

9 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was only a short week but it was still packed full of great events and activities taking place around Montsaye Academy.

The week started with a WOW Day which once again was a day packed full of activities, extraordinary entertainment and rewards. These days have gone from strength to strength and it is heartwarming to see the genuine joy and happiness they bring to both the children and staff alike. For me, the highlight was the staff lip synch/Karaoke which saw Mrs George, Mrs Childs, Miss Palmer, Mrs Thomas and Miss Purvis perform as the Spice Girls, Mr Lyons perform as Maui from Moana, Mrs Mooney and Miss Beaton perform Umbrella by Rihanna and Mr Wiggins and Mrs Lopes perform Happy by Pharrell Williams. The excitement in the hall at these performances was wondrous to witness.

Mr Taylor led assemblies for all year groups which centred on our core value of compassion. He talked about a number of influential people such as Oprah Winfrey and Ed Sheeran and how they have used their status to carry out acts of compassion. The assembly finished with students reflecting on how small acts of compassion can have a huge impact on a person's life.

You may or may not have seen that our STEM on track team were in action on Tuesday and took their go-kart – which they have built from scratch – to Whilton Mill International Kart Track for testing. It was an incredibly successful day for the team who placed 3rd out of the 16 schools who took part in their heat. They were also only 5.6s off the fastest lap! We are all looking forward to the grand finals which are taking place next month – well done to all involved.

Year 11 photography students undertook their final exam on Wednesday and all worked tirelessly to produce some excellent final pieces of work. Year 11 business students were the first to sit an exam in the main hall on Friday as we enter the examination season proper. The first full cohort examination is Monday where all of Year 11 will complete their first English Literature paper.

On Thursday, we celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day and completed a 2 minute silence to show our respect to those who gave their lives in the line of duty. Mrs George put together a moving and thought provoking tutor time session in celebration of the momentous day where the German forces gave their unconditional surrender to the Allied forces.

On Friday, the Year 10 students undertook their challenge 100 test and I could not be prouder of their attitude to learning in the run up to this test. I have seen so many students creating flash cards and saw many students walking up Greening Road doing some last-minute revision from their Challenge 100 booklets on the way into school. The results will be shared with parent and carers ahead of parents' evening which takes place next Thursday evening. We

will also be producing an anonymised rank order so that you can see how well your child did in comparison to all other students in the year group.

On Friday afternoon, it was an honour for me to be a part of our Year 13 leavers' BBQ as we wished the students good luck ahead of their final examinations. For some, this marks the end of a 7 year journey at Montsaye and I am looking forward to celebrating their results with them in August. My principal's award went to Emily B who has had 100% attendance throughout both years, has demonstrated exemplary work ethic, has always been incredibly supportive of her peers and demonstrated her strength of character last week when assisting with a medical emergency. Emily has also worked in our sports centre as a qualified lifeguard where she has replicated the work ethic we see in school. We wish Emily, and all the other Year 13 students the best of luck for their final examinations in the coming weeks.

In terms of sporting fixtures, our year 10 athletics teams competed in the Kettering and Corby District athletics event on Wednesday. Both teams did amazingly well and represented the school fantastically. For the third year in a row, the boys team won the entire event which is a superb achievement. Out of the 13 track and field events, a Montsaye student came 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in 9 out of the 13 events!

Notable mentions:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Shot – Tiaan C

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Javelin – Charlie F

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Discus – Louis H

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Triple Jump – Lucas B

1<sup>st</sup> Place – 400m – Alex C

1<sup>st</sup> Place – 800m – Ollie M

Rather than choosing some individual stars of the week, I wanted to dedicate this week's comments to all Year 11 students. Despite the turbulence of previous years, the growth I have seen in each and every one of them this year has been awe inspiring. The commitment to their learning, attendance to revision sessions (even the late ones!), homework and just their general attitude to learning has been fantastic in this final run up to exams and I would like to wish each and every one of them every success in their GCSEs.

Here is a look at the most up to date attendance leagues for which we have made the decision to reset the percentages at the start of each term to make the leagues more competitive:

Premier League	Form	% attendance	Position	Championship	Form	% attendance	Position	League 1	Form	% attendance	Position	League 2	Form	% attendance	Position
1	11ABI	98.1	↑ 1	1	7JOB	94.4	↑ 1	1	10SPU	93	↓ 4	1	10MS	90.4	↑ 2
2	11PHM	97.5	↑ 1	2	7ZHD	94.4	↓ 2	2	8AWH	92.9	↑ 1	2	10NG	90.2	↓ 1
3	8ERO	97.3	↓ 2	3	8DAS	94.2	↑ 1	3	10LFE	92.3	↓ 2	3	9SC1	90.2	↓ 1
4	10IJA	97.1	=	4	11MAS	94	↑ 1	4	10SEC	92	↑ 3	4	8JJW	89.8	↑ 1
5	9LUC	97.1	=	5	7REL	93.6	↓ 4	5	9SCO	91.8	=	5	9ELB	89.3	↓ 1
6	7EJG	95.7	=	6	9VPA	93.6	↑ 2	6	7KL	91.2	↑ 2	6	11FAL	88.6	=
7	7JEL	95.5	=	7	9LHM	93.4	↑ 2	7	10AJT	90.8	↓ 3	7	8EBL	86.3	=
8	11CDA	95.2	=	8	7TRC	93.3	↓ 1	8	8GDB	90.8	↓ 2	8	9RL	85.7	=
9	8MCO	94.6	↑ 3	9	11SLY	93.2	↑ 2								

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	Xavier S – 26	Brogan H – 26	Riley M – 27	8 points
8	Skyla C – 18	Laura A – 18	Olivia E – 19	7 points
9	Jocelyn H – 20	Alex J – 22	Imogen C – 24	6 points
10	Amarii M – 17	Evan S – 19	Tegan K – 19	6 points
11	Teigan G – 11	Harry C – 11	Teegan A – 11	3 points

Looking ahead to next week, it is Year 10 parents' evening on Thursday from 4-7pm so please remember to book your appointments via the link that has been sent to parents and carers of Year 10 students.

As mentioned earlier, Year 11 students have their English Literature (Paper 1) at 9am on Monday and there will be breakfast provided as well as a 'Heads-up' session to provide them with last minute tips for the exam. A full exam calendar has been sent to parents and carers, and we will be sending prompt emails the night before each exam as a final reminder.

Have a pleasant weekend,

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines  
Principal



QR code for exams webpage