

19 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the second full week of the term draws to a close, there are lots of successes and upcoming opportunities that I would like to share.

Firstly, we had a number of successes on the football pitch with both the Year 10 and Year 11 boys teams in action. The Year 11 team played twice, first beating Prince William 7-0 on Monday evening before playing Kettering Buccleuch Academy where a brace from Alfie S and a goal from Mason J secured a 3-1 victory to leave us top of the Kettering district league. On Thursday evening our Year 10s also faced off against Kettering Buccleuch Academy where a goal a piece from Michael and Jamie was enough to secure a 2-0 victory. A particular highlight was to see both teams huddle together before the match and shout 'We are Montsaye' before playing – great to see such pride in representing the school.

Secondly, I had the pleasure of listening to more brave Year 7 students who wanted to take on the pledge challenge with many of them managing to recite all 5 pledges word for word. This has been a real highlight at the start of this academic year and more and more Year 7 children are asking if they can undertake the challenge. Those who undertook the challenge this week are below and I have the names of many more students who will get the opportunity to take on the challenge next week. Well done to:

Ava L, Freya T, Molly M, Darcy K, Ashton E, Owen H, Alfie O, Evie B, Victor B, Sophia W, Tyler S, Charley L, Juladelca B, Charlie H, Michael F, Laurence W and Freddie M.

I led assemblies for Year 9, 10 and 11 in which I encouraged students to reflect on what character means by thinking about their own favourite characters and what it is about them that resonates with them. We talked about character being made up of mental and moral qualities and I shared my own favourite character and the specific traits which I always try to emulate. The assembly finished with students reflecting on whether their favourite character has similar traits to them or traits that they want to develop in themselves.

Student elections have been taking place this week with students from Years 7-10 putting their names forward to be a part of the student council. The final names were given on Friday and we look forward to confirming the successful candidates next week. Year 11 also had the opportunity to apply to become prefects and interviews for those who have applied will take place on Monday. This is the first time we have had prefects which will be a prestigious position for those who are successful and so I am looking forward to revealing the names in next week's newsletter.

On Character Caught this week, we have celebrated a wide range of acts of character from winning matches whilst being a player down to fighting in a first competitive kick boxing match. We also had acts of honesty where air pods were found and handed in as well as a student being put forward for their dedication to their studies in drama. I love starting the day by sharing these achievements in my student briefing so please continue to send any outside achievements in via Charactercaught@montsaye.org

I was delighted to see so many of you booking onto the Class of 2026 launch event via Eventbrite. This is a really important information evening which will give you everything you need to support your child throughout their final GCSE year. We have added additional seats to the 6pm session as all tickets had been booked. All students will be provided with sets of flash cards for core subjects which we have created to help make their revision as effective as possible.

On Friday, our Year 10 drama students all took part in a bespoke workshop to enhance and develop their performance skills. I thoroughly enjoyed watching them perform their pieces at the end of the day and was immensely proud of the hard work they had put into preparing for the piece.

The top praise point earners this week were as follows:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Sophia W – 20	Cody O – 22	Elliot B – 24	8 points
8	Cerys F – 17	Ade O – 19	Martha R – 20	7 points
9	Amber B – 27	Demi W – 36	Olivia H – 43	11 points
10	Eli A – 18	Anthony C – 21	Oliver H – 22	7 points
11	Will F – 16	Liam M – 19	Molly F – 25	6 points

Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1st place – 11RKU – 99.31%

2nd place – 7ATH – 98.93%

3rd place – 7AJO – 98.06%

Looking ahead to next week, following the success of the Stem on Track project last year, the team will be resuming their meetings on Thursday afternoons from 3 until 4pm and there is an opportunity for more students to get involved and join the team. Any student interested can complete the Microsoft form which will be emailed to them on Monday.

On Monday we will be hosting our first United Learning Book Awards, named “Utterly Lit”. The Library will host some of our best readers from Year 8 alongside some Year 6 pupils from one of our local primary schools. The children will be buddied up to read and vote for the best fiction books available this year. We will host these meetings regularly until March when the winner will be announced on World Book Day.

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

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines

Principal