

5 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The first week of December has been packed full of festive fun which the children have all loved being a part of. So far, the We are Montsaye Christmas Advent Calendar has brought with it:

- Day 1 – Sweets from Santa
- Day 2 – Christmas craft snowflake making
- Day 3 – Pesky Christmas elf hunt
- Day 4 – Christmas cracker hunt and matching challenge
- Day 5 – The Wheel of Fortune

We have been sharing lots of pictures on social media so hopefully you will have seen the children all getting involved and having a great time and we look forward to sharing more next week as the advent calendar surprises continue.

On Monday, I was delighted for us to officially join United Learning. This brings with it our official new logo and full access to all resources, platforms, support and central initiatives. This is a huge step forward for the school and all signage and display boards are set to go up during the Christmas break so we will have an official celebration on the students first day back in January when the school will look and feel very different.

Mr Stanger led assemblies for all year groups this week which focused on our core value of Honesty but more specifically the importance of being honest with ourselves. He talked to the children about positive self-bias and how we often tell narratives which are influenced by that bias. There were lots of opportunities for students to reflect during the assembly and, as always, it was great to see students thinking deeply and contributing to discussions when asked to.

Our Year 11 prefects received their purple high visibility vests this week which they were wearing with pride whilst carrying out their various duties around school. Our Year 11 prefects uphold our core values daily and are genuine role models for all children to look up to. Well done to our prefects: Hanna D, Tyler S, Niamh S, Bethany H, Molly F, Jessica N, Morwenna O, Eilidh O, Deryca V and Amelia C.

On Thursday evening we invited many of you into school for our Year 7 parents' evening. It was great to speak with many of you directly and to hear the positive conversations between staff and children about the start they have made to the year. The feedback on the exit surveys was overwhelmingly positive with 100% of parents and carers saying that they would recommend the school to a friend which we are immensely proud of.

Principal: Mr Ben Baines

In terms of sporting successes our Year 7 boys continued their improvement at the district football tournaments by winning 2, drawing 2 and losing just 1 of their games. They have now qualified for the plate finals night where they will play against new opposition from the Corby district.

Year 8 and 9 young leaders were in action on Monday this week demonstrating fantastic character supporting and officiating a primary school Boccia competition for 6 local primary schools.

On Wednesday, the year 11 football team continued their incredible unbeaten run in all competitions, overcoming a strong KBA team by scoring two late goals to win the county cup tie 4-2. They now progress into the 3rd round of the county cup. They are still competing in district, county and national competitions and remain unbeaten this year.

Our Year 7 & 8 Dodgeball team played in the yearly tournament over at Latimer Arts College on Monday evening. Both teams played amazingly well and demonstrated great team work throughout against a range of different teams from Kettering! Massive well done to Libby W, Charlie O, Zara S, Keisha B, Oluwasemiloore A, William F, Cody O, Harry H, Jacob H, Oliver H, Lleyton W, Michael F, Roman S.

Our top pledge point earners this week were:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Cody O – 24	Phoebe T – 25	Oluwasemiloore A – 25	11 points
8	Sophie B – 19	Sabiha K-R – 20	Jenissa L – 22	8 points
9	Kaycee O – 24	Demi W – 27	Cooper B – 27	10 points
10	Kenzie C – 20	Samuel O – 21	Liam B – 21	10 points
11	Euan L – 15	Natalie W – 16	Vicky I-H	5 points

Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1st place – 12SPU – 96.07%

2nd place – 7SLE – 95.7%

3rd place – 9ABR – 95.17%

Looking ahead to next week we have the next five days of our Christmas Advent Calendar to open which will bring more fun and festive excitement. On Monday, Year 11 will receive their mock examination results and Mr Stanger will lead an assembly to provide further information and next steps. On Wednesday Miss Collins will run a life skills cooking session and on Thursday 11th December we have our annual Christmas Jumper Day. Instead of a monetary donation, we are kindly asking for pupils to bring in tinned food in order to make a donation to The Wellbeing Hub Rothwell Foodbank. On Friday we have our eagerly awaited author visit and book signing event with Peter Burns, author of Shadow Thieves. He will run an assembly and meet many of our students and also students from Rothwell Junior School who are part of our Utterly Lit! Project.

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Montsaye Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Respect ■ Honesty ■ Compassion

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

Yours faithfully,

Mr B Baines
Principal

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