



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
13/12/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

What a week this has been! Ofsted have visited us and whilst we can't share the outcome of the visit, I can say that the children and staff were brilliant. They all truly demonstrated our Ready, Respectful and Safe values and I couldn't be more proud of them all!

Earlier this week, Years R-6 went to watch Snow White at the Lowther Pavillion. Our children behaved impeccably! We have since received an email from the staff there who commented positively on our children's behaviour and said "*they are a real credit to your school*" - we already know that though! ;-)

Tuesday saw our primary choir representing Unity at the Blackpool Music Services Christmas Festival. Miss Stones was so complimentary about our children and said that they really got involved in the singing and the dancing. Well done and thank you, all of you, for showing off how fabulous Unity children are!

I think Mr Brimley has really despaired of me today as I have hidden around 200 tiny ducks in primary to start our festive activities! The children have absolutely loved searching for a duck and have been to exchange it for a sticker, a little prize or they have chosen to keep their duck! I've loved hearing the excitement in their voices and seeing their happy faces as they visited me.

Next week we have so much planned for the children! See our diary dates below!

- 16th December - 9:15 – 10am - EYFS/Y1 Nativity.
- 16th December - 2:15 – 3pm - EYFS/Y1 Nativity.
- 17th December - Elf Run - your child will have brought home a sponsor form. We only have 25 hats left!
- 17th December - Christmas Jumper Day.
- 17th December - Christmas Dinner Day.
- 18th December - Christmas Party Day - Your child is invited to wear their Christmas Jumper.
- 19th December - Individual Santa Visits (N - Y4). Classroom visit for Y5/6.
- 20th December - Staff Panto - for Year 5/6 children only.
- 21st December - School closes for the Christmas Holidays.
- 6th/ 7th January - INSET Days - School closed for children.
- 8th January - School reopens to children for Spring 1.

### **Reception Curriculum/ Reading Evening**

Due to lack of numbers attending, we have rearranged our Reception Curriculum/ Reading sessions. These will now take place in January so please keep an eye out for further details!

**And finally...**

Christmas is almost upon us! Have a great weekend everyone!

## [Community Information](#)



Does your child have ADHD?  
or are they under assessment  
for ADHD?

Are you a professional that knows  
a family that could benefit from  
our help?

**What we offer**

**Outreach Support**  
Parent & family support  
by our qualified family  
practitioners

**Parent Empowerment &  
Skills Training Programme**  
Gain the knowledge, tools  
and confidence on how to  
parent a child with ADHD

**Telephone Support**

**Assist with  
services/agency meetings**  
We can attend TAF, Children  
in Need meetings or of  
anything similar



**Where we are based**

East Lancs

Blackburn  
with Darwen

North Lancs

South Cumbria

Central Lancs

Blackpool



CIO: 1186394

**ADHD North West**

Supporting Families

Tel: 01254 886 886

[www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk](http://www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk)

[reception@adhdnorthwest.org.uk](mailto:reception@adhdnorthwest.org.uk)

NHS Talking Therapies Service provides a range of FREE therapy options recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) for common mental health problems such as depression and anxiety.

**NHS Blackpool Talking Therapies**

## FREE Courses Available

**MASTERING STRESS – Steps to Wellness**  
 30min introduction 2pm Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December  
 Followed 6 x 90min weekly online sessions. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January & 7<sup>th</sup> February.  
*Learn new skills and coping strategies*

**8-week Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy Course**  
 60min introduction 10am Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Followed by 8 x 2-hour session weekly online sessions.  
 Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> February 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> March  
*Learn to live in the present!*

A personalised link will be emailed and recordings accessible for 72hours

45min webinars, with recording available for 3 days

<b>Resilience and Me</b> 10am Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Anxiety and Worry</b> 1pm Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Sleep and Relaxation</b> 1pm Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Overcoming Low Mood</b> 1pm Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Menopausal Wellbeing</b> 10am Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan
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AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE OVER 16 WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN LANCASHIRE OR SOUTH CUMBRIA

To self-refer, please call: **01253 955700** (Monday–Friday 9am–5pm)  
 email: [bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net](mailto:bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net)  
[www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies](http://www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies)

Scan here to visit our website

Blackpool Talking Therapies is not able to provide reports for compensation, legal or benefits claims or prescribe medication. We do not offer 24-hour or weekend access, crisis or emergency treatment, treatment for alcohol or drug problems or treatment for severe and enduring mental illness.  
**Please discuss these needs with your GP.**

**Blackpool Talking Therapies**  
 for anxiety and depression  
 Service provided by Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Contact us!



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



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <i>RHH</i>	<i>98.56</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>87.07</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>92.67</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>88.54</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>2AP</i>	<i>87.50</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>91.35</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>3HB</i>	<i>94.50</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>4JB</i>	<i>88.39</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>97.84</i>	<i>15</i>
• <i>5TT</i>	<i>90.42</i>	<i>18</i>
• <i>5NO</i>	<i>98.28</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>6MB</i>	<i>92.08</i>	<i>10</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>93.53</i>	<i>10</i>

Keeping children safe!



At The National College, our Behaviouralguidance 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, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips For Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

- 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children. One dispute may arise from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others. Treat others with respect and you should always respond with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating active listening can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.
- 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE**

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. When someone disagrees, sometimes we can agree to disagree, using active listening skills when doing this can often help to build empathy and understanding of others.
- 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING**

Teach children about the importance of active listening. That is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting before responding in a way that shows you understand or disagree with them. Encourage children to be respectful if a dispute arises – this makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of the point of view, which is more likely to allow you to communicate your own opinion to them.
- 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF 'I' STATEMENTS**

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use 'I' statements during the discussion. Encourage their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel...", "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.
- 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER**

When a disagreement happens, encourage children to focus on describing the problem, encourage children to focus on describing the behaviour, not attacking the character of the person. For example, "I don't like how you presented me" is better than "you're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to reduce the situation.
- 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS**

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to give them time to compose. It's OK to suggest techniques like calming yourself down if it's a difficult situation to take or to a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.
- 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT**

Talk openly to children about what respect means to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people who might annoy us. This could be through respectful communication, such as using respectful language, or through open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.
- 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND**

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground between the two parties. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing these issues from dominating their relationship.
- 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL**

It's important that we make it clear to children that they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language and a positive tone helps to build constructive discussions, reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.
- 10 REFLECT AND LEARN**

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they do well at? What might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing activities, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

**Meet Our Expert**  
The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a national coalition of organisations and individuals working together to address their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They represent membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

Source: See full reference list on page 31. <https://nationalcollege.com/updates/10-top-tips>

**Wake Up Wednesday** The National College

@wake\_up\_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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Sunday the 13th is the 3rd Sunday in Advent [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week the children have enjoyed reading the story, 'I've seen santa.' We have enjoyed talking about the different traditions we do at Christmas. The children have created their own Christmas calendars and cards and have wrapped their own presents for their friends

## Reception



This week in reception we have been continuing with our story Stickman. The children have created with different materials a boat to help Stickman float down the river. We have explored which materials sink and float.

We have also been working extremely hard practising our nativity, we are looking forward to performing for you all **on Monday**.

Have a nice weekend!

## Year 1



What a week we have had in Year 1!

We started off our week at the pantomime. We had such a great time and it was so lovely to see the children so engaged in the show and some very happy little faces. What a great experience we all shared together!

We have been continuing to look at rhyming in English. We have been writing our own sentences about our book 'Snowball' with sentences that rhyme. My favorite one of the week has got to be:

*'Snowball was making a delicious cake,*

*He was trying hard to bake,*

*he decorated it with a flake,*

*then he threw it in a lake!'*

*Very impressed!*

In Maths, we have been learning more about subtraction number sentences. We have been very resilient in solving tricky questions.

We are looking forward to performing our Nativity on Monday. Thank you for bringing all of the slips back. We can not wait for you to watch us on Monday.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Lee and Miss Tench.

Year 2



This week, Year Two explored pointillism in art, creating paintings by using tiny dots of color. In math's, they studied 2D and 3D shapes, learning to recognise and identify aspects of them. During their English lesson on *One Snowy Night*, they participated in a sensory journey, experiencing ice, leaves, and flour to bring the story's winter scenes to life.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

The Year 2 Team.



Year 3



Well done to all of year 3 for continuing to work super hard this week!

We loved the pantomime and returned full of enthusiasm for D.T. week - we have been making levers and moving parts ready to complete our moving Christmas card!

In English, the teachers made a lot of mess when being given instructions on how to make a hot chocolate! We quickly found out the importance of correctly using imperative (bossy) verbs and adverbs like "carefully stir" and "gently pour".

Have a wonderful weekend.

The Year Three team!

Year 4



What another fabulous week!

This week, we have continued our engaging exploration of *A Christmas Carol* in English, delving deeper into its themes and characters.

In Maths, our focus has remained on strengthening our understanding of multiplication and division, working through practical examples and problem-solving activities.

In Science, we conducted a hands-on practical lesson investigating insulators and conductors, which provided an exciting opportunity to apply our knowledge to real-world scenarios.

Have a lovely weekend and get ready for a very festive last week before Christmas.

The Year 4 Team!

Year 5



What an exciting week, Monday began with a bus full of excited children going to Lowther Pavilion in Lytham to watch Snow White. It was a really good adaptation of the story and the children really enjoyed being a part of the production.

We finished reading The Demon Headmaster which the children again really enjoyed and we look forward to watching it as a film next week.

I would like to remind all year 5 and 6 members of the Tuesday after school football club that it has now finished and we will see if we are going to continue after Christmas.

Next week we have lots of Christmas activities and I would like to mention Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save The Children and the Elf Run in support of Brian House. Both these activities are on Tuesday and I would like to see as many people as possible taking part.

The Year 5 Team.

Year 6



What a busy week, this week! The moment we have all been waiting for happened early on in the week with us baking our cakes based on ingredients available during WW2. We had a fantastic time in our Unity kitchen, working in pairs and enjoyed trying our own and others' sponge cakes.

Well done to our students who were involved in the Blackpool music service Christmas festival. It was great to hear how you represented the school well and got into the festive spirit with all who attended.



## *Star of the Week*



***RHH - Lucian - For having a fantastic week!***

***1CL - Iyanu - For trying so hard in all of her lessons and producing some fantastic work.***

***1MT - Ellis - For being the most excellent role model for our school values!***

***2BH - Oscar-George - For showing an improved attitude towards learning and role modelling kind and helpful behaviour towards friends.***

***2AP - Lexi - For a brilliant start to Unity.***

***3KG - Sophia - For always being engaged in learning and being a good role model to others!***

***3HB - Enija - For always engaging in learning and going above and beyond in her work!***

***4JB - James - Rising to every challenge, even when pushed beyond what is expected.***

***4CBL - Phoebe - For the extra effort she has put into her work this week.***

***5TT - Zekiye - A fantastic piece of work in English, producing an information wheel on the Demon Headmaster.***

***5NO - Charlie - For always engaging in his learning.***

***6MB - Kai - For super focus in reading and English and sharing his findings in science. Well done.***

***6VA - Oliver - For working well in the cookery room and supporting everyone else with their baking too.***

## 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**








**UNITY UNIFORM** | The branded uniform will be stocked at Blispham Clothing (01263 276847) and Ragamuffins (01263 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.

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

 <b>Plain white shirt</b> No logo or branding	or	 <b>Unity logo jumper</b> Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 <b>Unity logo cardigan</b> Plain black cardigan with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 <b>Tailored Skirt</b> Plain black	or	 <b>Trousers</b> Plain black, no logo or branding	or	 <b>Plain black tights</b> No logo, branding or pattern. Available at many retailers.	 <b>Plain black socks</b>
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<b>Optional Uniform</b>	<b>PE Uniform</b> (No children in any year group are to come to school wearing P.E. kit)					
 <b>Shorts</b> Plain black	 <b>Summer dress</b>	 <b>Plain white socks</b> (To be worn with summer dress)	 <b>Black Blazer</b> with the Unity logo	 <b>Red polo shirt</b>	 <b>Black shorts</b>	 <b>Black Pumps or Trainers</b>

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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 clogs or sandals are permitted. Trainers are permitted as long as they are fully black. Please check the guide opposite

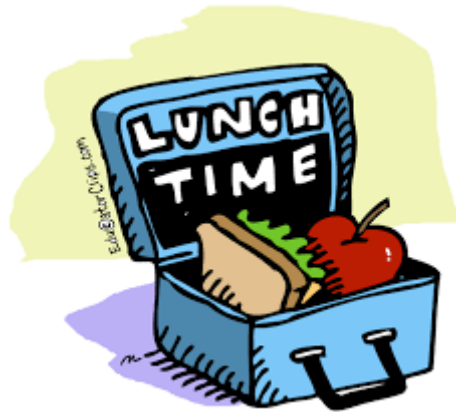
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**Jewellery and Hair**

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 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 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 colours (e.g. green, blue etc.)

## Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tomato & Basil Wholegrain Pasta with Crusty Bread (v) or Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza & Baked Potato Wedges (v)	Roast British Turkey, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Plant Power Mince with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy (v)	Mini Brunch British Pork Sausage, Bacon, Hash Brown or Mini Veggie Brunch (v)	Chicken & Chickpea Curry with Wholegrain Rice, Naan Bread or Vegetarian Meatballs with Pasta (v)	Crispy Salmon Stars & Chunky Chips or Quorn Nuggets & Chunky Chips (v)

**Primary Christmas lunch, Tuesday 17th Dec.**