



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
4/10/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N-6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

Well, we are definitely over the halfway point in the half term and I think we are getting some quite tired children now! I have attached an image below with the recommended sleep times for the different age groups and some sleep tips!

Teaching and Learning

Whilst in Reception this week, I discussed 'Trusted Adults' with the children as this was our Behaviour Curriculum focus for the week. What was really lovely to hear was that despite only being in school for four weeks, the Reception children could name a number of members of staff who they felt they could talk to should they need to. It just goes to show how strong our relationships are already.

With that in mind, we have had a number of new children starting across the primary years this week and all of the staff and children have made them feel extremely welcome. I always imagine it to be very daunting coming to a new school. We always pair them up with a friend until they find their feet and begin to build further friendships. It has been a successful first week for so many of our new children - well done!

Year 5 had a visit from the poet and author Nathan Parker this week who shared his thoughts on the importance of reading. A reminder of our expectation that all children read three times per week at home. This is the only 'homework' we send out which shows the high importance we place on reading. Reading filters through every curriculum area and is a life skill that will see the children through their school life and on into adulthood. We ask that you support our reading expectation. Thank you

On Wednesday, we all took part in a fire drill. We always prepare the children for the first one so that they know what to expect and know where to go in the event of a fire. I was very proud when all of the children were so sensible and followed their teacher's instructions.

Last night was Open Evening at Unity. It was so nice to see everyone who attended and we really hope they choose us! Huge thanks to all staff who supported this event and also to our Y6 Prefects who were so polite and spoke so articulately about how good our school is!

As I have previously mentioned, we have talked about 'Trusted Adults' in our RRS Behaviour Curriculum this week. This is to ensure that all children know who they can turn to should they need it in order to keep themselves, and others, safe. Next week, we will move onto talking about being emotionally ready for learning using the story 'Gecko is frustrated' - a book about keeping calm.

Forthcoming Dates

- 7th October - Yom Kippur Assembly for primary children
- 8th - 10th October - Y6 Residential
- 11th October - NHS Primary Flu Nasal Vaccinations
- 11th October - Mental Health Awareness Day - Wear something yellow in exchange for a donation of £1
- 14th October - Diwali Assembly for primary Children
- 18th October - School closes for half term
- 4th November - School reopens for Autumn 2
- 4 - 7th November - Y6 Mock SATs
- 16th October - Y6 Hangar 42 trip

And finally ...

I have a quiet weekend ahead with nothing planned and am really looking forward to it! Have a good weekend when it finally arrives!

IS YOUR CHILD GETTING ENOUGH Zzzz'S?





Your little ones need a good night's rest to be healthy. Here's how to make sure they're getting it.



Getting a good night's sleep (Easy Read)

	Sleep is very important. It lets your body and mind rest after a busy day.
	Everyone has trouble sleeping sometimes. There are things you can do to help you sleep better.
	Think about what you eat and drink in the afternoons and evenings. Cola drinks have something in them to keep you awake.
	Try not to eat too much before bedtime. Have a least an hour after dinner to let your food go down.
	Try to get some fresh air each day. You don't have to do a sport every day. Just going outside is good.
	Try not to have where you sleep too hot or too cold.
	Put a nightlight on if you like to have some light or dark curtains if you don't.



	Try to go to bed at the same time each day. This should be the same at weekends as well as on school nights.
	Have a warm bath or shower before bed to relax you. You could also have a milky drink as this could help you sleep.
	Don't watch the television or use your phone or tablet before bed. The light they give off can wake up your brain.
	Remember to go to the toilet before you go to bed.




Join Our Family group

Children must be accompanied by parent/carer

Fun and engaging activities for all the family

Every Tuesday 3:30- 5pm

Claremont Park Community Centre

Activities include:

- Messy play
- Arts and crafts
- Outdoor play

Come Play. Learn. and Grow Together!

Contact Us:
 siobhan@healthwatch
 blackpool.co.uk

Contact us!

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** **89.55** **7**
- **1CL** **94.09** **6**

• 1MT	96.25	11
• 2BH	94.39	11
• 2AP	92.86	11
• 3KG	95.05	17
• 3HB	90.74	13
• 4JB	92.45	2
• 4CBL	95.83	9
• 5TT	95.22	12
• 5NO	90.83	9
• 6MB	92.50	6
• 6VA	95.76	6

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, links and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this: filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

- 1 KNOW THE TYPES**
While parental control software can apply to any internet device, it's more often to be found on desktop computers and mobile devices. For example, iOS Restricted Mode for limiting search results, while on the one hand you keep an eye on who or what has been talking to, check the settings of any new app you're using a parent and review your options.
- 2 COVER ALL DEVICES**
Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of falling victim to the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply wherever a child is on that device, for instance – and you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up on any laptop, tablet and generally every device you use. Be aware that setting these devices may require you to set everything up again.
- 3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH**
While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that parental controls on your entire network – and you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up on any laptop, tablet and generally every device you use. Be aware that setting these devices may require you to set everything up again.
- 4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS**
Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess, but only when you're being additive enough to distract from other duties, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some form of time limit – either blocking access to certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.
- 5 BLOCK APP SPENDING**
Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions that can be made using real money. While plenty of children can't legally spend money, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for applications or content, which can add up to hundreds of pounds if children are not aware. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any further risk.
- 6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT**
Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unhelpful content can end up sneaking past, so it's important to remember that setting up these measures isn't a one-and-done-for-all solution. It's important to check in with your child's device use, talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as to be aware.
- 7 MIND THE GAPS**
There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you choose to be. For example, if you use a mobile device, parental controls won't be able to monitor that device's activity when it's outside the home. For that reason, it's important to be open and honest with children about the many unpredictable aspects of social media and the web.
- 8 KEEP THINGS SECURE**
Some children can react poorly to parental controls, and this can lead to them trying to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.
- 9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY**
Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental companies provide you with a regular overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies for setting up apps and services of their own may be able to make it difficult. Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to get around out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.
- 10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP**
The point at which you should stop monitoring for a seven-year-old probably changes as they approach a child's 11 and as a young person approaches adulthood, build up engaging in internet use on their own. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without as many in-app warnings.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Morris is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alpha. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New York Times, CNN, the Evening Standard, Wired, Bank Issue, Telegraph, Guardian, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, Techradar and Trusted Reviews.

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Celebrating Culture and Difference





Friday 11th is Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is marked by Jews around the world by a 25 hour fast and solemn prayer to repent for the previous year's sins.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



In Nursery this week we have been reading, 'We're going on a leaf hunt.' We have started to discuss autumn and the changes that we can see happening in the environment. The children have noticed that the leaves have fallen off the trees and have spoken about the different colour leaves we have seen. We then went on a leaf hunt ourselves and created our own leaf pictures, the children have made hedgehogs using the playdough, used leaves in the painting area, created their own autumn wreaths and have explored our tuff tray.

We've had a great week!

Reception



In Reception this week, we have used The Rainbow Fish story. This lovely book promotes the idea of friendship through sharing. Please find a link below to a video of the story to share with your child at home. See if they can re-tell it to you! The children have enjoyed creating their own Rainbow Fish with sparkly scales. We have also tried very hard to recognise sounds in words. Some of us can hear initial sounds already which is brilliant. Try it with your child at home ... starfish = s, coral = c, ocean = o.

In Maths we have been looking at measures. We have compared ourselves when looking at height and have used weighing scales to know and understand what heavy and light means. It has been a very busy week!

Have a great weekend everyone!



Year 1



What a week Year 1!

We have been continuing with our What the Ladybird Heard book. We have been writing some amazing sentences with some really adventurous vocabulary, we are so impressed!

In maths we have been looking at the part, part, whole method. The children have been really enjoying this and have been working practically in choosing time to demonstrate this method.

In geography we have been looking at a map of Blackpool and identifying local features like Blackpool Tower, the pier and our school.

We are so impressed with you all!

Please continue to read at home at least 3 times a week and remember to bring your phonics books back to be changed on a Friday, if the old book is not returned then a new one will not be given.

Thank you,

The Year 1 Team :)

Year 2



This week Year 2 have started reading a new book called 'Beegu' in English. The children have loved exploring the alien character and asking lots of questions about the story. In Maths the children have been learning their timetables including 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s and used 100 squares to help with this. In science we have continued our habitats topic but this week

we have been exploring the word camouflage and what camouflaged means by looking at different animals in their habitats. In DT we have been designing our lighthouses ready to start making them next week.

Please can you make sure you are reading 3 times a week with your child and writing in your child's reading record each time. Children's reading books also need to be brought into school everyday as these will be used during your child's phonics lesson and then phonics books will be changed on a Friday. Thankyou the Year 2 team.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Year 3



This week in Year 3 we have been finishing our Maths unit on Place Value and numbers to 1,000. We have been comparing numbers using $>$ $<$ and $=$, ordering larger numbers and counting in 50s.

In English, we created some persuasive posters to invite people to the 'Phoenix Meteor Shower', finishing our book Look Up. We have moved onto reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears; thinking about the characters, setting and dilemma. We will be writing our own alternative version of the story in coming weeks.

In Science, we explored endoskeletons, exoskeletons and hydrostatic skeletons. Ask us what kind we have!

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and record this in reading records.

Have a lovely weekend.



This week in class, our children had the opportunity to participate in the Young Writers' Wonderverse poetry competition, showcasing their creativity and talent. In Maths, we focused on place value, exploring flexible partitioning and using number lines to understand numbers up to 10,000. In Science, we delved into the fascinating digestive system, learning how our bodies process food. Lastly, in PSHE, we engaged in important discussions about rewards and consequences, emphasising the impact of our choices. It's been a week filled with enriching experiences across all subjects!

Spellings for next week:

accident; bicycle; through; although; famous; enough; attention; important; question; vegetable

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and record this in reading records - these are checked on a Tuesday.

Have a lovely weekend

The Year 4 Team

Year 5



This week, Year 5 were very lucky to have a visit from the poet and author Nathan Parker. He told us all about the joys of reading and how immersing yourself in a good book can make you feel really part of the story.

The children had a go at writing stories on the model that he showed us and I'd like to say a massive well done to Caycee for her excellent story.

We have finished our maths topic of Place Value and are moving onto addition and subtraction so some hard work and lots of effort needed for the next couple of weeks.

It is poetry week, so in English all the children have been given the opportunity to write a poem for Young Writers which may, if they are chosen, give them the opportunity to become a published writer. How exciting!

Have a great weekend!

Year 6



This week we have celebrated National Poetry Day by immersing ourselves in a range of poetry and poetic techniques. We have planned and written our own poems which we aim to submit to the Young Writers competition and if our poems are accepted, we may become poets within the book of poetry which will be created from schools around the country! Good luck, Year 6.

It isn't long now until our residential; we have put up a notice in the Year 5/6 Parents Communication Board outside our gate of the essential items required for the trip. Mini lists were also sent home. Please remember we are outward bound all day, each day rain or shine, so come prepared and with a spare change of clothes just in case. Remember that shoes WILL get dirty so don't come in your best! 6MB should be collected from school at the usual time on Wednesday, but on Thursday, 6VA are expected to return to school at 4pm.

Please also return any reply slips for the 6VA Hangar 42 trip (which covers 4 History lessons so isn't to be missed) and slips for the December panto.

Remember to read 3 times weekly and record this in your reading records.

Enjoy the weekend and especially packing all of those essentials for next week! Your teachers are very much looking forward to spending time away with you all and seeing you trying new things outside of the classroom :)

Star of the Week



RHH - Boran - For being focused and engaged in everything he does!

1CL - Maci-Lei - For being so engaged in lessons this week, sharing some amazing ideas and focussing really hard on her handwriting!

1MT - Niha - For always trying your best in absolutely everything you do.

2BH - Samuel - For always trying really hard

2AP - Sienna - For putting so much effort into her maths work this week and completing all of the maths challenges too.

3KG - Gabby - For her fantastic effort in all of her lessons this week!

3HB - Alex - For being focused and engaged with his learning this week, particularly in Maths!

4JB - Amelia - For settling into Unity so well this week. Welcome to Unity.

4CBL - Woody - For the effort he is putting into reading

5TT - Anaiah - For a fantastic first week in Unity. Already showing she is ready, respectful and safe.

5NO - Alfie - For settling in so well at Unity this half term. You are part of the Unity family now!

6MB - Alina - For fantastic focus, effort and concentration in all that she does.

6VA - Emily - For going above and beyond in all her work.

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 UNIFORM | The branded uniform will be stocked at Blispham 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	or	 Unity logo jumper Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 Unity logo cardigan Plain black cardigan with Unity logo on the left chest	or	 Tailored Skirt Plain black	or	 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
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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
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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

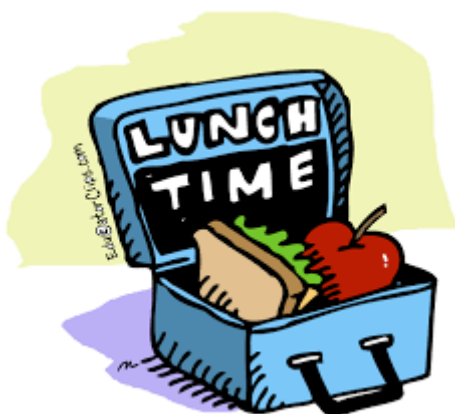
			
			

Jewellery and Hair

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.)

Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chilli and Wholegrain rice	Roast pork, mash potatoes, carrots and gravy	Sausage, chips, and gravy	Chicken curry, wholegrain rice and naan bread	Fish fingers, potato wedges and beans
Meatballs with tomato sauce & wholegrain pasta	Plant power veggie roll, mash potatoes and carrots	Pizza, chips and beans	Cheese flan and new potatoes	Crispy coated golden nuggets, potato wedges and beans
Jacket potato and baked beans	Jacket potato and tuna mayo	Jacket potato and cheese	Jacket potato and baked beans	Jacket potato and cheese
Savoury cheese sandwich	Roast ham sandwich	Tuna mayo sandwich	Egg mayo sandwich	Grated cheese sandwich