



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
30/1/2026

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

This week has absolutely flown by. Summer will be here before we know it!

### **Teaching and Learning**

This week most of my time has been spent with our fabulous Year 6 children as they completed their second set of mock SATs. It was so lovely to see them coming in to school on time to have a bit of breakfast with their friends and, more importantly, not being phased by the tests and showing real can-do attitudes! I am incredibly proud of every single one of them! Once we have marked them we will share the results with you along with our recommendations for which precision tutoring sessions they need to attend to give them the absolute best opportunity for success! Well done Year 6 - I am very impressed!

I am also impressed with 3HP. Miss Purdy shared some of the children's reading progress with me and there is some absolutely phenomenal improvements in reading in a short space of time. Well done all of you, keep up the hard work.

Oriana and Daniel came to show me their English books this week. They had tried very hard with their handwriting and presentation and had included some fantastic vocabulary in the content. Super!

Our RRS focus in primary this week was E-Safety and the importance of not sharing any personal information or chatting to strangers online. As parents, please keep a close eye on your child when they are using technology and chat to them openly about talking to you if anyone contacts them or anything makes them uncomfortable. Next week we will move onto looking at the importance of 'Controlling our emotions' using the Tom Percival story 'Ravi's Roar'. The week after we will be discussing school uniform which will tie in to our focus on improving the standard of it. I am giving you forewarning for this to give you as much time as possible to make sure that your child has the full and correct school uniform in place. This includes a jumper with the Unity logo, fully black shoes and a full P.E. Kit. Don't forget that we do have some spare uniform in school which has been kindly donated by parents so please don't hesitate to contact us should you need to. Thank you

**School's Alive** - Some of our children are representing Unity on the Winter Gardens stage at the School's Alive Festival on Wednesday 11th February. Tickets are available from the Winter Gardens Box Office.

**And finally ...**

The lighter mornings and evenings are on their way now which always makes everything feel much brighter - I am certainly ready for this weekend to come. Have a great weekend everyone!





## 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



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

(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.)



## Dates for the Diary



- 11th February - School's Alive
- 13th February - School closes for half term
- 23rd February - INSET Day
- 24th February - School reopens for children
- 3rd March - NHS Reception/ Y6 Height and Weight checks
- 3rd March - Y4 Turton Tower Trip

## Celebrating Culture and Difference



## 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

## Community Corner



**Premier League  
Kicks**

Free activities for 8 to 18 year olds

Join us at one of these locations:

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

**PTO FOR OUR 2025/26 WINTER TIMETABLE**

Visit [www.bfct.co.uk](http://www.bfct.co.uk) to view all of the activities BFCT deliver.

Charity Registration Number: 1128235

You're invited to...

## PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS

We deliver a number of **FREE** weekly sessions across Blackpool, between 4pm and 7:30pm. Sessions include open football for everyone, girls-only sessions and football for young people with disabilities.

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
South Shore Academy 5pm - 6pm	Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm	Clement Park Community Hall 5pm - 6pm	Montgomery Academy 5pm - 6pm	Stanley Park (Astr0/3g) 4pm - 6pm
Mereside Primary School 5:30pm - 6:30pm	Moor Park Leisure Centre 4pm - 5pm	Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm	Montgomery Academy 5pm - 6pm	North Stand Community Hub 5pm - 7pm
Key chart: Mixed Football Girls Football Fun activity				
Aspire Sports Hub 5pm - 7pm				
Revoe Park 5pm - 7pm				

All sessions term time only.

## Attendance



	<i>Attendance %</i>	<i>Late marks</i>
• <b>RHH</b>	<b>88.39</b>	<b>2</b>
• <b>1MT</b>	<b>99.07</b>	<b>4</b>
• <b>2BH</b>	<b>98.75</b>	<b>7</b>
• <b>2JB</b>	<b>96.30</b>	<b>6</b>
• <b>3KG</b>	<b>92.11</b>	<b>1</b>
• <b>3HP</b>	<b>92.86</b>	<b>0</b>
• <b>4CBL</b>	<b>93.00</b>	<b>4</b>
• <b>4HB</b>	<b>88.10</b>	<b>6</b>
• <b>5JH</b>	<b>93.53</b>	<b>5</b>
• <b>5MB</b>	<b>96.12</b>	<b>5</b>
• <b>6TT</b>	<b>94.17</b>	<b>1</b>
• <b>6VA</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>

## Keeping children safe!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about **AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**

**"Inappropriate"** means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.



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 is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 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 to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enthralls 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** 73

Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, say, will see more posts from that area of their feed. Likewise, if a user browses content that can cause harm, that's what will be recommended to them in future. Some platforms post content and looks for posts which reflect their mood will find similar content being suggested to them more and more.

**2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS**

Avoiding the default feeds on devices can help to reduce the amount of recommended content that's shown. Users can opt to only see content from people they follow, use restricted modes, or highlight posts that they don't want to see. You can explore your own safety settings to find out how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.

**3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN**

Chatting about what your child's seen online keeps you aware of the content they're interacting with and can prevent them from screening out inappropriate material, or even that which is causing them mental distress. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds: if alarm bells ring, consider having a more in-depth talk or seek support.

**4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT**

If your child stumbles across unsuitable content on social media, encourage them to hide that post as well as indicating you'd prefer any similar material not to be suggested in future. On some platforms, users can also choose to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to give your child control of what your child sees online.

**5. SET DAILY LIMITS**

Phones and most apps tell you how much they're being used. Spending too long online can mean a lack of time for other activities and hobbies that are important to all-round wellbeing. You could set some family rules, such as a family screen-free zone and device use, such as screen time limits and tech-free spaces: involving your child in creating this agreement makes them more likely to stick to it.

**6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY**

Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. As they grow up, of course, children need to learn to exercise their independence – but you can still occasionally take a look to see what they're reading or what they're doing about your own social media use and try not to sound judgemental about your child's.

**7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**

Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the dinging notification sounds. This can encourage people to open their apps and spend time on their devices, so turn off notifications and consider how to practise mindful use of tech. Most of us have other things that we need to focus on in our day-to-day lives and these notifications will still be there later, when we have more time.

**8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER**

Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore online can be a good idea, but result in exposure to hugely damaging content. You could consider making a portion of the house a 'no screen' space to use phones, tablets and so on – making it much easier to monitor your content, your child's viewing and (if necessary) block them off from any potentially harmful paths.

**9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and restful sleep for our mental health. While social media can cause us to sacrifice other activities that our brains need to function well, it's important to remind children to put down their phone and enjoy something that doesn't involve a screen can be immensely beneficial.

**10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE**

Most platforms default children's accounts to 'public', meaning anyone they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of being bullied online, but it's not just like offline life – the digital world can still make children feel as if they have to do things they don't really want to do in. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and listen to any concerns so you can provide the support they need.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Shazia Sarwar-Azim is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and, as an emotional therapy coach, works with adults to support them with their mental health and wellbeing. A passionate advocate for vulnerable learners, Shazia is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of *The Rainbow Within*, a book which supports children with SEMH needs.

Source: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5240405/>  
Research success: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5240405/>

**National Online Safety** #WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) [@natonlinesafety](https://www.twitter.com/natonlinesafety) [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety) [@nationalonlinesafety](https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 30.11.2022

## Reception



This week in Reception, we were lucky enough to have a very special visitor. The Police came into school to show us their uniforms, equipment and vehicles, and they taught the children important messages about stranger danger and road safety.

The children had a wonderful time dressing up in police uniforms, asking some excellent questions and learning more about the important role police officers play in our community.

In Maths, we have introduced the numbers 6, 7 and 8. The children explored different ways to make these numbers using objects and counters, and practised finding one more and one less.

In Understanding the World, we have been learning about how animals survive in Winter, including hibernation, migration and how some animals change their fur to help them stay warm and safe.

We have also begun learning about Chinese New Year, looking at how and why it is celebrated. Over the next few weeks, we will be finding out more about New Year traditions and how people celebrate around the world.



## Year 1



Another lovely week in Year 1!

In English we have continued our stories surrounding our narrative 'Rapunzel by Bethan Woolvin'. The children planned and wrote their 'Build Up Bear' and 'Problem Penguin'. I have truly been wowed by the children's letter formation, vocabulary and attitude towards their learning. The children have also shown so much pride in their work and have been very eager to share it with their peers and other members of staff. I can't wait to see the finished pieces next week!

In Maths we are coming to the end of our unit on Place Value to 20. The children have been learning all about numbers between 10 and 20; using a number line, comparing numbers to 20 and ordering them. Next week we move onto our topic of Addition and Subtraction.

In History we have been learning about the fabulous Amy Johnson. We read a story explaining Amy's dangerous and courageous dream to attempt the first successful solo flight from Britain to Australia in 1930. The children really enjoyed listening to her bravery, dedication and resilience. This linked perfectly to our PSHE topic all about dreams and goals. We discussed that our dreams, no matter how big, can become possible with determination, confidence and resilience.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Tench

## Year 2



This week in Year 2 has been a busy one, we have continued in Computing to make our own digital music by using the Chrome Music lab in song maker mode to create different beats of music by changing the tempo and instruments used.

We have furthered our knowledge of multiplication and division in maths with a focus on the 2 times table and sharing by 2 just starting to be able to identify odd and even numbers by using the Numberblocks video on "the even tops" to help us!

Finally we have done some investigative work learning all about Allah's 99 names in RE studying the religion of Islam, the children were interested to find out Muslims have more than one name for their God.

Year 3



What another fantastic week Year 3 have had!!

In English the children have been introduced to a new story called 'The Rhythm of the Rain' They have been writing predictions on what they think might happen in the story using different pictures from the text and they have also been writing a kenning poem all about a river.

In Maths the children have started their new topic of fractions. They have been learning all about the numerator and denominator and comparing fractions from smallest to greatest.

In Science the children have been exploring with the magnets by looking around the classroom to see what objects they think are magnetic and non magnetic material.

In PSHE the children have been working in small groups to create a garden for someone who is facing a challenge. The children have come up with some fantastic ideas so far and they can't wait to show them to the rest of the class next week.

In Art the children have been using charcoal and showing how they can manipulate charcoal to show how it can be used in different ways.

Well done for a brilliant week Year 3, we hope you all have a lovely weekend

Year 4



What a wonderful, and busy, week in year 4!

This week, we have been designing our biscuit packaging in D.T., thinking about how we can make our designs appealing and eye catching! We have used nets of 2D shapes and Tinkercad to create our packaging design.

In Maths, we have begun our topic of Length and Perimeter. We have been looking at comparing lengths, finding how many cm are in a m, how many m are in a km and working out perimeter using counting squares and addition and multiplication.

Next week, we are writing our own myth narrative based on our story 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'

Please be reminded that children should be reading 3 times weekly at home with an adult.

Have a lovely

Year 5

# Year 5



## Design & Technology: Fairground Fun

The classroom has been transformed into a construction site as we began building our **fairground rides**. It has been wonderful to see the children applying their engineering skills to create moving structures.

- **A Huge Thank You:** We are incredibly grateful to the parents and carers who sent in additional materials. Your contributions have made these ambitious projects possible!

## English: Chilling Cliffhangers

In our writing sessions, we have ventured onto the misty Devonshire moors. Inspired by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, the students are crafting their own **cliffhanger narratives**.

We are anticipating some truly thrilling writing as the children master the art of suspense, atmosphere, and leaving their readers desperate for the next chapter.

### **Science: Journey Through the Solar System**

Our Science lessons took us out of this world this week! We have been exploring the vastness of the **Solar System**, discussing the unique characteristics of the planets and the scale of our galactic neighborhood. The curiosity and questions from the students have been truly stellar.

## Year 6



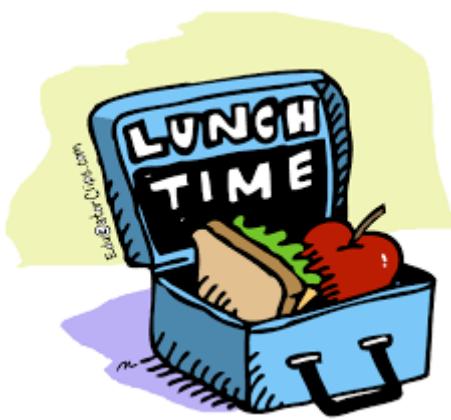
Lots of progress has been made by Year 6 and this week's mock SATs have really demonstrated this; the children have worked really hard and the majority have had such a positive attitude towards taking their tests, keen to know the improvements they have made. Next week, we plan to go through these in class so that the children can learn from any little mistakes made (like missing out a double page worth of questions!). Keep working hard, Year 6 - everything is going in the right direction for you : )

## Star of the Week



- **RHH - Jax - For embracing our 'People Who Help Us' topic and asking lots of brilliant questions!**
- **1MT - Isabel - For being an always person, having a brilliant attitude towards learning and a ray of sunshine in our classroom!**
- **2BH - George - For working super hard in maths and English and providing some fantastic sentences.**
- **2JB - Indi - For a brilliant improvement in her attitude to learning! A more focused approach has been seen in class for the last 2 weeks and it has really been noticed.**
- **3KG - Edwin - For his fantastic effort in maths trying hard to work independently especially with his 3, 4 and 8x tables**
- **3HP - Jaxon - For his enthusiasm and positive attitude during all of our lessons this week and for achieving a reading age of 11years and 4 months.**
- **4CBL - Ted - For his amazing piece of English, writing a character description!**
- **4HB - Esmay - For her amazing piece of English, writing a character description!**
- **5JH - James - For his amazing piece of poetry.**
- **5MB - Poppy - Always ready, focused and challenges herself in all she does.**
- **6TT - Damson - A fabulous first week at Unity, a fantastic addition to the class.**
- **6TT - Stanley - Superb effort during the whole of SATs week.**
- **6VA - Markuss - For the progress shown in mock SATs**
- **6VA - Kacie - For the progress shown in mock SATs**

## Lunchtime menu for this week



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