



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter
26/1/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N-6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

A Message From Mrs. Shaw

I've had a lovely week this week! Probably because I've spent more time in classrooms and around school and I've had groups of children visiting me in my office to share their learning! I've also managed to speak to a number of parents about different things.

Teaching and Learning

Reception are so excited about a "friendly, not ferocious" tiger who was caught on camera in their classroom. The children went on a tiger hunt and came to see me to put a wanted poster on my door and to tell me to watch out for it. They told me that they have set up cosy dens to encourage him back to the safety of their classroom. Honestly, the excitement on their faces made me feel so happy! Year 2 were busy food tasting when I popped in to see them. The looks on some of their faces as they tried such things as pepper, mango and kiwi were absolutely priceless! Darcy really didn't like tasting the pepper - her face told me that, ha ha! Max said the "mango was a squishy texture". The children were all so engaged in taking part. Year 3 were in the middle of Maths when I visited them. They could all confidently tell me what they were learning (multiplication) and how to do it. Miss Brayne's class then shared some 'interesting' facts with me - including one about the planets being

able to fit between earth and the moon when the moon is at it's furthest distance away. I learnt something I didn't already know - every day is a school day hey!

Parents Evening

Thank you to everyone who responded to our invite to Parents Evening. Letters have gone out with your youngest child with details of your appointment time. If you do want an appointment and didn't manage to complete the google form, please speak directly to your child's class teacher and they will book you one into the gaps they have. Please don't arrive too far in advance of your time purely from a waiting around point of view. Feel free to grab a light refreshment from the dining hall if you arrive a little early and then we ask that you make your way to the drama hall around 10-15 mins before your appointment time so that you can have a look through your child's books. This means that we know where to get you from at your appointment time. We will try our very best to keep on time! If you find that you can no longer attend, please just let us know!

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.

INSET Day

Please don't forget that the last day of this half term (9th February) is an INSET day and school is closed to students on this day.

And finally...

It looks like we are in for a dry but rather windy weekend! Keep safe everyone!

Attendance



	Attendance %	Late Marks
• RMT	89.90	10
• REB	89.66	11
• 1CBL	85.80	10
• 1BW	88.64	8
• 2KG	90.38	13
• 2AM	82.59	13
• 3HB	96.43	13
• 3LC	88.39	12
• 4TC	84.91	17
• 4CL	95.00	11
• 5TT	97.98	18
• 5JB	84.05	10
• 6VA	93.75	18
• 6NO	93.45	15

Keeping children safe!



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

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.

- 1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS**
Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.
- 2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT**
Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.
- 3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS**
Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.
- 4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS**
Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.
- 5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP**
Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.
- 6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE**
Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.
- 7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING**
Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.
- 8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK**
Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.
- 9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE**
If a child sees distressing material online, listen to their concerns, sympathise and offer reassurance.
- 10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT**
If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 14.09.2020

Nursery



This week our story is The Gingerbread Man. The children have enjoyed joining in with the repeated phrases and retelling the story using the characters in the tuff tray. We have also sequenced some pictures from the story and some children have used their phonetic knowledge to hear, say and write some initial sounds. We have also undertaken an experiment, we have tried to find different ways that the gingerbread man could get across the river, we have then tested our predictions and observed what happens when he falls into the water. The children used word such as 'soggy' 'crumbly' and 'wet' to describe the gingerbread man. The children also enjoyed baking gingerbread men and have been talking about what might happen if he escapes when we open the oven. We have continued to look at 2D shapes and have been taking about their properties and describing how they look. Next week we will be learning the names of some 3D shapes.

Reception



This week our focus has been animals. In Literacy, we looked at the book 'All Afloat on Noah's Boat' by Tony Mitton. At the beginning of the week we made some very exciting discoveries when we found pictures of a tiger roaming around our classrooms! We decided that it might be a good idea to create a den for our tiger to live in. We included pictures of the tiger, snacks, toys for them to play with and decorated it with pictures that the tiger might like.

"We can draw ourselves on here so the tiger will know what we look like."

"Maybe the tiger would like some toys."

"These are instructions for how to use the den."

We also found lots of clues around our classroom which we suspect came from the tiger, including messages we think the tiger wrote for us and footprints.

"I found this message, I think the tiger wrote it."

"Maybe he wanted to play outside."

"I found footprints around our classroom."

We then thought that the tiger might be exploring around our school and thought it might be a good idea to create some posters to ask other pupils and staff in our school to look out for the tiger! We thought about what the tiger looked like so other pupils and staff would know what to look for. We also thought about important messages we wanted to share with everyone about the tiger.

This included:

"We need to get him back to the zoo."

"We don't know if he is scary."

"Please let us see you. We are nice."

"RMT is warning you because there's a tiger."

We then stuck our posters in various areas around school. It was so lovely to see the children so engaged and thrilled about their learning this week. All of the staff in Reception have loved seeing their excitement and hearing all of their imaginative and creative ideas!

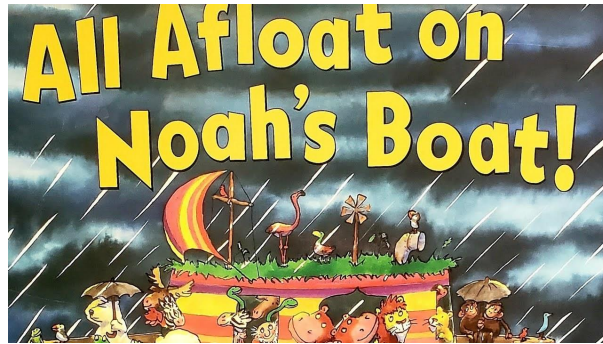
In Maths this week, we have been exploring mass and capacity. We began by focusing on mass, discussing the concept of heavy and light and that when using balancing scales, heavy objects move to the ground and lighter objects lift to the sky. We then used our balancing scales to see which objects were heavier and which were lighter.

We then explored capacity, using containers and different objects. We first predicted how many objects would fit into the container, discussing with our partners and then showing

our predictions on our fingers. We then tested our predictions; counting together the amount of objects until we reached capacity.

Well done Reception on another fabulous week. We look forward to next week when we focus on 'People Who Help Us' and also take part in the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch!

We hope you have a lovely weekend, Miss Tench and Miss Bond.



Year 1



What a wonderful week across year 1.

We have been having a fabulous time in Math's using practical equipment to explore the number 20, including counting on, adding on and ordering numbers up to 20. See the pictures below working with the equipment.

In English, we have continued to work on *Elves and the Shoemaker* and have been having fun designing our own shoes using collage. Have a look at us creating our wonderful designs below!

Across Art this week, we have looked at the artist Frank Auerbach and his self-portraits. We discussed what we liked and didn't like and the reasons why. We created some wonderful

art, using different types of lines such as curved, diagonal, and broken lines. Try these at home for good practise!

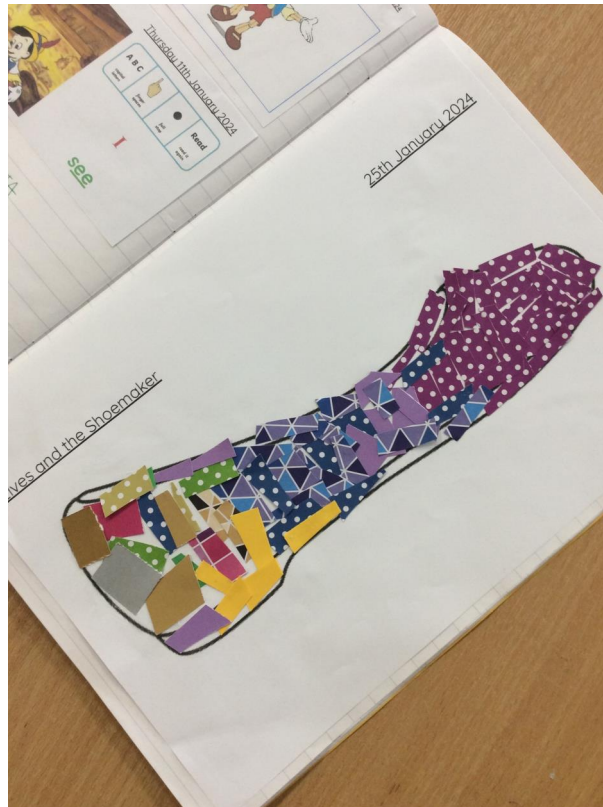
We put on our own Punch and Judy show in History, looking at Blackpool in the past and the types of entertainment it had. The children had fun making their own puppets and putting on a show! Oh how we laughed!

Phonics and Reading - A reminder, to read 3 times a week and update your boomhub app so we can keep track on who is reading at home. This is so important, especially with Phonics Screening Check coming up next term. We love seeing how much you have read! Phonics teachers send new books home every Friday.

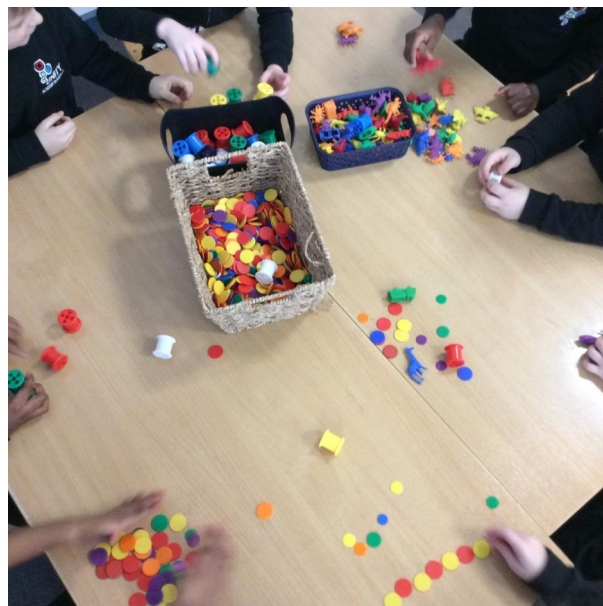
Please note: - We will be taking part in Forest School next half term and you will need some wellies! A text will be sent nearer the time to remind you.



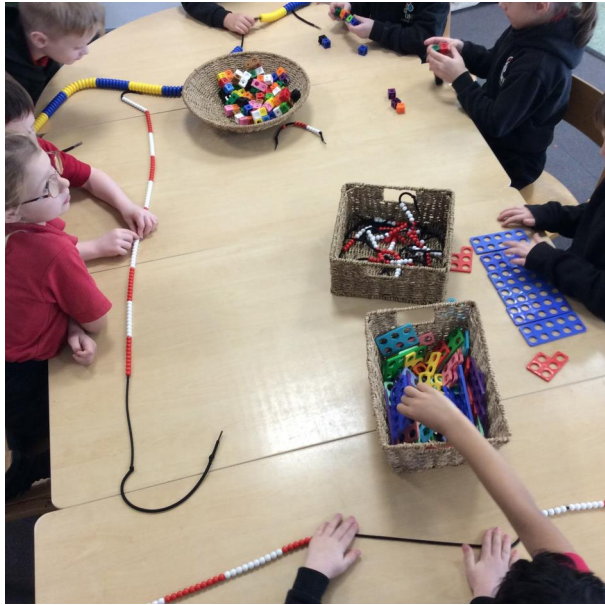
1 - Designing our shoes using collage.



2 - One of our final collage designs.



3 - Maths



4 - Maths using equipment!



In Art this week, children have been looking at different wash techniques. Children have practised a flat wash, variegated wash and a graded wash. They have then chosen the technique they like the most and created a background for their final piece.

In English this week, children have been looking at the writing features of a diary. We have put images from a story in chronological order, identified present and past tense verbs, and used time conjunctions in sentences. We have also read a diary of a sailor and highlighted the key features.

In History this week, we have looked at the 3 ships of Christopher Columbus. Children have learned about what it was like inside and outside of these and wrote descriptions.

In Maths this week, children have been looking at multiplication and division. We have practiced making equal groups practically with counters. We have also been introduced to the multiplication sentences and looking at related number facts.

Year 3



Another busy week in Year 3, full of fun and learning!

We have been learning to multiply 2 digit and 1 digit numbers together this week in Maths. We have worked really hard and been so resilient with this new skill! We will be continuing our learning of multiplication and division for the rest of this term. Please continue to practice our times tables with us. If you need the **login for TTRockstars** reissuing please don't hesitate to ask!

In History, we have been looking at four very important steam locomotives. We have created posters to determine which one is the 'greatest of all time' and used our persuasive language and art skills to create some amazing designs!

In Geography, we learnt all about earthquakes. We were very interested in finding out about tectonic plates, how earthquakes occur and finding out where they happen. We were reassured we aren't going to get an earthquake in the UK, but that India is very earthquake prone!

In English, we have continued reading 'Journey'. We drew our own magical doors and have been writing about what magical, fantastical land could be behind it. We have been very creative with our worlds including; candy land, fire and dragon world, a world built of lego and even a cotton candy land!

In D.T. we have tried different spices and ingredients used in a curry. We really liked some spices, and **really** didn't like others! We mixed some different spices together and tried them, then designed our very own curries ready to be cooked!



Well done Year 4 for such a positive week!

We had Dan Worsley in this week which we are very grateful for. He told us some of his stories and explain why he is an author and what inspires him. We then created our own mystical sea creature and planned a story around our creation. We loved sharing our ideas with Dan and showing off our amazing vocabulary that we are so confident with. I must say we were a bit star struck by a real author coming in to visit us and we were so grateful to have such a fantastic experience.

In maths we have been continuing with our multiplication topic. We have been very resilient and shown lots of determination with this subject. Please continue to practice at home as it will really help the children. Even chanting the times tables on the way to school or

whenever you have a spare second, they can access their Times Table Rocks account at home if they have a device so feel free to support with this if possible.

In Science we have been looking at the different states of matter. We have been acting out the different particles and looking at reversible and irreversible changes. We are even being chocolatiers and looking at how matters change from solids to liquids etc.!

We have been reading lots more this week which has been great to see! Please continue reading with children at home as it massively supports them in all aspects of their learning.

Children in 4CL only: Children will need to bring items of clothing for their water safety swimming lesson on Wednesday 31st January. Long pyjamas or leggings/joggers and a t-shirt would be ideal. No denim, onesies, heavy jumpers or fur please. Children will also need their regular swimming kit to wear under the clothing.

Have a lovely weekend, Miss Lee and Mr Cooper

Year 5



Before I tell you of the exciting week in Year 5, a quick reminder that we are going on our trip next Wednesday to Turton Towers. Don't forget to send in a packed lunch for those children who aren't on school dinners.

Geography has seen us continue to research Japan which the children have found very interesting. Comparing life in a large city with their own experiences of home. We have continued to look at Tudors and the kings and queens and their lifestyles in history. Our class book, The Good Turn has talked about scouts and their rules and codes of conducts. The children have designed a uniform for their own group and also designed badges that they could achieve and what they need to do to get the badges.

In Art and DT, we have been designing and building structures to understand how the Tudors designed and built their houses, it will lead to us building large scale models by the end of

the unit. Watching the concentration on the children's faces as they rolled paper was a sight to see.

Please remember that we have PE on a Tuesday and a Thursday and your child needs a full kit on those two days.

We had a lot of late children in 5TT over the last couple of weeks and the children didn't like having the worst record in the school, so please make sure you get your children to school before 8.40am every day.

Year 6



Dan Worsley

We were visited by Blackpool born and bred author Dan Worsley this week and have produced some incredible narratives as a result. The Year 6 children were glued to his every word as he performed an extract from his 'Impossible Tales' series. The children shared examples of sentences that used a range of figurative language, and have used their vocabulary collections to support their narrative writing in class since his visit.

The Beat Goes On

We also took part in a musical workshop this week, which is one of our enrichment activities. We were guided through a journey in which we used our bodies (and later on some basket balls) to compose musical sequences. It was so much fun! There was a real passion that came through from many children which was lovely to see on their faces!

Fractions

We are continuing our learning around fractions in maths and becoming more and more confident by the day (in fact, we've started to realise the truth about fractions - they're actually really easy - the hard part is just remembering the 'how' so remember to consolidate with those revision guides)! We can divide fractions and have also played some games where we have found fractions of amounts. It's always nice to get practical in a maths lesson.

Victorian School Day

Children are bringing a letter home today, informing parents and carers of an upcoming event. On Wednesday 7th February, we are going to experience two hours of our day as though we are at school during the Victorian era. Children are invited to come to school that day wearing clothing typical of the time and examples and further information can be found on the letter. We look forward to this special event and what the children opt to wear. Who will be brave enough to respond to the demands of the 'Victorian teacher' on the day?

Elmer the Elephant



An Elmer the Elephant themed Cake competition will take place on Monday 5th February. Please bring in your cakes for judging on the Monday morning. The cakes will then be sold to raise money for Brian House as part of the Elmer the Elephant art trail. Elmer

themed prizes will be awarded to the winning entries. Thank you for your support in this fun way of fund-raising.

Star of the Week



RMT - Jamie-Leigh - For your enthusiasm and excitement surrounding our animals topic!

REB - Tristan - For his effort in literacy and taking pride in his work.

1CBL - Carter - for settling in to our school so well and working so hard in everything

1BW - Theo - For making big improvements in the classroom, very impressed this week. Well Done, Theo.

2KG - Sophia - For fitting into Unity life so well and really impressing me with her attitude towards her learning

2AM - Riley - For his attitude towards learning and trying his very best in everything he does! Well done Riley!

3HB - Woody - For his excellent attitude and hard work in all areas of learning!

3LC - Daniel - His resilience and positive attitude to learning

4TC - Honey - For great effort and attitude to leaning.

4CL - Oakley - For his fantastic contributions in lessons this week and Dan Worsley with his ambitious adventurous vocabulary!

5TT - Frankie - Fabulous effort in all her lessons. A superb poster in English and excellent attitude in DT.

5JB - Jack - For trying really hard and been focused in all lessons.

6NO - Alexa - For an excellent focus this week and much more engagement into our lessons.

6VA - Alex - A fantastic piece of extended writing this week!

6MB - Toby - For developing his focus

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

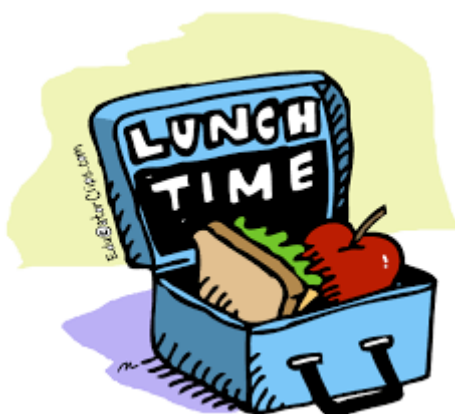
Black Pumps

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
Tomato and basil pasta bake with crusty wholemeal bread and beans	Roast chicken dinner with stuffing and gravy. Mash potato, carrots and peas	All day breakfast: sausage, hash brown, omelette and wholemeal bread with beans	Hunter's chicken topped with BBQ sauce, ham and melted cheese with wholegrain rice, peas and sweetcorn	Crispy battered fillet of fish with chips, peas or beans
Leek and Potato pie with beans	Roast quorn fillet with stuffing and gravy. Mash potato, carrots and peas	Vegetarian all day breakfast with beans	Spicy meatless balls in tomato sauce with wholegrain rice, peas and sweetcorn	Golden vegetable fingers with chips, peas or beans
Jacket potato with baked beans	Jacket potato With cheese	Jacket potato with tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans
Cheese sandwich	Egg Mayo sandwich	Tuna Mayo sandwich	Roast Ham sandwich	Roast Turkey Sandwich