



Unity Academy Primary Newsletter  
8/2/2024

Your weekly roundup of all things years N -6!



A message from Mrs. Shaw

## A Message From Mrs. Shaw

We have come to the end of yet another extremely busy half term. It's been the shortest we have had in a while but somehow has seemed the longest! **A reminder that school reopens on Monday 19th February at 8:40am.**

### Teaching and Learning

Earlier this week we had our Primary Parents Evening and it was so nice to see so many of you. I took on board your suggestions from last time and we changed the structure a little so that we were all spread out. You had more space for looking at your children's books and a small waiting area in each space meant that we weren't all crammed into the dining hall! The teachers all commented that they felt there was a nice atmosphere and they enjoyed sharing your child's progress with you. As ever, if you have any comments you wish to make, please just let me know!

Thank you to those children that brought in 'Elmer the Elephant' cakes and bakes on Monday. Mr. Wainwright and Mrs Bass became Bake off judges for the morning. There were lots of show-stoppers to judge and a few handshakes given out! Well done. We had some fabulous cakes and biscuits and gave seven prizes for the best entries. Well Done to William Yates,

Maci-Lei Ellis, Alastar Law, Samuel McDonald, Phoebe Evans, Phoebe Duffield and Archer Findlay.

I spent Tuesday evening at the Winter Gardens watching our dance club take part in School's Alive. Oh my goodness me, they were amazing! Yep, you've guessed it, I cried! I couldn't help it! It was so good to see children from Year 1 right up to Year 11 representing our school and they did it perfectly! I must apologise to Kendal's parents as I sat right behind them in the stalls and most probably deafened them with my cheers! The children were so well behaved and were a credit to themselves, their families and our school! Huge thanks to Mrs Obertelli and Mr Wainwright for their time in running our primary Dance Club. Thanks also to everyone who supported the event, whether that was at the rehearsal in the day or in the evening.

Reception invited me to their Chinese/ Lunar New Year celebration today. It was so good to see them enjoying the food tasting, waving their decorations and doing a Dragon dance. They had so much fun and I truly believe it brought learning to life!

Year 3 brought me a sample of their tasty curry that they have made this week. It was simply delicious! The children's faces were so happy when they brought it to me, it made my day!

### **Parking**

We have had complaints from our neighbours about parking outside of school. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE park considerately for our neighbours and also to keep our children safe. Thank you

### **Half Term Holiday Club**

Blackpool FC Community Trust are running a holiday club at Unity during the February Half-Term. They offer free places to children from the school. Please use the following link to book your place -: <https://forms.gle/9hgChfUJNZtcPYdH9>

### **Next Half Term**

- National Youth Orchestra Trip for Y5/6 - 19th Feb
- Y1 Phonics Screening Check Parental sessions 27th/28th/29th Feb - Details to follow
- Reception Delve into History visitor - 28th Feb
- Y6 Mock SATs - w/b 4th March
- Y2 Dan Worsley visit - 5th March
- Y1 Delve into History visitor - 6th March
- World Book Day, Incl. Book at Bedtime - 7th March - Details to follow
- Y5 Young Scientist Centre at UCLan - 19th/21st March

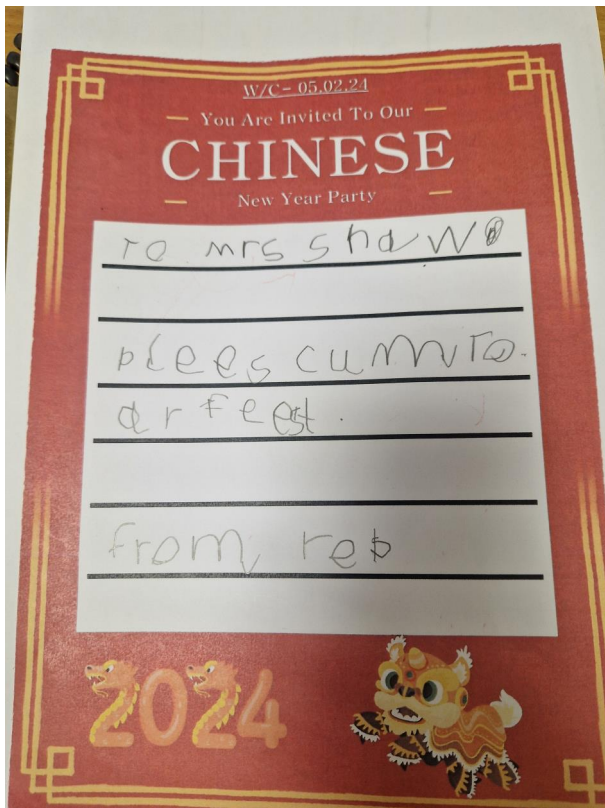
**And finally...**

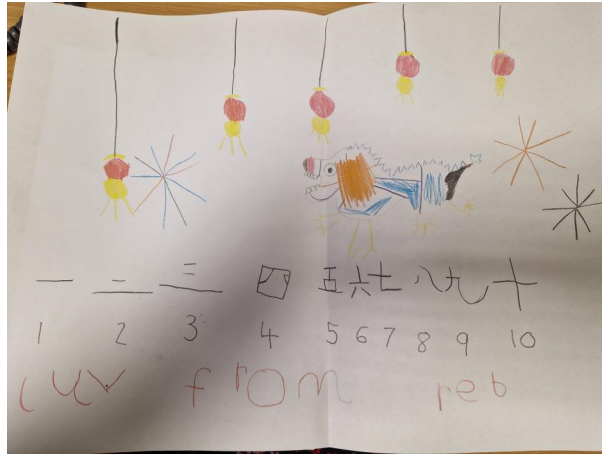
Have a lovely half term break! I am looking forward to a lot of sleeping, reading and spending time with my friends and family!











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	88.46	5
• REB	82.76	8
• 1CBL	89.39	8
• 1BW	96.21	8
• 2KG	97.44	13
• 2AM	91.98	8
• 3HB	79.17	11
• 3LC	89.29	6
• 4TC	90.00	15
• 4CL	94.44	11



• 5TT	95.70	11
• 5JB	93.68	9
• 6VA	90.83	10
• 6NO	92.06	12
• 6MB	89.47	0

## Keeping children safe!



All National Online Safety, our partners, our reporting partners, users and content creators with the full rights to their own content and the safety of their videos, should have their own. This guide focuses on the many apps that we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guidance, FAQs 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 sport, 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 logging in to a Google account. Some content is flagged as 'age restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account) but a restricted page (18+) that children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

#### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their own presence as visible as possible. Creating a new or potentially sensitive channel to post the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messages from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be viewed by anyone in the world.

#### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform with which content creators' users' account holders can leave comments on any video that has access to, or even messaging other users directly. Content can also allow users to be exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to inappropriate online predators.

#### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenge and memes that can run to millions and millions. Content often tend to be safe, but many others may seem innocuous through their own 'challenges', which can cause injuries very quickly. Just one of many such examples.

#### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, leading to private content that may be inappropriate for children. This is intended to help suggest content that is relevant to their watching and the risk of screen-time addiction. If these are not disclosed, users without an account are shown private videos from the list of videos which might not always be suitable for children.

#### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have someone posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, offering to buy them items, clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTube by adopting their names and profile pictures and sometimes offer cash gifts of 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realize that these users are not who they claim to be.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that allows users to filter out inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual content) to protect viewers. To prevent your child from changing account preferences, you should consider 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, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In partnership with Google Family, you can turn on 'Safe Search' to help you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

#### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are 'private' or 'unlisted', they are far less likely to be targeted by scammers.

#### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Before you open discussions about this with your child, make it clear to you and how else they might be exposed to content that you don't want them to see. Parents up avenues for you to check out that content, 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 different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to check your child is using sites like YouTube and help you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

#### LIMIT SPENDING

Although there is no fee, it does offer some in-app purchases. Users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content, you can limit their access to their bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that it's difficult to reverse a purchase, so it's best to quickly react to an unexpected bill.

**Meet Our Expert**  
 Clara Dodson (aka, Luv2help) has worked as an editor and journalist in the general media industry and is currently working with our coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the author of National Online Safety's security working on various gaming-related projects including game developer and setting up a secure laptop.

**National Online Safety**  
 #WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety NationalOnlineSafety nationalonlinesafety

Views of this guide do not represent our own. National Online Safety is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.03.2022

Nursery



This week we have been learning all about Chinese New Year, we have been reading the story 'Dragons in the City.' We have been talking about how Chinese New Year is celebrated and how it from how they children celebrated New Year. We have been using chopsticks to try and pick up Pom Pom's and spaghetti, we have been making our own lollipop dragons and lanterns, we have been having a try at painting some Chinese symbols and have been looking at different foods which are eaten during the celebrations. We have tried some of these foods and used our chopsticks to eat them, the children did amazing with this.

We are continuing to look at 2D and 3D shapes and separating the shapes dependent on the type and have been practising our cutting skills.









## Reception



This week in Reception has been very busy.

Our topic this week has been 'Chinese New Year'. To learn more about this celebration the children have read and discussed the story 'Maisy's Chinese New Year'. The children enjoyed learning about the different ways people celebrate, for example, making lanterns and going to a parade. To further embed the children's understanding of the story, they worked collaboratively to create a dancing Chinese dragon. I think the children's favourite part of the week was our Chinese feast!

In mathematics, the children have been introduced to odd and even numbers. The children tried really hard to grasp this tricky concept. We completed an odd and even sort using Odd Todd and Even Stephen. On Wednesday, the children were also introduced to the concept of doubling. We used a ladybird template to make the dots on each wing match. Well done Reception, you showed great resilience in mathematics this week.

Overall, it has been another fantastic week in Reception. All of the Reception Team are looking forward to our next topic 'Traditional Tales'.

Thank you, The Reception Team.

Year 1



This week, has yet again been a very busy one across year one.

During maths, we have been studying subtraction and using numbers up to twenty to take away - try practising at home! In English, we have looked at non-fiction texts and underwater sea creatures. We have written some fantastic sentences, Mr. Wainwright and Miss Blunden were so impressed with everyone - well done! We have seen so much progress with everyone's writing.

We have been bird watching in science, we saw lots of seagulls and even a magpie and a blackbird or two! We used our working scientifically skills to tally up what we saw. We have finally come to the end of our animals topic, and have covered mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians and birds.

During Art, we created our own self-portraits based on the artist Frank Auerbach - the children have enjoyed looking at themselves, finding out about their features as well as sketching and drawing their own faces.

Thank you to the families that we saw in person on Monday at Parents evening, it was so lovely to see everyone. We are making our way through the phone calls to those who asked for one, please note, this may now be after half term.

Well done to the four year one girls who took part in School's Alive with Mr. Wainwright on Tuesday, Zofia, Kendall, Dara and Tiwatope. They had a fabulous time, and it was a marvellous performance experience for them. Roll on 2025!

We have lots of exciting days planned for next term already. We also have forest school next term and texts will be sent to remind everyone when this starts and what they need to wear in the next newsletter.

**1BW** - Fridays (1st March, 8th March, 15th March, 22nd March) and **1CBL** - Mondays (4th March and 11th March)

Have a restful half term, whatever you're up to - time is flying by so fast! **Mr. Wainwright and Miss Blunden :-)**



*1 - Bird watching in science!*

Year 2

# Year 2





Year 3



What a busy half term!

As we come to the end of our first 2024 half term, we have looked back and seen all the fantastic progress made over Year 3 so far! It was so lovely for Ms Brayne and Miss Cavanagh to see so many adults on parents evening.

In English, we have been focusing on our comprehension skills this week. We have looked at texts about India and about the Stone Age. We have been practising how to read questions accurately, seek out key information and skim read texts. In our SPaG lessons we have continued to practise our contracted words with apostrophes. We *couldn't* get enough of our quiz whilst some of us *won't* forget the rules in a hurry!

In Maths, we have come to the end of our Multiplication and Division topic - however we will still be utilising both skills throughout the rest of the year! Please continue to access TTRockstars at home to support with times table knowledge.

In 3HB, we have been cutting up vegetables this week, adding them together and create our very own curry! We all tried it with mixed reviews.

Have a relaxing, well deserved break. If you have free time please feel free to access Reading Eggs, TTRockstar and continue reading during your break.

Year 4



Well Year 4, what a fantastic start to 2024 we have had!

We have loved learning all about Blackpool in History, we have been making advertisement posters to entice people to visit our town! We really were wowed and shocked to find out how long the Metropole Hotel has been up and running! As well as being shocked to see how much (and in some cases, how little) things have changed in our town that we see everyday.

In English this term we met Dan Worsley, we were a bit star struck to meet him! He has really inspired us in our writing and sparked some aspirations for us to be authors too. It was great that we could really relate to him as he is from Blackpool too and made us realise that we really can achieve anything we want to if we push ourselves!

In Maths it has been a tricky half term, we have been doing lots of multiplication and division. We are super impressed with our end of unit assessment scores and how well the children have done!

A big thank you to 4TC for their fantastic Ukulele performance! It was amazing and we were all blown away by how fantastic they were.

We are really looking forward to next half term, have a well deserved break

**Polite reminders:**

- 4CL have now stopped their swimming on a Wednesday morning and 4TC will now be going from the week commencing 19th Feb. Please can 4TC return swimming permission forms back in to school ASAP and remember to bring swimming kits on Wednesday 21st February.
- 4CL PE lessons will be on a Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon. Please remember to bring PE kits into school.

Miss. Lee and Mr. Cooper

Year 5



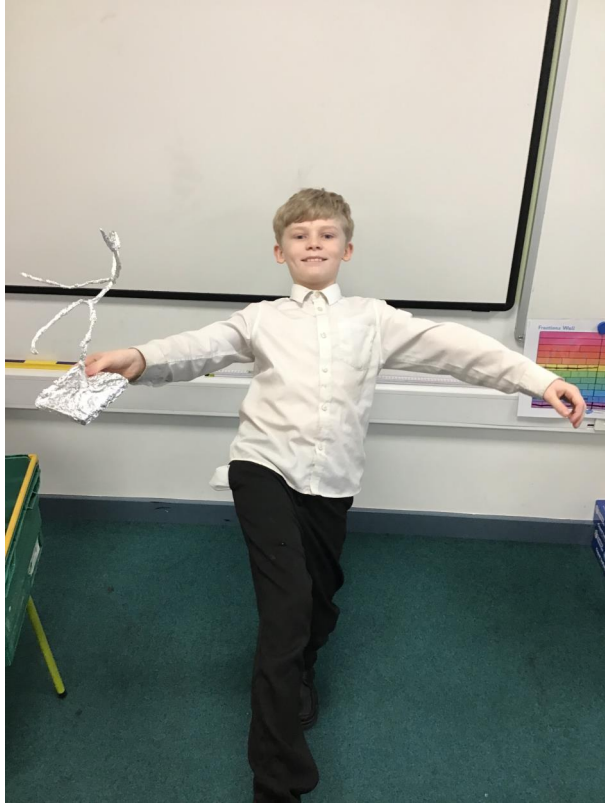
What a great last week before half term.

This week, we have finished our Art project based on Alberto Giacometti's foil figures. The children first had to create a pose, then they made them out of foil. For the final project, the children used wire to create their poses and wrapped them in foil. The children found it difficult but they all had resilience and the finished projects look fantastic! Have a look through the pictures.











In English, we have continued with our book and 'The Good Turn' and the children have created their own campfire stories. It was lovely to see the children's imagination come to life. We've had a great time reading them.

In Maths, we have continued with multiplication and division. We have been learning how to multiply 2-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers and how to use the bus stop method for division.

In Science, we have finished our Space topic. We have looked at why we have day time and night time and the children were able to explain why when it is night time in one part of the world, it will be day time in another part.

We also have a great start to next half-term planned with a trip to see the National Youth Orchestra on the first day back.

### Reminders

- UCLan trip letters and payment on ParentPay
- Read 3 times a week and log on BoomHub
- PE days are Tuesday and Thursday

Have a lovely and relaxing half term, The Year 5 Team

## Year 6



What a great way to end the half-term this week in year 6, firstly with our music demonstration from Miss Stones who explained information about the cello, how to play it and then played it for us to hear the range and sound of this beautiful instrument. The demonstration was linked to the book we are reading in English called Rooftoppers as the cello is a key part of the story and a link between Sophie, the main character, and her mother.



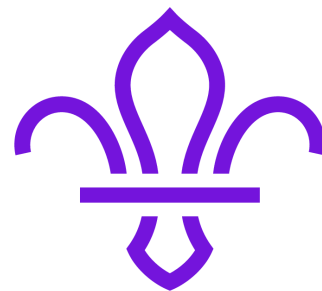
Secondly, we have taken part in an immersive Victorian School day experience as part of our history topic on Victorians to see how school would have been for children of these times. Thank you to everyone who dressed up, they really looked the part.

It was lovely to see so many families represented at parents evening and to share your child's current results with you. Your support with their learning and use of the revision guides is very much appreciated and a little revision regularly goes a long way. If you are considering areas to focus on other half-term: long multiplication and long division alongside speedy arithmetic questions would be very beneficial.

We also have a great start to next half-term planned with a trip to see the National Youth Orchestra on the first day back.

## 57th Blackpool (Unity Academy) Scout Group

# Scouts



## 57th Blackpool (Unity Academy)

57th Blackpool (Unity Academy) Scout group currently has spaces in the following sections:

- Squirrels (age 4-6) - Waiting list applies for more information please contact Squirrel Team leader on [57thsquirrels@blackpoolscouts.org.uk](mailto:57thsquirrels@blackpoolscouts.org.uk)
- Beavers (age 6-8) - Spaces available, for more information please contact Beaver Team Leader on [57thBeavers@blackpoolscouts.org.uk](mailto:57thBeavers@blackpoolscouts.org.uk)
- Cubs (age 8-10) – Spaces available, for more information please contact Cub Team Leader on [57thcubs@blackpoolscouts.org.uk](mailto:57thcubs@blackpoolscouts.org.uk)
- Scouts (age 10-14) – Spaces available, for more information please contact Scout Team Leader on [57thscouts@blackpoolscouts.org.uk](mailto:57thscouts@blackpoolscouts.org.uk)

57th Blackpool run weekly on a Thursday from 3:10pm – 4:45pm in school.

The first month is free then subs are paid monthly at £12 via bacs or Direct debit.

Scouts are do-ers and give-it-a-go-ers. Yes, we go camping, hiking, swimming, abseiling, cycling, and canoeing.

But we also get to hang out with our friends every week – having fun, playing games, working in a team, and taking on new challenges.

Every week we give almost half a million 4–25-year-olds the skills they need for school, college, university, the job interview, the important speech, the tricky challenge, and the big dreams: the skills they need for life.

Everyone's welcome here. All genders, races, and backgrounds. Regardless of your young person's physical ability – there's a Scout adventure out there waiting for them. And we'll help them find it.

If you are interested, please complete this form and we will contact you with a start date <https://forms.gle/NWeukFcQHaV75EyP8>

## 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

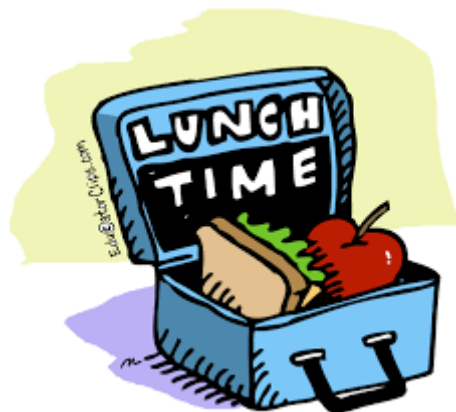
Black socks

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