

21 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the final two weeks of the spring term, there is lots I want to share with you after a busy week at Montsaye.

First and foremost, I wanted to thank everyone for their contributions to Orange Day on Friday. It was great to see so many of the school community supporting the day and raising a grand total of over £400 towards Team Sebastian's agenda. There are lots of pictures from the day on our various social media platforms.

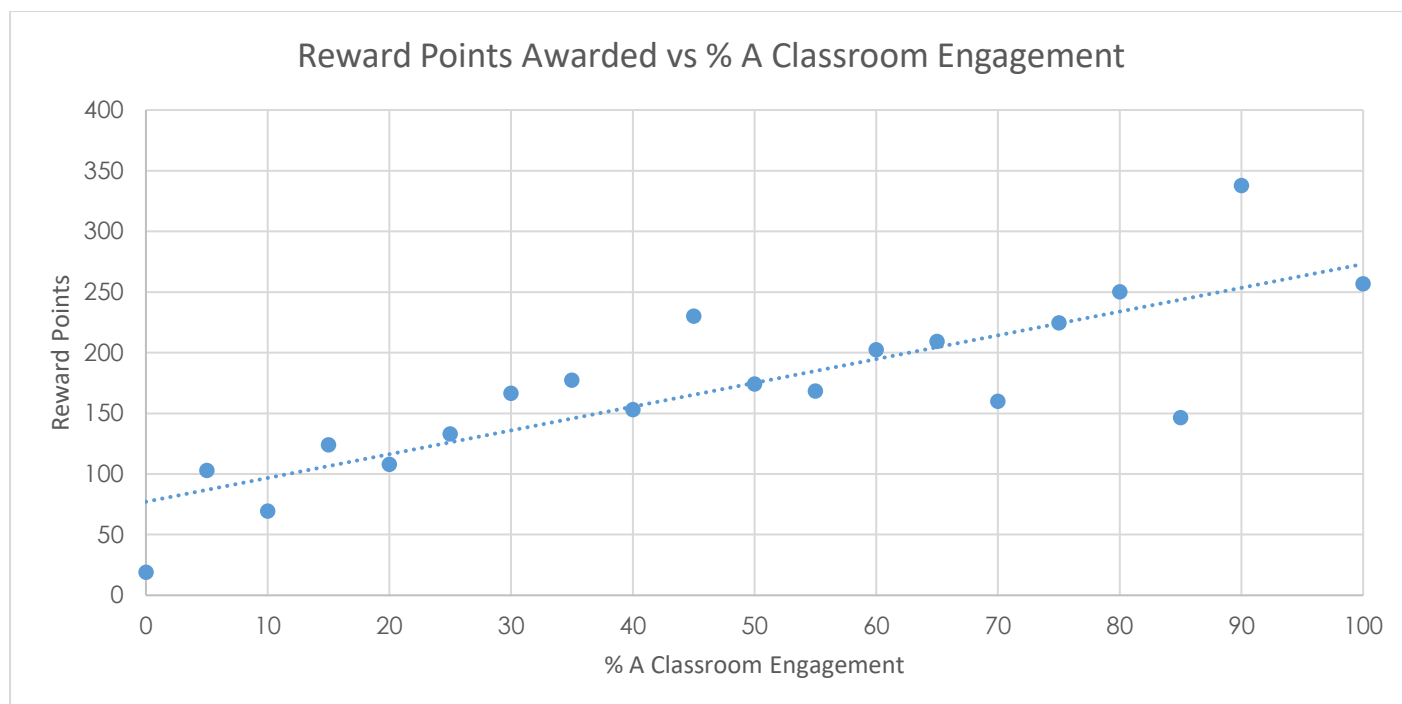
Miss Neville led assemblies for all year groups in which she told the harrowing story of Solomon Northup who was born as a free black man in New York state before being tricked into a move to Washington DC where he spent 12 years as a slave. Miss Neville linked the story closely to our core value of compassion by highlighting the compassionate acts of those that worked tirelessly to return Solomon to his life as a free man. As always, the students listened intently and were encouraged to reflect on the key themes shared during the assembly.

At the end of last week, we launched the 'prom-ometer' for Year 11 and this was the first week for them to collectively earn money towards the prom fund. For every day their collective attendance is above 93% they will earn £25 towards their prom fund. It wasn't the most positive start to the week but on Thursday they secured their first £25 in the fund.

In relation to Pledge 4, "we will complete our attendance jigsaw", we launched the final 10 day challenge as we move towards Easter. One of those 10 days will be our next WOW day and Mrs George, Mrs Walker and the attendance team, and the student leadership team have been working hard on plans to make it the most exciting WOW day so far. I am very much looking forward to seeing the children enjoying the day when it comes.

On the theme of academic achievement, Year 11 completed their mock examinations last week and teachers have started to return their papers. Once all papers have been marked, parents and carers of Year 11 students will receive a report on how they performed and what they need to work on ahead of their final examinations. As we did with Year 11 at the beginning of the year, we launched the enhanced homework expectations for Year 10 last week and it was good to see that most Year 10 students completed all homework tasks to a good standard. This is to support them getting into good habits for Year 11 and will contribute to them achieving enhanced grades in their end of year 10 examinations.

With respect to the response to parent/carers survey letter I sent out, I said that we would investigate any disproportionate awarding of praise points which was raised as an issue on the survey. In terms of transparency and to give you reassurance, the chart below shows reward points mapped against classroom engagement, and you can see a positive correlation between the two. There are some anomalies in this but broadly speaking, if your child is working hard lessons, they are being awarded praise points proportionately.



However, to further ensure this is the case, we are also going to be awarding “Character in the Classroom Awards” following the reports that were recently issued. Classroom engagement is marked from A-D with A being the highest. Therefore, additional points will be awarded as follows:

Classroom Engagement	Character in the Classroom Award	Award Value
At least B grade engagement in all subjects	Bronze Award	25 points
At least B grade engagement in all subjects AND 50% of those subjects A grade engagement	Silver Award	50 points
At least B grade engagement in all subjects AND 75% of those subjects A grade engagement	Gold Award	75 points
All subjects at A grade engagement	Platinum Award	200 points

In terms of an attendance update, the current league standings are as follows:

Premier League	Form	% attendance	Position
1	11ABI	96.5%	=
2	7ZHD	95.5%	=
3	10IJA	95.5%	=
4	7TRC	95.3%	=
5	7JOB	94.6%	=
6	7EJG	94.5%	=
7	7JEL	94.1%	=
8	7KL	93.8%	↑ 3
9	8AWH	93.6%	↑ 1

Championship	Form	% attendance	Position
1	8DAS	93.5%	↓ 2
2	11PHM	93.4%	↓ 2
3	9LHM	92.9%	=
4	9SCO	92.9%	↑ 2
5	11CDA	92.8%	=
6	9SC1	92.8%	↓ 2
7	8ERO	91.9%	=
8	10SEC	90.6%	=
9	8GDB	90.2%	=

League 1	Form	% attendance	Position
1	10LFE	90.0%	=
2	10NG	89.5%	=
3	10MS	89.1%	=
4	11MAS	89.0%	=
5	8MCO	88.8%	=
6	9LUC	88.4%	=
7	9ELB	88.1%	=
8	10SPU	88.0%	=

League 2	Form	% attendance	Position
1	8JJW	87.7%	=
2	9RL	86.8%	=
3	9VPA	86.2%	=
4	11FAL	86.1%	↑ 1
5	10AJT	85.9%	↓ 1
6	7REL	84.9%	=
7	11SLY	78.9%	=
8	8EBL	77.2%	=

On the final day of the term there will be various rewards for completing individual attendance jigsaws and for the winners of the different leagues as well.

Looking ahead to next week, Year 9 Options Evening is taking place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March between 4pm and 6pm. Parents and carers of Year 9 students will have received a letter with links to Eventbrite to book one of two information talks where the options process will be explained in detail. There will then be the opportunity to speak with teachers about the different options to help inform your choices.

Have a pleasant and restful weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines