



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
16/10/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

Well we got to the last week of the half term and what a fantastic week it was!

The highlight has definitely got to be the Year 3 and 4 Times Tables Rock Stars day! The children and staff really went to town with their outfits and had several battles of the bands throughout the day! Ms Brayne and her class were extremely disappointed that they were not crowned the champions...Miss Purdy and her class though were on top of the world to be the winners! There was lots of competitiveness, humour and rock music! An all-round fantastic day!

Mr Cooper took 10 children to Hounds Hill yesterday to see the unveiling of the Eco Turtle. The bottle tops the children brought in last half term were used by an artist to create a sea turtle which highlights the powers of reusing, recycling and caring for our planet. It is a visual representation of how small actions can make a big difference. The Eco Turtle will move to its new home at Unity in December!

Mrs Bradshaw took 10 children from Year 5 to Blackpool 6th Form for a Creative Movement Event. The children took part in dance, drama and singing workshops culminating in a performance at the end presenting what they had learnt. The children had a really fantastic

time and enjoyed seeing the college. They were excellent representatives of Unity and we even received positive comments from other schools about our children.

RRS Behaviour Curriculum - In primary this week we have used the CitizenAID story 'Moggy's Coming' again which is a lovely story that the children know and enjoy. It supports children's understanding of staying safe in a non-threatening manner. It is done in a sensitive and engaging way to promote discussion about how to keep and stay safe in an emergency. We will come back to this story at various points throughout the year.

Advance Notice

I just wanted to let parents/ carers know that I will be out of school from 3rd November until 17th November as I have been called for Jury Service. In my absence, as usual, class teachers will be your first port of call but should you need any other assistance, Mr Brimley and Mr Cooper, along with the primary Heads of Years and Mrs Whittam and Mrs Bradshaw will be able to assist you. Thank you

Diary Dates

- 3rd November - School reopens for Autumn 2
- 5th November - Hangar 42 trip
- 7th November - Primary Flu Vaccinations
- 20th November - Roman Day Y4
- 21st November - BBC Bitesize (Y5/6)
- W/c 24th November - Y6 Mock SATs
- 28th November - Y6 Writing Workshop with Dan
- 28th November - Primary Tour for Reception 2026 starters

And finally ...





Primary Reward & Consequence System



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting every child to thrive, we are excited to introduce a new Rewards and Consequences system across school. This is designed to

celebrate the fantastic behaviour we see from the vast majority of our pupils each day, while also helping us guide them when things don't quite go to plan. The system will run from Nursery right through to Year 11, with small differences between Primary and Secondary to suit the age of the pupils.

In Primary, children can earn a *Ready, Respectful, Safe (RRS)* reward point in every lesson by meeting our behaviour expectations. On occasions where a child goes above and beyond, teachers may also give an *Exceeding Expectations* award, worth 5 RRS points. Student of the Lesson cards will no longer be handed out. We are already seeing how motivated the children are to collect these points and celebrate their success.

If a child's behaviour falls short of expectations, we use a clear and fair set of consequences (C1–C5) to help them get back on track. More details can be found in the table overleaf.

All Rewards and Consequences are logged so you can see how your child is doing by checking the behaviour section of the *My Child At School (MCAS)* app. Details for how to sign up to the app can be found on the primary newsletter. Please use this link <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin> to login to the app.

For Primary children, if a C2 is given, parents/carers will be updated by text message at the end of the day. Please ensure that we always have your correct mobile number in school. For a C3, C4, or C5, the class teacher will contact you in person or by phone to talk through what happened and how we can support your child moving forward.

This system has been shared and discussed with the children in school, and they are really enthusiastic about earning points and making positive choices.

We would like to take the opportunity to stress how vital it is that parents support us in upholding our new behaviour reward and consequence system. Should the need arise, we carefully and fairly unpick every situation, always working to ensure that children are treated consistently. Please note that we gain nothing from misrepresenting their behaviour so when staff in school inform you of any situation, we do so to give you a full and clear picture. For this system to truly benefit all children, it's essential that the messages we share in school are reinforced at home. Our expectations are clear and simple, rooted in our values of being **Ready, Respectful and Safe**, and our school rules of '**good looking**', '**good listening**', '**good sitting**', '**kind friends**'. When school and home work together with the same expectations, children thrive in a safe, supportive and consistent environment.

We believe this approach will not only encourage and celebrate the wonderful behaviour we see in school every day but also help strengthen the important partnership between home and school.

Thank you for your continued support — it really does make such a difference. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at school if you'd like to talk about this further.

Mr T Cooper, Assistant Headteacher

R1	An RRS point awarded for meeting expectations.	C1	A direct reminder of RRS expectations
R2	100 RRS points achieved, text message home to inform parents.	C2	A formal warning, recorded on Class Charts
R3	200 RRS points achieved, certificate awarded in assembly.	C3	15 minutes reflection in buddy class
R4	500 RRS points achieved, badge awarded in assembly.	C4	Remainder of session (AM/PM) in Reflection Room
R5	1000 RRS points achieved, invitation to end of year rewards trip.	C5	Day in the Reflection Room

Peter Pan Pantomime 2025



We are excited to be able to share that we have booked a visit to the Pantomime again this year for children in Years R-6.

Children will go on either Monday 8th December or Wednesday 10th December 2025 to see Peter Pan at the Lowther Pavilion in Lytham.

Further information and details

Community Corner



COMING TO CLAREMONT COMMUNITY

FREE WORKSHOPS

FEMALE CONSTRUCTION & DIY



**EVERY TUESDAY
4PM – 6PM**

Learn how to tile, put
blinds up, build cots,
put up shelves, hang
wallpaper.

**ROSSCON TRAINING
BUILDING SAFER
AND SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES**

CONTACT
ADMIN@ROSSCONTRAINING.COM

01253 203104



COMING TO CLAREMONT COMMUNITY

**EVERY TUESDAY
4PM - 6PM**

**FREE
WORKSHOP**



LEARN TO COOK HEALTHY MEALS

Learn how to
produce healthy
meals for you and
your children

Learn how to utilise
income so your
food goes further
and lasts longer



ROSSCON
BUILDING SAFER AND
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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
01253 203104**

Attendance



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <i>RHH</i>	<i>90.52</i>	<i>0</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>91.35</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>89.66</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>2JB</i>	<i>90.74</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>95.83</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>3HP</i>	<i>95.24</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>96.88</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>4HB</i>	<i>89.77</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>5JH</i>	<i>88.39</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>5MB</i>	<i>97.41</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>6TT</i>	<i>92.24</i>	<i>0</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>92.52</i>	<i>3</i>

Keeping children safe!



At The National College, we provide everything educators and trusted adults need to strengthen, manage and evidence their professional, and personal development, in one place, on one platform. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further information and resources.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NICOTINE ADDICTION

Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.

WHAT IS VAPING?

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that 'vaping is cool' and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction; that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain 'heavy' metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.

WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.

UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.

SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 5 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term 'natural and artificial flavourings'. Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Run by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools Service (commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council), Catch Your Breath is a school-based project aimed at young people. Its goal is to embed a proactive, coordinated approach among both primary and secondary schools in discouraging smoking and vaping behaviour.

[Source: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-56809924](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-56809924)

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HEALTHY SCHOOLS
CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

The National College

Nursery



This week in Nursery we have enjoyed reading the story, 'Don't Hog the Hedge.' We have discussed hibernation and which animals hibernate. The children have created their own hedgehogs and have recapped the signs of autumn. The children have also enjoyed fruit printing and creating pumpkin pictures. We have created our own potions in the water tray, explored a pumpkin and it's insides, made our own witches brooms and made our broccoli and cauliflower soup.

Reception



What a fantastic start to the school year our Reception children have had! They've settled into school life beautifully and are already showing that they understand our school values: *Ready, Respectful, and Safe*. This week has been full of fun and learning — the children loved making pumpkin soup, playing simple board games with their classmates, and building amazing castles and towers to inspire their own imaginative stories. In Maths, we've

been exploring the numbers 1, 2, and 3, representing them in lots of creative ways using spots, objects, and even musical instruments.

We hope you all have a wonderful break with your families and friends, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school — refreshed, re-energised, and ready to learn!

Year 1



In art this week we have been recreating art inspired by Kandinsky. The children were very keen to share their knowledge and create their own versions of his work.

In P.E. this half term, the children have been learning how to use the space and move in a variety of ways. This week we focused on safely jumping and landing. They enjoyed the challenge of jumping and landing two footed and then moved onto one footed and alternate. They are all brilliant at following the P.E. rules and can talk about the importance of physical activity and how good it is for their mind and body!

It has been a really busy half term and we have covered so much. The children are absolutely ready for a break and do deserve it. Keep reading and practicing your phonics sounds over the holidays please so that we can continue to hit the ground running when we return to school.

Happy holidays everyone!



What a great way to end our first half term! This week in Year 2 we have had a go at sewing buttons onto fabric in Design Technology, finished our big write in English all about "A River" by Marc Martin and looked at and labelled parts of Blackpool town in Geography. We have all worked amazingly hard this half term and everyone should be so proud of themselves for the effort they have shown their start in Year 2! Have a fabulous half term and we look forward to hearing all of your stories when we are back!

Year 3



What a wonderful week we have had in Year 3!!

In Maths we have continued looking at column method and have been subtracting and exchanging across the tens and hundreds columns.

In English we have been reading through a piece of text from Iron Man and analysing it by highlighting key parts of the text including expanded noun phrases, commas in a list, using a and an, conjunctions and adverbs to show time.

On Thursday we took part in Timetable Rock star day!! The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in lots of different activities including making their own VIP passes, playing timetable bingo, designing their own rock star and making a timetable guitar. We also took

part in a battle on timetable rock star across year 3 and year 4. **Well Done to 3HP who came first and won the battle.**

We hope you all have a lovely half term break



Year 4



We have had a fantastic last week of this half term !

Thank you so much for the effort everyone went to for our Times Tables Rockstars day on Thursday. The children looked amazing and hopefully had the best day. We took part in a variety of times tables activities, including a battle between the year 3 and 4 classes. Well done to 3HP who won !

Swimming - Just a reminder that 4CBL are continuing with their swimming lessons until Feb 26 half term.

Have the best half term break.

The Year 4 team

Year 5



We have brought our art learning together this week through creating our own Banksy inspired image. We planned and created our own stencils and printed or stippled paint to create the images about a range of current affairs chosen by the children including global warming, charity symbols, homelessness and sharing kindness.

We have completed our addition and subtraction topic and are moving on to multiplication and division. Both topics explore a range of different strategies and techniques to develop calculations, problem solving and understanding of pattern within maths.

Wishing everyone a lovely half-term,

Year 5 team

Year 6



This week began with 6VA's drugs talk with PC Debby. The children were really honest, sensible and asked some thought provoking questions during the session. Marley, Jasmine, Roopan and Honey will feature in Blackpool Police's social media at the end of the month - watch this space!

Tuesday was a fun day, where we were finally able to bring everything we have learned in DT together to make our very own lavender scented bags. The calming scent lingering in the classrooms was a little bit of a mask to be honest; most children had their patience really put to the test as this was quite a challenging task. The end results made it all worthwhile though!

We have come to the end of a very busy but exciting term for Year 6. A little reminder that when we return, on Tuesday 4th November 6VA go to Hangar 42 and on Wednesday 5th November, 6TT go. This is an excellent trip and we know the children will get a lot of it. When we return to class, not only will we complete our History double page spread based on our findings, we will also be writing a recount of our day in English, so it is really important that any outstanding return slips are brought into school and payments made to allow children to attend. Thank you so much and also for your support throughout this first half term. Happy holidays!

School Uniform



UNITY UNIFORM

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

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



or



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

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

Unity Academy Footwear



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

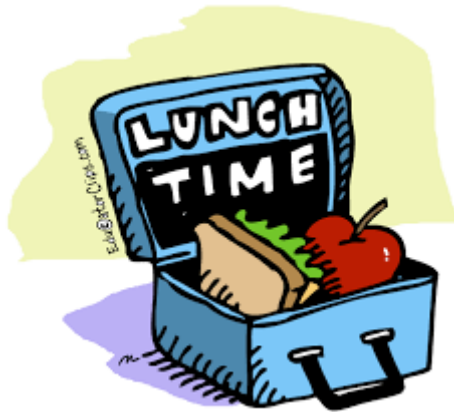


Jewellery and Hair

A maximum of 2 earrings can be worn in each ear. These should be stud-type earrings. No other visible piercings are allowed. If children have ear piercings, they should be able to remove and replace them independently for PE. Children should not wear rings for school, it is unsafe on play equipment. Any necklaces and/or bracelets are to be kept inside the shirt and removed for PE. Primary aged students are expected to have long hair tied back for health and safety reasons. Bows and bobbles should be black, white or red. The school will not allow students to have 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
Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake (v) Or Homemade Pizza Margherita & Oven Baked Potatoes (v)	Pulled Pork, Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy Or Vegetarian Spaghetti Bolognese & Garlic Bread (v)	Chicken Tikka Curry, Wholegrain Rice & Naan Bread Or Cheese & Tomato Pasta with Wholemeal Bread (v)	Sausage & Mash Potato with Gravy Or Vegetable & Tomato Quesadilla & Savoury Rice (v)	Quorn Nuggets & Oven Baked Chips (v) Or Golden Coated Fish Fingers & Oven Baked Chips