



THE MONTSAYE SIXTH FORMER



Autumn Term Edition

"If you can dream it you can do it" Walt Disney

December 2015

Debate Team storm to victory against Brooke Weston.

On the 25th November we participated in a highly tense debate against Brooke Weston's Oxbridge Group. Beforehand Shay McEvoy, Antony Spagnoli, Evie Oglethorpe and Blessing Mukoyi had provided us with plenty of research to ensure we knew every aspect of the topic that we were debating. Once again a delightful spread of cakes had been laid out in the library and the audience and both teams settled down to debate.

The opening speeches from both teams were very strong on the topic 'Should western museums repatriate ancient artefacts?'. Throughout the judges questions the Brooke Weston team tested us with their probing arguments. However, some simple short answers from both of us managed to establish a sense that we were controlling the debate. Rhetorical questions and some amusing yet powerful shoe based analogies were used to great affect and by the end of this section we were in an extremely strong position. Good summaries were delivered by both teams and it was time for the judge's to make a decision. Mrs Lantz voted for Brooke Weston; however the Brooke Principal Sam Strickland and our Head Boy Will both thought Montsaye had won.

Overall we thoroughly enjoyed our experience of debating and believe these sort of events are vital for our confidence and help us greatly in our academic development. We now look forward to the national Debating Matters competition at Bishop Stopford to be held on 7 December and then the Final of the Northamptonshire School Debating Competition in the New Year.

By Ben and Lydia



What visitors say about the 6th Form:

"Montsaye does an excellent job preparing young people to go out there and achieve – it was a real pleasure to visit the school today and I look forward to coming back again in the future."

Rhea Keehn

Local Politician

An introduction:

Students have begun the new term well and have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into academic and pastoral life in the 6th Form including many exciting enrichment activities. These have ranged from listening to political speakers, going on the Berlin visit, undertaking training for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, to participating in EPQ's, NCS, Young Enterprise and the Debating Matters competition. It is also greatly encouraging to see our students peer mentoring and supporting tutors and teachers lower down the school as part of the House system.

We are very proud of what our students have achieved since September and hope these articles in this first newsletter give you a flavour of what life is like in the 6th Form.

Mr Rob McNally

**Assistant Director of Achievement
KS5 at Montsaye**

In This Edition:

- Debate Victory
- Bailey: the new Alan Sugar
- Berlin or bust
- EPQ and Speakers
- In the Classroom
- Getting out of the Pit



Year 13 Historians stood in front of the Berlin Wall

The EPQ 2015/16

This year for the first time at Montsaye students are also undertaking the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This is completed in students' spare time and allows pupils the opportunity to investigate, research and reflect on a subject of their choice. For instance, this year we have students writing research papers on the Origins of the Cold War, the nature of Hitler's Germany and the End of the Cold War. Abi, Lydia and James have demonstrated great determination and ambition undertaking these projects. Their next step is to present their ideas in open presentations in the New Year. I am sure their findings will be most fascinating. These projects are crucial to students looking to develop independent learning skills as they prepare for university and I think demonstrate our students' love and enthusiasm for their studies.

Dates of presentations will follow. Please come along and learn more about the topics being studied. Perhaps if you are a Year 12 student an EPQ may be of interest to you next year.

Nuremberg and Berlin, 19th - 25th October 2015

Have you ever been stuck on a coach for 20 hours? Well, this is how we started our trip to Germany. Whilst this wasn't the most pleasant experience, the rest of the week's activities made up for it. Firstly, we toured the Nuremberg rally ground, which included the Congress Hall, the Zeppelin field and the parade street. The architecture provided an insight into Nazi propaganda as the buildings were often designed to entice people towards the Nazi regime. On the same day, we visited courtroom 600, which was where the Nazi criminals were trialled for war crimes. It was surprisingly ordinary for somewhere so momentous. Later on, we took a 'quick' trip (by quick we mean another 7 hours) to Berlin. Whilst there, we participated in a range of activities over the next few days. A personal favourite was a visit to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. It's impossible to truly understand and imagine what occurred during the Nazi rule.

The atmosphere held the ability to move everyone, with the majority of us in silence throughout the tour. It was an eye-opening experience and something we were extremely privileged to participate in. Additionally, we took a tour around the German parliamentary building, the Bundestag. The modern building featured a glass dome with spiral stairs leading up to an open roof. We were provided with lots of information about the German parliament; both old and new which was useful for our history A level syllabus. However, the most spectacular aspect was the view of the brightly lit Berlin. In the evenings we had a range of activities planned, with one of the best being bowling. Despite turning up to the wrong bowling alley, we eventually found the correct place after figuring out the map (which Mr Wiggins had upside-down) and asking some of the locals for directions. We were on an ally with Rosie, Makayla and Miss Sturgeon, collectively 'Team Sturge'. Shortly after claiming she hadn't bowled in 7 years, Miss Sturgeon secured her first bowl with a strike and then won the overall game. On our final evening, ourselves, Rosie, Blessing and Reece spontaneously decided to take a ride on wacky six-seated bike. This was definitely the best five euros we'd spent all week! Overall, the trip was educational but simultaneously enjoyable and we would recommend it to future sixth formers.

By Alice and Lydia



Congress Hall



Bundestag

Getting into the Classroom

The sixth form help younger students and teachers in three ways; rapid reading, subject support and form support. Rapid reading uses an online program to help young students read better. There is a level based system that rewards students with house points and allows them to read more mature books each step. The sixth form helps the young students to improve their reading skills and allow them to move up to the next levels. Subject support is similar in the way that sixth formers help younger students learn. Sixth formers help a whole class an hour a week in various subjects, for example; PE, Science, Languages, Art, History, ICT and so on. Form support helps students in forms rather than whole classes. Sixth formers will join a form, usually one they used to be in which means both sixth formers and younger students will be more comfortable and familiar, and help with tasks from registration to mentoring. Not only does this support the teacher in watching over the form but also helps the students individually.

By Alistair



Philip Hollobone MP visiting the 6th Form earlier in 2015



Rhea Keehn, Labour GE candidate visiting the 6th Form earlier in 2015

Visiting Speakers can inspire our learning

Since we started the 6th Form, we have been given lots of help to make that jump to Post 16 education. It is a little harder, however we have found the Study Skills courses in PSHE and outside speakers have been of great benefit. For instance, we have had a series of talks from people such as NCS and John Levy from the Friends of Israel. Below is a sample of some of the speakers who regularly come to our lessons; these speakers visited our Politics AS lesson on 26th November. Philip Hollobone is due to come in to school and speak to us on the 30th November, I very much look forward to meeting him, hearing him speak and asking questions.

The first talk given to us was by Dr. Ken Ritchie, the former CEO of the Electoral Reform Society, who primarily focused on the democratic deficit which we face within the UK today, this idea that people are increasingly less interested in politics. Ken focused on ways in which we can increase this interest as well as voter turnout rates. This talk gave the A-level politics group a real insight into the future of politics and the course as a generation that we must take to ensure a truly democratic future. It was a real pleasure to listen to Ken and his anecdotes about how he used to work for Jeremy Corbyn and how he meets people such as Andy Burnham and Ed Balls, figures we regularly study in our books.

The second talk was by David Brede. A keen Labour supporter and activist who was keen to tell us the progress of Jeremy Corbyn and how his 'new politics' will play out in the coming years. This talk allowed us to understand the new direction Labour are following and the background, values and origins of the party.

Both talks were incredibly interesting and inspiring, as well as giving us an opportunity to ask questions that would increase our knowledge and help with our politics course as a whole. I can't wait to go to Parliament in the New Year and learn more!

By Evie

Year 12 Get in the Pit

Recently, Year 12 assemblies have focused on the idea of the learning pit. We have looked to teach students about the many challenges of 6th Form study, asking them to look for the solutions. Each student has been given a diagnostic tool, which they can use to question and think about why they might be finding study difficult. This can be used to pinpoint areas of weakness and to plan strategies that will help them.

All students through meeting with tutors, mentoring and using their reviews are planning a way out of the 'pit' and to exam success!

Good luck miners!

Diagnose your problems, find your answers and plan...



Contact Us

Please Contact the 6th Form Office if you require more information :

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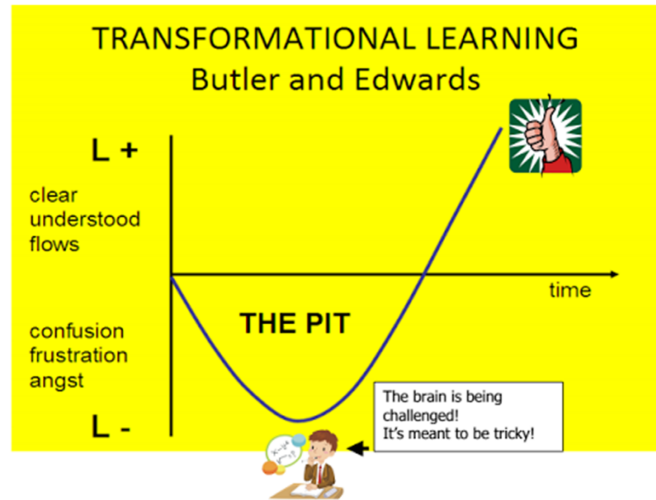
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Learning is about taking risks.
When you're learning you're *challenging* your brain and it's ideas.



Young Enterprise

Young Enterprise is an excellent project for anybody thinking about pursuing a career in a business related environment or even those who just enjoy working as a team. YE provides the opportunity to create and run a business from scratch, with minimal assistance thus making the business entirely the responsibility of the team. If you are a budding entrepreneur or enjoy being creative and involved then Young Enterprise is definitely for you. I am thoroughly enjoying taking part in the scheme and am looking forward to growing our business of clothing production into one of complete success.

If you would like to know more about the Young Enterprise scheme and the fashion products we are producing please feel free to contact me via Mr McNally.

Up and coming Trade Fairs you may wish to attend:
6 Dec in the Grosvenor Centre, Northampton,
31st Jan in MK, Summer Hall and 24 Feb at RS Components
We will also be at parents' evenings and many school events.

Bailey, Year 13

Business Manager of 'Other World'.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 21st January 2016: Mock Exam Results Day

Thursday 4th February 2016: Y12 Parents Evening with subject teachers

Thursday 11th February 2016: Y13 Student Finance Evening

Thursday 17th March 2016: Y13 Parents Evening with subject teachers

Week beginning Monday 21 March 2016: Publication of Y12 final reports.

Thursday 21st April 2016: Y12 Higher Education conference visit to the University of Derby