

2 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a lovely week in the sunshine with lots of great things happening in and around Montsaye Academy – seeing the children laughing and having fun on the field has been a particular highlight.

First and foremost, I wanted to share some fantastic news regarding Sparx Maths. When I arrived at Montsaye, the culture around homework needed strengthening significantly and the work taken to address this has had an incredible impact. This week, we passed 1 million homework questions answered which is a huge achievement. Not only that, we were the 4<sup>th</sup> highest performing school in the county with respect to homework completion which also placed us in the top 25% of all Sparx schools in the world. A huge thank you to all of you for supporting us with encouraging your children to complete their homework which will unquestionably translate into better outcomes when they come to sit their final exams. The students who are in the top 10% for homework completion were invited to a celebration event on Friday morning in recognition of their exceptional efforts.

In terms of assemblies, I had the privilege of delivering them to all year groups and focused on student pledge 1 – we do the right thing, at the right time for the right reason. I started with some provocations such as 'all people are born evil' and 'good people can have bad morals' which got students thinking about moral development. We then explored what we mean by the phrase moral compass before presenting them with 8 moral dilemmas and asking them to think about how they would respond in each scenario. It was great to see them thinking so deeply about each scenario and was a valuable opportunity to reflect on their own sense of morality.

On Monday we welcomed parents into school for the first of our new SEN drop-in sessions and it was great to see parents and carers taking this opportunity to come and discuss how your child is progressing or to discuss further support. Also, on Monday afternoon, we invited a number of you into school to watch your son or daughter perform in a dance showcase where students performed their examined piece which will contribute towards their final grades. As always, it was great to see our children demonstrating their incredible talent.

Year 11 Art students spent Monday and Wednesday undertaking their final Art examination and produced some excellent final pieces of work. Year 11 French students have also been completing their final speaking examinations, and I am exceptionally proud of the work ethic and attitudes to learning that I have seen from all students involved.

On Thursday, Year 8 and 9 students competed in the district athletics championships at Corby triangle. The weather couldn't have been better and there were lots of individual and collective successes with some students progressing through to the county championships.

My students of the week this week are Emily B (Y13) and Ava W (Y9) both of whom demonstrated our school value of compassion in an exemplary manner when supporting a student who was suffering from a seizure. Both girls did an amazing job of looking after the student and keeping other students calm during the incident. It always makes me proud to see such wonderful demonstrations of character – well done to Emily and Ava. Both students have received a Gold Award for Character and a significant amount of praise points.

The current attendance league standings are as follows but after a discussion with Mrs Walker we may move to a model where each term represents a season so that all forms get a fresh start at the beginning of each term to make it more competitive.

Premier League	Form	% attendance	Position	Championship	Form	% attendance	Position	League 1	Form	% attendance	Position	League 2	Form	% attendance	Position
1	11ABI	96.6	=	1	7JEL	93.4	=	1	8AWH	91.8	=	1	8JJW	90	↑ 1
2	11PHM	95.9	=	2	7KL	93.3	=	2	9SCO	91.8	↑ 1	2	11FAL	89.7	↑ 1
3	10UA	95.4	=	3	11CDA	93.2	↑ 1	3	9ELB	91.7	↓ 1	3	10LFE	88.9	↑ 1
4	7ZHD	95	=	4	10SEC	92.8	↓ 1	4	10MS	91.5	=	4	10SPU	88.9	↓ 7
5	9VPA	94.8	=	5	9LHM	92.7	=	5	9LUC	91.3	↑ 1	5	10AJT	88.2	↑ 1
6	7EJG	94.4	↑ 1	6	9SC1	92.4	↑ 1	6	8MCO	91.1	↑ 1	6	9RL	88.2	↓ 1
7	7TRC	94.1	↓ 1	7	8DAS	92.2	↓ 1	7	11MAS	90.9	↑ 1	7	8EBL	87.6	=
8	7JOB	93.8	=	8	7REL	92.1	↑ 1	8	8GDB	90.1	↑ 1	8	11SLY	87.2	=
9	8ERO	93.7	=	9	10NG	92	↓ 1								

Looking ahead to next week, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May is scheduled to be our next Wow day which we are all thoroughly looking forward to. As was the case for the last Wow day, there will be an extended lunch, a special Wow day menu, a pop up shop flash sale for reward points to be spent, special lunchtime clubs including staff lip sync and much more.

Also, next week, Year 10 have got the opportunity to demonstrate how effective their revision has been as they will undertake the challenge 100 test on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May where they will see how many of the 100 GCSE facts they can recall. It has been great to see students acting on the advice of Dr Van Der Spoel and making revision cards and other resources to help them learn the fact and I am looking forward to going through the results.

This week's top praise point earners were:

Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	1 <sup>st</sup> place	Average points
7	Jacob M – 31	Ade O – 32	Martha G – 39	11 points
8	Jack S – 24	Tino M – 27	Marco H – 34	6 points
9	Evelyn J – 28	Alex J – 33	Ava W – 76	9 points
10	Grace B – 27	Mia B-C – 28	Evan S – 31	9 points
11	Emily R – 8	Aaliyah M – 8	Rhys F – 8	2 points

Have a pleasant and restful bank holiday weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines  
Principal



QR code for exams webpage