

# Montsaye Academy

## NEWS

July 2018



What a fantastic year! I almost have no words to describe how overwhelmed we all are with the progress that Montsaye Academy has made this year both educationally and in the community.

Educationally we continue to raise the standard and quality of teaching in the classroom and are developing skills for lifelong learning. Two successful HMI monitoring visits have stated that Montsaye is making good progress, 'There is now a joined-up approach to school improvement'. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have worked exceptionally hard in their external examinations and we wait with anticipation for their results this summer. The introduction of our careers platform, U-Explore Start, is having a huge impact in allowing our students to explore a variety of careers paths and be armed with the correct advice for their chosen path. Students are partaking in this programme from Year 7 onwards.

The introduction of our new values of Excellence, Resilience and Aspiration are drawing together a common purpose and language for the whole of the academy. Our two ERA days focussed on developing the values of Excellence, Resilience and Aspiration and were successful beyond my hopes. An external visitor said 'it felt like we had been running these days for years', this is testament to the hard work and dedication of staff and to the students who engaged and participated in the days fully.

We entered the Rothwell Carnival this year for the first time and won the 'Best Newcomer Award'! A huge



collective effort from all those who participated and put Montsaye Academy well and truly on the map. We will be there again next year with a bigger and better display of excellence.

None of the above would be possible without my fantastic staff and students. Staff have worked relentlessly hard this year and students have responded to the changes we have introduced with dedication. I thank you all for making Montsaye Academy a great place to work and learn.

I wish to extend a huge thank you to all parents and carers for your overwhelming support over the last year. I look forward to working with you all next year.

Have an enjoyable summer break.

**Meena Gabbi**  
Principal

### Timings for Wednesday 5th September 2018

School re-opens for the start of the new academic year on Wednesday 5th September 2018.

We ask that new Year 7 students (and 6th Formers) arrive at 8.30am, whilst students in Year 8 to Year 11 arrive at 11.00am.

There will not be extra village buses, so students who this affects are to either come in on the normal village bus and report to the library or make alternative arrangements to enable them to arrive for 11.00am.



Year 7 students enjoying their woodwind lesson

## Year 9 are chefs for the day...



We were very pleased to be able to welcome Joe Buckley, owner of the Tollemache Arms, Harrington and three of his chefs to the academy. The Tollemache team worked with our Year 9 students to prepare a four course meal for 60 parents and staff.

Joe saw this as an opportunity for former Montsaye students to showcase their success at the academy. Ashley Headland, who left Montsaye ten years ago, is now the General Manager at the Tollemache and Corey McAlindon, also a former student, is Chef de Partie and studying for a level 3 qualification in professional cookery.

The school dining hall was set up as a professional restaurant and diners, consisting of Montsaye staff and parents were treated to high quality meal. In recognition of this, £560.00 was raised for Perfect Helping Hands, a charity which is supported by the Tollemache Arms.

The students worked incredibly hard throughout the day, undertaking all roles from food preparation to greeting guests, serving and cleaning. This was an excellent opportunity for them to gain an insight into the catering industry. We are very grateful to Joe Buckley for funding this event and working with our students. Once again, Montsaye students rose to the challenge – you are all truly amazing.

**Karolyn Claypole - Head of Design**

## National titles for Brandon and Harvey



Brothers, Brandon and Harvey are ones to look out for in the world of boxing. Brandon (Year 8) recently won The English National Schools Boxing Competition in Grantham, for the second time. He qualified by competing in Telford, Doncaster and Northumberland against England's best.

Brandon's brother Harvey (Year 9), was also successful in winning his weight class for the first time after falling ill last year. Brandon and Harvey are now on the England Development Programme and Harvey, being a year older, will go onto represent England in the Three Nations competition against Wales and Scotland.

The boys are dedicated to the cause and train up to 6 times a week, religiously watching their diet and eating healthily. The success they have achieved through their resilience and dedication is an inspiration to both other aspiring athletes and to all students in their academic studies across the school.

**Tim Wing - Joint Head of PE**

## Montsaye's first ERA days...



*On ERA day, we did lots of fun activities, all with our form group. I enjoyed it because the activities made everyone laugh. During the day, we took part in rocket-making and we had to work as a team. When we were doing the activity, a few people were stressed but we all said "have resilience, we will get there".*

*On ERA day, we learnt about the careers we will be able to have when we are older and what jobs will be suited to us and our abilities. We also spent time working as a team, orienteering with our friends.*

**James, Year 7**

*During the first two lessons of the day, we went on a website called 'U- Explore Start'. We did a few quizzes which gave us an idea of the different types of jobs on offer for our future. During period 5 and period 6, we went to East Carlton Park where we did different team-building activities and had lots of fun.*

**Leo, Year 7**



*On ERA day, we were involved in a variety of things such as cadets, art, rocket-making, DEAR and some writing work. My favourite activity was art because when I am older, I would love to be an artist. The cadet activity was fun because we learned different moves and actions such as standing straight.*

**Toby, Year 7**



*After the rocket-making, we all took part in DEAR (drop everything and read). I think this was my favourite because Miss Williams was reading a story out about friendship; we talked about how the girl in the story was alone when she first arrived at school and another girl spoke to her and became her friend. I think it was really caring so that is why I liked it.*

*Later on in the day, we took part in a cadet activity which was really funny because we were taught lots of different cadet moves; it was hilarious because none of us had a clue what we were doing; in the end we all understood it. After that, we were involved in carding (for those of you who don't know what carding is, it is to do with different shapes being put together to make a beautiful piece of artwork). Whilst we were doing this, we worked as a team and it was awesome.*

**Gracie, Year 7**

*We arrived at school dressed in our PE kits. At first not everyone took part in the sports events; some students participated in the quiz, art or bake-off. Darrel and Dante won the bake-off with their spectacular ERA cake. Outside, others were doing field events or rounder's. Everyone was trying to gain points for their form. The rounder's games became very competitive and out on the field, Dylan got a new javelin record.*

*After break, the track events started; Joe won the 100m in a gruelling run to victory. The girls in 10AKE smashed the 4x100m and the 8x50m.*

*It was a sweltering hot day, but it was great to come together as a year group and to have the best sports day ever.*

**Abigail, Year 10**

## All the fun of the fair (carnival)...

The 'New ERA of Montsaye' float, took Rothwell Carnival by storm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Over 50 students and staff met to decorate our 40ft float in the heat on the Saturday morning and dressed to impress – we were performing throughout the hour-long procession around the streets of Rothwell.



The theme of our float was The Greatest Showman, and we alternated between renditions of "This is Me" and a display of live Samba drumming.

The buzz was incredible. The children all looked absolutely amazing, were excellent ambassadors for the school and had a wonderful time.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to S D Daniels Haulage Limited for supplying the float and driver. Also thank you to Mr Thompson for the loan of the straw bales and to Mr Tyler; without his generator we wouldn't have had a performance.



To top it all off, we won the Best Newcomer trophy and can't wait for next year.

**Natalie Gardner**  
Joint Head of Music

## Montsaye students perform in NMPAT Summer Festival of Music: Second Generation

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July, Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust held their annual Summer Festival of Music: Second Generation concert at the Royal Derngate Theatre in Northampton. The concert featured performances from the County Training Wind Orchestra, County Training Choir, County Training Strings, Guitarlactica, County Training Brass Band, Jazz 2 and County Training Orchestra.

This year, we had four of our students taking part in the concert.

Natalia in Year 10 and Josh in Year 12 performed in the Wind Orchestra which performed "Ghost Dances" and "Incantation and Dance". Josh then went on to perform in the Brass Band which played "A Celebration of Youth" and "A Malvern Suite".



The final group to perform was the County Training Orchestra. Elizabeth in Year 12 and Alana in Year 11 both performed in this group. They first played "Nabucco Overture", finishing with a truly outstanding performance of "Star Wars: The Phantom Menace", which was a medley of all the main character themes from the hit movie.

As always, it was a fantastic evening of music, showcasing the best of Northamptonshire's young musicians.

We are very proud to celebrate the fantastic achievements and excellence of these students.

Well done.

**Becky Swailes**  
Joint Head of Music

## Sixth Form Summer Enrichment Programme

It has been a busy term for our Year 12 students in Montsaye's sixth form; with mock exams to prepare for, starting careers research, writing personal statements for UCAS applications, meeting with various outside speakers and two university trips.

Our focus has been very much on planning for the future. The University of Northumbria kicked things off by delivering a brilliant talk about university life. Our speaker, Oliver Welham, a student graduate himself, was very informative and shared lots of anecdotes about his own experiences, as well as offering helpful and practical advice about student finance, writing personal statements and living independently.

The following week, we held an apprenticeship workshop with our careers' advisor, Ian Doherty. This was for those students who wanted to learn about post-16 apprenticeships; what they might entail, the advantages of undertaking one, practical advice about how to apply for them and where to find them advertised.

The session was very well attended and the students found it useful, ensuring that they would be able to make more informed decisions when it comes to choosing between university, apprenticeships and employment.



On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June, we attended the annual UCAS conference at Nottingham Trent University.

This was a brilliant opportunity for the students to speak with representatives from almost every university in the UK. Each university had their own stall, with information and prospectuses. Our students were kept busy visiting as many universities as they were interested in, some of them having researched possible courses in advance. Where there was time, some students also took the opportunity to have a look around Trent University's campus; the study areas, restaurants and some of the lecture rooms. Everyone agreed that it had been a helpful experience, even for those not certain about going to university, as there were also apprenticeship stands and representatives from the RAF and Army.

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June we were off again, this time to the Northampton University Open Day. Luckily, the weather was good as there was a lot of movement, with students having lectures at the university's two current sites. We all became quite used to hopping on and off their free shuttle bus service. This time, our students had the opportunity to hear details about potential degree courses. Lectures were helpful and students also had the opportunity to speak with a lecturer on a one-to-one basis at the end of each talk.

Perhaps the highlight of the day was the visit to the brand new campus; Waterside. This will be the single site for Northampton University from September 2018 and was modern, spacious and impressive. Our students were offered tours of the new accommodation, including the town houses and shared flats. All were impressed by the space, modernity and facilities provided. In fact, their enthusiasm was noted and they were asked to take part in a promotional video for the university, talking about the accommodation and their first impressions.

Sixth form students have been involved in academy life to the full this term. There has been a trip to Havelock Primary school to talk to younger students about life in the sixth form; organised tours of our sixth form base for Year 10 students and a training session delivered by Northampton University about how to write a personal statement. Students have also been involved in the two ERA days, where they have worked with the rest of the school, supporting with sporting events and various enrichment activities.

**Kerrie Jones**  
Acting Head of Sixth Form

**A**cademy record breakers - we are pleased to share with you, the final athletics record breakers of the year. This year's record breakers are shown in red; those records which are in bold are from the sports day which took place last Friday.

## Girls

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	<b>K. Potter:</b> 14.88s (2018)	<b>M. Gibson:</b> 14.39s (2018)	D. Fox: 14.18s (2015)	A. Beale: 13.70s (2017)
200m	L. Whitford: 30.72s (2017)	M. Markham: 31.73s (2013)	<b>M. Robinson:</b> 30.90s (2018)	A. Beale: 27.30s (2017)
800m	F. Batkin: 2.54 mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 2.47 mins (2017)	<b>F. Batkin:</b> 2.35 mins (2018)	A. Beale: 2.49 mins. (2017)
1500m	F. Batkin: 5.15 mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 5.31 mins (2017)	<b>F. Batkin:</b> 5.10mins (2018)	
Long Jump	A. Beale: 4.30m (2014)	A. Beale 4.18m (2015)	A. Beale: 4.48m (2016)	A. Beale: 4.65m (2017)
High Jump	<b>M. Cowper:</b> 1.46m (2018)	H. Barratt: 1.30m (2014)	G. Barratt: 1.45m (2016)	G. Barratt: 1.45m (2017)
Discus	L. Whitford: 19.86m (2017)	H. Davies: 16.22m (2017)	<b>H. Davis:</b> 18.71m (2018)	S. Hempel: 14.25 (2016)
Javelin	<b>K. Potter:</b> 24.90m (2018)	<b>L. Whitford:</b> 21.00m (2018)	<b>G. Brice:</b> 22.30m (2018)	S. Avis 17.20m (2017)
Shot Putt	<b>E. Green:</b> 6.75m (2018)	<b>R. Fox:</b> 7.03m (2018)	A. Siddons: 7.46m (2017)	P. Arach: 7.38m (2017)

## Boys

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
100m	J. Reed: 13.34s (2012)	J. Reed: 11.36s (2013)	J. Bradley: 12.15s (2017)	<b>J. Bradley:</b> 11.57s (2018)
200m	J. Guild: 28.78 (2015)	J. Lewington: 27.50s (2013)	S. Bott: 25.64s (2014)	<b>J. Abbott-</b> 26.94s (2017)
800m	D. Bowley: 2.26 mins (2015)	M. Potter: 2.21 mins (2015)	<b>T. Banks:</b> 2.13 mins (2018)	<b>D. Bowley:</b> 2.01mins (2018)
1500m	D. Bowley: 4.44 mins (2015)	D. Bowley: 4.25mins (2016)	F. Batkin: 4.52 mins (2015)	N/A
Long Jump	O. Wright: 4.65m (2017)	K. Milas: 5.29m (2016)	J. Bradley: 5.50 (2017)	<b>J. Bradley:</b> 5.07m (2018)
Triple Jump	N/A	J. Bowskill: 9.28m (2013)	R. Hughes: 9.43m (2015)	N/A
High Jump	T. Matika: 1.40m (2017)	J. Cain: 1.50m (2017)	T. Shaw: 1.50m (2015)	J. Baggeley 1.60m (2016)
Discus	E. Bye: 17.18m (2016)	C. Smyth: 22.70m (2017)	<b>C. Smyth:</b> 23.56m (2018)	<b>A. Cope:</b> 21.26m (2018)
Javelin	J. Cross: 24.21m (2016)	T. Bowley: 29.28m (2014)	<b>J. Cross:</b> 33.50m (2018)	<b>D. Bowley:</b> 26.54m (2018)
Shot putt	G. Collier: 8.60m (2015)	<b>K. Showell:</b> 8.98m (2018)	A. Adams: B. 11.10m (2017)	<b>G. Collier:</b> 10.60m (2018)

## Lending a helping hand to the community...



We were recently approached by Havelock Schools and asked if we would be able to help with their float in Desborough Carnival. A huge thank you to the fantastic students and staff who worked hard over three to four week, often after school, and helped to paint the 'Very British' design for them.

Special thanks to Lauren, Holly, Leah, Phoebe and Georgie. We would also like to thank the amazing efforts of our lovely staff; Mr Gardiner, Mrs Claypole and Mrs Crook.

**Michelle Corr - Art Teacher**

## This half term, we have introduced a new careers platform, U-Explore, for students in Year 7 to Year 10...



U-Explore is a leading careers guidance company who provide a comprehensive careers and employability programme that is based online through the **Start** Portal. All students, staff and parents are able to access this platform and students have already been given the opportunity in school during form time sessions. Year 12 students will be provided with the opportunity to access this platform in the new academic year, to complement the careers support already offered to them.

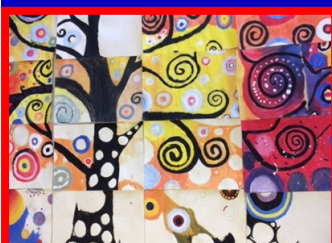
**Start** is an easy-to-use online careers guidance portal that allows individuals to set up a personal profiling order, to make informed choices about their career path and future. Students can rate and reflect on their skills, as well as be able to explore future career and study options they may previously have been unaware of.

Using the wider U-Explore systems, staff are able to track and monitor the progress of each of their tutees and provide guidance to support students down their desired path. Students are also able to record their achievements, both inside and outside of school, so that they are able to easily access these when applying for college, apprenticeships or jobs, for example.

This is a great opportunity to help our students to begin consider life beyond secondary school. Although we have only spent a short amount of time on this so far, we would encourage everyone to engage with it over the summer holidays so that they have completed their profile and are able to use it to their advantage in the new academic year.

**Hannah Pickering - Year 8 Progress Leader**

## Era Day Art competition



**Year 7 and Year 8  
Tree of Life**

A number of students took part in an art competition as part of the recent Era Days. Although each form was competing for the most points, there was a great sense of team spirit as they all created a panel which then formed a group piece.

The work was vibrant and colourful and each student worked so hard to complete their own section. Thanks must also go to some of our Year 12 students who helped out; Chloe, Mireille and Lewis.



**Year 9 and Year 10  
Tree of Life**

**Sara Crook - Art Teacher**

## Year 7 students explore Warwick Castle

Year 7 historians have been studying early British history, beginning with the Norman Conquest, through the medieval period and are now currently learning about Tudor England. Warwick Castle was touched by all of this rich history, beginning in the 10<sup>th</sup> Century in Anglo-Saxon England, and is a perfect place to round off the Year 7 curriculum.



Yet again we were blessed with glorious sunshine and even more glorious Year 7 students, who were exceptional from start to finish. With the weather on our side, we took many opportunities to take pictures of the castle and the surroundings, one young lady took nearly 2000 pictures! Both groups started exploring the grounds, which included getting lost in the Horrible Histories Maze, walking the castle walls, and reaching the top of the castle to witness a spectacular 360 degree view of Warwickshire.

As the temperature was starting to rise, we took a stroll down to the river and watched the magnificent replica trebuchet in action. It is the world's largest, weighs 22 tonnes, and fires projectiles over 200 metres with authentic ferocity. Pupils were then able to explore more of the grounds including the birds of prey, the castle gardens and the beautiful peacocks.



After lunch, we watched in awe as we witnessed the birds of prey demonstration, which saw elegant and powerful eagles, vultures and hawks soar around the grounds and castle walls. We then moved on to explore inside the castle to learn more of its history. We learnt how, in 914 AD, Aethelflead, daughter of Alfred the Great, ordered a fortified mound to be built which protected the Anglo-Saxons from Viking attack. In 1066, William the Conqueror then built a motte and bailey castle to establish his power during the Norman Conquest.



Throughout the Middle Ages, Warwick Castle's development saw more walls, towers and defensive features built, including the gatehouse and barbican. During Henry VIII's reign, the castle was left to ruin until Queen Elizabeth visited in 1572. By 1604, the castle was given to the Greville family by King James I, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Once again the Year 7 Warwick Castle trip was absolutely brilliant; the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were a credit to the Academy.

**James Wiggins**  
Head of History



## Year 10 girls take up the physics challenge

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June we took eight Year 10 students to the Girls Physics Challenge at Sir Christopher Hatton school in Wellingborough. The challenge was to design heat-resistant protection for a space capsule so that it could re-enter our atmosphere from space. We were shown some videos of how Tim Peak spent his time on the space station and how he returned to earth in a tiny capsule. It was clear that one of the biggest threats to his life, was the friction exerted by air particles, causing heating of the structural materials of the capsule, during his re-entry to the atmosphere and his descent back to earth.

The challenge was to provide a protective barrier to a model space capsule – made from a piece of wooden dowel and a metal bolt attached by hot-melt adhesive applied from a heat gun. Both groups looked carefully at the scientific data supplied regarding specific heat capacity and thermal conduction of the materials supplied, then designed their nose cones for the model capsule. One group even tested the melting temperature of the hot-melt adhesive and they were both given the opportunity to test a prototype before making adjustments.



The final testing stage was very tense with both of our teams providing excellent descriptions of the science behind their ideas before putting their models through the vigorous test of being put in a blue bunsen flame. Unfortunately, we were beaten by another school because their nose cone lasted a few seconds longer but we were pleased to be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place out of a total of 10 groups.

The girls were amazing; their behaviour, ideas and personalities were praised by the organisers and hopefully this day will help them consider a career in the sciences for their futures. Well done girls, I am proud of you all and it was a pleasure to showcase our amazing students.

**Lucy Cooper - Science Teacher**

**W**ould you like your child to emerge at the end of their school days as a fully rounded, independent young person, ready to make a positive impact on society? One of the ways to achieve this is to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

Achieving a DofE Award requires resilience and commitment and enables young people to see how their efforts add value and impact, both to themselves and others.

Under the scheme, our Year 9 and sixth form pupils are expected to stretch themselves by undertaking four different kinds of challenge – participating in physical

activity, developing a skill, planning and completing an expedition, and taking on some form of volunteering work.

If you would like to find out more about The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at the school, please contact Mrs Devlin at [ddevlin@montsaye.northants.sch.uk](mailto:ddevlin@montsaye.northants.sch.uk) or visit [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org) for more information.



**Denise Devlin**  
PE Teacher



## Shadowing the Carnegie

On Monday 18th June, a group of students took part in the annual Shadowing the Carnegie event which was held at Latimer Arts College.

Winning the Carnegie award is like winning an Oscar to a children's author. This year, eight books were shortlisted and our students joined in with others from local schools to discuss the books. They voted for their favourite which was

'After the Fire.' by Will Hill; a brilliant book outlining the story of a cult siege, like the Waco siege in Texas.

The official Carnegie winner, chosen by a panel of judges was 'Where the World Ends' by Geraldine McCaughrean. This is a novel based on a true survival story from 1727, which played out on the isolated Scottish island of Hirta. What starts out as an annual three-week harvest during fowling season, turns into a courageous daily battle for survival as nine young boys are left stranded on the perilous sea stacks, imprisoned on every side by the ocean and by their fears of the unknown

All of our students enjoyed the morning and are looking forward to reading the rest of the shortlisted books and to start to make suggestion for next year's award.

**Mandy Lantz - Learning Resource Centre Manager**

## Students have been studying the effects of plastic on the environment...

Following the recent controversy on single-use plastic products, our students have researched its effects on our environment and wildlife.

Students then researched ways in which the plastic could be recycled and put to good use. Their work is currently on display in ES4.

**Jane Rosborough and Kim Simpson**  
Teaching Assistants



## A message from the School Improvement Board...

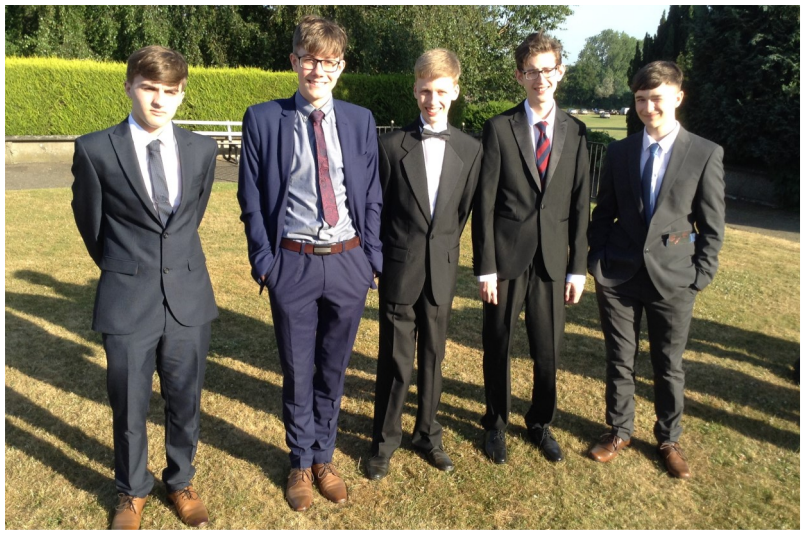
As we come to the end of the school year, it is a good time to look back and reflect on how far we have come on our journey of school improvement.

Under the leadership of our head teacher Meena Gabbi the school continues to go from strength to strength. The School Improvement Board would like to thank all the staff for their incredible hard work this year, the parents and carers for all their support and our wonderful pupils who make this school such a vibrant learning community.

We hope that you have a great summer break and we look forward to working with you all next year to develop the values of the school across every aspect of our work.

Well done everybody!

# Year 11 students enjoying their Prom at Wicksteed Park...



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