week and we have been madly trying to upload them to our new School Management System and get them printed with the National figures for comparison. These should hopefully be coming out today! No matter what the results say, rest assured that the children have tried their very best and as I pointed out at the time, are a snapshot and do not measure the whole child! Well done to you all!

I caught some Year 2 children working with Miss Helsby this week. Ted, Esmay and were working hard in English and were focussed on adding speech marks to their writing. They could all explain where they needed to be. Great!!

James in Year 3 came to show me his English book this week. He had written his own chapter for the Roald Dahl book *The Twits*. His use of vocabulary and detail was just simply brilliant. He was very proud of himself and I could certainly see why!

Performances - Year 5 blew me away with their performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this week. All of the children spoke confidently and sang beautifully. There was even some rapping! I love that we challenge our children at Unity. Shakespeare is difficult to access but our staff support the children and they really embrace it. Fabulous Year 5! I was gutted to miss the Year 1 performance on Monday but am reliably informed that it was great! I have asked the Year 1 children to perform it in assembly on Monday so that we can all see it - I can't wait!

In our behaviour curriculum this week we had a focus on '**showing kindness and involving others**'. I shared the book '*The Invisible Boy*' by Trudy Ludwig, which is simply stunning! The children enjoyed seeing how being kind to someone can make a real difference to how they are feeling which helps to develop relationships with others. Next week, we are moving onto '**Choosing to be kind to others**'.

Staffing for 2024-2025.

I recently shared the staffing list for next academic year and need to make a slight change. Mrs Bass will be in Year 4 next year in place of Mr Cooper. Mrs Bass has previously worked in Year 4 so does know the curriculum well. Working alongside Miss Blunden, I know it will be an organised and creative team! Mr Cooper's expertise in Year 4 will continue, along with him supporting in 2BH, teaching across Key Stage 1 and also in Year 6. He will be extremely busy next year! Teaching Assistants are still to be confirmed.

Diary Dates

- W/c- 15th July - Reception Post Box Trip
- 17th July - Tangerine Day (in memory of Chris Lickiss, former Headteacher/ Executive Headteacher)
- 18th July - Primary Sports day - Letter went out this week
- W/C 22nd July - Olympics Week
- W/C 22nd July - Primary Rewards afternoon
- 25th July - Non-Uniform Day. **School closes at 12.15. Please ensure your child is picked up on time!**
- 4th September 2024 - New Term Starts at 8:40am

And finally...

England play on Sunday night at 8pm! Is it coming home?! I certainly hope so! A reminder that school starts at 8:40am ;-)

Have a great weekend everyone!





Contact us!

Contact Us

Our year group emails are no longer being monitored. If you wish to contact a teacher within school please use this link [Parental Messages / Queries \(Non-urgent\)](#). and we will get back to you. This form should be used rather than contacting an individual teacher email address as we can then ensure that you are responded to in a timely manner. Messages will be passed on and dealt with as quickly as possible. Our aim is to respond to you within 48 school working hours. Please note that this may not be checked during teaching hours and so **please do not add anything urgent** e.g. about your child being collected by someone else at the end of the day. If you have an urgent message or query, please contact the school office on 01253 355493. Thank you.

Attendance



| | Attendance % | Late Marks |
|--------|---------------------|-------------------|
| • RMT | 84.85 | 13 |
| • REB | 90.83 | 13 |
| • 1CBL | 83.50 | 8 |
| • 1BW | 93.75 | 7 |
| • 2KG | 91.88 | 13 |
| • 2AM | 89.42 | 11 |
| • 3HB | 95.00 | 18 |
| • 3LC | 87.50 | 11 |
| • 4TC | 93.94 | 11 |
| • 4CL | 99.17 | 23 |
| • 5TT | 90.48 | 12 |
| • 5JB | 88.33 | 7 |
| • 6VA | 93.45 | 9 |
| • 6NO | 90.48 | 13 |
| • 6MB | 92.11 | 4 |

Keeping children safe!



At The National College, our Wellbeing advisory 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 cyberbullying, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit www.thenationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a profile or age-restricted (regarding the region the viewer lives in) account. Some content is restricted to users aged 18 and over, but children can still view some inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos viewed by you and the user has previously watched on their screen. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction. A feature of auto-play is that it will suggest videos from the last 24 hours. This might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic - a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be the case for extremist topics, and it's not always clear if the content is educational and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologues can occasionally surface to wrap themselves around an issue, the more they're recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which gives people a way to connect with other people. However, users can connect with people they don't know, and this can be dangerous. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being groomed for sexual abuse, cyberbullying and - in the worst case - sexual exploitation. It's important to be aware of the risks and to increase the likelihood of them becoming a reality.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is becoming more and more popular, and it's not just for those who are interested in entertainment and might want to be a YouTuber. It's also a place where people can find out about things that are quite serious, such as mental health and climate change. It's important to be aware of the risks and to increase the likelihood of them becoming a reality.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content can be a hotbed for scammers attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTube by adopting the name and profile picture of a well-known channel. Children may not realise that these scammers will then claim to be their friend.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from recommending explicit, adult, and other content. It also restricts search results, video uploads, and channel uploads. To prevent children from changing settings, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on your device. At the National College, we have a guide on how to apply Restricted Mode to your device.

18 TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their search history, watch history, and more.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for many children, and it's important to monitor their engagement with the platform. Parents and educators should be aware of the risks of children spending too much time on YouTube, and of the potential for children to be exposed to inappropriate content.

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content by using YouTube Kids. This is a separate app for Android, iOS, and Fire TV. It's designed to be a safe space for children to watch videos, and it has a range of parental controls.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos in 'public' or 'private' mode. If they are uploaded in 'public' mode, anyone can see them. If they are uploaded in 'private' mode, only the user and their friends can see them. It's important to check the privacy settings of any videos that a child uploads.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some premium services. Parents and educators should be aware of the risks of children spending money on these services, and of the potential for children to be exposed to inappropriate content.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of *IT*, *techRadar*, *Tom's Guide*, *The Evening Standard* and *The New Statesman*.

www.wakeupwednesday.com

The National College

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. Release date: 26.01.2023 (last reviewed: 29.05.2024)

Celebrating Culture and Difference

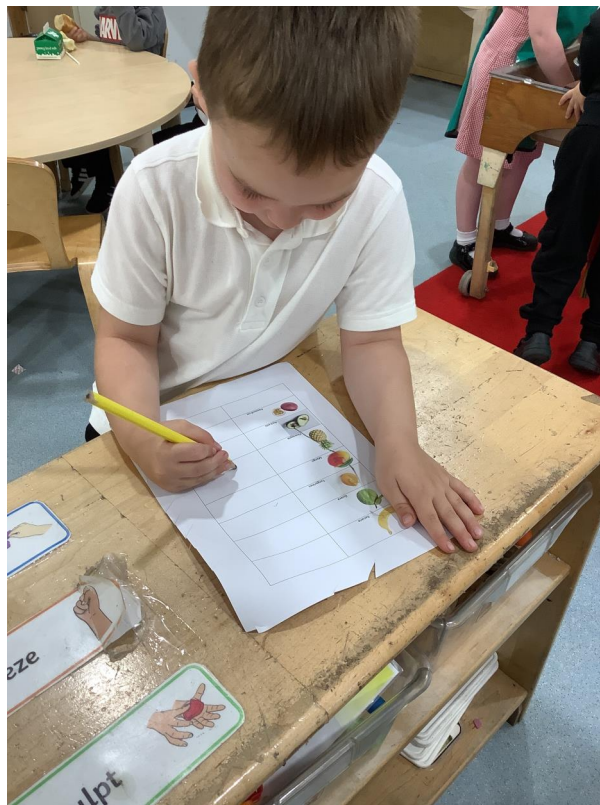


Ashura is recognised on Wednesday 17th. It Marks the 10th day of Muharram as the day that Mohammed saved Moses from the Pharaoh. [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week in Nursery we have been reading 'Handa's Surprise.' We have continued to look at the differences between where we live and other countries around the world. We have watched a video about living in a village in Africa and have discussed how this differs to where we live. The children have weaved their own baskets and have practised balancing it on their heads just like Handa. We have tried the different fruits from the story and have used a tally chart to decide which fruit we liked the most.





Reception



This week in Reception we have been learning all about caterpillar life cycles!

Using the story 'The Hungry Caterpillar' as our stimulus, we looked at each stage of a caterpillar's life cycle. We developed our knowledge further throughout the week, focusing on the various stages and concentrating on enhancing our vocabulary; learning words such as hatch, larva, chrysalis, pupa, emerge and adult.

We developed our learning further during continuous provision where in the Creative Area we created our own hungry caterpillar, alongside the stages of their life cycle and detailed pictures of butterflies. In our Playdough Area we developed our fine motor skills through creating the caterpillar life cycle using playdough and remaking some of the foods that the hungry caterpillar munches on in our story!

In our Writing Area the children were challenged to write some speech bubbles of questions or statements the caterpillar may say at different stages of its life cycle. Some of their ideas were very creative and imaginative! Some of our children took this a step further and designed their own reimagined versions of The Hungry Caterpillar through creating their own book. It was so lovely to be able to share these as a class!

Following the children's transition session in Year 1 last week, it has been so lovely to hear so many of the children describing how excited they are to go into Year 1 in September. We really hoped that the children's transition from Reception to Year 1 would be a really positive experience which the children are really excited for, so the teaching team are thrilled that the children are so looking forward to the next step in their school journey!

We look forward to next week when we focus on our topic of Pirates!

We hope you have a lovely weekend, The Reception Team

Year 1



Well what a start to the week we had!

On Monday, the children performed to parents/ carers and they were outstanding! They have practiced so hard and it is not easy to remember speaking parts, a song and a dance at the same time but they managed it with ease. Some future Britain's got talent stars I think. I even think I saw Mr Brimley singing along at the back! Well done to all the children and thank you to everyone that came to watch and support.

In English, we have started writing stories and we have retold a familiar fairy tale; Goldilocks and the three bears. The children have really understood the different parts of the story and had a go at using expression to say the story out loud.

Coats - Please can I ask that children always bring a coat to school, particularly with our ever changing weather. Unless it is obvious it isn't going to rain, please can they have suitable outdoor wear as we do still go outside when it is drizzling.

Have a wonderful weekend! The Year 1 team

Year 2



What an exciting week in Year 2!

In History this week children have been learning about the Artemis project. We have discussed and thought of our own ways to survive on the moon! The children have also started building their own lunar rockets. They have really showed off their creativity and created some rockets that are out of this world!

In English this week, we have continued to look at speech. Children have continued reading the story "Whatever Next". The children have then written their own speech for some of the characters in the story, being very careful to punctuate their speech accurately!

In Maths this week, we have been revisiting addition and subtraction crossing 10. The children have worked really hard to remember to exchange!

Please remember to read with your children 3 X per week.

Many thanks, The Year 2 Team.

Year 3



What a busy, fun-filled week in year 3!

This week, we came to the end of our History topic on inventors. We debated who was the greatest of all time, with lots of opinions on which invention was better!

In English, we continued reading about the gruesome, nasty Twits and even writing our very own tricks to play on them!

In Maths, we have been continuing to look at time on an analogue clock. We have been learning, past and to, counting in 5 minute intervals and even moving into telling the time to the precise minute. We thought about times this would be useful and came up with: getting a bus, getting on an aeroplane and even coming to school!

We have done some fantastic observational drawings in Art this week, we used viewfinders to look closely at different parts of flowers and drew them in great detail, then coloured these with oil pastels.

And last, but certainly not least, we visited Showtown museum this week. The children loved learning all about the History of Blackpool and getting their hands on the interactive experiences! Showtown museum is free to residence of Blackpool and is great fun for everyone!

Please continue to bring plastic bottles for our upcoming Science Crest Award next week.

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 3 team





Year 4



What a brilliant week Year 4!

In English 4TC have been completing their children's books. 4CL have been writing letters to Mr Cooke and Mrs Shaw which we hope to deliver to them next week. In these letters we have been thinking about how to make Unity more sustainable. We have written all about our ideas and how we would implement these in school.

In Maths we have been continuing to learn about money. We have been calculating amounts and solving tricky reasoning questions. Keep up the good work Year 4.

In RE, we have rounded off our final unit on Christians by thinking about a place that is special to us. I must say there were some really lovely answers and some beautiful drawings to illustrate. During this unit, we have been looking at 'Do Christian's have to go to church to

show they are Christians?'. I have been impressed by the level of knowledge the children have displayed during this topic!

A big thank you to Mrs Hutt this week who took a handful of children to attend a celebration of languages taught in FCAT at Armfield Academy. They sang songs, looked at some French story books and had some French food. The children enjoyed meeting other children from FCAT and behaved impeccably. What a great experience!

Well done to 4CL this week who completed their Ukulele performance in front of 4TC and parents on Thursday. Thank you to those who came along to watch the performance. The children loved it and as always, made me very proud!

Have a lovely weekend and we will see you back on Monday for our final ever last full week of year 4!! The Year 4 Team.

Year 5



This week, Year 5 delivered two incredible performances of A Midsummer Night's Dream. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents, carers, and other adults who attended on Wednesday to support the children. We sincerely hope you enjoyed the show!

In Maths, we have continued our topic on converting units, with a particular focus on understanding timetables for trains, buses, and TV guides, as well as converting units of time.

In Art, the children drew one of the characters from A Midsummer Night's Dream in a more realistic style, showcasing their creativity and attention to detail.

In Geography, the children concluded their USA topic by comparing Blackpool to Washington, focusing on both the human and physical features of each location.

Spellings for 19/7/2024

- ordering
- disrespect
- special
- couple
- measure
- cough
- machine
- invisible
- banned
- television

Small Plea - If anyone has any spare carrier bags, please can you send these in to school.

Reminder - Thursday 18th July is Sports Day. You are welcome to come and spectate. Year 5 will be participating from 10.30 until 11.45.

Have a fantastic weekend and rest up ready for another busy week in Year 5!

Year 6



What a week! - As the school year comes to a close, we are excited to share some highlights from your children's final week of transition. The activities this week have been designed to build confidence and independence, preparing them for high school in September. From adapting to new routines to enjoying social time during lunches, the students have shown

remarkable enthusiasm and resilience. We hope these experiences have equipped them with the skills needed for a smooth transition.

Sports for Champions - Our students had another great session with Sports for Champions, exploring various levels of fitness and engaging in different sporting activities. This program not only promotes physical health but also encourages teamwork, resilience, and a positive attitude towards fitness. The children thoroughly enjoyed participating and learning about the importance of staying active.

DT - In DT, the children have begun creating the foundations of an Ancient Maya house using cardboard. This hands-on project has sparked their creativity and curiosity about ancient civilizations. We can't wait to see the finished products and celebrate their hard work when creating these models.

Have a wonderful weekend (and Come on England!)

Star of the week



- **RMT** - Evelin - For showing great perseverance and resilience and for growing in confidence during her first couple of weeks at Unity!
- **REB** - Niha - For always being Ready, Respectful and Safe.
- **1CBL** - Arabella - For being ready to learn all week.
- **1BW** - Darasimi - For a stand out performance during the Y1 assembly, for singing so loud and for always smiling and doing her best. Well Done, Dara! Superstar!
- **2KG** - Gabby - For her fantastic independent attitude in Maths this week!

- **2AM - Clarke - For his wonderful work in Computing this week and trying really hard to work on his listening skills! Well done Clarke!**
- **3HB - Evie - For her enthusiastic and sensible manor whilst on our trip to Showtown!**
- **3LC - James - For his exceptional dedication and work ethic in class. The work he produces is beautifully presented with great content!**
- **4TC - Grace - For setting in well to life at Unity and great effort in all areas of the curriculum**
- **4CL - Mokhtar - For making great progress in his English and for trying so hard.**
- **5TT - All of 5TT - For 2 fantastic performances of A Midsummer Night's Dream. You made us very proud!**
- **5JB - All of 5JB - For 2 fantastic performances of A Midsummer Night's Dream. You made us very proud!**
- **6NO - Sofia - For settling in really well at Unity Academy.**
- **6VA - Sonny - For making really good progress this year:)**
- **6MB - McKenzie - For developing focus and attitude to learning.**

School 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

Black sweatshirt/cardigan sweatshirt with logo

White collared shirt

Black trousers/ Unity Tartan Skirt

Tie in house colour

Black socks/plain tights

Black shoes

Primary PE Kit

Red polo shirt with logo

Black shorts

Black socks

Black Pumps

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

[Blackpool FC Community Trust holiday clubs](#)






HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD CAMP

If your child attends a Blackpool school and receives benefit related **FREE SCHOOL MEALS** they can access our Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Camps during school holidays for free. We have HAF Camps for primary, secondary and SEND pupils.

Our action packed HAF Camp includes four hours of:

- Football
- Arts & Crafts
- Games Consoles
- Dodgeball
- Cricket
- Plus more activities!

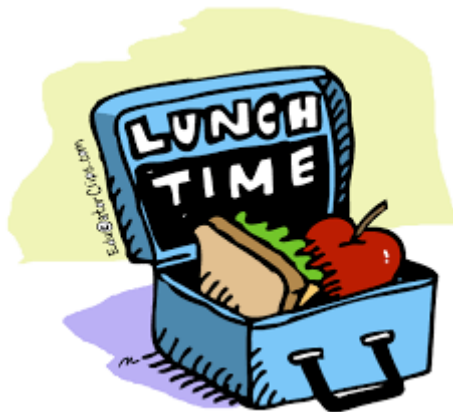
MULTIPLE VENUES AND DATES

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK A PLACE!



www.bfct.co.uk

Lunch time menu for this week



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|---------------------------|---|---|
| Chilli and Wholegrain rice | Roast pork, mash potatoes, carrots and gravy | Sausage, chips, and gravy | Chicken curry, wholegrain rice and naan bread | Fish fingers, potato wedges and beans |
| Meatballs with tomato sauce & wholegrain pasta | Plant power veggie roll, mash potatoes and carrots | Pizza, chips and beans | Cheese flan and new potatoes | Crispy coated golden nuggets, potato wedges and beans |
| Jacket potato and baked beans | Jacket potato and tuna mayo | Jacket potato and cheese | Jacket potato and baked beans | Jacket potato and cheese |
| Savoury cheese sandwich | Roast ham sandwich | Tuna mayo sandwich | Egg mayo sandwich | Grated cheese sandwich |