



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
28/3/25

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

I can't believe we only have one more week left of this half term. It has gone so fast!

Teaching and Learning

This week I joined Year 6 for some of their Maths lessons. They were learning about ratio and Enzo confidently discussed what they were doing and happily showed me his book. The Year 6 children were so focused which meant that Miss Ayers and Mrs King could really demonstrate their expertise in teaching this part of the Maths curriculum. Miss Bailey brought Jaxon and Tommy to show me their writing this week which put a huge smile on my face. They were using our new Mighty Writer resource which helps the children to become more independent with writing as the children use little pictures to create their own story for them to refer back to. This means they can really focus on the content of their writing and not have to keep stopping to think of ideas. Reception children were learning about pairs of numbers that make 10 when I popped in to see them this week. Mrs Hanvey was sitting on the floor with the children in a circle and they were literally hanging on her every word as she used Numicon to demonstrate how to make 10. Well done Reception for listening to intently and for sharing your thoughts about number bonds.

Mr Brimley led our RRS Behaviour Curriculum assembly this week as I had absolutely no voice. Some might say it's been much quieter in school this week. The children were so caring though and many checked up on me! In the assembly, we focused on teamwork and how we can work together to help others who are finding things tough. This built on the previous week's work on peer conflict. We used the book 'The Cloud' by Hannah Cumming. This delightful short story demonstrates the importance of being inclusive, involving other children in play and thinking about how other people might feel. Next week, we will move onto 'Getting on with others' using the book 'Llama stops teasing' by Sue Graves.

Our primary Parents Evening took place on Monday evening. Thank you to all parents who attended or who have spoken to teachers this week about their child's progress. We hope you enjoyed looking through your child's books and I'm sure the children will love reading your responses! We were very happy to see that 91% of parents who attended would recommend Unity to other people. School and home working together can only be a positive benefit to your child. Thank you for your continued support.

Additional INSET day - IMPORTANT

Following the publication of the recent Ofsted report, there is a need to create some additional time for staff training. With this in mind, we are going to add some additional INSET days to the calendar for this academic year. These are training days for staff and children will not attend on these dates. Whilst we know this will be an inconvenience, we are trying to schedule these to be as convenient as possible.

The first of these additional INSET days will be on Tuesday 22nd April 2025. School is closed on Monday 21st April 2025 for Bank Holiday Monday. As such school will now reopen for students on Wednesday 23rd April 2025. The term dates on the website will be updated to reflect this.

There will be two additional INSET days towards the end of the academic year in preparation for September. We will confirm the dates of these as soon as possible.

Diary Dates

- W/c 31st March - Read, Write Inc Assessment Week
- 1st April - Nursery parents Easter Crafts
- 1st April - Anti-bullying ambassadors book sale for Young Minds
- 2nd April - Dan Worsley in Y5
- 3rd April - Easter Bonnet/ Decorated Egg Competition entries due. **See information below!**
- 3rd April - Y6 Trip to UCLan

- Friday 4th April - School closes for Easter holiday at **the normal time of 3:10pm**. Sorry if there has been any confusion around this time, but it is a normal finish time on this day.
- **22nd April - Additional INSET day, school is closed to pupils.**
- 23rd April - School reopens for Summer 1.

And finally ... Have a great weekend everyone!

Easter Competitions

Easter Bonnets

Children are invited to take part in our Easter Bonnet competition. They can be brought to school on **Thursday 3rd April**. Children will take part in an Easter Parade during Friday's celebration assembly. Bonnets will be judged and prizes awarded for 1st place and 2nd place for each year group.



Boiled Egg Decorating

Children are invited to decorate a hard boiled egg as a character of their choice. These will need to be in school on **Thursday 3rd April**. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place overall.



Community Corner



Children & Young People's Support

Parent & Carers Virtual Workshops

Are you a parent or carer in Blackpool?

Join our free virtual Peer Support workshops, for families with children from age 5- 25.

Thursday 6th March Introduction to Mental Health & Resilience

Thursday 3rd April Talking to Your Child About Mental Health

Tuesday 8th May Exploring & Understanding Emotions

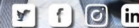


Tailored support for families across Blackpool (inc Fylde & Wyre)



More details here

For more information contact sharonsutcliffe@lancashiremind.org.uk



Being A Parent



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
6.00pm – 8.00pm	Online using Google Meet	Tuesday 22 nd April	Tuesday 2 nd July
9.30am – 11.30am	North Family Hub Dingle Ave FY3 7NX	Wednesday 23 rd April	Wednesday 3 rd July

Topics covered include:

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

"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



EMPOWERING PEOPLE
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



Education & Skills
Partnership



BLACKPOOL LEARNING ROOMS



BUSINESS
IN THE
COMMUNITY

Community First Aid Course

Do you worry about how you would cope in a
medical emergency?

This free informal course is designed to build
confidence in dealing with everyday
emergencies with basic First Aid

Lunch will be provided on the day!

Date: Friday 11th April 2025

Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm

Venue: Claremont Park Community Centre, Claremont Rd,
Blackpool FY1 2QJ

Contact Us!

To book your place please email:
Laura.James@bitc.org.uk



This course is funded by the UK Government
through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.



Funded by
UK Government

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 4:45 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 [Parental Messages / Queries \(Non-urgent\)](#). 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



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <i>RHH</i>	<i>93.75</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>90.18</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>93.53</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>91.15</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>2AP</i>	<i>83.75</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>91.15</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>3HB</i>	<i>89.69</i>	<i>5</i>
• <i>4JB</i>	<i>88.39</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>92.86</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>5MB</i>	<i>97.92</i>	<i>9</i>
• <i>5NO</i>	<i>94.58</i>	<i>8</i>
• <i>6TT</i>	<i>96.26</i>	<i>1</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>92.74</i>	<i>5</i>

Keeping children safe!



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 it's needed, this guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalsafesite.com for further guides, links and tips for advice.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such (legal but harmful) content, lives are being impacted. Sometimes it's tragic, affective, or might be doubted by the scale of the reach giants and their content which so entrains young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness, recognising when something isn't OK, and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

- 1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM**

Algorithms rank content by user interest, relevance and engagement. Interacts with sports news, try, will see it more often. The more you interact with the content that you choose to interact with, the more likely it is to be shown to you. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts about being bullied will find similar content being suggested to them more often.
- 2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS**

Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms can reduce the amount of recommended content that shows. There's a lot of content that's high quality but that's often hidden. Use alternative feeds or explore more of the content that's available to you. Explore the platform's search function to see what's available. Talk to your child about what they're doing and show them when they open the app.
- 3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN**

Chatting about what your child's seen online is a great way to help them understand what's going on. Social media platforms are screening out content that's inappropriate or harmful. But it's not always clear what's been blocked, and what's been seen. Talk to your child about what they've seen and what they've shared. If there's anything that's concerning, it could be a sign that your child needs support.
- 4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT**

If your child struggles to access content that's relevant to their interests, there's the option to hide their posts or content. Encourage your child to explore the platform's settings to see what's available. It's important that your child knows how to block posts that contain specific words, which is a great way to help them take control of what they see online.
- 5. SET DAILY LIMITS**

Phones and most apps can tell you how much time you're spending. Spending too long online can mean a child misses out on other activities. You could set online time limits for your child. Use the phone's settings to set daily limits. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.
- 6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY**

Keeping a close eye on how your child is using social media can help you to spot any problems. You could use parental controls to monitor their activity. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.
- 7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**

Level for adults, it's tempting to check on how often your child is using social media. Push notifications can be a great way to keep track of their activity. But they can also be a distraction. Turn off push notifications for social media apps. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.
- 8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER**

Giving children on internet-enabled devices and computers freedom to explore platforms on their own can be a great way to help them understand what's going on. But it's important that you're there to support them. Use devices together to explore social media. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.
- 9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, and other activities. Encourage your child to explore social media on their own. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.
- 10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE**

Most platforms default children's accounts to private, so they can't see posts from people they're not following. But it's important that you talk to your child about peer pressure. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time. You could also use apps like FamilyTime to help you manage your child's screen time.

Meet Our Expert
Dr. Sarah-Jane Adams is a qualified health coach at a specialist primary school and, as an anti-bullying therapy coach, works with children to help them understand what's going on. She's also a member of the National Online Safety team. She's also a member of the National Online Safety team. She's also a member of the National Online Safety team.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalsafesite.com @nationalsafety NationalOnlineSafety @nationalsafesite

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Celebrating Culture and Difference



Ramadan - the Islamic holy month of fasting concludes on Sunday .[Click here to learn more](#)



Monday 31st is Eid ul-Fitr (also known as Eid al-Fitr) - Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and to express gratitude to Allah for providing strength and guidance throughout the holy month. [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week the children have enjoyed reading the story, 'Hello Spring.' We have continued to discuss the changes we have seen in our environment. The children have completed a I can See spring hunt sheet. We have also started to measure items dependent on size, the children have been using the language big, small, tall, tallest, biggest, bigger, taller. We have measure, items in the classroom and each other.

REMINDER

Tuesday 1st April- Parent

Reception



In Reception this week we have continued with our theme 'People Who Help Us'. This week we have read 'Busy People, Police Officers' and created our own Police Stations in our construction area. We've looked at all the different ways Police Officers can help us and learnt new vocabulary such as patrol, describe and community. In PSHE we have learnt

about germs, the importance of washing our hands, catching coughs and sneezes with tissues and the effect germs can have on our bodies. In Maths we have continued our work with number bonds to 10, doubling and odd and even numbers. The children are getting super speedy with their doubling facts!

We hope you have a lovely weekend, The Reception Team

Year 1



What an exciting week in Year 1!

Last Friday we were very lucky to be visited by The Lancashire Music Service Music Bus! The children visited the music bus in small groups and were able to try out an array of musical instruments including, trumpets, electric guitars, and drums to name just a few! Every single child was absolutely beaming when they returned and were so excited to share what a lovely experience they had. When asked about their experience, some of the children said:

"I was so happy it almost made me have happy tears!"

"I feel really grateful that I was able to go on the music bus."

"It made my heart burst."

"I liked the steel drum. It made me feel strong and powerful."

"Going on the music bus made me feel like I can play lots of instruments properly now."

Year 1's Music Teacher, Miss Stones, also mentioned how beautifully behaved all of the children were and how much respect they showed to our visitors. Well done Year 1!

Due to the lovely sunshine this week, we were also able to take our learning outside; going on a tree hunt. During this half term, our Science learning has surrounded plants, and this week we have focused on evergreen and deciduous trees. Whilst on our hunt, we walked around our school grounds and in pairs used a classification sheet and an ipad to capture images of evergreen and deciduous trees. The children absolutely loved being able to explore our school grounds and explore their learning in nature. We hope the weather stays in our favour and we are able to take lots of our learning outside as we move into the summer months.

We hope you have a lovely weekend, Miss Tench and Miss Lee

Year 2



What a busy week we have had in Year 2!

In English we have been looking at non-chronological reports and looking at the difference between a fact and an opinion. We then started to write our own non-chronological reports all about the country Australia.

In Maths we have continued our topic of length and height and have been learning how to order length and height from smallest to longest or shortest to tallest.

In Geography we have been looking at what the climate is like in Australia and identifying how it is different to our climate.

In our story telling lesson this week the children have thoroughly enjoyed writing about an astronaut that went on an adventure. The ideas and imagination that came from the children nearly blew us away, they have worked extremely hard with this piece of writing, well done Year 2.

We would like to say a huge thankyou to all the parents who came to parents evening on Monday night and we hope you enjoyed looking through your children's books. We are very proud of all the hard work Year 2 have done since starting in September and we can't wait to watch them learn and grow even further.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend, only one more week to go!!

Year 3



Another great week in year 3!

This week in Maths we have been focusing on Mass and Capacity. We have been looking at grams, how to accurately weigh objects and how many grams are in a kilogram - test us at home! We also completed our half-termly arithmetic quiz, the children all worked very hard on this and it shows in the very successful results. Well done!

In English, we have been writing our very own version of 'The Three Little Pigs' except with different characters, settings and building materials. We are so excited to finish them and read them!

In History, we looked at the social and environmental impacts that trains and planes have had over the years. We talked about how trains and planes have changed over time and our own experiences on transportation.

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and ensure that reading books and reading records are in school every day.

Reading records are checked every Friday and pupils can change

Year 4



What a lovely, sunny week in Year 4!

We would like to say a huge thankyou to all the parents who came to parents' evening on Monday night and we hope you enjoyed looking through your children's books. We are very proud of all the hard work Year 4 have done since starting in September and we can't wait to watch them learn and grow even further. We hope you are as proud of them as we are!

This week in English, we watched the short film *Pigeon: Impossible*. We took part in hot seating activities and used our ideas to create our own newspaper reports.

In Science, we continued our topic on sound, exploring pitch and investigating how sound travels over distance.

In Geography, we reached the end of our New Zealand topic. We compared Wellington and Blackpool, looking at their similarities and differences.

Finally, we would like to wish all mums, step-mums, carers, nans, grandmas and aunties a wonderful Mother's Day on Sunday!

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 4 Team

Year 5



We have had another lovely week in year 5 this week!

Firstly, thank you to all parents that attended Parents Evening on Monday evening. It was lovely to see and speak to so many parents and carers and we hope you are just as proud as we are of your children. They are working so hard in year 5 and are continuing to make progress.

This week in Maths, we have been converting fractions and decimals to percentages. The children have blown us away with their knowledge this week and are continuing to make fantastic progress.

Next week, we have a special visitor in school to support and inspire our writing sessions. Watch out to find out how we got on!

A reminder

The next payment for the Year 6 Residential is due. If your child has already secured a place, please keep a lookout on Parentpay for the next payment. We are still awaiting some first deposits and a member of staff should have contacted you regarding the payment today. Failure to pay the deposits may result in your child losing their place. We thank you for your support with this.

Finally, we would like to wish all mothers, step-mothers, carers, nans, grandmas, aunties, mothers to be and mother figures a wonderful Mother's Day on Mothering Sunday.

Year 6



Star of the Week



- RHH - Kali - For taking pride in the presentation of your work!
- 1CL - Himmat - For a fantastic attitude to learning and really trying in his work, he has completed some amazing writing!
- 1MT - Dexter - For wowing us with your fantastic progress in phonics!
- 2BH - Darcey - For her resilience and always trying hard with her work.
- 2AP - Tommy - For a huge improvement in his handwriting and writing a fantastic story in our story telling lesson.
- 3KG - Riley - For always having such an amazing enthusiastic attitude towards all that he does and being a positive role model
- 3HB - Enija - For working exceptionally hard on her maths test and scoring 26/28!
- 4JB - Arlo - For fantastic improvement and focus during our fractions topic.
- 4CBL - Jiro - For his positive attitude to learning.
- 5MB - Anaiah - For always working hard and being kind.
- 5NO - Scarlett - For making excellent progress on her maths reasoning paper this term.
- 6TT - Alexis - Being an always person and for joining in during Victorian Day.
- 6VA - Being focused on his work and listening well.

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



The branded uniform will be stocked at Blipham Clothing (01263 276647) and Ragamuffins (01263 390717). If you need any assistance with purchasing uniform please contact Aijoon 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

	or		or		or		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		Tallored Skirt Plain black		Trousers Plain black, no logo or branding		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

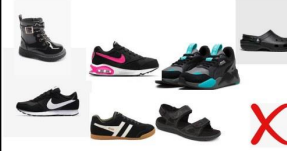
(No children in any year group are to come to school wearing P.E. kit)

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 clogs or sandals are permitted. Trainers are permitted as long as they are fully black. Please check the guide opposite

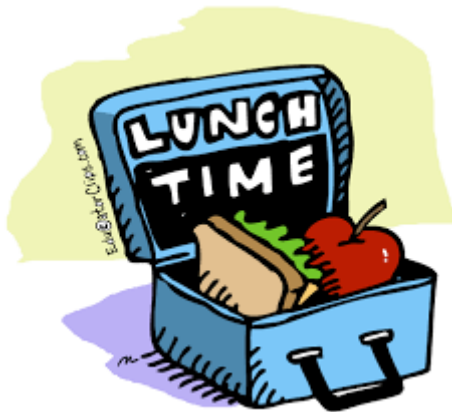


Jewellery and Hair

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.)



Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tomato & Basil Wholegrain Pasta with Crusty Bread (v) or Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza & Baked Potato Wedges (v)	Roast British Turkey, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Plant Power Mince with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy (v)	Mini Brunch British Pork Sausage, Bacon, Hash Brown or Mini Veggie Brunch (v)	Chicken & Chickpea Curry with Wholegrain Rice, Naan Bread or Vegetarian Meatballs with Pasta (v)	Crispy Salmon Stars & Chunky Chips or Quorn Nuggets & Chunky Chips (v)