

6 June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As always, it was an absolute pleasure to welcome the students back following the half term break. Our Character Caught social media posts and student briefings have celebrated lots of achievements, sporting and otherwise, from the half term break.

On the theme of Character Development, I just wanted to acknowledge how fantastic it is to see all our children's achievements and experiences collated into the Character Development newsletter by Mrs George. This newsletter came about after the feedback from parents and carers about not knowing what is taking place and I am glad that our response had led to this brilliant curation of success and future opportunities.

Assemblies for all year groups continued in a virtual format and it was my turn to lead the assembly. With Pride Month commencing on the 1st of June, my assembly centred on the origin of Pride marches. I talked to students about the history of the Stonewall Inn and the escalation which resulted in the Stonewall 'riots' prior to the first official Pride March. I finished by talking about the work that the Stonewall organisation have done in terms of campaigning for LGBT+ rights.

On Tuesday, Maja, Heidi and Carrie from Year 12 organised a prom dress event after lots of fabulous donations of prom dresses from former students and the community, some of which have never been worn. With prom dresses often being very expensive, this was a lovely initiative to give students in Year 10 and 11 the chance to browse and select dresses for their future proms.

On Wednesday, we had the pleasure of being a part of the 'Young Inspirer' project where Mrs Knight (Careers Lead) - partnering with the South Midlands Careers Hub + Tresham College - welcomed a number of visitors to deliver a group interaction supporting Year 8 & 9 students to increase their understanding of apprenticeships. The students had the opportunity to meet four Engineering apprentices and ask questions about how apprenticeships work.

We have been incredibly lucky to be invited to take part in a project funded by the Arts Council to support students to learn about their identity and character. This is being provided by Jonathan Reynolds, a local artist who is incredibly passionate about helping young people to feel supported, seen and heard in school. This is a 10 week project that has been running for a number of weeks now where a group of Year 7 to 9 students have been making masks following their exploration of ideas linked to the phrase 'who are you behind the mask?'. It is a wonderful project and the level of thought that has gone into mask designs to reflect individuality has been inspiring. I look forward to sharing some of the final designs with you all via social media.

Year 11 students have entered the final period of their examinations, and I continue to be impressed both with their positivity and the resilience they have demonstrated. All English papers have now been sat and only one mathematics paper remains in terms of core subjects. Mr Stanger will be sending correspondence to all parents and carers about how we have put additional revision sessions into lessons where all students have now completed all exams – for example their English lesson on Monday will be replaced by a maths revision session.

In terms of our Sixth Form, I am delighted to share some key figures from the most recent edition of the newsletter which reflect both aspiration and achievement:

74% of our students have submitted a university application this year.

47% of our applicants have received at least one offer from a Russell Group university!

33% of our applicants have accepted an offer of a place from a Russell Group university.

26% of our students are heading onto other fantastic destinations, including joining the RAF, Higher Apprenticeships in accounting and engineering, and full-time employment in a range of industries.

We look forward to celebrating the results for both Year 11 and Year 13 when we receive them in August!

Our top praise point earners for this week are as follows:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Ruby C – 24	Ayla T – 25	Ade O – 29	10 points
8	Toby A – 24	Amelia L – 27	Annabel H – 27	8 points
9	Imogen C – 24	Lewis C – 27	Samuel B – 27	8 points
10	Jessica D – 20	Amarii M – 23	Charlie F – 27	8 points
11	Alfie F – 5	Emily M – 6	Josh R – 7	1 points

The most recent update on attendance leagues for this final term is as follows:

Premier League	Form	% attendance	Position	Championship	Form	% attendance	Position	League 1	Form	% attendance	Position	League 2	Form	% attendance	Position
1	11ABI	96.4%	=	1	11CDA	93.4%	↓ 1	1	7ZHD	91.9%	↑ 9	1	10MS	88.8%	↓ 1
2	11PHM	95.6%	=	2	7KL	93.4%	=	2	9LHM	91.9%	=	2	10AJT	88.5%	↓ 5
3	8ERO	95.5%	=	3	7JEL	93.2%	↓ 2	3	11SLY	91.8%	↓ 6	3	9ELB	87.9%	=
4	8DAS	95.2%	↑ 8	4	8MCO	92.9%	↑ 2	4	9VPA	91.8%	↓ 1	4	9SC1	87.9%	↑ 1
5	9LUC	95.0%	↓ 1	5	10NG	92.6%	=	5	10SPU	91.2%	↓ 10	5	8JJW	87.7%	↓ 1
6	7JOB	94.9%	=	6	8GDB	92.4%	↑ 7	6	9SCO	89.8%	↑ 1	6	8EBL	85.9%	↓ 3
7	10UA	94.8%	=	7	7REL	92.3%	↑ 1	7	10LFE	89.7%	↓ 1	7	11FAL	85.7%	↓ 1
8	7EJG	94.8%	↓ 3	8	10SEC	92.1%	↑ 2	8	11MAS	89.0%	↑ 1	8	9RL	82.3%	↓ 1
9	7TRC	94.7%	↓ 1	9	8AWH	92.0%	=								

In terms of a change in the leadership team, Mr Taylor (Senior Vice Principal) sadly leaves us at the end of this month as he moves to take on a Headship at a school in Peterborough. On the final day of last term, I was delighted to appoint Ms Walker as his successor who is going to be an incredible addition to Montsaye Academy. Part of her interview was a student panel made up of students from across all year groups who were all very impressed with her responses scoring her as the clear favourite on the day. She will be in for various days between now and the end of the term and we are very much looking forward to her starting in September.

Looking ahead to next week, there are a number of assessments taking place across Years 7 – 10 including Year 10 mock examinations, reading tests for Years 7 and 8 and end of year assessments across various subjects for Years 7, 8 and 9. Should you have any questions about any of these assessments, please do not hesitate to contact your child's progress leader.

On Thursday, the Biodiversity Action Group will be visiting the prestigious University of Oxford as part of the project which will be a unique and enlightening opportunity for those that signed up to be involved!

Have a pleasant and restful week.

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines
Principal



QR code for exams webpage