

MONTsaye ACADEMY NEWS

February 2024



We are pleased to be able to share with you, our latest Academy Newsletter. We hope you will enjoy reading about some of the many activities which our students have been getting involved with over the last few months.

Take a look at the fabulous trip to Bletchley Park which some of our Year 8 students took part in just before Christmas, and at some of the interesting things which our Sixth Form have been enjoying.

Keep an eye on our various social media platforms for further up-to-date information.

Year 7 and Year 8 ERA Day

For those of you who are new to the academy, our ERA days are unique to Montsaye and help our students to develop the skills of **Excellence, Resilience and Aspiration**.

Year 7 and Year 8 students recently took part in their very own ERA days with our Year 7 cohort undertaking a range of activities designed to build creative, mental, social and emotional skills and to prepare them for the varied challenges they face as they grow into adult members of the community. The form groups spent most of the day with their form tutor, building a deeper relationship with this key member of staff, as well as creating closer friendships with their form group.



Year 8 students undertook a range of activities designed to build emotional resilience, tools for wellbeing, career aspirations and the skills needed to work together as a team. There were sessions on how to detect fraud online,

first aid skills, including life-saving CPR led by our CCF unit, anti-bullying training and an activity exploring potential career choices.



Both year groups watched a performance of 'Hope' delivered by the Takeaway Theatre Company. A contemporary and powerful production which combines both music and drama, the performance told the story of three young people who are all affected by bullying in differing ways.

This was a joyful day with a serious message and a day in which older students were showing leadership skills and paying it forward. It was fantastic to see our students so engaged and working positively with each other; we look forward to future dates in March and April for Year 9 and 10 (dates to be confirmed soon).

Emma Lopes - SMSC Coordinator

PE @ Montsaye

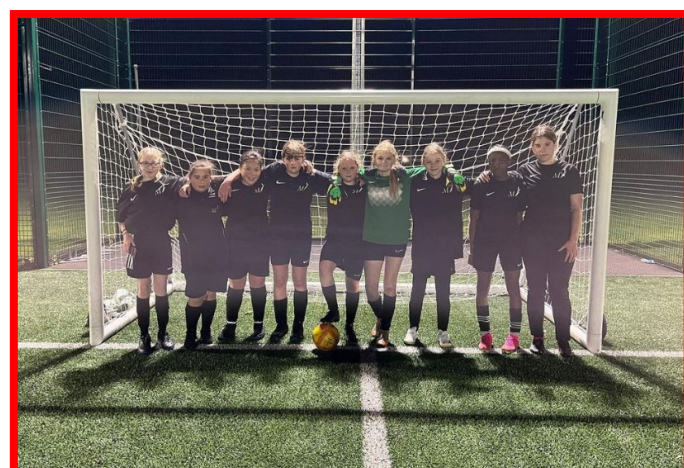
Our sports teams continue to grow from strength to strength. Why not give us a follow on our Instagram account [@MontsayePE](https://www.instagram.com/MontsayePE) where you will find up-to-date information on what is going on here at the academy?

We are pleased to share with you a snapshot of events which have taken place over the last few months:

The Year 10 boys' basketball team have really enjoyed their matches. They are growing and developing as a team.



The Year 7 and Year 8 girls' football team have been amazing. Before Christmas they took part in their final district tournament which saw them winning three of their group games and drawing one. They fought to get through to the next stage but sadly were knocked out on sudden death penalties.



Our Year 9 and Year 10 girls' futsal team have played in the district futsal tournament and came second, a wonderful achievement.



Our Year 7 boys' football team were undefeated in the Kettering Schools Year 7 tournament.



We have a wide variety of sporting extra-curricular teams and activities on offer every week. Students may speak with members of the PE department if they are interested in getting involved.



Tim Wing - Head of PE

Pride in Perfection

Some of our Year 7 students have been taking part in Pride in Perfection sessions during form time. As a reward for achieving over 97% attendance and having received no behaviour points, students were given time in the Sports Hall with various pieces of equipment such as the basketballs and hoops.



It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students and we are looking forward to being able to offer further sessions in the coming weeks.

Natalie Edney - Year 7 Progress Leader

Students learn cooking skills for life



As part of our new, lifelong learning initiative, some of our students have been involved in a cooking skills session with myself and our food technology teacher, Mrs Brotherston.

Students worked really hard to cook a healthy and nutritious meal of Sweet Potato Cottage pie with Pineapple Upside Down Cake for dessert.



Sophie Collins - Teacher

Our Maths Department hits the road...

Cracking the Code at Bletchley

BLETCHLEY PARK

Just before Christmas, some of our Year 8 students enjoyed a fantastic day out at Bletchley Park, home of the famous code breakers.



We were taken on a guided tour of the park and told some amazing stories about the history of the area. The students were involved in a cyber security workshop explaining the importance of protecting themselves online and the importance of passwords, especially with the modern methods of facial recognition being used worldwide.



I am extremely proud of the way in which our students presented themselves and showed the academy in such a positive light.

Callum Shreeve - Teacher of Maths

Life at the University of East Anglia

This was a wonderful day of mathematical enrichment talks, activities and workshops aimed at Year 10 students.



Twelve girls represented Montsaye at the University of East Anglia. The girls listened to guest lectures on 'The Creation of Number' and 'The Beauty of Mathematics'.

Students enjoyed interactive workshops on A-Level topics such as iterative mapping and geometry. They got a taste of what maths looks like after GCSE and clearly sparked some curiosity in the subject as a whole.



The girls represented the school perfectly, even when travel issues meant we got back later than planned.

We hope to be able to offer more of these workshops in the future; if your child has any questions about getting in to A-Level maths (or beyond) ask them to come and talk to me on the maths corridor.

Conor Darnbrook - Head of Maths

Introducing our new Deputy Student Leaders...

We are delighted to announce that Joe and Hannah have joined Edward and Amalia as our Deputy Student Leaders.

It was a tough field of candidates, but in the end Joe and Hannah just had the edge. We set them to work straight away; their first official duty was hosting our current Year 11 students in the Sixth Form Centre, to give them a tour and to answer any questions they may have about sixth form life. They have done a fantastic job so far, and we are looking forward to working with them further. Well done Joe and Hannah.

Laura McNish - Sixth Form Centre Manager



Year 12 Students Investigate...

Our Year 12 Computer Science cohort have been learning about the components of the CPU (central processing unit). They have been looking at ways of how they might improve the performance of the CPU by making paper helicopters.

Students played a game where they each had a task to compete in the making of a paper helicopter. By organising themselves in different ways, they were able to simulate how the CPU in a computer organises and completes tasks. Some of the ways they organised themselves were more efficient than others.



The aim of the game was to see how many paper helicopters students could make in ten minutes.

In the first round of the game they managed one paper helicopter. In the second round they managed five helicopters and in the third and final round, seventeen helicopters.

Stephen Lea - Head of Computer Science

Sixth Form Students in the Dragons' Den

In a 'Dragons' Den' lesson format, Year 12 business studies students were tasked with creating an innovative product which they then had to present to a panel of judges.

Students were given a brief to include a range of the theories which they had learned since the start of the course. They carried out primary and secondary research, created both a sales forecast and a cash flow forecast, as well as a business plan. The cohort displayed a range of business knowledge, as well as practical skills such as working in a team and public speaking.

Products presented included; a never-ending bag (think Mary Poppins), a bluetooth hose, a multitool men's grooming gadget and a hearing aid which translates from and into any language.



After much deliberation by the judges, team FARO with their multitool men's grooming gadget, were crowned as the winners. The team had gone above and beyond in creating a prototype of the product and had even produced a social media page. Well done to Alex, Ollie, Philip and Riley.

India Power - Teacher of Business Studies

Mussel madness...

In conjunction with [The Food Teachers Centre](#), [The Fishmongers' Company](#) and [fish.heroes](#) we recently took delivery of a donation of mussels.



Our Year 10 GCSE students rose to the challenge and used the opportunity to learn about the benefits of mussels, including those relating to health, sustainability, cost, and how simple to cook they are. Everyone was involved with the preparation, cooking, and the best part, the tasting.



At the end of the session, staff were invited along to the food technology rooms to sample the wonderful dishes which our students had put together.



Gillian Brotherston - Teacher of Food

Man cannot live on bread alone...

Our Year 10 GCSE food students have been developing their bread and pasta making skills.



They have concentrated on bread rolls and focaccia, tagliatelle with cheese roux sauce, ravioli with a tomato sauce and lasagne.



We hope you will agree, the students did a fantastic job and produced bread which looks good enough to eat...

Gillian Brotherston - Teacher of Food

Former Montsaye students excel in sport...

We are delighted to be able to share some exciting news with you about two former Montsaye students who have achieved excellence in their chosen sports.



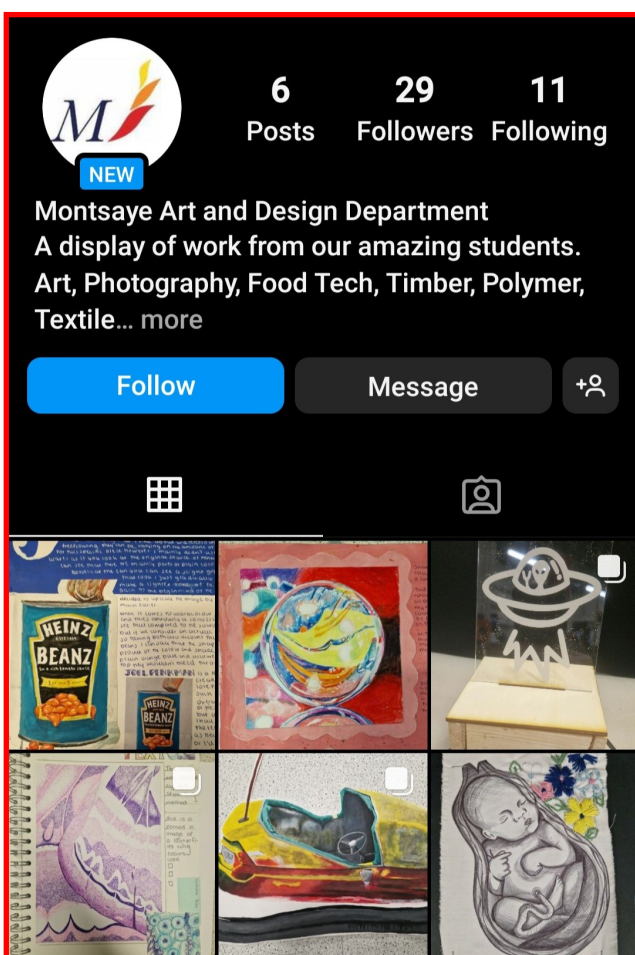
Callum Smyth who was Montsaye's rugby captain during his time with us, is now signed to Glasgow Warriors and has been chosen to play Loosehead Prop in the Scottish under 20's rugby team in this year's Six Nations Championship.

Callum's first game was against Wales on 2nd February. His big game is against England on 23rd February which will be played in Edinburgh.

Hot on the heels of Callum's success, comes news of former student and Boxer, Lauren Mackie. At a recent event in Sheffield, 18 year old Lauren won Bantamweight Gold at the World Boxing Cup: GB Open. In her quest to win gold, and representing Team GB, Lauren beat opponents from Denmark, Wales and Sweden with three wins in four days.

We are all extremely proud of both Callum and Lauren and of their achievements to-date. Keep up the good work.

Tim Wing - Head of PE



Follow our design department on Instagram...

Are you interested in the work which our design department do? Why not follow them on their newly launched Instagram page?



**Year 8
Light Boxes**



**Year 9
Artist Study**

Keep up-to-date with the creative successes of our wonderful students. The account showcases a wide range of activities, including work in food tech, art, photography and textiles.

Emma Guy - Teacher of Art



MONTSAYE COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE

**NO
JOINING FEE**



**SWIM/
FITNESS
MEMBERSHIPS
NOW
AVAILABLE**

Be *Happy*. Be *Active*. Be *Here*!

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Swimming Pool |  Dance Studio |
|  Swimming Lessons |  Sports Hall |
|  30+ Station Fitness Suite |  3G Football Pitch |
|  Group Exercise Classes |  Racket Sports |
|  Fitness Consultation/Programme |  Children's Parties |

Montsaye Community Sports Centre, Greening Road, Rothwell, NN14 6BB.

01536 713708

www.montsaye.northants.sch.uk/sports-centre