



17th April 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see our pupils return after the Easter break with such energy and focus. We have had a fantastic first week, and it is clear that everyone has returned ready to dive back into school life.

We are particularly pleased with how well our primary pupils have adapted to the **new morning routines**. The transition has been incredibly smooth! It's a joy to see the children enjoying the **before-school play** sessions; it's providing a great social outlet and ensuring they are energized and ready for the day.

More importantly, this positive start has led to a very **prompt move into learning** immediately following play. The focus in the classrooms has been excellent right from the first bell.

As we look ahead, this half-term carries significant weight for our **Year 1, Year 6 and Year 11 pupils**. They are now embarking on their final preparations for their **national exams**.

- **Year 1:** Preparing for their Phonics Screening Check
- **Year 6:** Preparing for their Key Stage 2 SATs.
- **Year 11:** Entering the final stretch of their GCSEs.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and resilience these pupils have shown so far. We will be supporting them every step of the way to ensure they feel confident and prepared to do their very best.

Thank you for your continued support in making our school community so vibrant and successful. Here's to a productive and rewarding half-term!

### [What have we been up to this week?](#)

We are into the last 4 weeks up to Y6 SATs week now and the children have come back with a real can-do attitude. Precision tutoring continues this half term and finishes the week before SATs. Mr Brimley has spoken to the children this week about their Attitude to Learning Credits as a number of children are very close to achieving an end of year trip. This is the last push now for them to earn the credits they need and they can do this by being in school on time, every day, attending precision tutoring, completing home learning and receiving no behaviour points!

4HB were commented positively on by the staff who take them swimming. Mrs Shaw was told that their behaviour was excellent, they changed very quickly after their lesson and that their whole positive attitude made



them stand head and shoulders above other schools that were just arriving and leaving. Phoenix was also very happy to share that he had moved up a swimming group too! Well done 4HB!

Our new morning routine for Nursery to Year 4 is running well. A few parents have commented positively that their child is enjoying running into school each morning to play with their friends. We have found that they are burning off energy and coming into classrooms more settled and therefore accessing their learning more quickly. We ask that you drop your child and then move back away from the gate to allow all children to enter quickly and safely. Thank you to all parents for your continued support.

Our RRS curriculum this week recapped our school values and classroom rules. It's always good to give the children a reminder so that they know and can aim to meet our expectations. Next week we will move onto the 'importance of honesty' and will use the book 'Finn's little fibs' by Tom Percival.

In the secondary phase, it has also been a positive start to the summer term, with students settling quickly back into routines following the Easter break. This week, through our RRS curriculum and assemblies, we have revisited our core expectations, with a clear focus on the importance of strong attendance and punctuality as we move into a crucial term.

Year 11 students are now firmly into their final preparations for the GCSE examination period, and we continue to emphasise the importance of consistent attendance, focused revision, and making the most of every remaining lesson. The Stop the Drop balances are finalised, and all Yr11 students have been emailed their closing balances. They will be able to spend this towards their Prom.

Finally, congratulations to the Blue Team, who secured victory in our final Year 11 Red vs Blue competition—a fantastic effort and a great way to finish on a high.

### [New Messages](#)

Year 11 are completing their final fundraiser next **Friday, 24th April** for their Prom. This will include a cake sale for both **Primary and Secondary students at break time**. Please remember to send your child to school with some small change on the day. Most items will be priced between **50p and £2.00**. All proceeds will go directly towards celebrating all the Year 11s' hard work.

On **Monday 20th April**, we will be hosting our Secondary Unity Book Fair, supported by Scholastic Travelling Books. During the day, all students will have the opportunity to visit the Unity Book Fair at break and lunch, and purchase exciting, affordable books, with prices starting from just 99p. **The library and book fair will also be open to parents and carers after school on Monday 20th April from 3.20 to 4.15pm** if they would like to bring their children along and purchase any of the books. There will also be a range of books available



**To purchase a book from the Book Fair you can:**

- Send your child with cash on the day of the book fair.
- Visit the book fair with your child after school on the designated date.
- Pay online using the QR code below:



Scan the QR code to pay for your books online  
or visit [bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay](http://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay)

**[Repeated Messages](#)**

**Change to morning entry routine (Nursery to Y4)**

We are making some small changes to the way some of our Primary year groups will come into school in the mornings, with effect from Monday, 13th April 2026.

**Children in Reception to Year 4** will come into school through the double green gates between Nursery and the cabins. These gates will be supervised by school staff and parents can speak to staff and pass on messages as they do now. Class teachers and teaching assistants will be on the playground beyond the green gates and will supervise children on the playground until a whistle is blown and children line up before moving into school for 8:45am. To ensure the safety and flow of the morning routine, **parents will not be able to enter the playground past the green gates and need to drop off their child and then step away from the gates please.**

**Nursery children** will enter school via the school library entrance (just to the left of the Nursery entrance) at 8:40am where they will be met by Nursery staff and will share stories together.

Gates will be opened at 8:35am and closed at 8:45am. Any children arriving after 8:45am will enter via the late gate as they currently do.

There are no changes to the morning routine for year 5 and 6 and collection arrangements at the end of the day for all year groups remains as it is now.

These changes are being put into place to reduce the amount of time it takes to get children settled into their learning in the morning and also ensure an adequate level of supervision for all children once they are dropped



off at school into our care. Thank you in advance for your continued support. This has also been sent to you via MCAS.

### **Nursery Fees**

Our Nursery fees have been reviewed and the decision taken to increase our fees from 1st June 2026. We always try to keep fee increases as low as possible, however you will be aware of rising costs which has necessitated this increase. We are making you aware of this increase now, so you have sufficient time to make any necessary arrangements regarding your funding situation. Local Authority Funding will not be affected by this change. If you are eligible, your 15 hour universal offer is free and if you have a 30 hour code, then these are free. However, charges are incurred for hours above 15 or 30 depending on your circumstances. Therefore, charges above your entitlement will be made at £9.00 per hour for 2 Year olds and £7.00 per hour for 3 year olds. This can be paid via MCAS which will be changed in June to reflect the price increase. As per our agreement with parents, fees must be paid on time via MCAS. Where any debts exist, children will be unable to attend any sessions over their free entitlement until the debt is cleared. Unity Academy aims to keep our Nursery fees as competitive as we can whilst maintaining a high quality service. Further information has been sent to parents via letter and also via MCAS.

### **Primary School Dinners Price Increases**

We have been notified of a price increase from our catering provider for those parents paying for meals in our primary year groups. Unfortunately, we will need to pass this on to our families. The new price will be £2.85 per day (£14.25 per week) from Monday 13th April 2026. If you have any queries in this regard, please contact the school office in the first instance. Nursery lunches will also increase with the new price being £2.20 per day (£11 per week) from Monday 13th April 2026. A reminder that school lunches are paid for via MCAS. 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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**Acting Headteacher:** Mr J Connolly

**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