

MONTSAYE ACADEMY NEWS

July 2024

Montsaye ACADEMY
Respect / Honesty / Compassion



Year 10 student hits Duolingo high

On the 9th July, we celebrated a very important milestone in the languages department. One of our Year 10 GCSE French students, Daniel, hit a 450 day Duolingo streak. This is a level of dedication worthy of the utmost respect and...cake.

The [Duolingo](#) language learning app is the world's most popular way to learn languages. It has helped Daniel to review and practise his French, and has helped him to expand his vocabulary.

Learning with Duolingo is fun, and [research shows that it works](#). With quick, bite-sized lessons, you can earn points and unlock new levels while gaining real-world communication skills.

Well done Daniel. I look forward to celebrating more milestones and seeing the impact of your hard work on your GCSE results next year.



Sophie Allert - Head of Languages

All the fun of the Prom



Thursday 4th July saw our fantastic Year 11 students celebrating the end of their GCSEs with a well deserved Prom. Taking place at Kettering Park Hotel and with a theme of Midnight House of Balloons, everyone scrubbed up well, with students and their families gathering to take photographs of this long awaited occasion. Year 11 danced the night away, whilst enjoying the welcome drinks, buffet, pick and mix sweet table and photobooth. Staff at the venue commented on the excellent attitude of our students and said how polite they were all evening.



As the Prom drew to a close, I was delighted to crown our Prom King and Queen, Latanya and Kennedy, as voted for by everyone in attendance at the event; in our eyes though, everyone was Prom royalty.

Enjoy your summer Year 11 and we look forward to seeing everyone on 22nd August for your much anticipated results.

Oliver! JR

As our academic year drew to a close, it was time for our annual musical production which this year was Oliver! JR.

This was a reduced version of the show, the creation of which has been a journey. As a cast and crew we have been through some challenges – but nothing we couldn't face.



All the cast have worked incredibly hard to create this show, from the very beginning they have shown true resilience, and we have everything to be proud of. When our production team of three turned into a team of two, the cast was incredibly adaptable: I would also like to thank Year 13 student Maddy G., (choreography), Year 12 student Kian H., (lighting design) and Year 13 student Morgan J., (music technician).

The show was incredible, full of jokes , laughter and music.



Thank you to everyone who came along and watched, we appreciate every single one of you for your support.

Tim Shea - Head of Performing Arts



Anyone for Tennis?

A small number of Year 9 and Year 10 students were selected to attend the Wimbledon quarter-finals as part of their recognition of Excellence in Sport.

Students had a fantastic day seeing four matches on Court No. 2 and we even spotted a celebrity or two.

We look forward to continuing to reward students for demonstrating key character values in PE, our Young Leaders and those striving for excellence in sport themselves.



Tim Wing - Head of PE

Montsaye Cadets hone their skills...

Montsaye CCF (Combined Cadet Force) recently spent a weekend at Chetwynd Barracks in Nottingham to conduct weapon training with the SA80 for their WHT, (Weapon Handling Test). This was a prerequisite for the summer camp in Scotland, where they conducted live firing with SA80.

The cohort arrived on the Friday afternoon, with the training taking place on the Saturday and Sunday. For many of the cadets, it was the first time they had been in a military barracks, they loved it.



The training involved lessons 1-9 from the characteristics of the weapon to stripping, cleaning and putting it back together. It also involved safe handling of the weapon, how to adopt the correct position for firing, prone, sitting, kneeling and standing. The cadets were taught about stoppages with the weapon, how to recognise them and how to remedy them. There was one final lesson on the Sunday morning, which was followed by the WHT test. I am pleased to report that everyone passed and the cadets were fully prepared for their summer camp in Scotland.

I would like to extend special thanks to Danny Hill, Morgan Severn and Karl Sumpter for their invaluable help.

WO2 J Smyth - SSI Montsaye Academy

Introducing Lily and Jet, our wellbeing dogs...

We are excited to be able to introduce Lily and Jet, our Wellbeing Dogs to the Montsaye family. Lily made her first visit to the academy back in June and put a smile on so many faces, students and staff alike.



Jet is a 20 month old Cockerpoo and belongs to our new Principal, Ben,. Jet has been into school with Ben everyday since he was eight weeks old.

Both dogs are creating a real buzz of joy and happiness around the academy.

Jo Ginns - PA to the Principal

Competition Results

During June, we celebrated both Pride Month and Gypsy Roma Traveller Month. Students were invited to enter competitions to celebrate these groups in our community.

In the art competition there were some brilliant creative entries and it was difficult to choose a winner. The top three winners were: first place - Raya B, second place - Emmie V-C and third place - Phoebe W.



The writing competition winner was Roxanne S. who produced a heartfelt description on the subject 'What makes a family?' Here is an extract from Roxanne's wonderful piece:

Loyalty is very important in my family because we want each other to know that every single one of us will never be alone. I would do anything just to see a smile on my family's faces as they would do the same for me. Words cannot explain how much my family means to me. I would not be who I am today without them. I love them more than life itself.

Not all families are the same. That's what makes it even more special! Every family is different!

I am pleased to also be able to share a highly commended entry by Year 10 student, Rehan:

What makes a family?

*What makes a family?
A marriage, the union, bonded by God?*

*And what makes a family?
Money, in all its shining glory?*

*What makes a family?
A picture, a frame of happy faces and raised chests.
Out of necessity? Or necessary duty?*

*And its answer, hard to find, yet fruitful in its
unbounded splendour, radiates every dark valley.*

*And the answer that is, that there always is, is love.
All one has to do, is look within and seek it.*

Emma Lopes - Teacher of Ethics and Philosophy

PE News

Some members of our Year 7 and Year 8 girls football team recently attended a Barclays 'Game On' event at KLV (Kettering Leisure Village).

They were able to speak about their experiences of football in school and discussed ideas on how they may increase participation from other girls.

There was also an opportunity for them to deliver a session to some of the other students.

Keira Lauder - Teacher of PE



Young Leaders at Montsaye

Our Young Leaders have supported the delivery of yet another excellent sporting event for our Pathfinders primary schools.

This time it was the annual athletics event for KS1 and KS2 with a great turn out from all schools involved.

The Young Leaders were a credit to Montsaye, supporting with delivering activities as well as handing out Bronze, Silver and Gold medals to the athletes taking part.

Breaking Records...

We are very proud of our Montsaye athletics records which date back over the last twelve years to 2012. The school records relate to all competitions which have taken place both on athletics tracks and grass, including during our annual Sports Day events.

This year has proven to be very successful in that several of our records have been broken. If you take a look at the tables below, you will be able to see that the records which are printed in purple are the ones which we are referring to. Tiaan and Louis broke 14 and 12 year county records.

Girls



Boys

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	S. Amanuku 14.30s (2024)	M. Gibson: 14.39s (2018)	D. Fox: 14.18s (2015)	A. Beale: 13.70s (2017)
200m	L. Whitford: 30.72s (2017)	M. Markham: 31.73s (2018)	M. Robinson: 30.90s (2018)	A. Beale: 27.30s (2017)
800m	F. Batkin: 2.54 mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 2.47 mins (2017)	F. Batkin: 2.35 mins (2018)	F. Batkin 2.41mins (2019)
1500m	F. Batkin: 5.15 mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 5.31 mins (2017)	F. Batkin: 5.10mins (2018)	
Long Jump	A. Beale: 4.30m (2014)	A. Beale 4.18m (2015)	A. Beale: 4.48m (2016)	A. Beale: 4.65m (2017)
High Jump	M. Cowper: 1.46m (2018)	H. Barratt: 1.30m (2014)	G. Barratt: 1.45m (2016)	G. Barratt: 1.45m (2017)
Discus	L. Whitford: 19.86m (2017)	H. Davies: 16.22m (2017)	H. Davis 18.71m (2018)	S. Hempel: 14.25 (2017)
Javelin	K. Potter: 24.90m (2018)	L. Whitford: 21.00m (2018)	G. Brice: 22.30m (2018)	K. Potter: 23.50m (2021)
Shot Put	A. Wakelin: 7.40m (2021)	R. Fox: 7.03m (2018)	E. Batchelor: 8.20m (2021)	E. Green: 8.20m (2022)

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	J. Reed: 13.34s (2012)	J. Reed: 11.36s (2013)	E. Graves: 12.06s (2021)	J. Bradley: 11.57s (2018)
200m	J. Guild 28.78 (2015)	A. Saunders: 25.08s (2023)	S. Bott: 25.64s (2014)	E. Graves- 23.43s (2022)
800m	D. Bowley: 2.26 mins (2015)	M. Potter 2.21 mins (2015)	T. Banks: 2.13 mins (2018)	D. Bowley: 2.01mins (2018)
1500m	D. Bowley: 4.44 mins (2015)	D. Bowley: 4.25mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 4.52 mins (2015)	N/A
Long Jump	O. Wright: 4.65m (2017)	K. Milas: 5.29m (2016)	J. Bradley: 5.50 (2017)	J. Bradley: 5.07m (2017)
Triple Jump	N/A	J. Bowskill: 9.28m (2013)	L. Bray: 9.73m (2024)	N/A
High Jump	T. Matika 1.40m (2017)	J. Cain 1.50m (2017)	T. Shaw (2015): 1.50m	J. Baggeley 1.60m (2016)
Discus	E. Bye: 17.18m (2016)	C. Smyth: 22.70m (2017)	L. Hannington: 31.45m (2024)	Thomas R: 22.60m (2021)
Javelin	J. Cross: 24.21m (2016)	T. Bowley: 29.28m (2014)	C. Fardon: 34.62m (2024)	J. Rutherford: 28.01m (2021)
Shot Put	G. Collier: 8.60M (2015)	T. Claassenns: 10.56m (2023)	T. Claassenns: 12.21m (2024)	G. Collier: 10.60m (2018)

Tim Wing - Head of PE

Students excel in life outside of school

Year 7 student, Ellie takes part in dance events.

She recently took part in an amazing competition over a weekend and was placed in five of her nine dances, coming home with two first places, two second places and a joint fourth place. Keep up the good work Ellie!



Well done to Year 7 student, Rhys. He plays cricket for his local team. The team are working hard together and are currently reaping the rewards of their efforts.

Rhys was involved in helping them win a recent close-fought match by one point.

Good work, Rhys!

...and a celebration of baseball success for Year 9 student, River

We are very proud of our students and of their achievements both in school and in their life outside of the academy, Year 9 student, River S. plays Baseball for the Herts Youth U15 team, based in Hemel Hempstead. River's mum has been kind enough to share some exciting news with us:

"This year, as part of the MLB London Series programme, the Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association held a youth clinic, delivered by former MLB players Dickie Noles, Mickey Morandini, Milt Thompson, Mookie Wilson, and Daniel Murphy. River was selected by his coach as one of the players to represent his team at this event, held at the American School in London.



It was a beautiful day for baseball, with youth players coming from many parts of the country, meeting and training with the legends who have played with the NY Mets, Philadelphia Phillies, Toronto Blue Jays, LA Dodgers, and St. Louis Cardinals. What a day, what an experience.

Here's to British baseball, may we inspire many more young people to play and enjoy this beautiful game. With thanks to the MLBPA, the MLB, and Herts Baseball team for this incredible opportunity."

What an inspirational story; we would like to thank River's mum for sharing it with us.

Tim Wing - Head of PE

Chess: making their best move

Our popular chess club runs every Thursday lunchtime in the library; students can be seen practising and playing with friends on a weekly basis.



It has been exciting watching students from different year groups develop a skill that enhances their problem solving and strategic nature. Hopefully, students are trying hard to challenge their families at home.

Over the last couple of months, we held our annual tournament with twelve competitors aiming to top their groups. They all had ambitions to reach the semi-finals.

Year 8 student, Delin F. became Montsaye's Chess Champion of 2024 in our inaugural tournament, winning five Golden Tickets and defeating Year 9 student, George H. in a tense final.



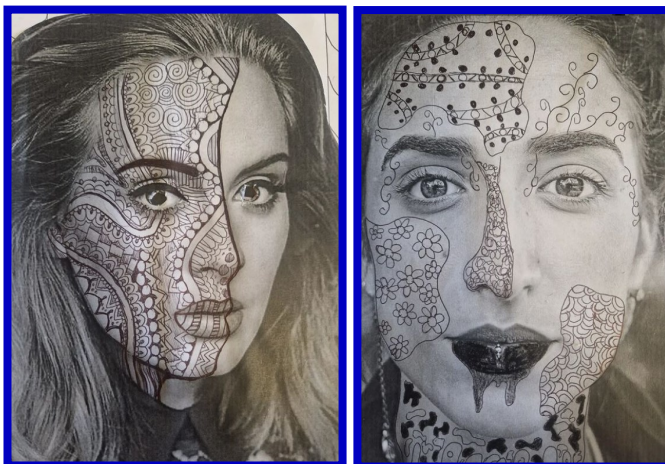
It has been fantastic to see so many students enjoying themselves and showing a clear passion for the game. We look forward to continuing this and I hope it is something that the school can carry on next year. Maybe we can have some new students to challenge for the 2025 title.

Callum Shreeve - Teacher of Maths

Budding artists...

We regularly use social media to showcase examples of the wonderful work which our students have created.

The Year 9 art and design cohort have been experimenting with art photography. The pieces below are inspired by the work of Alana Dee Haynes...



...and some students in Year 8 have been trialling a new 'desserts' project.



We hope you will agree, they are impressive.

Emma Guy - Teacher of Art

Free Fish...

The 'Fish in School Hero Programme' aims to ensure that every child gets a chance to prepare, cook and eat fish before they leave school. Over 70% of young people surveyed, eat fish less than once a week. In 2022, more than 900 schools took part in the programme with 13,000 students having a unique opportunity to work with and taste fish.



As one of 300 schools this year, we were lucky enough to be selected to receive free cans of Alaskan pink salmon.



The Year 10 GCSE food group put their practical skills to the test to create fish burgers in a shaped bread roll.

The students were able to practise their skills of bread making and shaping, as well as using tinned fish to help them upskill a dish and develop their presentation skills.



Gillian Brotherston - Teacher of Food

Year 11 cook their own breakfast

The last exam for our Year 11 GCSE Food and Preparation dawned and their 'Top Tips' revision session involved them cooking their own breakfast.



Using their cooking skills and knowledge to understand what was happening during the process, they cooked and ate bacon sandwiches. This made sure that their tummies weren't rumbling when answering questions about food in the exam. One student in the group was even kind enough to make Year 11 Progress Leader, Mr Roberts, a much appreciated bacon sandwich.



Gillian Brotherston - Teacher of Food

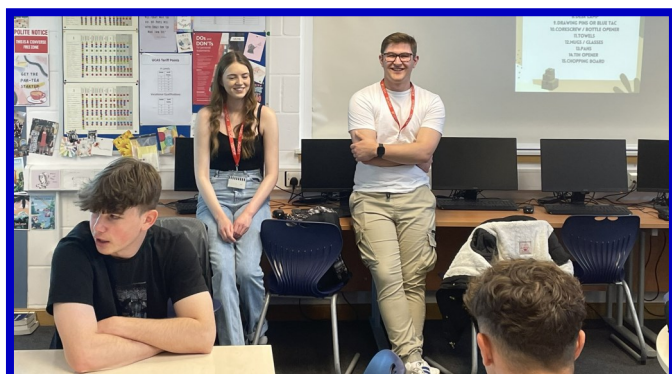
News from the Sixth Form...

Year 12 Summer Term of Enrichment

After saying a sad goodbye to our Year 13 students, we have been able to give our Year 12 students a packed couple of months of enrichment activities, aimed at supporting their next steps post-Sixth Form.

Students have started to prepare their UCAS forms, ready to submit their university applications in September. This has been supported by two university visits, the first for a University Experience Day at Nottingham Trent university, and the second to the UCAS Higher Education Convention at the University of Lincoln.

We have an excellent relationship with our alumni and have been lucky enough to welcome back many of our past students this term to talk to current students about their time at university. Our alumni speakers have included Eve (Biology at the University of Sheffield), Ione (Law at Durham University) and Ryan (History at Loughborough University) to name but a few.



We also had a visit from Andy from the MAN Group, who gave our students an overview of careers in the Finance, Banking and Investment industry. This was followed up by a useful session on financial awareness, and a group Trading Game, where students had a virtual £1000 to invest in a series of well-known companies.



Finally, many of our students have been successful in gaining a work experience placement this month. We have sent students to golf courses, animal shelters, primary schools, council offices and the hospital, among others. We are very grateful to every company that has accommodated one of our students; it is so important that we offer our students the chance to experience the world of work.

As we entered the last couple of weeks of this academic year, we certainly didn't slow down. Our biologists and geographers went out conducting field work visits, and the English Literature students visited Shakespeare's Globe to watch a performance of 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

Year 11 Taster Event

We were delighted to welcome the next batch of Sixth Form students to our annual Taster Event in June. Students were treated to a welcome breakfast of pastries, fruit and juices, before a welcome talk from Mrs. Jones and the rest of the sixth form team. Goodies to help the cohort get through the day were on offer.



The remainder of the day gave students the chance to sample four different A-level lessons, and to give them a flavour of what life as a Montsaye Sixth Form student is really like.

It was a lovely day, and it was a pleasure to get to know our new group of students. Places are still available for September 2024; please contact Mrs. Jones, Mr. Adams or myself if you require more information.

We would like to wish our sixth form cohort and their families a very happy summer break.

Laura McNish - Sixth Form Centre Manager

CCF Annual Camp: Barry Buddon, Angus

During July, Montsaye Academy's CCF (Combined Cadet Force) was away at their annual camp at Barry Buddon Training Area in Angus, Scotland. The first challenge for the cadets was the journey; an early 7.30am start was followed by a nine hour drive over rambling A-roads before arriving at the camp at around 4.00pm.

On the first day, the cadets spent their time going over their weapons handling drills and marksmanship principles. This was to ensure they were safe (and accurate) when live and blank firing later in the week.

Due to worrying weather warnings, our 24hr field exercise was moved from Tuesday to Monday. This exercise involved cadets packing all they would need to survive for 24 hours in a bergen, including a sleep shelter and sleeping bag, cooking equipment, and a military issued 24hr ration pack. After breakfast on Monday morning, cadets took their rifles from the armoury and, after a safety briefing, marched from the main camp to the training area.

Upon arrival, cadets alternated between setting up camp and going out on silent patrol to complete tasks and collect intelligence for the ambush later that day. Once all the intel had been collected, cadets were issued with blank ammunition and patrolled over to the site to prepare an ambush for enemy targets.

A night under the stars with ration packs for dinner and breakfast followed, before the section attacks on Tuesday morning. The attacks proceeded without a hitch and particular commendation goes to Sgt. Arnold and SSgt. Linsdell for leading their sections on this task.

The rest of Tuesday was spent cleaning weapons and allowing cadets to recover from the exercise before picking up the round robin tasks on Wednesday. The tasks consisted of a map reading exercise, a silent drill test, a paintball ambush and defence, a stalking exercise, and an observation point task. The male cadets showed admirable enthusiasm during the paintball exercise and the females showed exceptional skill during the drill task scoring 81 of 100 points for their silent drill. The boys were recognised for their ability in the observation point exercise and LCpl. Debiec and Sgt. Murphy were commended for their success in the navigation task.

On Thursday, we travelled to Edinburgh castle where cadets took in the history of the site. We saw the various prisons within the walls, the banqueting hall, Scottish Crown Jewels, and Scottish War Memorial among other

things. We watched the 1.00pm gun fire and were able to take in the remarkable views of the city.

On our final day, we were firing on the ranges. Many cadets were nervous heading into this activity but every single cadet overcame their fears, fired more than 30 live rounds and passed their basic shooting test. This was an incredible success, and the range staff were particularly impressed with our contingent's weapon drills and marksmanship. Particular commendation must be given to Cdt. Johnson who scored highest on the basic shoot, achieving the 'marksman' badge, and joint highest in the advanced shoot with Cdt. A. Jelly. both of whom earned their first-class badge for the advanced shoot.

The camp ended with a presentation ceremony. This involved all of the English contingents on camp and was opened and closed with a pipe-led procession. The end of the camp was marked with a disco; cadets danced away whatever energy they had left.



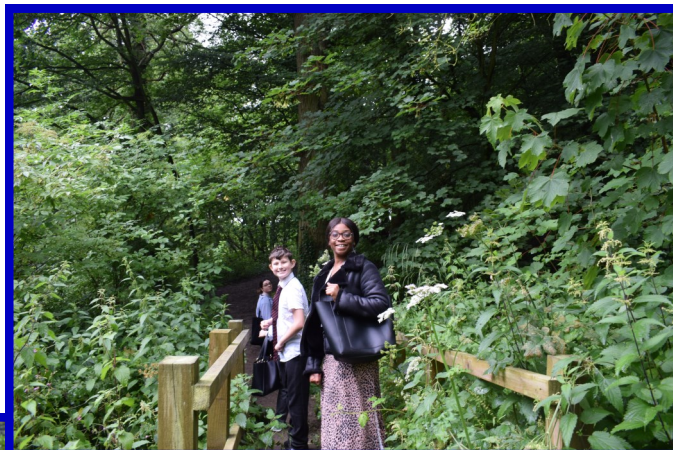
We would like to express our gratitude to the Cadet Training Team at Barry Buddon for an excellent camp. I am sure I speak for every cadet and staff member who attended when I say that the memory of it will stay with us for a long time.

We would also like to thank the cadets and staff of Sir Christopher Hatton Academy with whom we were paired for much of the week. Finally, I would like to personally thank Mrs Sutliff and SSI WO2 Smyth for their help with the organisation of the trip, in addition to Contingent Commander Karl Sumpter and CFAV Georgina Sumpter for their support.

Students take a trip to East Carlton Country Park

On Tuesday 9th July we took a group of fifteen students on a sensory walk around East Carlton Country Park in Corby.

The day started with the students using the kitchens in our food technology department to prepare their picnic lunches (homemade cookies, sandwiches etc). Everyone showed their excellent culinary skills; I am pretty confident that they could make themselves their own lunch should the need arise..



Once at the park we had a forest walk, passing an array of wooden creatures and doorways, eventually reaching our final picnic area. This was a great opportunity for students to see animals in the fields and ponds around the park. At the end of the walk the cohort had a well-deserved feast of treats; I don't think anyone went away hungry.

As the day drew to a close, the students had an ice cream each whilst reflecting on what they had experienced. This trip was a wonderful opportunity to get out of school to see such a lovely rural area of Northamptonshire. All of our students behaved impeccably and presented Montsaye Academy in a positive light with the local public in the area.



Member Rewards



**Refer a friend and save
££s on your membership**

Did you know that for every member you introduce to the club, you will receive a discount of £1.50 from your monthly direct debit?

This lasts for as long as both yours and your friend's memberships remain current at the club.