



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
26/9/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

Can you believe we are over half way through the half term already. I simply cannot believe how quickly this year has gone!

### **Teaching and Learning**

I have really enjoyed visiting classrooms this week. Children are well settled and relationships between staff and children are clearly strong! The children are always keen to share their learning with me which I absolutely love! Year 6 were in the middle of a Science Investigation write up with Mrs King and focused on variables. Year 5 children in Mr Hendy's class were keen to show me their writing, especially their amazing use of vocabulary! Miss Purdy's class in Year 3 were doing Maths and using whiteboards for all children to share their response to her questions and Miss Tench's class in Year 1 were just finishing off a writing task based on the story of Old Bear! Willow simply couldn't wait to show me her book!

In our RRS Curriculum this week, we have focused on E-Safety. I spoke with the children in assembly on Monday about the importance of keeping themselves safe online. We discussed not sharing personal information or pictures, the fact that some websites and apps have age restrictions for a reason and who they can turn to should they see something upsetting! I am so pleased I didn't grow up with the access to technology that our young people have

nowadays. I realise that makes me sound very old but our children have the most access than ever before to seeing content that is simply not age appropriate! As educators and parents we have a duty of care to protect our children. The NSPCC has some useful information and tips that you can access [here](#).

### Meet the Teacher

It was so nice to see so many children represented by their families at our Meet the Teacher/ Expectations Sharing session on Monday after school. For those of you that couldn't make it, we will send out a copy of the slides the class teachers used. Please do read through them so that both home and school are on the same page in regards to meeting our expectations. Please can we ask all parents/carers to [click here to sign the google form](#) to confirm that you attended Meet the Teacher and/or you have received and read the expectations slides you agree to support your child in meeting out expectations. Thank you!

### Forthcoming Dates

- 13th October - Y6 annual drugs talk with PC Debby Savage
- 2nd October - Unity Open Evening. **Please note that there will be an earlier end to the school finishing time on this day - at 2pm. Details have been sent out in a letter!**
- W/C 6th October - Y6 Residential
- 8th October - Anglo Saxon visit for Y5
- 16th October - School closes for half term
- 17th October - INSET day for staff
- 3rd November - School reopens for Autumn 2
- W/c 24th November - Y6 Mock SATs

### And finally ...

Have a great weekend everyone!

## 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

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

## Cost of Living Advisor



Unity Academy has teamed up with Claremont Community Centre to provide free access to a cost of living advisor for our families. The Advisor will be available in the Community Hub 2-4pm on the second Friday of each month. The next session will be Friday 10th October, 2-4pm.

## COST OF LIVING ADVISORS

FROM CLAREMONT COMMUNITY CENTRE  
AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE FAMILIES OF  
UNITY ACADEMY

Come along and get advice and support on:

- Benefits Advice
- Priority Service Register
- Energy Efficiency Advice
- Budgeting Advice
- Free Local Activities
- Blackpool Food Truck  
(saving money on essential food)
- And More.....

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October**  
**2-4pm**  
**Unity Academy**  
**Community Hub**





Culture and Diversity





Wednesday 1st is Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is marked by Jews around the world by a 25 hour fast and solemn prayer to repent for the previous year's sins. [Click here to learn more](#)

## 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**

**FREE WORKSHOPS**  
**FOR HAIR AND BEAUTY TRAINING**



**EVERY TUESDAY**  
**4PM – 6PM**

Learn how to  
apply make-up  
and nail art  
and design  
hairstyles

**ROSSCON TRAINING BUILDING  
SAFER AND SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITIES**

contact [admin@rosscontraining.com](mailto: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  
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

**BUILDING SAFER AND  
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES  
01253 203104**

## Attendance



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <i>RHH</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>98.08</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>93.75</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>2JB</i>	<i>95.29</i>	<i>0</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>89.47</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>3HP</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>10</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>99.48</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>4HB</i>	<i>95.45</i>	<i>10</i>
• <i>5JH</i>	<i>90.18</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>5MB</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>6TT</i>	<i>96.55</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>87.93</i>	<i>4</i>



## Keeping children safe!



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTH VIOLENCE

#### UNDERSTANDING YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence affects one in four children in the UK, but it doesn't have to. When parents, carers, and educators understand the risks, they're better placed to support young people. The right support, mentoring, therapy, and guidance can help young people affected by violence to feel safe, manage conflict, and make positive choices.

#### WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE COMMIT SERIOUS VIOLENCE?

A recent study surveyed over 10,000 young people affected by violence, asking why serious violence occurs among their peers, such as an assault involving a weapon or sexual violence. The most common reasons given were due to a personal characteristic of the victim (e.g., race, religion, sexuality, gender, a gang or school rivalry, and being provoked). While not all young people face these issues, many lack the emotional regulation skills needed to manage provocation.

#### WHAT ARE SIGNS A YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK?

Children and young people often express that something is wrong through behaviour rather than words. Be alert to signs such as sudden mood changes, secrecy around friendships, excessive phone use, unfamiliar slang, unexplained injuries, fear of school, aggression, going missing, or substance use. They may also be associating with older peers. These behaviours can indicate underlying issues that can lead to violence.

#### ONLINE INFLUENCES

Social media plays a powerful role in normalising and escalating violence. Platforms like TikTok and Snapchat can expose young people to harmful content, often shaped by algorithms. Many see violent material that distorts reality, leading to fear and desensitisation. A recent study found 70% had seen real-world violence online, and 80% felt less safe in their communities. Alarmingly, 35% said it made them more likely to carry a weapon. Online conflict can often spill into real life, with serious and sometimes tragic consequences.

Opportunity

Community

Wellbeing

Respect

UNCERTAINTY

CONFLICT

FEAR

#### WHEN IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

For children and young people in England and Wales, the hours between 4 pm and 6 pm – just after school – carry a particularly high risk for serious violence. This can stem from conflicts that escalate during the school day, online arguments, or simply moving through unfamiliar areas on the way home. Understanding this risk helps us support safer travel and routines. Our recent report found that over one in three young people don't feel safe in the area they live in, and 35% don't feel safe walking the streets.

#### WHY MIGHT A YOUNG PERSON CARRY A WEAPON?

Young people may carry weapons due to fear, threats, peer pressure, or a false sense of protection. Many young people tell us they feel unsafe and carry weapons 'just in case', while others may be influenced by social media, peers, or criminal activity. Some don't realise it's illegal or may believe it earns respect.

#### WHERE IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Violence often happens in certain places. Busy areas like transport hubs carry risk simply because lots of people gather there. Other hotspots, like places linked to drug activity, attract those more likely to be involved in violence. Some areas become risky due to poor supervision, such as under-resourced public spaces. Understanding where violence tends to occur helps us guide young people safely through their communities and advocate for better support and safer spaces.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Choose a safe moment for the conversation, emotionally and physically. If a child is upset or angry, help them settle before discussing serious topics. Listen actively without judgement, even if what they share is difficult. Avoid interrupting and offer advice when the time feels right. If you're worried, you're not alone; support is available.

#### AVOID CONFLICT & MANAGE ESCALATIONS

Encourage young people to consider the 'Safe Ts' – Trust instincts, Take a breath, and Talk to a trusted adult. When triggered or provoked, they may react from their 'survival brain', unable to think clearly about the consequences. Taking a breath helps calm, and helps them access their 'thinking brain'. Remind them that moments pass, and seeking support from trusted adults builds resilience and safer decision-making.

#### HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CONSEQUENCES

Young people can be searched by police or teachers if suspected of carrying a weapon. If found with a knife, they could face arrest and criminal proceedings. A conviction can result in a criminal record. Even being present during a violent assault, encouraging it, filming, or sharing footage can lead to prosecution. Open and honest conversations can help children understand these risks and make safer choices.

#### REPORT INFORMATION

We all have a role in preventing violence. If a child shares concerns, you can act. For educators, it's important to follow your school's safeguarding procedures. Other adults can report anonymously through Fearless or Crimestoppers, and speak with other parents, the school, or local police through 101. If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999. These steps help protect children and the wider community.

#### Meet Our Expert

The Ben Kinsella Trust is a UK anti-truancy crime charity educating young people through immersive workshops, awareness campaigns, and community resources. Visit: [benkinsella.org.uk](https://benkinsella.org.uk)



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youth-violence>

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## Nursery



This week in Nursery we have enjoyed reading the book 'Dear Zoo.' We have had fun moving around like the animals from the story, we have been tall giraffes, scary snakes and fierce lions! The children have also drawn a picture of their favourite animal from the story, recalling different parts of the book.

The children have been painting their self portraits, they have been focussing on really looking at their features.

We also picked some apples from our apple tree and made some apple crumble.

## Reception



The children were really engaged and listened very well when Mrs Shaw did this week's RRS behaviour curriculum in assembly on Monday. She came into class to deliver the follow up session and she was VERY impressed with the children's knowledge of how they can keep themselves safe online. Talk to your child and ask them to tell you what they know!

In Phonics this week we have learnt i, n, p, g and o. The children will be bringing home their first sound blending book this week. Please take time to read this book with them, at least 3 times, before next Friday. They do not need to read the full book each night, few pages is fine. When you have read with your child please sign their reading diary, feel free to write in anything they are struggling with.



**Message from The Blackpool Gazette regarding the recent photograph that was taken: -**

The Blackpool Gazette is delighted to be producing a special 'First Class' souvenir edition on 9th October 2025, marking your son or daughter's all-important first days at primary school. This edition will feature full colour photographs from schools across the area, taken by our partner ABC Portraits. This is a fantastic opportunity to commemorate your child's early years in school, and a keepsake that you and your family can treasure for years to come. To make this special moment even more memorable we are offering discounted copies of the newspaper for parents and guardians who would like to purchase it.

Discounted Price for two or more copies: £1.00 per copy (Single copy price £1.30)

- Order Online: Visit [blackpoolgazette.eventbrite.co.uk](https://blackpoolgazette.eventbrite.co.uk). Please note that website orders are subject to additional fees which are set and charged by Eventbrite.
- Order by Phone: Call 0330 403 3004, lines open 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday.
- Order Deadline: 1st October 2025

Delivery: Copies will be delivered directly to the school on the day of publication for your child to bring home. Photographs will be published in the newspaper, may appear online and the feature may also be promoted via social media. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on 0330 403 3004 or via email at [specialitions@nationalworld.com](mailto:specialitions@nationalworld.com).

Yours faithfully,

Amy Best

Blackpool Gazette



## Year 1



Another lovely week in Year 1!

This week in English we began the analysis and planning stages of our writing. We discussed how the main character of our story Old Bear may be feeling and how he looks, supporting us to write a character description. We then put ourselves in the shoes of the characters, considering what they might be thinking and feeling at different stages of the story and developing our own quotes. All of these steps are supporting us towards writing our own story next week.

In Maths we have been looking at counting on from numbers within 10, one more and one less. We definitely have some budding mathematicians in Year 1 as their number knowledge has been very impressive this week!

In History we have continued our learning surrounding The Gunpowder Plot, exploring what The Gunpowder Plot was and why it happened. The children have been very intrigued by this historical event and have been asking lots of questions.

In Art we have been focusing on the work of Wassily Kandinsky. This week we learnt about the primary colours; creating our own primary colour wheel.

I hope you have a lovely weekend, The Year One Team



This week in Year 2 we have continued our focus in Science on animals and plants including designing our own habitat and starting to go on our outdoor habitat walks. We have been analysing different elements of our book "A River" by Marc Martin and have been really good at identifying questions in the text, apostrophes and adjectives. Maths has been a continuation of our work on tens and ones and a revisit of greater than  $>$ , less than  $<$  and equal to  $=$ . Well done for a fab week Year 2!



What a **fabulous** week we've had in Year 3!

The children have been **working so hard** and we are **really proud of them**. In History, we travelled back to the Stone Age to explore Skara Brae and discover the kinds of houses people lived in all that time ago.

In Science, we became skeleton detectives, learning all about endoskeletons, exoskeletons, and even hydrostatic skeletons! This was so exciting!

In Maths, we've finished up our Place Value topic and are now going to be looking at Addition and Subtraction. Don't forget to keep practising those 3, 4 and 8 times tables at home – they make us super speedy mathematicians!

Reminder: reading books need to come in on Mondays so we can check them.

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 3 Team

Year 4



What a wonderful week in year 4!

We have been focusing on rounding to 10, 100 and 1,000 in Maths. We have had great resilience when tackling this topic. Next week, we are focusing on addition and subtraction.

In English, we have been planning our own piece of writing linked to our vehicle text - The Whale - we have planned out some expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, direct speech and much more! We are going to produce some excellent pieces of writing next week!

In Science, we have been looking at the different parts of the digestive system and their functions and in Geography we have been

exploring the largest bodies of water in the UK. Test us on these and see how much we can remember!

As always, have a fantastic weekend, The Year 4 team

## Year 5



In art we have been looking at a range of images created by Banksy and looking at how he uses stencils in his art. We have seen how he is able to create a sense of 3D shapes on a 2D surface and were amazed at the details he added to some of his images, especially some

people he had painted half-way up a wall so that if you looked at them from across the road they looked like they were sitting and dancing on top of the bus shelter.

We are moving onto addition and subtraction in maths next week and I am sure the children would love to help add up the cost of items when you are out shopping or work out the change you would get if you paid with a £10 note.

In science we have been investigating how the shape of an item affects how it moves in water and developed our understanding of water resistance.

Thank you so much for your support with encouraging your children to complete their homework on LBQ and listening to them read three times a week.

Have a lovely weekend, Year 5 team

## Year 6



Thank you to all the parents who attended 'Meet the Teacher', it was nice to have so many present and only having standing room only at the back. For those of you who were unable to attend, we have given your children a copy of the presentation that we talked through on the day. Please can you familiarise yourself with the contents as it explains the new behaviour system and a few other important changes to how we want Unity to run.



# 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

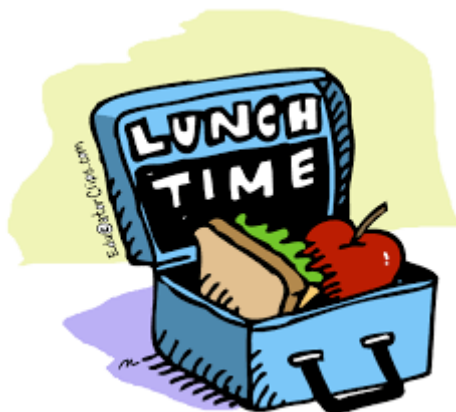


## Jewellery and Hair

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
Homemade Pizza Margherita & Salad Bar (v) Or Italian Tomato & Vegetable Pasta Bake (v)	Savoury Mince, Yorkshire Pudding & Mash Potato Or Vegetarian Sausage Roll & Mash Potato (v)	Crispy Chicken Wrap & Herby Potato Wedges Or Cheese & Tomato Pin Wheel Pizza & Herby Potato Wedges (v)	Quorn & Sweet Potato Curry & Wholegrain Rice (v) Or Pork & Leek Meatballs, Tomato Sauce & Pasta Spirals	Crispy Vegetable Fingers & Oven Baked Chips (v) Or MSC Harry Ramsden's Fish & Oven Baked Chips