



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
6/6/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely half term holidays. We are now in one of our busiest half terms in the run down to the Summer break.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Renae (Y4) came to show me her History book this week as she was proud of the work she had produced and I could really see why. She had included lots of facts about Tudor life. She had really thought about the layout of her writing to add interest and her writing was beautifully neat too. Well done Renae!

Miss Blunden's Y4 class were in the middle of their PSHE lesson when I popped in to see them. Charlie-Jack and Tyler were telling me all about the lesson and the places where they feel most happy. It was lovely to see so many children keen to share a place that is very special to them.

Reception went to the Zoo this week. They had a fabulous time looking at all of the animals and could discuss and then write about which was their favourite. The children's behaviour was simply fantastic - well done all of you!

Mrs Bateman held a parental drop-in session in regard to our PSHE Curriculum this week. Thank you to those families that attended. We hope you found the session useful and informative.

This week in our RRS Behaviour Curriculum, we revisited our school values and expectations. The children showed great confidence in discussing what it means to be *Ready, Respectful, and Safe*, and were able to share thoughtful examples of behaviours and language that reflect these values in action. Next week, Miss Gleadell will be introducing our *Playground Ready, Respectful, Safe* expectations, helping ensure all children understand how to show positive behaviour during unstructured times too.

**\*\* INSET DAY - IMPORTANT - 21st July 2025 \*\***

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

**Diary Dates**

- 9th- 13th June - Phonics Screening Testing Week
- 13th June - Zoolab in Nursery
- 16th - 20th June - Blackpool Youth Games Week
- 17th June - New Reception 2025 starters Group A, session 1 - transition visit - 2:15 – 3:00pm
- 18th June - New Reception 2025 starters Group B, session 1 - transition visit - 9:15 – 10:00am
- 19th June - Y2 Rock Gardens Visit
- 24th June - New Reception 2025 starters Group B, session 2 - transition visit - 2:15 – 3:00pm
- 25th June - Reception Church Visit
- 26th June - New Reception 2025 starters Group A, session 1 - transition visit - 9:15 – 10:00am
- 30th June - Eid Assembly
- 3rd July - Y6 into Y7 Transition Day

- 3rd July - Primary Transition Day

**And finally...** Happy weekend everyone!

## Community Corner



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

# **Blackpool**

## **Children's Learning Disability and ADHD Team**

# **Tea & Talk**



**For Parents/Carers**

**Advice &  
Support**

**Networking  
with  
Parents/Carers**

**Signposting  
Information**

**Pre-referral  
guidance**

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

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



# Upcoming Dates

## 25/26

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

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



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



# COLLECT PLASTIC LIDS!

 **UNITY**

## FROM MILK BOTTLES

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



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



## 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>95.96</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>98.21</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>92.24</i>	<i>5</i>

• <b>2BH</b>	<b>94.57</b>	<b>6</b>
• <b>2AP</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8</b>
• <b>3KG</b>	<b>96.20</b>	<b>8</b>
• <b>3HB</b>	<b>88.27</b>	<b>7</b>
• <b>4JB</b>	<b>95.37</b>	<b>4</b>
• <b>4CBL</b>	<b>97.77</b>	<b>9</b>
• <b>5MB</b>	<b>91.38</b>	<b>7</b>
• <b>5NO</b>	<b>98.33</b>	<b>1</b>
• <b>6TT</b>	<b>93.75</b>	<b>1</b>
• <b>6VA</b>	<b>94.64</b>	<b>7</b>

Keeping children safe!





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions – they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

### GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 🍑 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

### SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

### RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

### MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🍷 (wine glass emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

### NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🍷🔥🍑 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emoji) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like [emojipedia.org](https://emojipedia.org) or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



### CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

### ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



### PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who's watching them.

## EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples - please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

### COMMON EMOJIS:

🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around	🙏 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping'
😎 (Cool face) Cool, stylish or ruthless	👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
🔥 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement	🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
😐 (Mouth) Stone-faced, unbothered	💅 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
👑 (Crown) 'slaying', as in doing great	🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag: a warning sign about someone's behaviour

### POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

🍷 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)	🍷 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine	🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use	💧 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
🍂 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis	🚨 (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse	🍲 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noodle' is an abbreviation of nipples)

### Meet Our Expert

Keith Brani is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of [emojipedia.org](https://emojipedia.org), the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



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## Celebrating Culture and Difference



Sunday 8th June is Pentecost/Whitsun, a Christian celebration of the Holy Spirit's appearance. [Click here to learn more](#)

## Nursery



This children have all had a brilliant first week back.

We have started our topic about similarities and differences, the children have been able to spot some things that make them different from their friends. They each drew a picture of their friends and we're able to talk about what they have drawn.

The children have also been counting two piles and finding the total altogether. We have also been using our fingers to represent numbers.

## Reception



What a busy week we have had!

The children went on a trip to Blackpool Zoo this week and had an absolute whale of a time! The children behaved excellently and followed instructions and could answer lots of my questions about differences between the animals, or about their food preferences or the habitats they live in. When we returned to school, the children enjoyed writing about what they saw and their favourite animal. The children's writing has really progressed this year. I was very happy to see them applying their phonics knowledge in their writing!

Have a lovely weekend Reception!

## Year 1



What lovely week back in Year 1!

This week in English we have read the story 'Who Swallowed Stanley'. We had some fantastic discussions about littering and the importance of keeping our environment clean. The children were very passionate about this subject and ensuring we protect sea life. I think we might have prospective wildlife warriors!

In Maths we have been focusing on fractions, specifically looking at halves. The children have worked incredibly hard this week and have had a wonderful mindset towards some very tricky Maths concepts. Well done Year 1!

Next week is our Phonics Screening Check. Please ensure that your child is accessing the QR codes which have been sent home during this weekend and reading as much as possible. The children have worked so hard this year and we are so looking forward to seeing them show off what they can do.

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 1 Team





What a fantastic first week back Year 2 have had.

In English we have been reading the story 'Whatever Next.' We have been answering comprehension questions about the story and writing our own version of the story using the mighty writer board. We have been so impressed with the children's handwriting and presentation when writing their stories.

In Maths we have been finishing our fractions topic. We have been looking at  $\frac{3}{4}$  and how to make a whole.

In art we have been looking at the work of Karl Blossfeldt and had a go at drawing some of his work using just our pencils.

In science we have started our Crest awards and this week we have been looking at how we can be safe and seen at night. we did this by shining a torch on different pieces of clothing to see which best reflects.

In history we have started our space topic and this week we have been looking at the space race and ordered the different events on a timeline.

Well done Year 2, we hope you all have a lovely weekend.

## Year 3



Melody and Riley are providing this week's information about Year 3!

"In Maths we have been learning to tell the time and have focused on telling time in 5 minute blocks e.g. 5 past, 10 past etc. We have also learnt Roman numerals up to 12".

"In English we have been learning about Mr and Mrs Twit. Mrs Twit is not a very nice person at all as she is unkind to animals and children!"

"In D.T. we are very busy creating our own egyptian death masks. We are very much enjoying doing this!"

"In Science, we have learned about the different parts of a flowering plant."

What a busy week we have had! Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Year 4



This week in Year 4 we have been discussing the effects of single use plastic on our environment and have even written a letter to Kier Starmer to persuade him that more must be done to care for our world. We are hoping that we will get a response ! Some children

even took it upon themselves to encourage others to look after our environment at lunch time.

In Maths we have been focusing on our times tables in preparation for the Multiplication check next week. Please continue to support your children in learning them particularly the trickier tables such as 6s, 7s and 9s.

#### **4CBL swimming**

Next week 4CBL will be back at the pool for their swimming lessons on Wednesday. It will be another session of ***swim safety***. Please can the children bring pyjamas or suitable clothes along **with** their normal swimming kit.

#### **Reading at home**

A gentle reminder: children should be reading at home and recording their reading in their diaries at least three times per week.

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 4 team



Here's an update on our exciting week in Year 5:

### **STEM Live Lesson**

On Wednesday, our students participated in a live lesson where they had the opportunity to meet some STEM superstars with careers in aerospace and engineering. It was an inspiring session that sparked curiosity and enthusiasm among the children.

### **Exploring Shakespeare**

This week, we began reading William Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It's been wonderful to see the children engage with this classic text, exploring its themes and characters with great interest.

## Reading Diaries

A gentle reminder: children should be reading at home and recording their reading in their diaries at least three times per week. Reading diaries are checked every Friday, so please ensure they are up to date.

## P.E. Days

Our P.E. sessions take place every Tuesday and Friday. It's important that all children bring their full P.E. kits on these days to participate fully in the activities.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend!

## Year 6



Year 6 students have taken part in further transition sessions with Mrs Taylor and are due to take part in an assembly with a service called Kooth on Monday. Kooth works with schools and professionals across over 90% of the UK and is free to access via any internet-connected tablet, computer or smartphone. The session will provide an added tool to help the children understand how to help manage and ease their potential anxieties during the transition period. [Kooth](#) provides a full toolkit of support and activities and you can find out more here [explore Kooth](#). Over the coming weeks, children will complete a journal that they will eventually bring home. There are two morning webinars if any parents would like to find out more about Kooth. Below are the dates which also act as links to the sessions:

### Parent webinars

[18th June 9:15 - 10:15](#)

[2nd July 11:30 - 12:30](#)

This will help you to understand what Kooth is, how to make an account and how young people are safeguarded on the Kooth platform. There will also be an opportunity for a Q & A. If you would prefer to contact Kooth directly regarding any queries, please email [parents@kooth.com](mailto:parents@kooth.com).

I have had several enquiries regarding leavers hoodies at the end of year 6. Just to let you know that we do not have these at Unity as the majority of pupils continue to attend high school. The year 11 students will then get their leavers hoodies as they are taking their GCSEs.

### *Star of the Week*



- ***RHH - Tommy - For always having a fantastic attitude to learning and putting 100% effort into everything he does!***
- ***1CL - Frankie - For being a great role model to her peers, being such a kind friend and such a hard working girl. You make us so proud every day!***
- ***1MT - Kiara - For always being a kind-hearted, caring and hard-working member of 1MT!***
- ***2BH - Della - For working hard within lessons and producing some fantastic independent sentences.***
- ***2AP - Johan - For always being really focused in every lesson and reading some tricky words during our comprehension lesson.***
- ***3KG - Charlie - For always trying his best in everything he does.***
- ***3HB - Hoor - For her hard work in phonics, moving up to blue group!***



- **4JB - James - For always going above and beyond and always being RRS**
- **4CBL - Renae - For a fantastic piece of History work on The Tudors.**
- **5MB - Skye - For her fantastic attitude to maths**
- **5NO - Sarah - For making fantastic progress in our 'Shape' maths topic.**
- **6TT - Alina - Always tries her hardest in Lessons**
- **6VA - Cadence - For her improved handwriting. Cadence has been striving for success and is proud to show off 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**  
ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

**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 Alyson at <https://www.schoolwear-blackpool.com/> or Kath at Ragamuffins. Non branded items may be bought from a wide range of retailers.

**COMPULSORY ITEMS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM 2024/2025**

You must wear these items every day to school




**Plain white shirt**  
No logo or branding




**Unity logo jumper**  
Plain black V-neck jumper with Unity logo on the left chest

or




**Unity logo cardigan**  
Plain black cardigan with Unity logo on the left chest




**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

**PE Uniform**


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



**Red polo shirt**




**Black shorts**



**Black Pumps or Trainers**


**Unity Academy Footwear**

Footwear should be all black with no identifiable markings. If this footwear is a boot it must be no bigger than ankle length. No crocs or sandals are permitted. Trainers are permitted as long as they are fully black. Please check the guide opposite

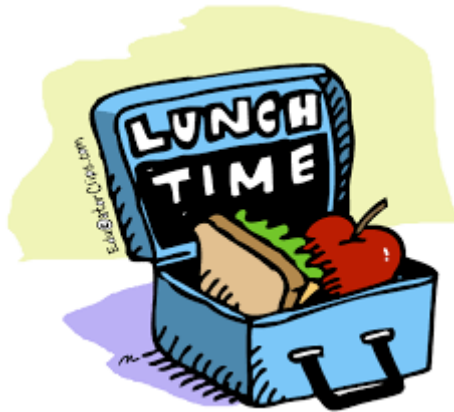


**Jewellery and Hair**

A maximum of 2 earrings can be worn in each ear. These should be stud-type earrings. No other visible piercings are allowed. If children have ear piercings, they should be able to remove and replace them independently for PE. Children should not wear rings for school. It is unsafe on play equipment. Any necklaces and/or 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 wordmarks shaved into their hair. The school will have due regard to equality laws when considering hair styles. Hairdries and head coverings that are part of the culture and identity of an ethnic or racial group will be respected. The school would prefer children's hair to be of a natural colour but will tolerate hair which has been coloured. Children should not have very bright, non-natural hair colourants (e.g. green, blue etc.)



## Lunchtime menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake (v) Or Homemade Pizza Margherita & Oven Baked Potatoes (v)	Pulled Pork, Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy Or Vegetarian Spaghetti Bolognese & Garlic Bread (v)	Chicken Tikka Curry, Wholegrain Rice & Naan Bread Or Cheese & Tomato Pasta with Wholemeal Bread (v)	Sausage & Mash Potato with Gravy Or Vegetable & Tomato Quesadilla & Savoury Rice (v)	Quorn Nuggets & Oven Baked Chips (v) Or Golden Coated Fish Fingers & Oven Baked Chips