

12 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The first full week of the academic year has been a busy one with a real buzz around the school which has been lovely. Every assembly, briefing and gathering now ends with me asking the children and staff 'who are we?' and to see the staff and children alike replying 'We are Montsaye' with big smiles on their faces is genuinely heart-warming.

On the theme of assemblies, it was Mrs George's turn to lead the assemblies for all year groups, and she focused on what it means to be of good character. She explored various intellectual, moral and civic virtues and encouraged students to think about how they behave when no one is looking. Mrs George then went on to talk about a real-life example of good character sharing an excerpt from Malala Yousafzai's speech at the United Nations and talking about her achievements.

I have really enjoyed sharing all the Character Caught achievements in student briefing this week with some wonderful examples of sporting success as well as some excellent demonstrations of one of our core values, compassion. From fishing match successes to winning dressage performances; from player of the season awards to first matches; from helping new Year 7s find their way to helping members of the wider community; it is always a pleasure to share our children's good character far and wide.

Year 11 students have made a fantastic start to their GCSE year, and it has been a pleasure to visit so many of their lessons and see them already working so hard. Year 13 have also made a great start as they commence their A level year with Year 12 very quickly adjusting to Key Stage 5 life whilst enjoying their first lessons in their chosen subjects.

A particular highlight of the week for me was meeting with 13 brave Year 7s who demonstrated immense courage by taking on the individual pledge challenge. 11 out of the 13 children managed to recite all 5 pledges word for word with the other two children coming very close. Seeing the confidence and courage to take on this challenge just days into their secondary school journey left me feeling full of pride and awe. Well done to each of the 13 students listed below and I am looking forward to seeing more Year 7s put their name forward for the challenge.

Elsie C, Quinn S, Elle D, Scarlet U, Leo B, Thinuri B-G, Andrew D, Harry H, Oluwasemiloore A, Oliver H and Roman S, Pedro F and Lacie U.

The top praise point earners this week were as follows:

Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	1 <sup>st</sup> place	Average points
7	Molly M – 18	Oluwasemiloore A – 25	Cody O – 29	8 points
8	Cerys F – 22	Ashley M – 23	Ade O – 25	8 points

9	Adonai B – 25	Phoebe A – 25	Olivia E – 34	10 points
10	Oliver H – 25	Charlie C – 25	Olivia Rose – R – 27	11 points
11	George H – 24	Molly F – 25	Milly E – 25	9 points

Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1<sup>st</sup> place – 7ATH – 99.9%

2<sup>nd</sup> place – 10LMO – 97.8%

3<sup>rd</sup> place – 10TWI – 97.4%

In terms of supporting your children with their learning this year, you will see a shift away from attendance percentages to lost learning time with a much bigger emphasis on meeting with children after an absence to work out what learning they missed and when and where they can catch up. This will help ensure that children don't fall behind if they have any time off and still have the chance to achieve the best grades possible.

In sporting fixtures, the Year 9 Netball team played their first tournament of the year on Tuesday. They won 2 games, drew 1 and lost 2, an amazing start to the year! Well done to Benedicta A who was named Player of the Tournament. If your child is interested in joining, Netball club is on a Wednesday 3-4pm in the Sports Hall.

Looking ahead to next week, the Class of 2026 launch evening for the parents and carers of year 11 children has been moved back to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025. Letters have been sent out together with booking links.

Extra-curricular clubs start from next week with a huge range of clubs and activities for your children to sign up to. The sports club list is attached for you to discuss with your children in terms of which clubs they would like to sign up for. We will be sharing a list of all extra curricular clubs with you shortly.

Parents, carers, children, staff, governors – We are Montsaye

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines  
Principal

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All year groups <b>Dodgeball Club</b> (Sports hall)  Mr Garner	All year groups <b>Badminton</b> (Sports hall)  Mr Wing	All year groups <b>Netball</b> Sports hall  Mrs Hodges	KS4 <b>Football fixtures</b>	Year 7 <b>Swimming</b> <i>(must be able to swim 20m unassisted)</i>
All year groups  <b>Montsaye Dance Company</b> <b>Mrs George</b> <i>(must attend to be part of the touring company)</i>	Year 7  <b>Football club</b>  Mr Levett	Year 10 and 11  <b>Rugby club</b>  Mr Jordan		<b>Dance Musical Rehearsals</b> Mrs George Main Hall
<b>KS4 exam course intervention (fortnightly)</b>	<b>Year 9 and 10 Netball fixtures</b>	<b>Year 7 and 8 girls football fixtures</b>		