



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
20/3/2026

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

One step closer to the school holidays and I think we are all ready for them now!

Teaching and Learning

I went to observe Miss Ayers teach her class using our new writing scheme this week. The children clearly love being in her class and respond so positively to her. She has really high expectations and the children strive to meet them. She followed the non-negotiables in the scheme consistently and they are clearly embedded as the children could articulate the different parts of the lesson and knew what they should be doing and when. There was the opportunity for paired talk and work and all children worked on composing their writing whilst developing their sentence accuracy, including the use of punctuation. Well done 6VA. I also observed Ms Brayne teach Maths this week. Her questioning was simply excellent! The children were all keen to take part in the lesson and again, were confident to discuss the different parts of the lesson and to share their knowledge and understanding of fractions. She teaches with humour and the children respond really well to it. I absolutely love seeing the strong relationships that exist between the children and their teachers! I look forward to observing in more classrooms over the coming weeks!

Year 6 completed another set of mock SATs this week and approached them with such determination! Well done to all of you for your positive attitude! The staff team are working hard and ensuring they are well prepared for the real SATs in May (11th-14th) through high quality first teaching and precision tutoring.

Our RRS curriculum this week focused on E-Safety using the story Webster's Manners. I spoke with the children in assembly about their use of technology as Webster's Dad put rules in place for him E.g. no technology when eating, in bed, when running late etc. Webster then put rules in place for Dad E.g. when using hot pans, driving and when talking to Webster. The simple story is something we can all learn from. Nothing beats a face to face conversation! Next week we will focus on 'Taking Care of our equipment'.

Decorated Eggs Competition - Please see the image below for ideas/ further details! All competition entries are to be brought into school on Wednesday 25th March. Please ensure they are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Thank you

Staff changes - Miss Gleadell will be leaving us shortly to have her baby. We wish her the best of luck with her new bundle of joy when she arrives and cannot wait for baby cuddles! Mrs Bass returns from her Maternity Leave after Easter and will work alongside Miss Smith to teach 3KG until the end of the school year. There will be a handover starting next week and continuing after the holidays before Miss Gleadell starts her Maternity Leave.

A reminder that we break up for half term next Friday and return on Monday 13th April at 8:40am.

And finally ...

I have a little bit of news to share with you all. I will be leaving Unity at the end of this academic year to take up the Headteacher role at Westcliff Primary Academy from September. My new school is still within the Trust so I will still be around from time to time!

I have been at Unity for over 9 years now and have come to feel very protective and passionate about the school, the children and the staff team. I mean it when I say that the staff who teach your children are so dedicated and hard-working; they come to school each day to provide your children with the best education they can offer.

I also want to say a huge thank you to you, the parents and carers, for your support over the years. It has been a real privilege to watch your children grow and flourish. While I am excited for my new challenge, I will miss the daily buzz of the Unity community immensely.

I wish the school and all our families the very best for the future.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!



**Decorated Egg Competition
- Entries to be in school by
Wednesday 25th March**

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

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|--|--------------------------------------|----|---|--|
| | | or | | | or | | |
| Plain white shirt No logo or branding | Unity logo jumper Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest | | 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 tights No logo, branding or pattern. Available at many retailers |

| Optional Uniform | | | | PE Uniform | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | | | (No children in any year group are to come to school wearing P.E. kit) | | |
| Shorts Plain black | Summer dress | Plain white socks (To be worn with summer dress) | Black Blazer with the Unity logo | | | |
| | | | | 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.)



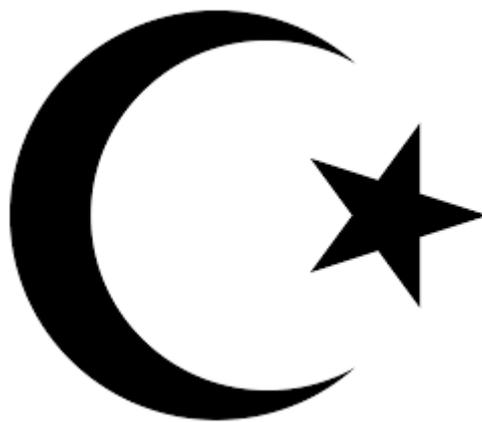
Dates for the Diary



Celebrating Culture and Difference



Lent: the Christian time of reflection enters its fifth week. [Click here to learn more](#)



Eid ul-Fitr marks the conclusion of Ramadan and lasts for one day, and is expected to take place on Friday 20th March 2026. [Click here to learn more](#)

'Egg-cellent' Attendance Raffle!



To celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students this term, we are thrilled to announce our Easter Attendance Raffle! Consistent school attendance is a key ingredient for student success and we want to reward those who show up ready to learn every single day. We have assembled a fantastic collection of Easter Eggs.

The Entry Requirement: Every student with an attendance record of 96% or above will automatically receive an entry into the raffle.

The Prize: Winners will be drawn during our final assembly before the Easter break.

Note: We understand that some absences are unavoidable. This initiative is designed to be a fun, positive incentive to encourage everyone to aim for that 96% green zone and finish the term strong!

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child arrives in school on time, every day and ready to shine. Best of luck to all our students—we can't wait to see who takes home the chocolate!

Happy Easter

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 |

Community Corner





Premier League
Kicks

Free activities for 8 to 18 year olds



Join us at one of these locations:

- ❖ **NORTH STAND COMMUNITY HUB**
Bloomfield Road, Seasiders Way, FY1 6JJ
- ❖ **MOOR PARK LEISURE CENTRE**
Bristol Avenue, FY2 0JG
- ❖ **STANLEY PARK**
West Park Drive, FY3 9HU
- ❖ **CLAREMONT PARK COMMUNITY HALL**
Claremont Road, FY1 2QH
- ❖ **ASPIRE SPORTS HUB**
Garstang Road West, FY3 7JH
- ❖ **MERESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Langdale Road, FY4 4RR
- ❖ **MONTGOMERY ACADEMY**
All Hallows Road, FY2 0AZ
- ❖ **REVOE PARK**
Central Drive, FY3 5HZ
- ❖ **SOUTH SHORE ACADEMY**
Saint Annes Road, FY4 2AR

PTO FOR OUR 2025/26 WINTER TIMETABLE

Visit www.bfcct.co.uk to view all of the activities BFCCT deliver.

Charity Registration Number: 1128235

You're invited to...

**PREMIER LEAGUE
KICKS**

We deliver a number of FREE weekly sessions across Blackpool, between 4pm and 7.30pm. Sessions include open football for everyone, girls-only sessions and football for young people with disabilities.

We also provide opportunities to take part in matches and tournaments, and compete with other Community Trust Premier League Kicks teams from around the country. If you want to get involved just turn up and speak to one of our coaches.

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| South Shore Academy 5pm - 6pm | Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm | Claremont Park Community Hall 5pm - 6pm | Montgomery Academy 5pm - 6pm | Stanley Park (U16to'2g) 4pm - 5pm |
| Mereside Primary School 5.30pm - 6.30pm | Moor Park Leisure Centre 4pm - 6pm | Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm | Montgomery Academy 6pm - 7pm | North Stand Community Hub 5pm - 7pm |
| | | Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm | | Revoe Park 5pm - 7pm |

Key: **Free** **Open Football** **Girls Football** **For all abilities**

All sessions free. Free only.

Attendance



| | <i>Attendance %</i> | <i>Late marks</i> |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| • <i>RHH</i> | <i>86.05</i> | <i>1</i> |
| • <i>1MT</i> | <i>93.02</i> | <i>2</i> |
| • <i>2BH</i> | <i>96.70</i> | <i>1</i> |
| • <i>2JB</i> | <i>97.62</i> | <i>3</i> |
| • <i>3KG</i> | <i>98.25</i> | <i>0</i> |
| • <i>3HP</i> | <i>86.15</i> | <i>4</i> |
| • <i>4CBL</i> | <i>87.18</i> | <i>0</i> |
| • <i>4HB</i> | <i>90.16</i> | <i>1</i> |
| • <i>5MB</i> | <i>86.32</i> | <i>5</i> |
| • <i>5JH</i> | <i>86.67</i> | <i>1</i> |
| • <i>6TT</i> | <i>86.02</i> | <i>1</i> |
| • <i>6VA</i> | <i>93.18</i> | <i>0</i> |

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel they need it, this guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe concerned adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, facts and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. This UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, UKiA, has recently launched a campaign to promote "safer and more responsible gaming among young people", with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – or which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Instead, you could play online for a while each week, then invite your child to play a particular game, while the parent or carer can monitor possible risks. Encourage your child to follow you to find who can chat to you in-game, identify their age, and make sure they're not in chat with anyone older than they are. You could also discuss the possibility of using parental controls.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Game or console use (and games) should be limited to 30 minutes (or less) each day. Games (or consoles) can't be stopped or paused if you're in the middle of a game, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to take regular breaks, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to take regular breaks, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and that your child won't realise how much they're spending. Encourage your child to budget for their gaming, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to budget for their gaming, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Check the age ratings for the games on your console. If you're unsure, you can find out more about the ratings. Encourage your child to read the ratings, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to read the ratings, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle. Encourage your child to think about the boundaries in place before they play with friends. Encourage your child to think about the boundaries in place before they play with friends.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be a fun and enjoyable bonding experience. Encourage your child to play with you, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to play with you, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Encourage your child to talk about their feelings, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game. Encourage your child to talk about their feelings, and you can't stop a game if you're in the middle of a game.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

It's important to remember that gamers online is often a place where people are anonymous. Encourage your child to report and block anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable. Encourage your child to report and block anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

 Source: www.nationalonlinesafety.com

National Online Safety
 #WakeUpWednesday

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Nursery



This week we have enjoyed learning about people who help us in our community. We have read a story called, 'Real Superheroes,' have have discussed how different people help us. The children had spoken about what they would like to be when they grow up, they have drawn a picture of this, talking about the shapes we have used to create our pictures.

We have also worked on repeating patterns, the children were able to complete the pattern and identify when there was a mistake. We have also created our own firefighters helmets.

Reception



This week in Reception, we have been enjoying our focus story Farmer Duck. The children have engaged well with the story and explored its themes through a range of activities.

As part of our learning about lifecycles, we have been looking closely at frogs, chicks, and butterflies. The children have been particularly excited to observe our frogspawn as it changes into tadpoles, sparking lots of curiosity and discussion.

We also held a parental engagement session focused on keeping our teeth clean and healthy. The children really enjoyed taking part and learning about the importance of good oral hygiene.

Year 1



Another lovely week in Year 1!

In English we have continued with our big write, retelling the story of Hermelin by Mini Grey. The children's writing has been very impressive and has progressed so much even from our previous big write last half term!

In Maths we have continued to work on place value within 50. This week we focused on partitioning numbers into groups of tens and ones using part whole models to support us before moving on to creating number lines to 50 and estimating using these.

In Geography the children have continued their learning surrounding The United Kingdom. This week we looked at key landmarks in the UK and reconstructed our own using playdough. We then identified where these landmarks are using maps.

A gentle reminder, that if you would like to join us for our Easter Assembly performance on Tuesday 24th at 9.30am please use the QR codes sent home to confirm your attendance or speak to a member of staff.

Have a lovely weekend.

Year 2



Year 3



Year 3 have had a fantastic week!

In Maths the children have finished their topic on mass and capacity and started their new topic on money. The children have been looking at the different coins and notes and working out how much money there is altogether by counting the pounds first and then the pence.

In English the children have been planning their promise narrative plan ready to start writing it next week.

In PSHE the children have been learning about what is safe and unsafe. The children all understood what to do if they ever felt unsafe and who they should speak to if they are ever worried about anything.

In DT the children have been planning their French snack bar ready to start making it next week. The children choose 5 ingredients they would like in their French snack bar and what methods they need to use to put their French snack bar together.

In science the children have been learning about how to protect their eyes from the sun. The children then took part in an investigation using a coloured piece of card and cut out a black shape and placed it on the coloured piece. The children then placed the card in the window and will see what will happen to it over the next few weeks.

Well done Year 3 we hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Year 4



What a busy week in year 4!

This week we have begun our 'Viking Monster Hunter's Guide' on how to defeat a Norse monster! We have been planning our writing, thinking about alternative nouns for monster such as beast, creature and foe! There has been some great imaginative pieces of planning which includes our expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials in preparation for our final piece of writing.

In Maths we have worked so hard on our knowledge and understanding of fractions. We have successfully added and subtracted fractions and even subtracted fractions from whole numbers. Next term we are beginning our decimals topic and any additional practice would be fantastic!

In Art, we have been drawing single line drawings using pencil, paint, string and much more to create landscapes!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Year 5



We've been busy this week in year 5. In Science we have been designing and constructing bridges. Our young engineers tested various structures to determine which designs offered the best structural integrity and how different shapes distribute load and tension.

In Art, we traveled to the Antarctic through our art, replicating the **Aurora Australis** (Southern Lights). Using **oil pastels**, the pupils practiced **blending** and **scumbling** techniques to capture the ethereal glow of the night sky.

In Maths, we have worked incredibly hard this week tackling the challenging relationship between **fractions, decimals, and percentages**. The pupils showed great resilience in learning how to convert between the three

Year 6



We've worked really hard in year 6 this week. Another round of SATs papers to help prepare our children for the real thing beginning on the 11th May. I know it's still a while away but it is essential that your children are in school on time for the whole of that week so please don't arrange any trips or in term holidays. The children are working so hard to be the best they can be so please support them with their reading, with any writing opportunities that come along and any maths opportunities. Thank you for your continued support,

The year 6 team

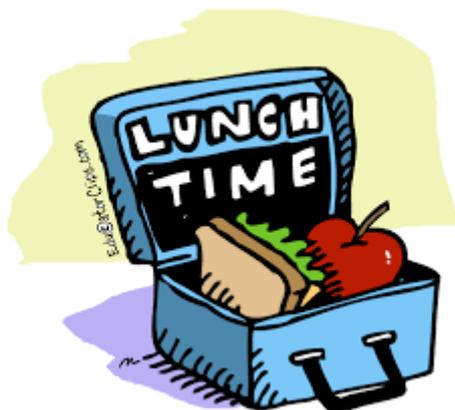
Star of the week



- **RHH - Rocco - For being super enthusiastic about our 'Healthy Me' topic.**

- **1MT - James - For always being a fantastic role model for our school values and going above and beyond.**
- **2BH - Jay - For always trying his best and working hard to create independent writing using his self-assessment tool to help him.**
- **2JB - Lucas - For always trying his best when faced with a challenge!**
- **3KG - Lola - Snow - Being on time every day and trying her hardest in all of our lessons.**
- **3HP - James - For always being enthusiastic and having a positive attitude towards his learning.**
- **4CBL - Jacob - For being such an enthusiastic learner and never being afraid of sharing his wonderful ideas with the class**
- **4HB - Jayden - For his excellent piece of writing in English!**
- **5MB - Aya - For her effort in art this half-term and bringing all her learning together in her final piece, showing the detail and colours of the Aurora Australis.**
- **5JH - Una - For her fantastic effort and dedication to improving her writing.**
- **6TT - Lydia - Her fantastic effort in her mock SATs**
- **6VA - Brogan - For the progress she has made in reading and maths (mock SATs)**

Lunchtime menu for this week



|  Monday |  Tuesday |  Wednesday |  Thursday |  Friday |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza (v), Herby Diced Potatoes, Peas or Baked Beans Or Cheese Puff Pastry Whirl (v), Oven Baked Herby Potatoes, Peas or Baked Beans</p> | <p>British Beef Casserole, Mash Potato, Yorkshire Pudding, Seasonal Veg & Gravy Or Roast Quorn Fillet (v), Mash Potato, Yorkshire Pudding, Seasonal Veg & Gravy</p> | <p>Chicken Tikka Curry, Mixed Rice & Naan Bread or Pasta in a Spicy Tomato Sauce (v), Homemade Dough Balls & Mixed Salad</p> | <p>BBQ Pulled Pork Wrap, Sweetcorn & Homemade Coleslaw Or Vegetable Lasagne (v), Wholemeal Bread & Mixed Salad</p> | <p>Harry Ramsden's Crispy Coated Fillet of Fish, Oven Baked Chips, Garden Peas or Baked Beans Or Quorn Dippers (v), Oven Baked Chips, Garden Peas or Baked Beans</p> |