



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
7/2/2025

Your weekly roundup of all things years N-6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

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My highlight of the week was going to the Winter Gardens on Monday night to watch our children perform in School's Alive. I was so incredibly proud of them! Hayley Kay compered the event and said that the stage is the second biggest in Europe! What a thing to be able to say, that you have danced, sang or played an instrument on it. Well done to all children who were excellent representatives of Unity. They absolutely shone like the stars that they are! Things like this don't just happen so I would like to add my thanks to the team involved with rehearsals, organisation, costumes and the staffing of the event.

Teaching and Learning

Reception have continued their focus on Chinese New Year and this afternoon took part in a food tasting session! Some children were very brave and tried things they had never eaten before. There were some smiles and some not so happy faces too. This prompted a further discussion about how we all like and dislike different things and that's what makes us all unique

We made some slight changes to our break and lunchtime arrangements at the start of the half term. I went out yesterday to see it in action and it was so nice to see the children playing together and with the staff. I saw singing, dancing, climbing, skipping, running

activities, just to name a few! Thanks to Miss Gleadell for her work on making our unstructured times more purposeful. She has also been working on a set of playground rules which will be shared with the children

Year 6 were doing two lessons at once when I visited them this week. The Maths they were focused on was challenging as they were adding and subtracting decimals. The children were listening intently to Miss Ayers' explanation - well done! At the same time, Miss Burdon was selecting a few children to finish off their art work. Josh told me that they were studying the art of William Morris. They had copied his style and had created tiles which they were then using to print. Emily was very proud to show me her work which was incredible!

In our RRS Behaviour Curriculum this week we have focused on 'Understanding Others'. We shared a lovely story by Kerascoet called 'I forgive Alex'. I have attached a video for you to watch together at home. This story is beautiful! It has no words so it is really useful to promote discussion about how accidents can happen and how we can fix things if we make a mistake. Next week we will move onto 'Making Good Choices'. This will also look at the consequences of our actions.

Year 6

A reminder that there is a VERY important meeting on Monday 10th February for all parents of Year 6 children. At this meeting, we will be sharing up to date mock SAT results and crucial information about the upcoming Year 6 SATs tests. We will also be providing details of the **targeted precision tutoring sessions** that we will be offering along with a reward system that **you and your child** can earn credits towards. I cannot stress enough the importance of your attendance at this session. You are more than welcome to bring your child along too so that they hear the same message! Your attendance at this meeting will earn your child their first credit!

Children leaving early (All Parents/Carers)

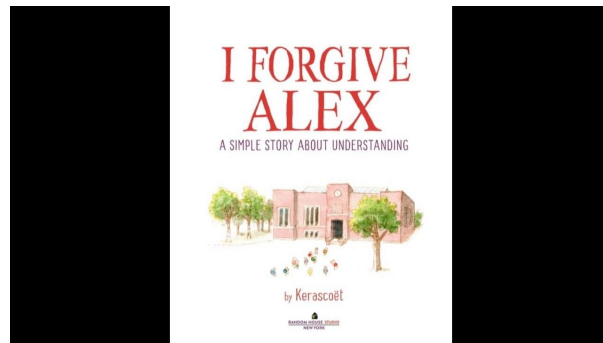
We have seen a significant increase in the number of children who are being picked up early. The reasons are varied but for some children, it is most days. If you do need to pick your child up early for an appointment, please provide us with 24 hours notice and the evidence to enable us to authorise the absence.

Diary Dates

- 11th February - Internet Safety Day
- 13th February - Y3/5 Barclays Life Skills Session
- 13th February - Reading & Rugby
- 14th February - School closes for half term
- 24th February - School reopens for Spring 2

- 24th - 28th February - Phonics Screening Check Week
- 24th - 28th February/ 3rd-7th March - Y5 Bikeability
- 24th February - Ramadan Assembly
- 24th February - Y5 National Youth Orchestra Trip
- 4th March - NHS Reception/Y6 Height and Weight Checks

And finally ... One more week until half term! Have a great weekend everyone.







Community Information



Chris Webb MP is holding a job fair at the Blackpool Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Partnership with Job Centre Plus on February 27th from 9 am - 4:30 pm. Over 100 Employers, from small businesses to national Chains, Emergency Services, and the Armed Forces, will attend this event. Over 4,000 DPW customers have been invited, as well as being open to the public. Details can be found here <https://www.chriswebb.org/jobsfair>

Date: Thursday 27th February 2025
Gardens Conference Centre, Blackpool

Location: Winter

Time: 9:30am - 12:30pm for those claiming unemployment benefits
4:30pm: Open to the general public

12:30pm -



Making Changes

- Free to attend programme for Blackpool families
- Delivered every Thursday at 4-5pm
- Learn about making healthier choices
- Enjoy a swimming session
- Receive prizes, vouchers & 3 month leisure passes

FREE

Starts:
**Thurs 23rd
Jan 2025**

**Palatine
Leisure
Centre**

To book/make an enquiry
Please contact:
07467 444656
making.changes@blackpool.gov.uk

Blackpool Council
ACTIVE BLACKPOOL

MAKING CHANGES

@ActiveBlackpool
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The Making Changes team will be delivering a new programme for families with children aged 4-11 years, starting on Thursday 23rd January. If you would like some extra support to maintain a healthy lifestyle or to live at a healthier weight, please make a referral. The programme is fun, free and interactive, aimed to engage the whole family – there will also be chance to swim every week as well as free swimming for all whilst taking part. Referrals can be made via this link [Joy - The right support is just a few clicks away](#)

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!

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>94.64</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>91.20</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>96.12</i>	<i>5</i>

• 2BH	94.79	10
• 2AP	81.88	6
• 3KG	93.50	14
• 3HB	92.99	9
• 4JB	93.06	6
• 4CBL	93.75	12
• 5MB	93.75	16
• 5NO	94.17	11
• 6TT	88.36	9
• 6VA	91.25	9

Keeping children safe!





Wednesday 12th February is Magha Puja - Considered the second most important Buddhist celebration honors Buddha's teaching. [Click here to learn more](#)



Thursday 13th February is Tu B'Shevat - The Jewish New Year for trees. [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week we have been reading the story 'Little Red Riding Hood.' The children have acting out the story and joining in with the repeated phrases from the story. The children have also been cutting out characters from the story and describing how they look and listening for the initial sound for each character.

We have continued to work on recognising shapes and have been on a shape hunt in the environment to find

Reception



Year 1



Another great week in Year 1!

This week we have been finishing off our persuasive posters in English, following the designs of their own fantastic shoes inspired from The Elves and the Shoemaker story. I must say

what excellent writing the children have done and I would most definitely be purchasing their shoes! The children have blown us away with the vocabulary they have been using.

In Maths we have been completing some of our end of unit assessments and again, the children really have impressed us with their knowledge and skills! We have moved on to our addition and subtraction unit which we are so excited for!

In Geography we have been completing observational drawings of human and physical features in China. The children have demonstrated their outstanding knowledge of what human and physical features are.

We are looking forward to another fantastic week next week. Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Lee and Miss Tench :)



What another fantastic week Year 2 have had!

In English we have continued reading the story "The Queen's Orangutan" and the children have been looking a suffixes to include in their writing.

In Maths we have finished our money topic by pretending to be shop keepers and finding the right amount of change.

In Science we have been looking at healthy eating and what foods we should eat everyday and what foods we should eat in moderation.

In art we have finished our piece of art work by using our printing skills to print on to the water colour background we did last week.

We have also been introduced to the new mighty writer board this week to help us write some fantastic sentences. The children thoroughly enjoyed using the mighty writer board and they can't wait to use it again.

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

Year 3



Another busy week in Year 3!

In English, we have been finishing writing up our sentences for our own version of the story 'Journey'. We have been using adjectives, adverbs, prepositions and much more to great success!

In Maths, we have looked at scaling up our multiplication questions, recognising if we know 2×6 we also know 20×6 ! We have been looking at multiplying and dividing by 10. We have made excellent progress and should continue to access Hit the Button, TTRockstar and quiz us on our times tables to support next week's focus of the bus stop method.

In Science this week, we investigated magnetic and non-magnetic materials. We found out that some 2p are magnetic while others aren't! This is because it doesn't have a magnetic metal used in modern coins....test us on the 3 magnetic metals!

Please continue to read 3 times weekly. Children can quiz and change their books every morning and reading records are checked every Friday.

Thanks! Year 3 team.



This Week in Class!

The children have been delving deeper into **Buddha's teachings** through a variety of engaging stories, helping them reflect on key lessons of kindness and wisdom.

In **English**, we celebrated *National Storytelling Week*, where the children had a fantastic time crafting their own stories, inspired by the advice of author **Tolá Okogwu**. We're excited to share that her books have been ordered for the classrooms to further inspire our young writers!

Our **Science** lessons have continued exploring *States of Matter*, with a focus on **condensation**—a fascinating concept that has sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

Reminders

4JB - Thursday 13th February - recorder performance at 2.45pm

4CBI - Please can swimming letters be returned before half term.

Thank you

The Year 4 Team

Year 5



Year 5 had a fantastic week on our school trip to UCLan this week, where we met one of our Enrichment objectives of visiting a University! The children learned all about the Solar system, their distances and conducted many experiments to work out if we would survive on

any other planet. Thank you to the children for being so engaged and well behaved during their trip!

We would like to remind you of some dates for the diary coming up:

Monday 24th February - National Youth Orchestra afternoon trip

Monday 24th - Friday 28th February - 5NO Bikeability - you have already received a letter to confirm which day your child will take part.

Monday 3rd March - Friday 7th March - 5MB Bikeability - you have already received a letter to confirm which day your child will take part.

Year 6 Residential - First deposit is due on 11th February - Please bring back your slip and pay the first deposit to secure your child's place.

Have a great weekend!

Year 6



Another busy year 6 week. We have been looking through our practice SATs papers from last week and offering advice on how the questions need answering and where to look for answers. I hope to see a lot of you next week and we will discuss the forthcoming SATs with you and tell you about an exciting opportunity for your children.

Today, we have had a visitor from Oxford University who has been talking to the children and explaining about university life. They have learnt about: the purpose of university; the different courses available at university; the daily life of a university student and what studying at university can lead to in the future. All the children were very focused and listened well. It was fantastic to see.

Star of the Week



- ***RHH - James - For fantastic reading and excellent effort in phonics!***
- ***1CL - Indi Anna - For trying so hard in all aspects of learning this week, I have seen such a positive attitude in the classroom. Well done!***
- ***1MT - Locky - For being an independent and very hardworking learner!***
- ***2BH - Jacob - For being so resilient and trying hard in everything he does.***
- ***2AP - Isaac - For writing some fantastic sentences using our new mighty writer board.***
- ***3KG - Oliver - For his fantastic writing in English this week!***
- ***3HB - Harry - For his fantastic effort in English!***
- ***4JB - Logan - for fantastic effort with his reading and increasing his reading age by 1 year 6 months.***
- ***4CBL - Evie - for following our school values***
- ***5MB - William - For his positive attitude to learning and super contribution to our UCLAN trip yesterday.***
- ***5NO - All of 5NO - For fantastic behaviour and engagement on our school trip to UCLan***

- *6TT - Scarlett - for all the effort she puts in to her work.*
- *6VA - Luize - For progression in her writing*

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 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	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.	


 Shorts Plain black	 Summer dress	 Plain white socks (To be worn with summer dress)	 Black Blazer with the Unity logo	 Red polo shirt	 Black shorts	 Black Pumps or Trainers
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Optional Uniform **PE Uniform**
(No children in any year group are to come to school wearing P.E. kit)

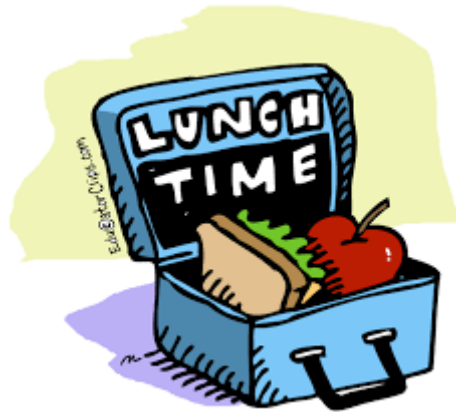
Unity Academy Footwear | 

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.)



Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza (v) or Cheese & Egg Tart & Oven Baked Diced Potatoes (v)	British Roast Chicken, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Spicy Tomato & Cheese Pasta Bake with Crusty Bread (v)	British Pork Sausage Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Vegetarian Sausage Roll (v), Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	British Beef Bolognese & Pasta Spirals or Cheese & Onion Swirls with Herby Boiled Potatoes (v)	MSC Harry Ramsden's Crispy Coated Fillet of Fish & Chunky Chips or Tasty Vegetable Burger & Chunky Chips (v)