



13th March 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

I want to share with you some key information about the **MCAS (MyChildAtSchool) app**.

Our goal is to use this app for many aspects of school life—from messages home, news and updates to making payments for trips or lunches. Having everything in one place makes life much easier for both you and the school staff.

Why are we using the app?

Using the app instead of sending text messages saves the school a lot of money. By cutting out those texting costs, we can put that money right back into the classroom to help our students!

A quick apology

We know that some of you have run into a bit of a hiccup. While the app allows you to "reply" to our messages, we are still figuring out exactly where those replies go on our computer system!

If you have sent us a message and didn't get a response, we are very sorry. We are still learning how this part of the app works, and we don't want to miss anything you have to say. For the moment, this aspect is not working fully, but at some point, we hope it will be.

What should you do?

- **Please keep using the app** for payments and checking school news.
- **If you need to tell us something important**, please call the school office or send us an email directly instead of replying through the app for now.
- admin@unity.fcat.org.uk

Thank you so much for being patient with us while we get this sorted. We really appreciate your support in making our school run more smoothly!



What have we been up to this week?

Primary Parents' Evening was fantastic on Monday. It was so nice to see so many of you there and I am sure you enjoyed hearing the wonderful things the staff had to say about your children. They will have given you next steps for your child to work on so please support that whenever you can.

Our Year 6 and Phonics Precision Tutoring started this week. Well done to those children who are taking advantage of this offer. Private tuition would cost in the region of £30 an hour and we are providing it for free! If your child is in Year 6, Year 1 or in Year 2 and didn't pass their phonics screening last year and they aren't signed up to a Precision Tutoring session, please contact your child's class teacher. Thank you

In a wonderful show of support and bravery, Hunter took centre stage during today's school assembly to have his hair cut in front of his peers and teachers. This courageous act was done in aid of the Little Princess Trust, a charity that provides real hair wigs to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. The atmosphere in the hall was one of immense pride as the whole of primary watched Hunter donate his long locks to such a meaningful cause. It was an inspiring moment for everyone involved, highlighting how a selfless gesture can make a world of difference to those facing difficult times. He has been collecting sponsorship money for doing this and so far has raised over £130 - Well done Hunter!



Our RRS in primary this week was based on the story 'Meesha Makes Friends' by Tom Percival. This lovely story looks at the joys and difficulties of making and keeping friends. It helped the children to understand how they can navigate tricky social situations and how to be accepting and inclusive of others. Next week we will focus on E-Safety and the importance of being mindful when using technology.

It has been an action-packed week centred on the secondary RRS curriculum, with **Science Week** taking centre stage. Alongside fascinating facts displayed across our screens, Mr Bradshaw delivered a vital assembly on Type 2 diabetes, linking diet and exercise to long-term health. Our Year 8 students took this learning into the community, visiting the **George Cox** building site at Talbot Gateway to see STEM in action. By engaging with engineers, they bridged the gap between their "Dreams & Goals" units and local career paths in civil engineering.

Meanwhile, Year 11 continued their exam preparations; following their work on timetabling, they today mastered active recall using flashcards. These skills will be supported by the "**Revision Ready**" packs being distributed this Monday. It is wonderful to see our seniors taking such proactive steps toward their success.



[New Messages](#)

This week sees the launch of our next attendance challenge. This takes place across the 67 school days between 25th March and 17th July 2026. Very straightforwardly, attendance on all 67 days earns an invitation to our inaugural **6 7 Attendance Festival**, which will be held in the last week of the summer term. This will offer a wide range of enjoyable activities, including the ice cream van being in attendance and more! Children will be hearing much more about this from next week onwards. Please encourage your child to meet this standard and earn an invitation.

Thank you, in anticipation of your support

[Repeated Messages](#)

Uniform and Refreshments Reminder

To ensure the safety of all our students, please remember that jewellery is limited to one pair of plain ear studs only; hoops, rings, or dangling earrings are not permitted. We also ask for your support in keeping our school a healthy environment by ensuring fizzy and energy drinks are not brought onto the premises. Water or still juice are much better options for staying hydrated and focused throughout the day.

Year 6 Mock SATs

Next week - **16th March** is our next **mock SATs week** - this date has changed from what we'd previously planned, and the tests will only take place from Monday to Wednesday. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, every day throughout this very important week. Thank you

[Standing Messages](#)

Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers) - Please [click here](#) to view the primary newsletter.

My Child at School App (All Parents/ Carers)

[Please click here](#) for a link to the site. If you access this on a mobile device, you can access the links for the apps. If you have not signed up, please download the app from the relevant app store, click 'sign up' and use the school postcode (FY2 0TS) or school ID (14676) to register. You must register with the email address we hold on our system for you. Parents are now able to access attendance information on the My Child at School app, and behaviour reports (Positive and Negative) are now also available.

Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

The link to raise a concern remains on the website. Click on the three lines and choose to raise a pastoral/bullying concern under the parents heading. These concerns are reviewed by the senior team and allocated to the most appropriate member of staff to investigate and communicate with parents.



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Online Safety Support for Parents/ Carers (All Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the link to this week's online safety guide for parents. You can also sign up for The National College for free and view a wide range of resources and videos to support your family with online safety. To do this, follow the link below:

Sign up tutorial video - <https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough>

Sign up for The National College - <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool>

Yours sincerely,

Mr. J. Connolly
Acting Headteacher