



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
8/11/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N-6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

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Welcome back! I hope you had a really lovely half term holiday. I spent most of it catching up with sleep, jobs at home that I just haven't got round to and meeting friends and family. We are now on the run to Christmas and have a very busy half term ahead with lots of exciting things planned!

Teaching and Learning

Year 2 knocked my socks off this week with a lovely Harvest performance. They spoke clearly and sang beautifully and I am sure you are as proud of them as I am! Thank you to the staff for their organisation!

Year 6 have completed their first set of mock SATs this week and worked so very hard. Well done to you all!

I have had a number of children visit me with their work this week. Amelia in Y4 was so proud of herself for her incredible Maths work. She had produced so much and it was very neat. I always look back to their first page and show them the progress they have made because they don't always see it for themselves! Mollie in Year 1 brought in a book she had been completing at home. She had been working very hard on developing her English and

Maths skills and could confidently talk about what she had done. Miss Lee shared Evie and Frankie's writing with me. Both girls had used some brilliant vocabulary when writing about dragon's eggs. Well done all of you!

On Monday evening, the primary teachers all met with a selection of children's books to quality assure them. Teachers had the opportunity to look at books from across all curriculum subjects in the primary years to reflect on the quality of the work and ensure that we had progression throughout. It was such a positive experience and it left me feeling very proud of what we do at Unity.

In our Behaviour Curriculum this week we have had a reset in order to reshare our expectations in regard to '**Ready, Respectful and Safe**'. In assembly on Monday, we played thumbs up, thumbs down and the children had to choose which pictures demonstrated our school values. They know them very well! Ask your children what our school values are and even about how they can show each of the individual values. Next week we are going to focus on the use of '**Derogatory Language**' and how it makes others feel. This will, of course, be done in a manner that is appropriate for the age range of our children and will focus heavily on being kind and using kind language.

Diary Dates

- 11th November - Remembrance Day - Children in Squirrels, Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Guides are welcome to wear their uniform.
- 11th November - Y1/2 Phonics Screening Check Week
- 15th November - Year 5 parental engagement - The Highwayman Performance
- 19th November - 4CBI Times Table Rockstars Competition
- 20th November - 2BH Fire service talk
- 21st November - 2AP Fire service talk
- 25th November - N-Y6 Elf Run Assembly
- 25th November - Flu Vaccine for Years 7-11
- 25th November - Primary Tour for Reception 2025 starters - 10am
- 26th November - Y3 Stone Age Day
- 26th November - 4JB Times Table Rockstars Competition
- 28th November - Year 3 Parental Engagement - Stone Age Cave Art
- 28th November - Choir Performance at Abingdon Street Market
- 9th December - Y1, Y5, Y6 Christmas pantomime - Lowther Pavilion (Snow White) - Please pay via ParentPay

- 10th December - Rec, Y2, Y3, Y4 Christmas pantomime - Lowther Pavilion (Snow White) - Please pay via ParentPay

And finally...

I am off to St Andrew's tomorrow to visit Sam at University, so I will, no doubt, end up spending most of the weekend on the motorway! Have a lovely weekend everyone!

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>97.71</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>1CL</i>	<i>93.10</i>	<i>13</i>
• <i>1MT</i>	<i>97.85</i>	<i>8</i>
• <i>2BH</i>	<i>97.42</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>2AP</i>	<i>94.05</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>3KG</i>	<i>93.00</i>	<i>14</i>
• <i>3HB</i>	<i>94.71</i>	<i>15</i>
• <i>4JB</i>	<i>91.07</i>	<i>12</i>
• <i>4CBL</i>	<i>94.40</i>	<i>12</i>
• <i>5TT</i>	<i>97.84</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>5NO</i>	<i>94.83</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>6MB</i>	<i>96.67</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>6VA</i>	<i>93.39</i>	<i>14</i>



In school on time, every day!

Congratulations to the 108 Primary children who were 'In school, on time, everyday' in the first half term. These children have all been awarded their Bronze attendance badge, that they can wear with pride as part of their uniform.

If your child has missed out this half term, don't worry they can win their Bronze Badge this or any other half term.

For those who have been awarded their Bronze badge, they are now working towards their Silver badge. Silver badges will be awarded to ALL students who are 'In school, on time, everyday' for 3 separate half terms.

Finally for ALL students who are 'In school, on time, everyday' for all year there is a Gold Badge! A special treat will also be arranged for this group of children!

Keeping children safe!



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trained adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel the need. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trained adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for the guide, facts and tips for adults.

Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people. For many so born for playful generations there are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the Internet, games and apps, and limit the benefits of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you've seen 12 years about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy showcasing details and will happily chat about what they're doing. If you're not sure how things work, asking to see that they can show you and share their screen could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention. If you do have concerns which might require a strategic adjustment to limit contact with strangers, keep talking about it until you've reached a long-term solution. They could be competing, how to engage your reactions, or they may be getting your reactions.

BE OPEN AND HONEST APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about identity and how their body changes, about relationships, about how to handle their friends, and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they're more likely to go looking online for answers which can often provide them with misleading information. In some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content, even if it's not immediately known that answers to their questions – just that you've answered and go back to share what you have the next time.

REMINDE YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who are being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content that they've viewed online. In some instances, they're being coerced into confidential, inappropriate to your child that you're always there to talk and help. Reassure them that if they do view harmful content, there's no need to be fearful – but always check it against a safe and helpful approach shouldn't be expected to be handling content or that that it's their job to prevent it.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own screen time of the online world versus reality – for example, those photos you post when you're in a bad mood, or the way you feel when you're in a bad mood, or the way you feel when you're in a bad mood. You could also talk about the way you feel when you're in a bad mood, or the way you feel when you're in a bad mood. You could also talk about the way you feel when you're in a bad mood, or the way you feel when you're in a bad mood.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm when it comes to talking to your child about their online life. Our intention is to help you to have a conversation that you can both understand and feel comfortable with. It's important that you don't feel that you're being criticised or that you're being criticised. It's important that you don't feel that you're being criticised or that you're being criticised.

CREATE A FAMILY AGREEMENT

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about how you use the internet can be a really positive step. You could discuss when you're online, how you use the internet, what you're doing online, and why it's important, and why it's good to talk to each other about it. You could also discuss how you use the internet, what you're doing online, and why it's important, and why it's good to talk to each other about it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. Encourage them to ask questions about their online experiences.

Meet Our Expert
 Rebecca, an expert of Wake Up Wednesday, is the author of the book 'The Online Safety Handbook' and is a regular contributor to the National Online Safety website. She is also a member of the National Online Safety advisory board.

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Celebrating Culture and Difference





Friday 15th marks the Buddhist festival of Shichi-Go-San. The festival celebrates the growth and wellbeing of young children. [Click here to learn more](#)

Nursery



This week the children have settled really well back into nursery. We have had an exciting week discussing bonfire night. The children have spoken about their experiences of the celebration, we made the different sounds that the fireworks make, made our own firework pictures and created fireworks in the tuff tray. This week we have started our phonics sessions and the children have enjoyed tuning into different sounds.

Reception



This week Reception have learnt about Bonfire Night. The children were so excited to share their experiences of Bonfire Night and spoke enthusiastically about what they saw and heard the night before. They had clearly listened to our lesson the previous day as they could share their knowledge of why we celebrate it in the way we do and knew about Guy Fawkes' plan to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

We have also learnt about Diwali this week. The children have really enjoyed hearing about Rama and Sita. They have made their own diya lamps and created rangoli patterns with pens, pencils, crayons and buttons. We discussed how families prepare for and celebrate Diwali.

Learning sounds and blending is a huge focus for Reception and the children are really trying their very best. Please practice at home to allow your child the chance to embed what they have learnt in school. Playing games like I spy and sounding out simple words for them to blend together will be really beneficial. Please also read with your child as often as possible!

A reminder that P.E. is on a Thursday, so please ensure your child's kit is in school. Thank you



Year 1



What a wonderful week in Year 1!

This week we were challenged with a Bonfire STEM activity this week. We were asked to design a new rocket and firework which could be used on Bonfire Night. We began by designing our rocket, considering the colour and shape. We then created our rockets and evaluated our design. It was so interesting to see all of the children's creative and imaginative designs.

We were also very impressed with the children's writing that they produced this week. They were asked to alter the end of the story 'There's a Dragon in your book.' The children's writing blew us away and we were very proud of the work they created!

Year 2



What a fantastic first week back we have had in Year 2!!

The teachers were so proud of how amazing the children were when performing their harvest festival assembly in front of Reaction and Year 1 on Wednesday and then in front of their parents/carers on Thursday. Thankyou to all the parents/carers who attended. In Art this week we have been looking at secondary colours by mixing primary colours together to make the secondary colours. In Geography we recapped the 7 continents and then focused on the country Iceland, we learnt about the 2 seas and ocean that surrounds Iceland and also found the capital of Iceland and the largest glacier. In history we have started our new topic "The great fire of London" and in science we also started a new topic all about materials.

Well done for a great first week back Year 2!!

Year 3



A great first week back in year 3!

We have been looking at the book 'Street Beneath my Feet' in English - with lots of brand new facts, information and challenging words! We have made excellent notes all about the layers of the Earth and rocks. This links with our topic in Science this half term - Rocks! We explored some different rocks, looking at layers, crystals and similarities and differences.

In Math, we have been subtracting going past past 10s or 100s. We have been doing an excellent job with exchanging!

In Geography, we are looking at France this half term and made passports to go on our 'adventure'!

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and ensure that reading books and records are in school each day.

Year 4



What a fantastic first week back!

This week in English, we started our exciting new book, Romans on the Rampage. The students have explored setting descriptions to bring the story's world to life, offered advice to one of the characters, and used details from the text to answer comprehension questions.

In Maths, we've begun working on addition and subtraction with a focus on calculations involving no exchanges and those that involve one exchange, helping to strengthen their foundational skills in arithmetic.

In Science, we introduced the topic of electricity, where the children are learning about different types of energy resources, including renewable and non-renewable sources.

Times Tables

Going forward, our focus will be on times tables, and this week we are concentrating on the **3 times table**.

Hit the Button: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Times Table Rockstars: <https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

Timestables.co.uk:

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 4 Team

Year 5



Well, what a week. All day, every day I've been hearing the children of both classes practicing their lines for the Highwayman performance next Friday. Lots of effort has been put in by both classes and it's lovely to see them working in groups to improve all the time. Please try and get here next week as it is an important lesson for the children. Speaking and listening in a large group is a really important skill and the children are working so hard to be the best they can be and they deserve your support.

Year 6



Congratulations to all of Year 6 who have completed their first round of mock SATs; the results of these will be sent home shortly. We will be sending the results home in a bag containing some helpful resources that you can use at home to help your child in preparation for their SATs in May. For your information, the SATs tests will take place during the week beginning 12th May so please avoid any holidays or appointments during this one week. Enjoy a well deserved rest after a busy week.

Please remember to read x3 weekly. Numbers have dropped this week but those who have maintained the expected standard have earned their raffle tickets. There was even a bonus raffle ticket this week for a reader who read 14 times!

Star of the Week



RHH - Haowei - For coming back to school with a fantastic attitude to learning and taking pride in his work!

1CL - Leo - For coming back to school with such a fantastic attitude to learning and for showing excellent listening. I am very proud!

1MT - Ophelia - For being such a kind and respectful role model!

2BH - Tiwatope - For being so kind and helpful and reading lines exceptionally within our harvest assembly

2AP - Zofia - For working really hard to practice her line for the harvest festival assembly and her amazing performance.

3KG - Malachi - For being very resilient with his Maths this week!

3HB - Faith-Leigh - For coming back to school with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn!

4JB - Georgia - For really impressing me this week with her confidence in Maths

4CBL - Sophie - For her positivity and respect for others

5TT - Anumi - For working hard at school and at home, producing work in her own time.

5NO - Markuss and Logan - For both showing a huge interest in their spooky stories this week that they complete their own plans/first drafts at home in their own time.

6MB - Thomas - For a fantastic attitude to his mock SATs and showing great concentration and effort.

6VA - Skye - For impressing Mrs Coulter during mock SATs week - fabulous maths strategies used!

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)

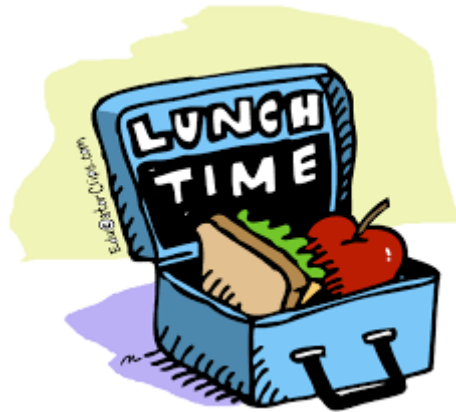
Unity Academy Footwear | 






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
Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake with Crusty Bread (v) or Cook's Choice Homemade Pizza & Baked Potato Wedges (v)	British Beef Casserole in a Rich Gravy or Plant Power Sausages (v) with Gravy & Yorkshire Pudding	Pork Puff Pastry Twists Mashed Potatoes & Gravy or Broccoli Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread (v)	Chicken, Ham & Potato Pie or Sweet Potato & Cauliflower Curry, Rice & Naan Bread (v)	Young's Fish Fingers & Chunky Chips or Meat(less)ball Panini Sub & Chunky Chips (v)