



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
15/11/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

What a fantastic week we have had! Emotions have been very mixed this week but the children have listened, learnt and followed our school values of Ready, Respectful and Safe even when their routines have been changed slightly.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Our Remembrance Service on Monday was very poignant. Every child in school had made a poppy and this provided a lovely backdrop for our service. Our children represented our school so well, whether that was singing with the choir, doing a reading or laying a wreath. The children behaved impeccably and very respectfully. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the children who represented our school on Sunday at the Cenotaph for the Community Remembrance Service. Mr. Bradshaw commented on what a delight you all were!

Tuesday saw Paddy McGuinness cycle past school on his Ultra Endurance Cycle Challenge for Children in Need so we all made flags and headed outside to wave as he rode past. I'm not sure who was more excited though, the children or the staff! I remember meeting Pudsey Bear when I was at school and it is a memory that will always stay with me. The children

were a sea of spots in assembly this morning which was lovely to see. Thank you to everyone who has sent money in to support Children in Need.

Year 1 were so excited when I visited them this week. They were all speaking at once because of how engaged they were with the fact that a dragon's egg had hatched in their classrooms. The children were so keen to share their ideas about what had happened and where they thought it was. That's what I love about teaching...seeing the excitement on the children's faces. Well done to the Year 1 team who have captured the children and engaged them so highly in their learning. I am keen to see where this goes!

Mrs Hanvey has been busy carrying out Phonics Screening Checks this week with Year 1 children and those in Year 2 who didn't quite meet the expected standard last year. This is all done in a supportive and informal way but helps us to monitor, track and plug any gaps the children may have.

Our Behaviour Curriculum linked with Anti-Bullying Week this week. We focused on being kind and respectful to others and had a real focus on using kind words and not using derogatory language. Next week we will move onto thinking about how we move safely and sensibly around school.

We have recently shared our Autumn 2 diary dates with you so that you can see what is coming up. Please ensure you have paid and returned your child's permission slip for the pantomime. We will shortly be adding Christmas Lunch to ParentPay for those children who don't normally have a school dinner. If you would like your child to have a school dinner on 17th December, please pay via ParentPay by Thursday 5th December at the very latest!  
Thank you

### **Diary Dates**

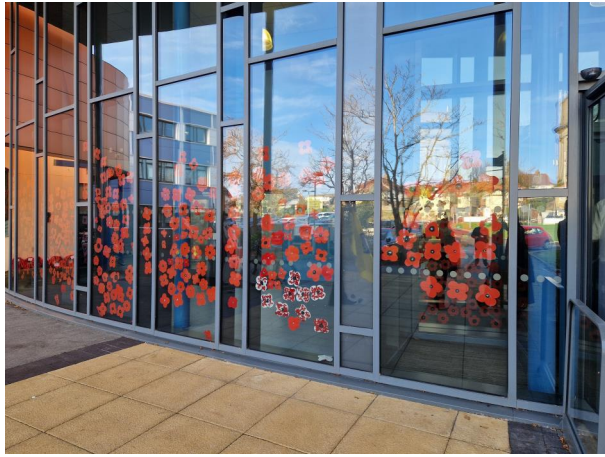
- 19th November - 4CBI Times Table Rockstars Competition
- 20th November - 2BH Fire service talk
- 21st November - 2AP Fire service talk
- 25th November - N-Y6 Elf Run Assembly
- 25th November - Flu Vaccine for Years 7-11
- 25th November - Primary Tour for Reception 2025 starters - 10am
- 26th November - Y3 Stone Age Day
- 26th November - 4JB Times Table Rockstars Competition
- 28th November - Year 3 Parental Engagement - Stone Age Cave Art
- 28th November - Choir Performance at Abingdon Street Market

- 5th December - Final date for ordering a school Christmas Dinner
- 9th December - Y1, Y5, Y6 Christmas pantomime - Lowther Pavilion (Snow White) - Please pay via ParentPay
- 10th December - Rec, Y2, Y3, Y4 Christmas pantomime - Lowther Pavilion (Snow White) - Please pay via ParentPay

**And finally...**

The weather is definitely turning colder now. Please make sure your child has a coat that is labelled with their name in school every day. If you send in hats, scarves and gloves, please make sure they are named too! Have a wonderful weekend everyone!









## Community Information





**ADHD North West**  
Supporting Families

## **PARENT EMPOWERMENT & TRAINING COURSE**

**Learn about ADHD from home**

6 sessions

2 sessions a week for 3 weeks.

Morning and evening sessions available

We invite you to join us on a journey to unlock your child's full potential. Our expert team is dedicated to providing you with the tools, strategies, and support necessary to help your child thrive.

Through a personalised, step-by-step approach, we will work closely with you to offer support that addresses your child's unique needs and aspirations.

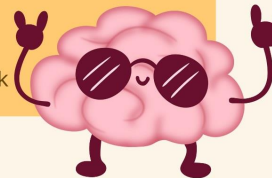
**26th November 2024**  
**Tuesdays and Thursdays**  
**9:30am and 6pm**

Please get in touch by calling

01254 886886

or

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



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)





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>92.59</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>87.93</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>89.66</i>	<i>11</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>96.88</i>	<i>11</i>
• <i>2AP</i>	<i>94.05</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>87.00</i>	<i>15</i>
• <i>3HB</i>	<i>94.23</i>	<i>11</i>
• <i>4JB</i>	<i>89.91</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>92.86</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>5TT</i>	<i>97.84</i>	<i>7</i>

- **5NO** 95.69 13
- **6MB** 92.50 3
- **6VA** 92.41 10

Keeping children safe!





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

## CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

- U: Suitable for all ages
- PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them
- 12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references
- 15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above
- 18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

### FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

### PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As this content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together - potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

### CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer - so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child - and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

### REMEMBER - IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

### DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

### Meet Our Expert

John Inasley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.10.2024

## Celebrating Culture and Difference



Saturday 16th marks ANAPANASATI DAY. This is the last day of a 3 month retreat for Buddhist monks. The day sees the most deserving monk awarded a special robe. [Click here to learn more](#)



## Nursery



This week in Nursery we have been reading the story 'Giraffe is Left Out.' The children have spoken about what makes a kind friends, we have discussed what we could do to help our friends if they are feeling sad. The children have made a friendship wreath and we have drawn a picture of our friends. We have been working on understanding positional language by moving our tedding around to different places in the room. We have been practicing our nativity songs this week to get ready for our Christmas show.

## Reception



In reception this week we have enjoyed reading the Leaf Thief! We enjoyed exploring they story and guessing what might happen next.

We have been leaf printing in our creative area and been outside to look at all the signs of autumn.

We loved seeing Paddy cycle past our school earlier this week and have enjoyed celebrating Children in Need by wearing spots today.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

## Year 1



Year 1 have had an interesting week... our dragon egg has hatched!

We can not find our dragons anywhere! We are writing letters to Mrs Shaw and Mr Cooke in English to find out where our dragons have gone and get everyone to look out for them as they grow very big very quickly and breathe fire!

In history we have been continuing to learn all about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. We are loving learning about the plot and how it links to bonfire night.

In Geography we have been learning about the seas and oceans that surround the United Kingdom. The children have shown great resilience about this tricky topic.

Thank you for your continued support and we are looking forward to another learning filled week next week!

Miss Lee and Miss Tench :)

Year 2



Year 2 have had a brilliant week this week. In English the children have been writing about what senses they used during bonfire night and they have also been introduced to onomatopoeia, the children came up with some fantastic examples. In Maths the children have continued looking at subtraction and have been using number lines, 100 squares and ten frames to help support them with the subtraction. In Geography the children have been exploring the physical features of Iceland and they especially loved learning about all the volcanos and watching a video on geysers. In science they have been looking at the materials brick, rock and clay. First they predicted if the material could twist, bend, stretch and squash, they then carried about the experiment to test if the materials could do the movement or not.

Well done Year 2 you have all worked really hard this week!

Year 3



What a great week in year 3!

In **English**, we have been using all our research and facts to create fold out booklets telling you all about different layers of the earth and types of rock! It's been a very challenging write and we have done amazing. It also links excellently to our **Science** topic of Rocks. This week, we tested different rocks for whether: they were porous, they were hard or soft and they floated or sunk.

**Maths** has continued to WOW Ms Brayne and Miss Gleadell this week as we focused on addition and subtraction with exchanging with great success!

Please be reminded that children should be **reading 3 times weekly** and **recording** this in their **reading record**.

**Books are checked every Friday.**

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 4



We have had a very creative week this week in Year 4 !

We have been focusing on our Art, sketching portraits and sculpting Julius Caesar from clay. The children really impressed us with the detail they put into them.



In Maths, we have continued with addition and subtraction; subtracting with exchange and estimating. They have also been taking part in the England rocks Times Tables Rockstars competition. You child will be coming home with their heatmap showing what times tables they need to work on. Please support them with this as much as possible.

Times Tables for next week will be 3x tables.

Have a lovely weekend

The Year 4 team

Year 5



Over the past two weeks, year 5 have been working extremely hard, in and out of school, to learn and perform the poem: The Highwayman. The children have put in 100% effort to

recite the poem and today, they performed in front of the entire school during Star of the Week assembly, followed by a performance in front of their parents and carers the same morning. We are so incredibly proud of year 5 for their resilience and efforts towards this performance.

If you were able to attend, we would like to share our thanks for taking the time to support our children with a performance they have been working really hard to rehearse. We hope you are as proud of them as we are.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, The Year 5 Team

## Year 6



Year 6 have been focusing on long multiplication this week in maths and will be moving onto long division, support with practicing times tables at home will be very helpful to build confidence to use the methods to complete these calculations.

As part of our Remembrance day activities we have written a poem in English using our senses and created a keepsake in art.

## *Star of the Week*



***RHH - Theo - For always making sure our classroom is tidy and for being helpful!***

***1CL - Frankie - For being an always person and being so kind, trying so hard with everything and being so amazing!***

***1MT - Oriana - For always being so enthusiastic about her learning!***

***2BH - Divan - For her positive attitude towards learning and being so kind and helpful.***

***2AP - Cal - For a huge improvement in his attitude towards learning since starting year 2.***

***3KG - Hill - For his wonderful attitude towards his learning this week!***

***3HB - Clark - For is amazing effort in all his work this week, but particularly with his independence in Maths!***

***4JB - Oliver - For his fantastic effort in Art this week.***

***4CBL - Jensine - For the detail and care she has put into her art work this week***

***5TT - All - For an excellent effort learning and reciting their stanzas of The Highwayman to perform today.***

***5NO - All - For an excellent effort learning and reciting their stanzas of The Highwayman to perform today.***

***6MB - William - For super effort, focus and attitude to all of his work.***

***6VA - Jack - For improved focus in lessons and some great work produced this week as a result***

## 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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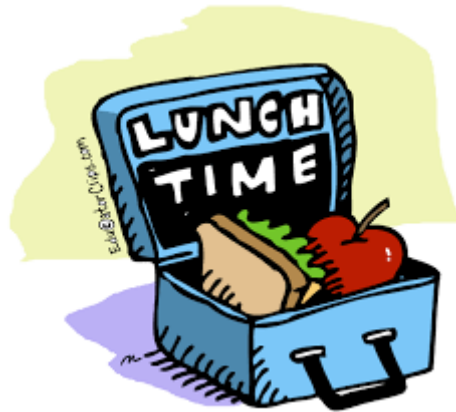
**Jewellery and Hair**






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
Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza (v) or Cheese & Egg Tart & Oven Baked Diced Potatoes (v)	British Roast Chicken, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Spicy Tomato & Cheese Pasta Bake with Crusty Bread (v)	British Pork Sausage Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Vegetarian Sausage Roll (v), Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	British Beef Bolognaise & Pasta Spirals or Cheese & Onion Swirls with Herby Boiled Potatoes (v)	MSC Harry Ramsden's Crispy Coated Fillet of Fish & Chunky Chips or Tasty Vegetable Burger & Chunky Chips (v)