



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
27/6/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

It's been a funny week this week! The weather has been so unsettled hasn't it which I don't think helps sometimes!

Teaching and Learning

I am madly in the process of gathering end of year data and am incredibly impressed with the progress the children are making! Some Pupil Progress Meetings have taken place in primary this week with the rest happening next week. It is so nice to sit with the teachers and hear them discuss individual children and how they have progressed both academically and personally and socially. It is clear that there are very strong relationships between staff and children which makes me very proud!

Our Reception children visited the Church this week as a part of their Enrichment Curriculum and it also tied in with their R.E. lessons. Mrs Hanvey was particularly impressed with the children's behaviour, their thoughtful questions and how articulately they shared their embedded knowledge.

Some Year 6 children took part in their Reward Trips this week. These were awarded to children who took full advantage of our precision tutoring sessions and earned their attitude

to learning credits. Well done to everyone who secured a place on one of our trips - we hope you had a fantastic time!

Transition visits have continued for Year 6 this week with children taking part in a variety of lessons. The children are moving around school just like they will in September and are beginning to build relationships with their new teachers. The new Reception children also had their second visit this week to school and are beginning to get used to their new classroom environment. Next week all primary children will take part in 'Moving Up Day' and will spend Thursday in their new classroom and with their new teachers.

This week, as part of our primary RRS behaviour curriculum, we've been exploring what it means to be a good friend and a good sport. This week, we shared the story *Cheetah Learns to Play Nicely*, which helped children understand the importance of playing fairly, taking turns, and showing kindness—especially when games don't go their way. Through discussion and play, children learned how being *ready* to listen, *respectful* to others, and *safe* in their actions helps everyone enjoy playtime and build strong, positive relationships. Next week, we will move onto a focus on 'Building a Class Community' with a link to our transition Moving-up Day.

Transition - As mentioned above, next week in Primary is 'Moving-Up Day'. Our Year 6 have a full transition day in Year 7 on Thursday 3rd July. All primary year groups spend the day in their new classrooms with their new teachers on this day and take part in a variety of lessons. They will also hear their teachers' expectations in regard to attitude to learning, behaviour, attendance and classroom rules.

Year 6 children will come into school via the main entrance on Thursday 3rd July and go straight to the Drama Hall where they will be registered and sit in their form groups before taking part in a full secondary timetable. Secondary lunch is later than the usual primary lunchtime so we would strongly suggest that the children have a full breakfast!

Parental Report Drop-In - Parents are invited to drop in for an informal chat with class teachers about their child's report on Monday 7th July between 3:15-4pm. This date has been on our calendar dates which are in our parental noticeboards at the front of school since the start of the half term. If you are unable to attend this session, please contact your child's class teacher via the school office and I am sure a telephone conversation can be arranged should you need one!

Inset Day 21st July 2025 - On Monday 21st July, Unity Academy will be closed to all pupils (Nursery through to Year 11) for an additional INSET day for staff. We're sharing this information in advance to help parents and carers make any necessary childcare arrangements. INSET days are an important part of ensuring your child receives the highest quality education by giving staff the time to plan, train and prepare effectively for the year ahead. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Diary Dates

- 3rd July - Y6 into Y7 Transition Day
- 3rd July - Primary Transition Day
- 10th July - Y5 Shakespeare Performance
- 17th July - Sports Day - Weather Permitting!

And finally... Happy weekend everyone!





Community Corner



The Children's learning disability and ADHD service will be delivering their 'tea and talk' sessions the first Friday of each month in our Community Hub. Why not drop in!

Blackpool

Children's Learning Disability and ADHD Team

Tea & Talk



For Parents/Carers

**Advice &
Support**

**Networking
with
Parents/Carers**

**Signposting
Information**

**Pre-referral
guidance**

**One Friday a month
9:30am - 11:30am
Please see dates on back
Unity Academy Family Hub
Warbreck Hill Road
Blackpool
FY2 0TS**

Contact CYP LD and ADHD team for more
information
0800 121 7762 Option 5



Upcoming Dates

25/26

Friday 4 th July 2025	Friday 6 th February 2026
Friday 5 th September 2025	Friday 6 th March 2026
Friday 3 rd October 2025	Friday 27 th March 2026
Friday 7 th November 2025	Friday 1 st May 2026
Friday 5 th December 2025	Friday 5 th June 2026
Friday 9 th January 2026	Friday 3 rd July 2026

A message from Central Library, Blackpool

This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is The Story Garden, encouraging primary age children and their families to take their reading outside into the fresh air. As ever, we've got a full summer of stories and crafting sessions ahead across the Service to share with them all, but I'd be most grateful if you would put the information below on your Tapestry, Moodle, Dojo or other pages to ensure that the families know there are free sessions available at Central Library to keep the children and their attendant grown-ups entertained. Booking is required, but that's a simple matter of either popping in to the library, or giving us a call on 01253 478080, and reserving a place.

Central Library Junior Story & Craft sessions, Summer 2025

- 24th July 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come along to our Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge Craft Launch event, to listen to Dear Earth and make yourself a bookish badge to take home. Booking essential
- 31st July 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come and join us to listen to the story of Sam Plants A Sunflower and, because it's a bit late to plant sunflowers, you can plant a nasturtium to take home and watch it grow, then eat it in a salad! Booking essential
- 7th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Beetle along to our creepy-crawly themed craft session, to listen to some minibeast facts and to make a Spotter's Guide zine to take home so you can look out for all sorts of tiny wildlife on your travels around town. Booking essential
- 14th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Join us for a roarsome time, to listen to "Where The Wild Things Are" and to make a nature-shapes crown to wear while you create your own wild rumpus! Free event, but booking essential
- 21st August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come along to Central Library to listen to "When The Bees Buzzed Off", hear some cool buggy facts and to make a rocking minibeast card to take away. Free event but booking is essential
- 28th August 2.30 – 3.30pm - Come on over to listen to the story of "Impossible!" and to make one of our ever-popular recycled materials balloon cars to help you zoom off on your own adventures! Free event but booking essential.



🐉 "Don't Be a Fool – Bring Your Lids to School" 🐉



Unity Academy Blackpool is encouraging students, staff, families, and the wider community to collect **plastic milk bottle lids** and bring them into school. These will be used to create a large-scale piece of artwork that highlights the dangers of plastic pollution in our oceans. The finished piece will be proudly displayed in the Houndshell Shopping Centre, Blackpool, helping raise awareness of how everyday waste can impact marine life around the world. Bottle lids (any colour) can be dropped off into clearly marked collection boxes located in **Main Reception**, the **Community Hub**, or **Mr. Cooper's Office**. Every lid counts—please join us in turning waste into something meaningful! We will be collecting plastic milk bottle lids until Friday 18th July.

COLLECT PLASTIC LIDS!


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FROM MILK BOTTLES

Help us create a piece of artwork to be displayed in the Houndshill Shopping Centre in Blackpool, highlighting the dangers of plastic pollution in oceans around the world.



Milk bottle lids can be dropped off into collection boxes located in Main Reception, the Community Hub or Mr Cooper's Office

Attendance



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <i>RHH</i>	<i>97.41</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>94.64</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>92.41</i>	<i>8</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>94.57</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>2AP</i>	<i>97.22</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>89.13</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>3HB</i>	<i>96.48</i>	<i>8</i>
• <i>4JB</i>	<i>92.59</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>92.41</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>5MB</i>	<i>97.41</i>	<i>8</i>
• <i>5NO</i>	<i>97.92</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>6TT</i>	<i>94.17</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>89.18</i>	<i>9</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, tips and tips, please visit thenationalcollege.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Super Mario Kart* and *Animal Crossing* have been released onto the platform, with the Switch 2's improved performance, suggesting it will be able to play even more mature-rated games. There may appear to be a shift in the content that is highly suitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may inadvertently make costly purchases or download games and apps without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Roblox* allow voice or text chat between players. It means that settings and software, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional voice and screen sharing. Though children under 18 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the shift to unrestricted voice chat could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial tracking. In games, however, this also raises the risk of cyberstalking or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film. The Super Mario Bros. movie (2023) drew billions, and the game's iconic characters and in-game mechanics, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Even Switch 2 and Switch 2 games come with a PEGI age rating. Before buying any game, check the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only. But it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to verify who can video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. Encourage them to report any issues. Keep them in control and show them to create screenshots and video of any inappropriate chat or content. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Clayton Coates is the co-lead editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store and the UK's best, he's a dad parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on that including BBC, TechRadar, and plenty more.

WakeUpWednesday The National College

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Celebrating Culture and Difference



Sunday 29th June marks the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul - celebrating the martyrdom of these apostles. [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week we have read the story 'Handa's Surprise.' The children have enjoyed looking at the world map to see where we live and where Handa lives, the children have spoken about how far away Africa is and how we could travel to visit Handa. They came up with some good ideas such as going on a boat, car, walking, skateboarding. We have also spoken about how where Handa lives differs from where we do.

The children have painted their favourite animal from the story, really looking at the colours they can see and how they look.

Reception



Our visit to the Church this week was brilliant. The children really impressed me with their questions whilst at the Church and then with what they could remember once we were back at school. Their behaviour was excellent and it has been a real pleasure to take them out of school this year!

Mrs Shaw took the children onto the Year 1/2 playground this week as part of her RRS lesson. The children all took part in races and then discussed what it felt like to win and lose and how to deal with it in a sensible and respectful manner. There was lots of "well done" praise given out and there were even some handshakes and pats on the back in congratulation!

The children visited Miss Tench again this week as part of their move up to Year 1. She spoke with them about classroom rules and was happy to see that they had remembered them from the last session. I think she is going to be very happy to be your class teacher next year if you continue to try your very best!

Have a great weekend Reception!

Year 1



What a fun week we have had in Year 1!

We have been writing instructions on how to make fairy cakes, we followed our recipes and made some delicious cakes. We have been focusing on bossy/imperative verbs and using time connectives in our writing. We have been blown away by the childrens writing, they have worked so hard with their sentence structure and their handwriting.

In Maths we have started our final topic on place value (numbers to 100). We have been demonstrating our amazing knowledge and applying it when answering tricky questions. We have been partitioning numbers and using the resources to support our learning.

In History we have been learning about the history of flight, we made our own aeroplanes and raced them outside. The children learnt about how planes have changed over time and improved with modern technologies. The children have shown such a great interest in this topic and we are super excited to learn lots more about it!

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 1 Team



Year 2 have had a brilliant week this week.

In English the children have been reading a new story called 'Mousetronaut' We have been using the mighty writer board to create our own adventure about mousetronaut going to space.

In maths the children have continued learning about time. We have been looking at how many minutes are in an hour, telling the time to the hour, how many hours are in a day and telling the time to 5 minutes.

In history the children have been learning about the astronaut Tim Peake and why he is an important astronaut.

In Art the children have been using the sketching pencils to draw different textures including hatching, cross hatching, stippling and scribbling.

Well done Year 2 for another fantastic week, we hope you all have a great weekend.

Year 3



Another busy week in year 3!

In Maths, we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes, angles, parallel and perpendicular lines. It has been a very tricky topic with lots of new vocabulary to learn! We have been doing so well practicing, drawing and recognising properties of shapes.

In English, we have been using Chromebooks to type up our Newspaper articles linked to the story The Twits. We have really enjoyed typing and produced some fantastic work!

We were also lucky enough to have a music work shop this week where we got to use digital software to produce our own music!

Please continue to read weekly.

Year 4



This week 4CBL, have been on the move—literally! They have been trialling *Moki Active Bands*, a fun fitness tracker designed to encourage children to be more active throughout the day, especially during PE lessons and playtimes. The children have really embraced the challenge, showing lots of energy (and a bit of healthy competition!) as they tracked their steps. It's been fantastic to see everyone so motivated and moving more.

In Science, things got a little messy—in the best way! We've been learning all about toothpaste: what goes into it, what makes it effective, and even how to make our own. The children loved investigating the ingredients and getting hands-on in the classroom. A fun and foamy week all round!

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 4 team

Year 5



Practising for our play, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, is well underway and we are so proud of how hard the children are working to learn their lines, words to the songs and consider stage directions. A letter has been given to your child to invite you to see the play on Thursday 10th July at 2:25 till 3:10 in the Assembly hall. If you would like to attend, please can you send the reply slip back by Friday 4th July so that we know how many people will be

attending. Your child has also been given a slip with ideas for their outfit, these are suggestions and can be adapted to items you already have at home.

PGL information - The last payment for PGL is due on Tuesday 1st July.

Year 6



This week, Year 6 have taken part in an extremely engaging online lesson for National Writing Day along with 30, 000 other children across the country! In the words of Jacob, 'this is a fun write'. The children came up with some fantastic ideas, some of which were shared with the online teachers. Mrs King and Miss Ayers were so impressed with the quality of the writing produced! Our Year 6s even got a shout out.

A reminder that children are able to come to school on a Tuesday only for the next two weeks wearing their PE kit for their PE transition lesson. They are able to remain in their kit for the day.

Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform. As part of transition, Year 6 students will now be referred to Student Services should they require uniform support or guidance.

A number of Year 6 children have enjoyed their reward trips this week. They have chosen to visit either Blackpool Dungeons, Madame Tussauds, The Sealife Centre or the Pleasure Beach. A fun time was had by all who attended - well done for achieving those 15 attitude to learning credits.

Star of the Week



- ***RHH - Leo C - For showing great enthusiasm on our school trip and asking insightful questions.***
- ***1CL - Finn - For making such positive changes and efforts to support his own and others learning in the classroom.***
- ***1MT - Owen - For showing eagerness and enthusiasm towards all aspects of learning and always being keen to challenge your learning further!***
- ***2BH - Samuel - For being an always person, and trying his best in everything he does.***
- ***2AP - Zofia - For always following our school values of ready, respectful and safe and always having a positive attitude towards learning.***
- ***3KG - Melody - For being such a positive role model to her peers and always being there to offer support when needed!***
- ***3HB - Harley-Dalton - For showing wonderful behaviour in the classroom and really making an effort!***
- ***4JB - Daniel-Junior - For always trying his best in all areas and consistently contributing to class discussions***
- ***4CBL - Evania - For always being a role model to others***
- ***5MB - Bailey - For his fantastic acting skills!***
- ***5NO - Brogan - For her efforts and enthusiasm with her part for our performance.***
- ***6TT - Catalina - For being caring and helpful***

- **6VA - Logan - For designing an innovative product that used different types of polymers for his Crest Awards**

School Uniform



Revised policy from September: From September our uniform is changing. The decision was made following consultation with children, parents and staff. Large numbers of people shared their thoughts for the options given and the vast majority voted for a change to some aspects of our uniform.

As a reminder, please have a look at the list below and make sure your children are correctly dressed for both the school day and PE. To request items of uniform please click [here](#) and complete the short form. We will do our best to meet your needs, stock permitting.

Nursery Uniform

- Black sweatshirt with logo
- White polo shirt
- Black trousers, tracksuit bottoms or skirt
- Black shoes if wearing trousers or skirt or Trainers (preferably black) if wearing tracksuit bottoms.

Primary uniform - All students should wear:

- Black V Neck school jumper with embroidered Unity Academy logo - **this item is compulsory!**
- Plain White Shirt or blouse
- Plain **black** socks or tights
- House Badge (Provided by the academy initially, replacements can be purchased from the academy)

- All black footwear with no identifiable markings. If this footwear is a boot it must be no bigger than ankle length. No crocs!

Students have a choice of: (students must wear one of these)

- Plain black tailored skirt
- Plain black trousers or shorts (tailored type, not tracksuit bottoms/ jeans)
- A Black Blazer with the Unity logo is optional


P.E. Kit - Red polo shirt Black shorts Black socks Black Pumps

Summer Uniform

- Red check dress with white ankle socks
- Black short trousers

If your child has outgrown any uniform items and they are in good condition, please do send them into school where they can be added to our supply for other parents to access.

Thank you




UNITY
SCHOOLWEAR

UNITY UNIFORM


The branded uniform will be stocked at Blapham Clothing (01253 276047) and Ragamuffins (01253 390717). If you need any assistance with purchasing uniform please contact Aiyem at <https://www.schoolwear-blackpool.com/> or Kath at Ragamuffins. 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




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

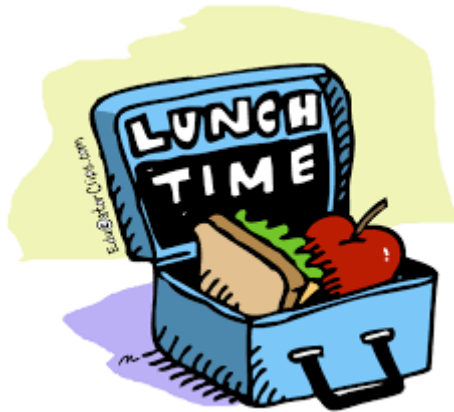


Jewellery and Hair

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 brooches 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