

Unity Academy Primary Newsletter 2/5/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

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This is our first newsletter since the Easter break and I hope you all had a restful time. How nice is the weather at the moment? The sun seems to make life so much easier somehow! With that in mind though, a reminder not to forget to apply sun cream to your child in the morning before school. We do suggest the 12 hour creams so that you can ensure your child is covered correctly. Staff can support but cannot directly apply sun cream to children and so that's why we suggest it is applied at home. Also, I'm sure you can imagine that applying sun cream to 30 children is very time consuming and our main focus, along with their welfare of course, is curriculum delivery! I would also recommend you send your child with a sun hat the ones that cover the back of the neck are particularly useful. Children have access to fresh drinking water every day in school but a named water bottle is also a good idea. As we are now in the Summer Term, children are invited to wear the Summer uniform. Please see the uniform details at the bottom of this newsletter.

Teaching and Learning

I have thoroughly enjoyed my walkthroughs in the classrooms this week. Year 3 were reading when I dropped into them. They were so focused, I don't think some even knew I was there! Year 2 were looking at capacity and volume in Maths when I visited them. They

were using a scale to measure and we discussed how accurate you needed to be when measuring. I was very happy to see a practical aspect to this lesson as I think 'learning by doing' brings learning to life! Year 4 were also in the middle of Maths and they too were looking at capacity and volume and could discuss how to add two volumes together. I also saw them doing English this week and the children were using photographs and their senses to imagine how it would feel on an African game reserve. There was some real thought going into how it might feel for example. I saw Mrs Hanvey delivering phonics to her group and it was an absolute pleasure to watch our youngest children focus hard on learning sounds with a view to applying when reading. Mrs Taylor joined Year 6 for a session this week and talked to them about the SATs and how they might be feeling about them. This is a real selling point for our school in that our close links to secondary and the teachers help us to prepare the children with a smooth, well planned transition process. Well done everyone!

Our RRS Behaviour Curriculum this week was focused on showing respect to our environment and equipment. I shared the story 'The Day the crayons quit' by Oliver Jeffers in assembly and we discussed what our school equipment might say if it had a voice. I was very pleased when I went into Reception and Polly commented that she "was putting the scissors away because they would say that they don't want to be on the floor and want to be in their pot". Showing respect for equipment and our environment means that we are showing pride in our school and are being kind towards others too. Next week we will move onto 'Keeping safe online'.

Key Stage 2 SATs

The final SATs tests take place w/c 12th May. These will be here before we know it! The children have worked incredibly hard and it is their time to show off what they know. We are in the final stages of our preparations now and the children have a couple of weeks to increase their Attitude to Learning credit totals in order to earn their trip. Remember, the target was made very clear to the children - 15 credits out of a possible 30! I discussed with them how important their attitude was and that whatever trip they chose would only go to those children who have achieved 15 credits. Every child had the opportunity to absolutely smash the total because it was achievable at whatever level they were working. Attendance during SATs week is absolutely crucial, so I am going to add in an extra opportunity. If your child is on time, every day during SATs week, they can achieve an additional 2 credits to add towards their total. This means they need to be in when the staff take the register! As soon as we know the credit totals, the menu will be shared for your child to choose from. Trips will have a cap of 15 places so that we can plan and staff a variety of different ones. I really appreciate your support with giving your child every opportunity to smash the SATs tests.

Diary Dates

5th May - School closed for Bank Holiday

- 7th May NSPCC Workshop for Y2/5
- 8th May Y4 Fit2go
- W/c 12th May KS2 SATs Week
- W/c 19th May RWI Assessment Week
- 23rd May School closes for half term and reopens on Monday 2nd June at 8:40am

And finally ... The weather looks nice for a lovely Bank Holiday weekend, have a good one!

Community Corner





Community health and wellbeing event

Claremont Park Community Centre, Claremont Rd, Blackpool, FY1 2QJ Thursday 15th May, 2:00pm to 5:00pm

No need to book, drop in any time and see what your community has to offer.

Want to know what's going on in your area?
We're bringing together a range of services, things to do and get involved in across Blackpool.

Come along and find out more about the services and support available and get information from community support organisations.



For more information/scan the QR code or visit lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk/springintospring



1 - Thank you to the team and Millie and Mini in Lytham for their donation of a shelving unit for our reception classroom. We are implementing the Curiosity Approach which favours calm and tranquil spaces. It believes that the environment should feel like an extension of home and not a watered-down version of school. If you have any plants etc, even plastic ones, I'm sure Mrs Hanvey could make use of them.

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.

- * 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



		Attendance %	Late marks
•	RHH	97.77	7
•	1CL	99.11	6
•	1MT	95.69	5
•	2BH	96.20	10
•	2AP	92.36	4
•	ЗКС	96.20	5
•	ЗНВ	95.31	10
•	4JB	91.20	3
•	4CBL	99.14	8
•	5MB	93.10	12
•	5NO	97.50	2
•	6TT	94.58	6
•	6VA	95.09	5

Keeping children safe!







Celebrating Culture and Difference



Monday 5th May is Buddha's birthday - honoring the birth of Siddartha Gautama.

Nursery



This week in Nursery we have started our topic of Lifecycles. We have have been learning all about frogs and how they grow. The children have enjoyed making frogs using the playdough, painting and drawing the lifecycle, watching how tadpoles develop into frogs and moving around like a frog.

We have started to compare objects based on their weight and have used the weighing scales to help us with this. The children have enjoyed watering the garden where we planted some flowers.

We hope you have a wonderful bank holiday weekend, The Nursery Team

Reception



In Reception this week we have been learning about Minibeasts! We have been exploring our garden, digging to find ants, worms, woodlouse, spiders and beetles! We've learnt about microhabitats and why each minibeast lives there. We even created our own worm world. The children had great fun, sieving the soil, adding layers of sand and rotten leaves as food for our worms! I've set them a challenge to see what minibeast they can find in their own gardens or even at the park over the weekend! In Maths we have looked at numbers beyond 20! We have played lots of games, involving counting and recognising numbers.

The children will be bringing home their new reading books tonight - please read with them at least 3 times a week and sign their yellow reading diary.

Have a fantastic weekend! The Reception Team

Year 1



What a lovely start to the term Year 1 have had!

The beautiful weather this week has allowed us to take so much of our learning outside of the classroom which has been such a lovely treat. We have been able to spend time using chalk to practise our phonics sounds and create games together, alongside choosing in our outdoor sand pit.

In Maths we have been exploring capacity and volume. We began by focusing on heavier and lighter and progressed to focusing on full, nearly full, nearly empty and empty. We took different containers outside in to the sunshine and explored creating different volumes using water. It was definitely a refreshing lesson during those hot days!

In English we have been focusing on our key text 'Why The Elephant Has A Trunk'. Last week we went on a 'reading safari' where we explored a range of texts; recording animals we observed. We then used this knowledge to support us in adapting our key text to create our own stories with new characters. The children showed a lot of imagination and creativity during our learning tasks, generating ideas such as, why the jellyfish has no stinging tentacles, why the crocodile has no sharp teeth and why the turtle has no shell! We created story maps recording our alternate story ideas, to support us in our writing next week.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

We hope you have a wonderful bank holiday weekend, The Year 1 Team



What a brilliant start to the new term year 2 have had!

This week we have been reading the story 'Dinosaurs love underpants' at the beginning of the week the children worked together in groups to order the pictures of the story, then at the end of the week they have been using the mighty writer board to rewrite the story.

In Maths we have continued their mass and capacity topic and have taken part in lots of practical activities including weighing different objects to see which are heavy and light, using scales to weigh different items in grams and also using measuring jugs to measure in milliliters and liters.

In history we have started out 'Great Queens' topic and this week we have been learning all about the monarchy and monarchs.

In science we have been learning all about plants and took part in an investigation to see what will happen to the seeds that we planted in the sunlight and in the darkness.

On Wednesday 7th May the children will be taking part in an NSPCC workshop. A letter has been sent home to give you more information about the workshop. If you do not want your child to take part please bring in the reply slip from the letter or speak to your class teacher.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

Thankyou, we hope you all have a lovely weekend! The Year 2 Team

Year 3



What a busy and productive week in year 3!

In Maths, we have continued with our focus of Mass and Capacity. We have been comparing, adding and subtracting volumes of water. We have been working so hard to understand key words and concepts on this topic and completed our end of unit assessment to show our knowledge. Next week, we are looking at Fractions.

In English, be began our book 'Egyptian Cinderella' all about a character named Rhodopis. We noticed it was very similar to the Cinderella story but with lots of new vocabulary such as: Pharaoh, falcon, Horus and chariot. We looked at Rhodopis' emotions throughout the story and will be writing our own diary entries next week.

In Science, we are on to our topic of Plants. Following on from last week and learning the parts and functions of plants we dissected flowers this week.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

If there are any issues please speak to the class teacher.

Have a lovely weekend! The Year 3 Team



What a fantastic week we have had in Year 4!

In Science, we have been continuing with our Living things and their habitats lessons and this week we have been learning about how to group different animals.

In English, we have been using fronted adverbials and our senses to write setting descriptions. The children have been really using their imaginations and the vocabulary they are now using is becoming very adventurous.

Fit 2 Go festival

If you have not signed and returned your child's Fit2go permission slip, please return it on Monday at the latest.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

Have a lovely, long weekend! The Year 4 Team

Year 5



This Week in Year 5

We've had a fantastic week of learning and creativity! In maths, we've launched our new unit on *statistics*. The children have been practising how to draw and interpret line graphs, and we've also begun exploring timetables. We hope this will help them become more confident with real-life scenarios like reading train and bus schedules!

In English, the children really impressed us with their imaginations. Inspired by our class text *Holes*, they invented their own unique products and wrote persuasive pieces to promote them. We've seen everything from colour-enhancing glasses for colourblind users to clever multi-use toilets designed for both humans and animals!

As the weather begins to warm up, please remember to send your child to school with a **reusable water bottle**, and if possible, a **sunhat and applied sunscreen** for outdoor play.

Finally, a reminder that the next instalment for the Year 6 **residential payment** is now due. Please check **ParentPay** to make your next contribution.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

Thank you for your continued support! Have a good weekend, The Year 5 Team

Year 6



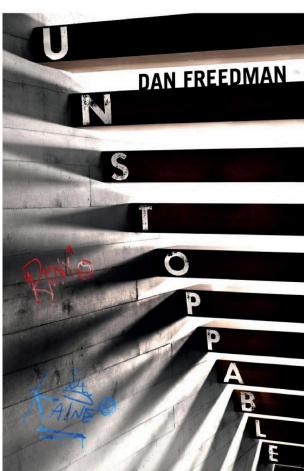
This half term, Year 6 are embarking on a Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) lesson each week with Blackpool FC Community Trust. The project utilises the book developed by best-selling author Dan Freedman and focuses on supporting Year 6 students around some hard hitting and emotive subjects such as knife crime and gangs, relationships with family members and the transition from primary to secondary school. The children have also received a wellbeing lesson, delivered by Mrs Taylor (our SEND Manager and Senior Mental Health Lead) to help them prepare for the ever near **SATs** tests which start on **Monday 12th May**. They listened to this <u>Children's Mental Health Song</u>, followed by exploring any exam worries. Advice was given regarding a healthy diet, spending time outside with friends and family, getting enough sleep, who they can talk to and test taking strategies. They also got

some tips from last year's Year 6! Mrs Taylor will be back later this term, supporting us with weekly transition sessions to prepare for our primary to secondary transition.

Please be reminded that your child should be reading 3 times a week and have their book and record in school every day.

Enjoy the weekend when it comes, The Year 6 Team





Star of the Week



- RHH Migha For being a fantastic role model and showing such enthusiasm in all lessons!
- 1CL Evelin For her fantastic attitude to learning and for being such a role model.
- 1MT Adam For your confidence during class discussions; you brought such imaginative ideas to our lessons!
- 2BH James For being a fantastic role model and always trying his best.
- 2AP Carter For trying really hard with his writing in English.
- 3KG Milan For coming back to school with such a positive attitude towards his learning
- 3HB Max For his excellent contributions to class discussions with great enthusiasm!
- 4JB Mya For a positive attitude to all her work
- 4CBL Aurora For a fantastic start to Year 4 at Unity
- 5MB Ashil For her contributions to class discussions and her effort in all her work.
- 5NO Diya For a fantastic independent piece of writing this week.
- 6TT Alina for the effort she is putting in to be ready for her sats tests and the attitude to learning that she is showing
- 6VA Farrah For strong responses during both the transition and Unstoppable sessions this week

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



Lunch time menu for this week

