

# WE ARE MONTSAYE

Character Development Newsletter.

## STEPPING UP

TO THE NEW

Montsaye WAY



### *Pledge Five...*

We aim for excellence in everything we do.

### *Pledge Four...*

We will complete our attendance jigsaw.

### *Pledge Three...*

We are a telling school, so we are never a bystander.

### *Pledge Two...*

We uphold the core values of Respect, Honesty and Compassion.

### *Pledge One...*

We do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason.

Respect / Honesty / Compassion

THE NEW *Montsaye* WAY



Honesty



Respect



Compassion

# Celebrating Character

## WOW Day: Our Best Yet!

This term's WOW Day was our most successful to date, with student attendance up by an impressive 12% compared to last year — a fantastic reflection of the enthusiasm and commitment across our school community.

The day was a perfect celebration of Pledge 4: "We will complete our attendance jigsaw", with students and staff coming together to make the day a real highlight of the term. WOW Days have become a key part of our school year to recognise and celebrate collective effort in showing up, getting involved, and making every day count.

In the lead-up to WOW Day, staff were busy rehearsing for the ever-popular Lip Sync Battle. The English department wowed as Six from Six the Musical, Humanities lit up the stage as ABBA, our amazing student teachers rocked out as Queen with We Will Rock You, and the Senior Leadership Team delivered a surprise Nsync performance of Bye Bye Bye, complete with choreography.

The atmosphere was electric as students cheered and voted the English team as the well-deserved winners!

The celebration continued throughout the day with prizes awarded in lessons and a special WOW Day menu in the canteen — a great way to round off an unforgettable day of school spirit and shared success.



**We can not wait to continue the tradition next academic year!**



## Pledge 4 Awards Evening: Celebrating Commitment

WOW Day followed a truly special evening as we came together to celebrate students who achieved 100% attendance this year – an incredible accomplishment that embodies the spirit of Pledge 4.

At the heart of the evening was the presentation of the Golden Jigsaw Pin, awarded to those students who showed exceptional dedication by not missing a single day of school. This prestigious pin is more than just a symbol – it also grants queue-jump privileges for the entirety of their time at Montsaye.

The event was a joyful recognition of commitment and consistency. It marks the beginning of what we hope will become a proud Montsaye tradition – one that grows each year as more students complete their attendance jigsaw.

We look forward to celebrating even more incredible achievements next year, as we continue to create a culture where effort, engagement, and excellence are recognised and rewarded.



# Character Caught

## Character Caught Gallery – Celebrating Our Role Models

As we round off a fantastic term and school year, we're incredibly proud to share something truly special: our 2025 Character Caught Gallery. This feature highlights just some of the amazing students who've been recognised throughout the year for showing outstanding character.

These students have been nominated not only by staff, but also by fellow students, parents, carers, and even members of the wider community. Their actions, both big and small, have made a real difference and helped build a culture of respect and positivity across our school.

We're proud of every single nomination—and the Character Caught Gallery is our way of celebrating the people who lead by example, lift others up, and make our school a better place every day.

Take a look at the faces and names that remind us what great character looks like in action!

### [Character Caught Gallery Link](#)

Character Caught will be continuing next year. We'd love to receive character nominations over the summer too, including from our new Year 7 students joining us in September. Let's keep the positivity going and kick off next term with stories that inspire! Send your nominations to [charactercaught@montsaye.org](mailto:charactercaught@montsaye.org).



# Character Taught

## Our Culture Day: A Celebration of what makes us Montsaye

This term, we were proud to host our very first Our Culture Day – a vibrant and meaningful event dedicated to recognising and celebrating the diverse cultural backgrounds that make up our Montsaye community.

From the moment the day began, the atmosphere was full of colour, pride, and unity. Many students came dressed in traditional cultural attire, proudly representing their heritage and sparking conversations and learning throughout the school.

At lunchtime, the main hall came alive with a series of student-led performances, showcasing music, dance, and spoken word from a variety of cultures. The canteen also joined in the celebration, offering a special themed menu inspired by global cuisines – a hit with both students and staff!

What made the day even more special was that it was planned and organised entirely by our student leadership team. Their hard work, passion, and commitment made the event a great success.



Our Culture Day was a true reflection of our core value of respect - respecting each other's backgrounds, identities, and traditions, and taking the time to learn from the experiences of others. It reminded us that our differences are something to be celebrated and shared.

## Careers Networking Event: Inspiring Futures at Montsaye

On Tuesday 15th July, we were extremely excited and proud to host our very first Careers Networking Event. The event was aimed at Year 10 and 12 students designed to support them with exploring career pathways and next steps within education using their Career Passports to ask relevant questions, spark inciteful conversations and earn stamps to enter them into a prize draw.

The event saw the likes of; Weetabix, Northants Police, Everlast Gyms, as well as universities including Sheffield and Northampton. We also welcomed local training providers; Moulton College and Tresham college to the school, and let's not to forget our very own Sixth Form team!

The day was a great success and feedback from our exhibitors was extremely positive (something for us to be extremely proud of);

**"I attend a lot of these events in my role, and your year 10 were some of the most polite and well prepared students I have come across".**

The event has enabled us to gain some great partnerships with all exhibitors stating that "they would like to return again for further careers activities". We can't wait to see what next year brings!!

We are excited for more events like this next year, helping to build our students aspirations and understanding of the opportunities available.





## Our First Character Week:

We are incredibly proud to have launched our very first Character Week—an inspiring and energetic celebration of personal development and community spirit. The week began on Monday with a vibrant WOW Day, setting the tone for what was to come. On Tuesday, students stepped off their usual timetables to engage in a variety of exciting and meaningful challenges, all designed to help them explore and strengthen their character.

Each year group took on a unique experience:

- Year 7 spent the day reflecting on the important social themes of bullying and inclusion through powerful creative arts activities.
- Year 8 tackled a day full of team-building challenges, developing cooperation, communication and leadership.
- Year 9 were transported to a survival scenario, learning essential problem-solving and resilience skills through a “Desert Island” experience.
- Year 10 participated in “The Game of Life,” an immersive activity focused on real-world financial decisions and preparing for future independence.



To finish the week on a high, many of our students were rewarded with a fantastic trip to Thorpe Park—a well-deserved celebration of their efforts, alongside recognition for their achievements in sports day. Those that did not attend the trip were given the opportunity to participate in the Biodiversity group activities. We are excited to share more about this project in September's addition of the We Are Montsaye newsletter.

We are incredibly proud of our Montsaye community. Character Week gave us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the growth and strengths of our students, and to celebrate everything they contribute to our school. We look forward to building on this success in future years!

### **Multi-Agency Day for Year 9**

On Friday 11th July, all Year 9 students took part in an off-timetable enrichment day in collaboration with Northamptonshire Police. Throughout the day, students engaged with a powerful, interactive storyline designed to explore important themes including:

- Healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Image sharing and online safety
- The risks associated with drugs and alcohol
- The consequences and impact of knife crime

Students rotated through workshops, each led by a different expert agency:

- Northamptonshire Police
- Youth Offending Service
- Youth Service
- Engage

The day provided students with valuable insights and life skills, empowering them to make safer, more informed choices both now and in the future.





# Character Sought

At Montsaye, Character Sought is all about encouraging students to actively seek out opportunities to grow and demonstrate positive character traits. Whether it's through classroom learning or co-curricular involvement, we're proud to see our students consistently embody our core values of honesty, respect, and compassion

## Extra-curricular Clubs

A refreshed extra-curricular programme will be launched in September, and we'll ensure it's shared with all students and families at the start of the new term.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)

We're excited that the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) will be launching this September for Year 9 students!

As a nationally recognised youth development programme, the DofE Award is a fantastic Character Sought opportunity—encouraging students to actively grow their character by taking on new challenges and responsibilities.

Through volunteering, physical activity, skills development, and adventurous expeditions, students will have the chance to demonstrate and strengthen key values such as honesty, respect, and compassion, while building resilience, confidence, and leadership.

This is a truly exciting opportunity, and we can't wait to see our students take on the challenge and thrive!

## Upcoming Events for September:

Lots of exciting opportunities with the Biodiversity Group, if students are interested please speak to Mrs Moffett or Mrs Sutliff.

As well as much more!

