

Unity Academy Primary Newsletter 17/1/2025

# Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



# A message from Mrs. Shaw

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I can't believe this is only our second week back, it feels like we should be half way through already. We have had such a busy but fun week!

### **Teaching and Learning**

Miss Tench and some of her Year 1 children brought their English books to me this week. They had been sorting the Gingerbread Man story and had written sentences to match the picture. The presentation and handwriting was simply excellent. The use of vocabulary was fantastic too - they used words such as scrumptious and insolent. I was blown away! Well done Year 1

Year 3 and Year 5 children have taken part in their first Barclays Life Skills sessions this week. It focused on 'Strengths, goals and aspirations' which is a part of the Barclays LifeSkills suite of career-related learning activities for primary aged pupils. The aim being to teach children about key skills for the workplace and provide the opportunity to explore a range of careers and industries.

Year 6 took part in their first Reading and Rugby session. Phoebe commented that "It was really fun! We had to read first and then we went outside and learned how to play tag rugby. Some of us have made a little group together so that we can do it ourselves at another time".

Year 2 have had their first opportunity to access Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS). They loved it! I've told them to practice as often as possible so that they know their times tables inside out!

Reception achieved 99% attendance this week which was brilliant! I have challenged them to hit 100% next week - I'm sure they will do it!

In our RRS Curriculum this week, we have recapped on our school expectations. I like to do it early on in a half term so that the children know and understand what we expect of them. I was very happy in Monday's assembly when the children could tell me our school values of Ready, Respectful and Safe. They could also give me examples of how they can demonstrate them. We also talked about our classroom rules of 'Good Looking', 'Good Listening', 'Good Sitting' and 'Kind Friends'. Again, the children could discuss what they look like when they are being followed correctly! Next week, we will move onto a focus on Good Manners.

#### **Year 6 Mock SATs**

Next week Year 6 have their mock SATs week. I cannot stress enough the importance of the children being in school, on time, every day. Whilst we do talk to the children about not worrying and focusing on doing their very best and, I do hand on heart mean that, we do need to give them these opportunities to practice so that they are well prepared for the real tests later in the year. I will soon be sending out details of a Y6 SATs parents meeting and need as many children's parents there as possible please. We will work our socks off to ensure the children are prepared but really do need your help and support please! Further details will follow shortly.

#### **ADHD Northwest**

There is still time for parents and carers to sign up to the next course which starts on 28th January. Please see the attached flyer at the end of this update for full details. The course is for parents / carers who have a child under 25 that they think may have ADHD. A diagnosis is NOT required and so this is especially beneficial to adults with children waiting to be assessed / diagnosed. Referrals can be made by a professional or by the parent / carer. Please click on the website link for details - Contact Us | Adhd North West (reception06660.wixsite.com)

#### **Diary Dates**

- 20th January Year 6 Mock SATs Tests
- 21st January Y4 Tram Trip
- 24th January Dan Worsley in Y4

- 28th January Dan Worsley in Y6
- W/c 3rd February Schools Alive Week
- 4th February Y5 Trip to UCLAN
- 4th February AIM High Maths Day
- 6th February Y5 UCLAN Trip
- 7th February SEND Drop -In
- 14th February School closes for half term
- 24th February School reopens for Spring 2

# And finally ...

It looks like I have a quiet weekend ahead for the first time in a long time - thank goodness! Have a good one!

# **Community Information**



# Being A



These fantastic free sessions are run by friendly local parents. They provide practical tips and advice on how to bring up confident happy and co-operative children. The group lasts for 9 weeks and free childcare is available.

Time	Venue	Starting	Ending
12.30pm –	Gatehouse Community Centre	Tuesday	Tuesday
2.30pm	29 Waterloo Road, FY4 3AD	21 <sup>st</sup> January	25 <sup>th</sup> March
10.00am –	The Place (previously The HealthWorks) 1 Clifton Street, FY1 1JD	Wednesday	Wednesday
12.00pm		22 <sup>nd</sup> January	26 <sup>th</sup> March
6.00pm –	Online using Google Meet	Thursday	Thursday
8.00pm		23 <sup>rd</sup> January	27 <sup>th</sup> March

#### Topics covered include:

- · Communicating with your child · Listening skills
- · Understanding their behaviour · Coping with stress
- Discipline strategies

"The course wasn't what I expected at all, it's shown me that I'm not alone and given me the confidence boost I needed. I've learned there's no such thing as a perfect parent and my relationship with my son has grown so much stronger."

For more information or to book, contact Blackpool Learning Rooms on 07796 994783 or email learning.rooms@blackpool.gov.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



### **FREE Courses Available**





**MASTERING STRESS - Steps to Wellness** 30min introduction 2pm Friday 2<sup>mh</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>th</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

Anxiety and Worry 1pm Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec

Sleep and Relaxation Low Mood 1pm Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan

Menopausal Wellbeing <sup>10am Fri</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Jan

AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE OVER 16 WHO LIVE, WORK OR STUDY IN LANCASHIRE OR

To self-refer, please call: 01253 955700 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm)

email: bfwh.talkingtherapies@nhs.net

www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/talking-therapies



for anxiety and depression



# 57th Blackpool (Unity Academy) Scouts



Did you know? Unity Academy has our very own Scout Group that runs each week on a Thursday to provide our young people with Skills For Life! More information can be found by clicking here.

We run sections for each age group from 4 years old and up. In addition to the weekly meetings on a Thursday after school we also offer a wide range of trips, camps, nights away and adventurous activities for all age groups.

Squirrels (For ages 4 - 6 years): Thursday: 3:15 until 4:30 pm Beavers (For ages 6 - 8

years): Thursday: 3:15 until 4:45 pm

Cubs (For ages 8- 10.5 years): Thursday: 3:15 until 4:45 pm Scouts (For ages 10.5 -

14 years): Thursday: 3:15 until 4:15 pm

Our in school Scout Sections are run by a group of volunteers, most of which are parents of children at Unity Academy. Without this support, it would not be possible to provide these amazing opportunities for the young people. If you feel like volunteering with the Scouts is something you might be able to offer, please do get in touch. It might be to support one section meeting a month, offer a certain skill you have or to support behind the scenes with finance and administration. Whatever your skills, every little offer of help is invaluable to us. To inquire about a place for a young person or about adult volunteering with the Scouts, please click here.

# Contact us!



If you wish to contact a teacher within school please use this link <a href="Parental Messages">Parental Messages</a> / <a href="Queries (Non-urgent)</a>. 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
•	RHH	99.11	5
•	1CL	96.43	8
•	1MT	97.41	10
•	2BH	90.62	4
•	2AP	<i>85.62</i>	4
•	ЗКС	89.81	11
•	3НВ	91.83	11
•	4ЈВ	86.61	3
•	4CBL	94.64	18
•	5MB	91.67	19
•	5NO	94.40	15
•	6TT	92.08	12
•	6VA	95.42	14

# Keeping children safe!





# Celebrating Culture and Difference



Monday 20th January marks the Birthday of Swami Vivekananda - a notable Indian spiritual leader. <u>Click here to learn more</u>

Tuesday 20th January marks the Birthday of Swami Vivekananda - a notable Indian spiritual leader. <u>Click here to learn more</u>

# Nursery



We've had another wonderful week in Nursery.

This week our story has been 'One Snowy Night.' We have been looking at the changes we've seen in our environment and discussing the season of winter. The children have noticed that the weather has been cold, foggy, frosty, Icey and last week it was snowy. We have then discussed the type of clothing we need to wear in winter to keep ourselves warm.

We have also looked at ordering numbers and some 2D shapes.

Please can all parents ensure that their child has a bag with spare clothes at nursery. if you have any nursery spares please can you return them.

# Reception



This week in Reception we have continued with our story Little Red Riding Hood, the children have done some wonderful drawings and writing about the Wolf and Grandma's cottage in the woods. In Maths we have introduced the number 0 and have looked at

different ways of represents 0-5. The children have really enjoyed building and riding our new balance bikes, some children even managed to use a pedal bike!

Reminder - PE is every Thursday, please ensure your child's PE kit is in school each week.

Have a lovely weekend, the Reception Team.

# Year 1



What a fabulous week in Year 1!

We have had another absolutely fantastic week in Year 1. All of our staff have noticed how mature, responsible and engaged with learning all of the children have been since coming back from the holidays. We have been working very hard on some quite tricky content, but the children have taken it all in their stride and blown us away!

In English we have been focusing on The Gingerbread Man. We have been focusing on building our vocabulary, learning new words including, insolent, impolite, delectable and famished. We then included these in our English task; sequencing the story.

In Maths we have focused on teen numbers; building our knowledge of counting within 20 and finding tens and ones within numbers.

In Science we have started our new topic of animals. This week we focused on classifying animals, learning new vocabulary including vertebrate, invertebrate, mammal, amphibian, bird, reptile and fish.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.



Year 2 have had a fantastic week this week.

In English we have started our new story 'Pirates of scurvy sands' <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAg6sO38XbY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAg6sO38XbY</a> and the children have been talking about the beginning, middle and end of the story. In maths we have continued learning all about shapes and counting the faces, side and vertices of 3D shapes. In science we have been creating a fact file on what animals need to survive. In PE we have been learning a new dance routine and in art we have been using our printing skills to make different patterns.

This week Year 2 have also been introduced to an online game called TTRockstar. This game helps children learn their timestables. The children have been sent home with a letter that includes their login details. Please can you get your children to practice this at home as well as reading 3 times a week.

# Year 3



# Another busy week in Year 3!

In Maths, we have been focusing on multiplication and division. We have been working hard on our 3 and 4 times tables. Please continue to practice at home using <u>TTRockstar</u> or <u>Hit the Button</u>.

In English, we are continuing to read Mrs Armitage on Wheels, we have been focusing on using inverted commas for direct speech.

In Science, we have begun our topic on Forces, we have looked at 'what is a force' and different examples of push and pull forces.

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and record this in reading records. If there are any issues, please speak to your class teacher.

Have a great weekend!

# Year 4



A wonderful second week back for Year 4!

In Maths, we have begun our Multiplication and Division unit and are continuing to work on our times tables. Please support your child at home with this. They have access to Times Tables Rockstars and Hit the button is also a great website to practice on.

https://ttrockstars.com/

# https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

In English, we have been using Dan Worsley's book 'Impossible Tales' as our inspiration for writing setting descriptions with powerful vocabulary to create mood, atmosphere and tone. The work they have produced this week has been fantastic and the children were so proud of it!

**Tram trip** - Our tram trip is next Tuesday (21st January). We do have a number of permission slips not returned. Please return them on Monday and please make any necessary payments.

# Year 5



Breaking news - Year 6 residential details have been unveiled.

We are so excited that we have the opportunity to offer a PGL residential in October for the current year 5 children when they start in year 6. A letter was sent home yesterday with lots of details about the residential. If you didn't receive a letter please ask your child if they have it in their bag or ask them to ask for a new letter on Monday. The residential will be held on Monday 6th - Wednesday 8th October 2025 at PGL Winmarliegh. The itinerary will be packed full of exciting activities, if you would like to get a flavour of some of the activities on offer please see the PGL website <a href="https://www.pgl.co.uk/">https://www.pgl.co.uk/</a> The cost of the whole residential including the coach hire is £125 which can be paid in 3 instalments. The deposit of £25 payable on Parent Pay by 11th February along with the completed slip will secure your child's place on the Residential. If you have any questions about the residential please speak to us at the end of the day.

#### Other Exciting events happening in year 5:

5NO UCLan trip - Tuesday 4th February

5MB UCLan trip - Thursday 6th February

Completed letters and payment of £18 via Parentpay is required by Friday 24th January

Bikeability - week commencing 24th February (5NO) and week commencing 3rd March (5MB)

Bikeability consent forms must be returned by Friday 14th February

All equipment is provided free of charge for Bikeability.

Please continue to read 3 times per week and sign reading records.

PE days for year 5 are Tuesday and Friday. If your child is taking part in Tag Rugby please can they also have their PE kits in school on Thursdays for the next 9 weeks.

Many thanks for your support, as always. Have a great weekend!

## Year 6



Next week, Year 6 have their mock SATs week. The children MUST be in school, on time, every day so that we can start on time. Whilst we do talk to the children about not worrying and focusing on doing their very best and, we do hand on heart mean that, we do need to give them these opportunities to practice so that they are well prepared for the real tests later in the year.

Soon, details will be shared for a Y6 SATs parents meeting and need as many children's parents there as possible please. We will work our socks off to ensure the children are prepared but really do need your help and support please! Further details will follow shortly.

Please continue to read 3 times per week and sign reading records.

PE days for year 6 are Wednesday and Friday.

If your child is taking part in Tag Rugby please can they also have their PE kits in school on Thursdays for the next 9 weeks.

# Star of the Week



- RHH Aabid For always following our school rules and having a positive attitude to learning!
- 1CL Paisley For demonstrating her readiness in lessons this week. Being so engaged in all her subjects and trying so hard in her work.
- 1MT Avery For being the most wonderful role model; showing a mature, ready and respectful attitude!
- 2BH Rosie For always trying her best in every subject and being a wonderful role model for other children.
- 2AP Sebastian For a positive attitude towards all of his learning and producing some fantastic maths work.
- 3KG Ishan For his wonderful independence work in maths this week!
- 3HB Maggie For her resilience and perseverance towards learning this week!
- 4JB Lucious For a fantastic attitude when receiving feedback in all work this week.
- 4CBL Teeya-May For having such a positive attitude to her learning
- 5MB Zekiye For great explanation in maths and attitude to learning
- 5NO Adele For reading with such enthusiasm during guided reading.
- 6TT Sofia For her positive attitude in class
- 6VA Archie For having such a positive attitude to his learning

### 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 <a href="here">here</a> 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



# Lunch time menu for this week



