

13 June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the second week of term 6 comes to a close the end of GCSE and A Level examinations are almost in sight with the last few exams taking place early next week. Once again, I would like to highlight how proud I am of the Year 11 and Year 13 students; it has been a genuine pleasure to see the determination and focus with which they have approached this exam season.

With assemblies continuing virtually, Mrs Horne recorded the assembly for all year groups which centred on the theme of growth mindset. She told the fictional story of Forest Gump and used it to illustrate the challenges he faced and how they were overcome. This was then linked to the central idea that: "Challenges are what make life interesting. Overcoming them is what makes life meaningful." It was another great opportunity for students to reflect on how they approach the challenges of day to day life.

In previous newsletters, I mentioned an exciting 'Character Sought' opportunity for students to apply to be a member of our new Biodiversity Action Group. 25 students applied and there were some wonderfully crafted applications which reflected high levels of thought and made it very difficult for Mrs Moffet to decide who would be successful. I have included some of the comments to be celebrated below:

Why would you like to be part of the action group?

Olivia E - I love plants and walking. I always go on a several miles walk with my grandad at weekends through the fields at the bottom of Desborough and love seeing the wildlife.

Charlie C - I think it is very important that we start to help improve the ecosystems and their inhabitants around school and locally. I like the fact that I might have a chance to contribute to this cause.

What does the term biodiversity mean to you?

Jessica D - An environment in which there is a large quantity of various flora and fauna that improve their ecosystem.

The first outing for the group saw 6 of our lower school students, along with our A Level biologists, visit the prestigious University of Oxfordshire. Prior to this trip, 12 students also got the opportunity to meet with the Wildlife Trust regarding the plans for the project and I am excited to see the project come to life; pun absolutely intended!

Following the feedback from parents and carers earlier in the year about further opportunities for other Year 8 students to visit the University of Northampton, we were able to secure another 50 places this time for a Science,

Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) event which took place on Thursday. Students that attended had a fantastic day and Mrs Knight is working hard to secure further dates and opportunities to visit the University.

Next, I wanted to thank those of you that have been sending in photos and achievements of your children from outside of school for us to celebrate as part of Character Caught. One of the best parts of my day is putting together the Character Caught slides for the student briefing and seeing all the fantastic achievements. Here is a reminder of the email address which you can email directly regarding any achievements for celebration:

charactercaught@montsaye.org

In terms of an update on the learning environment and building itself, we have recently installed another 6 interactive screens into classrooms that had old and tired projectors which have been gratefully received by staff and students alike. Despite delays with funding from the Department for Education, the plan to renovate all 3 sets of toilets is moving forward with work on the first set scheduled to commence over the summer holidays. Work this week has also been completed on installing a brand-new state of the art announcement and electronic bell system. Testing is being completed today but it will replace the old bell system, it will allow for announcements to the whole school and will also allow us to play music through the speakers for WOW days and other events – the children were very excited about this!

This week's top praise point earners were as follows:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Lewis W – 25	Jacob H – 26	Charlie B – 27	7 points
8	Sayuru G – 18	Jakub Z – 20	Pauline O – 26	5 points
9	Samuel B – 24	Reggie F – 25	Imogen C – 28	7 points
10	Alfie S – 17	Charlie F – 17	Evan S – 20	6 points

The latest attendance league update is as follows

Premier League	Form	% attendance	Position	Championship	Form	% attendance	Position	League 1	Form	% attendance	Position	League 2	Form	% attendance	Position
1	8DAS	95.5%	↑ 3	1	11CDA	93.6%	=	1	8AWH	91.5%	↓ 1	1	10MS	89.1%	=
2	10IJA	95.1%	↑ 5	2	7JEL	93.2%	↑ 1	2	8MCO	91.5%	↓ 7	2	9ELB	89.0%	↑ 1
3	11ABI	95.1%	↓ 2	3	8GDB	93.2%	↑ 3	3	9SCO	90.8%	↑ 3	3	11MAS	88.2%	↓ 3
4	9LUC	94.6%	↑ 1	4	10NG	92.4%	↑ 1	4	10SPU	90.4%	↑ 1	4	8JJW	87.8%	↑ 1
5	7JOB	94.5%	↑ 1	5	7KL	92.4%	↓ 3	5	10LFE	89.6%	↑ 2	5	9SC1	87.8%	↓ 1
6	8ERO	94.5%	↓ 3	6	7ZHD	92.2%	↑ 4	6	11SLY	89.4%	↓ 3	6	8EBL	85.9%	=
7	7EJG	94.4%	↑ 1	7	9LHM	92.0%	↑ 4	7	7REL	89.4%	↓ 9	7	11FAL	83.4%	=
8	11PHM	94.0%	↓ 6	8	10SEC	91.9%	=	8	10AJT	89.2%	↑ 2	8	9RL	83.3%	=
9	7TRC	94.0%	=	9	9VPA	91.8%	↑ 4								

Looking ahead to next week, the Year 10 mock examinations commence on Monday afternoon and will be an invaluable opportunity for our students to be assessed on their progress so far in their GCSE subjects. Our Community Arts Project continues for a group of Year 7, 8 and 9 students and we have an exciting Awards Ceremony for our Carnegie Book Club which we look forward to sharing with you next week.

The weather is looking positive so I hope you all have a pleasant weekend however you choose to spend it,



Yours faithfully,

Mr B Baines
Principal



QR code for exams webpage