



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
01/03/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N-6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

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Another busy week in school this week! Let's see what has been going on!

Teaching and Learning

I spent some time on the Y5/6 corridor this week. The Year 6 classes captured my attention with a hook they were using in an English lesson. A video clip was being played which the children were all completely mesmerised by! It involved Idris Elba in a rooftop chase. No words were spoken but the soundtrack really built the suspense. The children watched and discussed it and wrote some ideas down to support them in writing their own suspense story. I heard Miss Ayers link it back to the 'Rooftoppers' class text and was so pleased to see how our teachers try so many different methods to bring texts to life in order to engage the children. All of Year 6 were excited to start their writing and I simply cannot wait to read some of the finished pieces.

Year 5 were learning about the explorer Ernest Shackleton when I visited them. Bobby gave me a very comprehensive explanation of who he was and what he did. Well done Bobby!

Year 1 were busy making fruit kebabs on the corridor this week when I saw them. They had spent time designing two different kebabs and then had to choose one to make. They were all having a lot of fun and enjoyed eating their work! It was really great to see!

I enjoyed making gingerbread and decorating men with the Reception children this week. I loved hearing their knowledge of the seasons - what each feels and looks like. We then spoke about Spring and the lifecycle of a butterfly! What a busy week in Reception!

World Book Day - 7th March

Our favourite day of the year is almost here! Miss Ayers and Miss Tench have been very busy organising the day which will have an Elmer focus to link in with our recent Elmer work for Brian House. (Don't forget that the art trail is in Blackpool from 13th April - 9th June, see if you can spot our Elmer!) Letters have gone out recently to invite children to dress in bright colours, just like Elmer. Can I please ask that football shirts are not worn - thank you! Book at Bedtime letters with a QR Code on have also gone out this week so please fill in the online form **by Monday** if you would like your child to join in!

Diary Dates

Please see the attached image below for Easter Diary Dates.

Attendance

We would like to say a big thank you to all the parent/carers who get pupils to school every day, on time, ensuring high attendance. It is not always easy to get up and into school when the weather is cold and the mornings are dark. We take attendance seriously at school because there is a strong link between student attendance and student attainment. With this in mind I want to encourage all parents/carers to make every effort to get their children to school every day so as not to miss out on valuable learning time. Please can parents/carers remember that if your child is going to be absent to contact the school as soon as possible on 01253 355493 - thank you!

Y6 Mock SATs Week

Next week our Year 6 children have another opportunity to show us how fabulous they are! Remember, take some time to rest this weekend and have early nights on Sunday and each night next week so that you feel as relaxed as possible and ready to try your very best as that's all we can ask you to do! Revision guides are there should you want to recap on anything at home.

And finally...

My son Sam is home from University this weekend so we are celebrating his birthday a week early! Have a great weekend everyone!



When	Who	Unit/Calendar 2024
05.03.2024 9am	Rec & Y6	NHS Height and Weight Check
05.03.2024	Y3	Dan Worsley (Author) into school for reading and writing activities
05.03.2024 3.15-3.45pm	Y4	Children V Parents - TT Rockstars Competition (Easter Egg for the winners) (Parents invited)
07.03.2024	All	World Book Day - Elmer Themed Children are invited to wear brightly coloured clothing to reflect Elmers personality 
07.03.2024	Rec	Author visiting Reception - Emily Dyson
08.03.2024 2.30-3pm	Y3	World Book Day Assembly (Parents invited)
13.03.2024 2-3pm	Y2	Queen's Carriage (Parents invited)
19.03.2024 (SJB)	Y5	Uclon Trip
19.03.2024 3.15-3.45pm	Y5	Children V Parents - TT Rockstars Competition (Easter Egg for the winners) (Parents invited)
19.03.2024 2-3pm	Rec	Easter Basket Crafts (Parents invited)
21.03.2024	Y5 (STT)	Uclon Trip
22.03.2024 1.30-2.30	All Year Groups	House Rewards Afternoon
26.03.2024	Rec	Reception trip to Ridgeway Farm
26.03.2024 3.30-4.30pm	All	Easter Bonnet Making Event (Parents invited) 
27.03.2024 3.30-4.30pm	All	Easter Bonnet Making Event (Parents invited) 
27.03.2024	All Children	All entries for the Easter Bonnet to be in school All entries for the Easter eggs to be in school
27.03.2024 2.15-3pm	Y6	Faberge Egg Making Event (Parents invited)
28.03.2024	All	Easter Bonnet Parade
28.03.2024	All	All children break up for the Easter holidays Children return to school on Monday 15th April at 8.40am



Contact us!



Our year group emails are no longer be monitored. 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



	Attendance %	Late Marks
• RMT	96.30	11
• REB	95.83	10
• 1CBL	92.05	11
• 1BW	96.02	9
• 2KG	93.06	16
• 2AM	95.00	7
• 3HB	93.30	7
• 3LC	94.40	10
• 4TC	97.50	14
• 4CL	93.75	15
• 5TT	94.53	10
• 5JB	92.41	5
• 6VA	91.25	7
• 6NO	90.48	13
• 6MB	92.11	2

Keeping children safe!



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help our children safely with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one of many apps that we believe children should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, help and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content - including sports, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Since content is tagged as 'age-restricted' (meaning the user is at least 18 years old) but doesn't contain any of the really inappropriate material, this can include profanity and violence which some young users may find upsetting.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put off - especially young ones who do to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes creators to potential harassment online, and with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers, violent posted publicly can be instigated by anyone in the world.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform that allows users to connect with other (adult) YouTube users. Account holders can comment and like any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, coming into contact with people who are not known to you, can be a benefit to children but it also opens up the possibility of cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and easy to write. Content creators tend to try them out. Most challenges seem to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The former can be particularly damaging, which can occur in a very quick, just one of many such, very dangerous.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos to watch to the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to children watching age-inappropriate content on the platform, even before they've reached the age of 13, which might not always be what they want to watch.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have followers. It's not uncommon for scammers to attempt to lure users into clicking on links in comments, or to use their channel to promote scamming. In all forms, it's important to only click on links from people you know and to be aware of the fact that you may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content. Users can turn on Restricted Mode to prevent your child from choosing access age-inappropriate content on the platform. See below for more details on how to use Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, and also display their recently watched videos, search and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using YouTube and helps to ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'public' or 'unlisted', which means they will also display their recently watched videos, search and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using YouTube and helps to ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be contacted. A particular concern here is that young users may be able to connect with their creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch content comments to other areas, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube - and it's important with content creators - to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases, such as channel memberships and movies to watch, for example. If your child is using YouTube, you should be aware of the fact that you may not realise that your child is being exposed to this fact that a child happily viewing a post for series could result in an unexpected bill.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Sarah-Jane (Dr. Sarah-Jane) is a leading expert in the parenting industry since 2005 providing advice on how to keep children safe online. She is the author of *Parenting in the Digital Age* and is currently working on her new book, *Parenting in the Digital Age*.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety NationalOnlineSafety #WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.01.2022

Nursery



This week we have continued with our superhero topic, our story is Supertato - Carnival catastro-pea! The children have enjoyed making their own Supertato, counting evil peas and matching numeral to quantity and making their own Supertato using the Mr potato heads. They have also been completing a tally chart of how many characters from the story they can find around the room. The children have been drawing a picture of their favourite characters, talking about why they are their favourite and working on hearing and saying initial sounds in words.

We also came across some fruit and veggies that had been trapped by the evil pea, he had a left a note for the children and they had to try and find him in the classroom. The children worked hard to find him and then trapped him to prevent the evil pea from taking anymore of our veggies. What an exciting week!







Reception



This week in Reception the children have explored 'The Gingerbread Man'.

In literacy, the children received a letter from the Gingerbread Man. The letter informed the children of a secret mission, to create the most delicious gingerbread people in the world. The children designed and baked their own gingerbread person. We also saw the Gingerbread Man and his friends on our CCTV cameras in our classrooms.

In mathematics, the children developed their understanding of length and height. To support the children's mastery of this concept, the children ordered objects and images from shortest to longest.

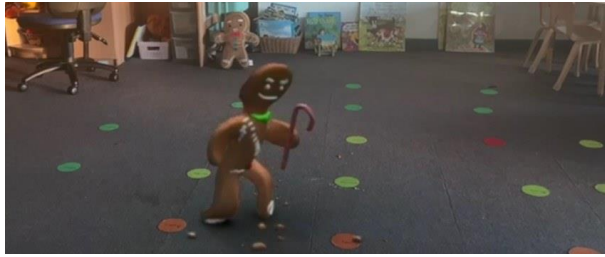
In PSHE, the children started a new topic 'Heathy Bodies' and discussed how important exercise is. We also did some Zumba dancing to notice the changes in our bodies when we exercise.

In RE, the children explored the season 'Spring'. We learnt key information about Spring, for example, lambs are born in Spring

In continuous provision, the children have completed the following activities:

- Explored scented playdough.
- Read gingerbread themed CVC words.
- Read and retold traditional tales.
- Practised capital letters.
- Gingerbread themed threading.
- Decorated a gingerbread house.

Well done Reception, you have all worked so hard this week, The EYFS Team.



1 - Here is a photo of the Gingerbread Man that visited Reception!



Year 1



Year 1 have been playing detectives this week ! We have based our English lessons on the story Burglar Bill and the children have been trying to work out who has been hiding some of our special items in the classroom. They have really enjoyed looking for clues and interviewing staff.

In Science, we have been looking at the different parts of a plant and are looking forward to seeing lots of different plants, flowers and trees in the coming weeks.

In DT, we have designed our own fruit kebabs making sure we follow a pattern, use 2 or more types of fruit and also work hygienically. The children loved making them from their designs and of course, tasting them afterwards! We can't wait for our next DT day - sewing our own hand puppets!

Forest school

Please can the children bring in wellies or old shoes (that can get dirty) on the following days:

1CBL - Mondays

1BW - Fridays

Year 2



This week in Year 2 we have been learning how to shade and create portraits with different pencil grades. Children have drawn portraits of their friends and used their fingers to blend in the pencil.

In Maths we have been practising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Children have worked practically with counters and have used bar models. Children have also had a class battle on TT rockstars to practise these!

In History this week, children have been learning about Queen Elizabeth II. They have read the Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee book and have spoken about some of the interesting animals the Queen was fond of!

In computing this week, children have been collecting data about how teachers travel to school. They have used computers to collect their data and have answered questions including the least and most popular transport.

Spellings for next week are: - **sugar eye sure**

Have a lovely weekend from Year 2!

Year 3



Another busy but productive week in Year 3!

This week, in English we have been writing postcards as Emma Jane from the different places we visited in our story. We had some fantastic, imaginative pieces of writing including "I stopped at a bakery in Paris and had a croissant. It was delicious!"

In Maths, we are looking at our new topic of Length and Perimeter. We have been exploring measuring in mm, cm and M. Please continue to test us on our knowledge of how many mm are in a cm and how many cm are in a M. We have been deciding the best unit to measure things in and out of the classroom.

In Geography, we are continuing learning about Samoa. We wrote fact files and will be creating volcanoes next week - if you have any spare newspapers at home please could you send them in next week.

In History, we have learnt about the Eurofighter Typhoon and how it links to our local area - BAE and Warton.

In D.T., we have been looking at different ways to connect paper and card including slots, flaps and flanges!

Please continue to read 3 times weekly and add to your reading record or Boomhub.

Year 4



This week Year 4 have been working extra hard!

We have been looking at the written method of multiplication, we have been trying super hard and discussed the importance of showing our working out to help us break down and understand the steps!

In English we have started our new book 'Rainforests' we did our cold write looking at deforestation and we got super excited about what we will be looking at for the rest of the term, there are some exciting things to come in English so keep your eyes peeled!

In History, we have continued looking at Winston Churchill as part of our British Heroes topic this term, the children have loved finding out all sorts of facts about him. Including that he used the peace sign as a V for victory! We also discussed the difference in politics from now and then and how much it has changed.

4TC have been loving swimming and I hear that there are some fantastic swimmers! Keep up the good work, it is great to see you enjoying your lessons so much! 4TC also welcomed their new student teacher Miss Tully, they have been exceptional at showing her how fantastic they are and helping her settle in to our Unity way of life.

4CL have been enjoying their ukulele lessons, the children are incredibly enthusiastic about learning how to play and it is so nice to see such happy faces coming back to class after the lesson. We have been enjoying our topic of dance in PE too, please remember your kits on a

Thank you Year 4 for a great week of learning, please remember to keep up the reading at home and practice your times tables at home to support out multiplication check later on this year.

Have a fantastic weekend, The Year 4 Team

Year 5



Year 5 have had an exciting week. In science we have been walking around school finding out what trees people like and collating all the information into tally charts. We wanted to know why people like trees and if it was for their usefulness in making furniture, if it provided food or if it provided a habitat for other creatures to live in.

5TT are learning to play notes on the recorder and are starting to put the notes together to begin a tune.

In PE the children are continuing to learn streetdance and Miss Pike has got them beginning routines . The other PE session is handball which some of the cohort are becoming very competitive in.

We are still studying the Tudors in history and the children are writing biographies of one of Henry the Eight's wives.

Year 6



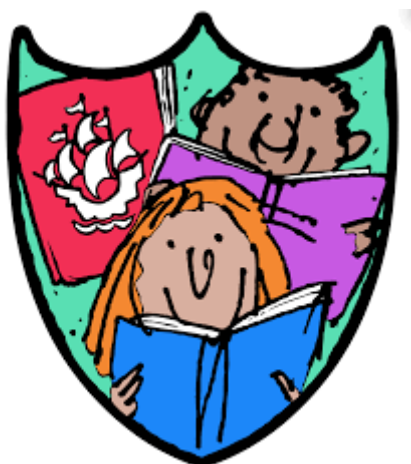
Cliffhangers, pace and suspense have been in full force in our writing this week as the children have written about dramatic rooftop chases as a conclusion to our work on the class book 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell. What an intriguing ending this book has? A true Cliffhanger, leaving the readers wanting to find out more.

In maths we have been comparing Fractions, Decimals and Percentages and looking at different ways to work out percentages of a number. We are continuing to practise our Arithmetic skills in class and moving quickly between the different types of calculations.

Homework is a little different this week and request your continued support with revision as we have our last mock SATs next week prior to the SATs week, which commences on 13th May. There are some links and questions on Google classroom to support with Arithmetic revision.

On Thursday we are celebrating World Book Day and request that the photographs of the children reading in unusual and exciting places are sent to worldbookday@unity.fcat.org.uk by Thursday. We look forward to sharing these with the children and completing a range of Elmer themed activities towards our Blue Peter Badge, please send your Blue Peter badge application form in if we have not received it as yet. Please see below for further details about World Book Day including Bed at Book time arrangements.

World Book Day



World Book Day takes place next week on **Thursday 7th March**. This year, we are immersing the children in a range of Elmer texts by David McKee, following our contribution to [Elmer's Big Parade Blackpool 2024](#). On the day, children will engage in various related activities and are invited to wear brightly coloured clothing (no football shirts please!)

Please remember to return your child's **application form** for a **Blue Peter Book Badge**; if misplaced, please request one from your child's class teacher. These badges are really easy to earn and every child will complete the required work in class on World Book Day which includes a short book review and a picture. We can only apply for their badge however with the form we sent home last Monday, so please return these to school as soon as possible and prior to World Book Day. As children do need to be 5 years old to apply for their badge, we will send the entries for reception class off later in the year, once everyone in their class has had their fifth birthday. Badge owners can gain **FREE** entry into over 200 Blue Peter Badge attractions around the country, such as theme parks (including The Pleasure Beach), zoos and castles. [Further information can be found here.](#)

Star of the Week



- **RMT - Sofia** - For always coming into school with such a fantastic attitude and being so enthused with your learning!
- **REB - Esme** - For following the Golden Rules and for her effort in phonics.
- **1CBL - Allaiyah** - For her enthusiasm for learning
- **1BW - Rosie** - For being ready to learn, respectful of others and her surroundings and always being safe.
- **2KG - Jayden** - For a fantastic attitude towards his English writing this week!
- **2AM - Maggie** - For always being ready to learn and putting in 100% effort with everything that you do. Well done!
- **3HB - Jensine** - For always being ready to learn with great enthusiasm!
- **3LC - Elyass** - Being a kind and respectful member of 3LC and settling well onto school life at Unity.
- **4TC - Marley** - For excellent effort in our poetry writing lessons
- **4CL - Ashil** - For being fantastic, always willing to help and for setting an example to younger students displaying our Ready, Respectful and Safe values.
- **5TT - Bobby** - For his effort in reading, passing 35 out of 36 books so far this year
- **5JB - Amber** - Trying hard in all lessons and being a model student for all supply staff.

- **6NO - Riley** - Coming into school this week Ready, Respectful and Safe - and it is evident in the work he is producing!
- **6VA - Jessica (PM class)** - For contributing well to afternoon lessons
- **6MB - Lily-Rose** - For sharing great ideas in class and her suspense-filled Roof-topper chase writing.

School 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

Black sweatshirt/cardigan sweatshirt with logo

White collared shirt

Black trousers/ Unity Tartan Skirt

Tie in house colour

Black socks/plain tights

Black shoes

Primary PE Kit

Red polo shirt with logo

Black shorts

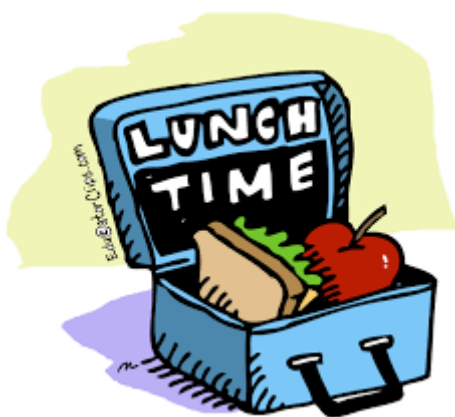
Black socks

Black Pumps

Optional Items - Unity Tracksuit or plain black tracksuit (A Unity tracksuit will be provided for the Reception children)

**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**

Lunch time menu for this week



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pasta bake with crusty bread and mixed vegetables	Roast pork dinner with stuffing, gravy, mash, green beans and carrots	Beef burger in a bun with herby diced potatoes and beans	Chicken curry with naan bread, mixed veg, rice, peas and sweetcorn	Fish fingers with chips, beans or peas
Cottage pie with mixed vegetables	Vegetarian sausage roll with mash, green beans and carrots	Crispy veggie burger in a bun with herby diced potatoes and beans	Mexican tortilla wrap filled with melted cheese, peppers, tomato sauce with peas and sweetcorn	Golden crispy vegetarian nuggets with chips, beans or peas
Jacket potato with beans	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with Tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans
Cheese sandwich	Egg mayo sandwich	Roast Turkey sandwich	Roast ham sandwich	Tuna mayo sandwich