

12 December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

The penultimate week of the Autumn term has seen the festive fun continue with the children enjoying the various activities and opportunities including Christmas jumper day, lip sync, karaoke and sweets from Santa for the top pledge point earners from the previous week.

Our Year 11 children had their mock results assembly where they were all given an envelope to open which contained their results to mirror what will happen with the real results in the summer. As always, this is a hugely important assembly which provides validation to the students who have been working hard as well providing an important reality check for those that may not have been fully applying themselves up until this point. As I said to the children in the assembly, there is still time to make a significant difference to their grades prior to the second round of mock examinations in March and indeed the real examinations in the summer. The most important part of this process is reflecting on the strengths and areas for development identified from the mock papers for each subject.

The progress league has also been updated, and it was great to see the Year 11s all swarming around the board to see their position and how many places they have moved up since the end of Year 10. A big well done to the top five students in the league with Abishek M in fifth, Matas B in fourth, Milly E in third, Danylo P in second and Tyler S leading the way. A big well done also to the highest climbers up the league which reflects a huge amount of improvement and hard work since the end of year 10:

Rank	Student	Number of places improved
Fifth most improved	Alex C	Up 48 places
Fourth most improved	Mason J	Up 50 places
Third most improved	Jude B	Up 63 places
Second most improved	Euan L	Up 83 places
Most improved	Archie Q	Up 93 places

This week, two of our Year 11 students aspiring to careers in medicine had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a one-to-one mentorship session with Dr Donna Arya from St Andrew's Healthcare. Dr Arya first connected with our school during last summer's Careers Networking Event, where she was deeply impressed by the dedication and ambition shown by our students. Since then, she has been working closely with our future medical professionals, offering invaluable guidance on pathways and opportunities within the healthcare sector. We are thrilled to be developing this exciting partnership and proud of the support it provides for our students. If your child is interested in similar opportunities, please contact our Careers Advisor, Mrs Knight, at kknight@montsaye.org.

Principal: Mr Ben Baines

On Tuesday evening we welcomed a number of parents, carers and other family members into school for a very special 'T'was the night before Christmas' performing arts showcase. As always, I was blown away by our talented students and enjoyed watching them sing, dance and play music throughout the festive event. These opportunities for our children to perform on stage are so important to me and I am grateful to our hugely dedicated performing arts teachers, Mrs Childs, Mrs Thomas and Mrs George for giving our children these opportunities and nurturing their talent.

On Thursday it was lovely to see so many of our children in Christmas jumpers and bringing in food contributions which will later be delivered to our local wellbeing hub. As a school at the heart of our community, supporting local initiatives such as the wellbeing hub is really important to us and to know that families will benefit from this collection over Christmas is fantastic.

On Friday, we played Christmas music through the school speaker system before school and during breaktime which the children absolutely loved for the second week running. At lunchtime, lip sync and karaoke took place in the main hall for students that had earned a ticket and was live streamed into a number of classrooms for other students to enjoy. These events really capture the spirit of 'We are Montsaye' and I look forward to seeing them continue to grow in popularity.

We also welcomed Carlinton Anderson into school on Friday for a mock quality mark inspection on our Character agenda. The feedback from this visit left me feeling genuinely emotional after hearing what our students had said to him about how much Montsaye has improved by putting character development at the heart of everything we do. They spoke openly about how much the school was struggling previously but how over the last 15 months the school has become a genuine community again which they are fiercely proud to be a part of. They talked about how much they love that staff aren't afraid to be vulnerable when putting on events such as the lip synch battles, karaoke and other events which they love. Most importantly, those that had younger siblings spoke about how glad they are that said siblings will have a great education thanks to the changes in the school – very proud of these wonderful children.

The year 11 football team were again victorious after beating Lutterworth High School 1-0. A superb strike from Charlie F secured the win. They now progress into the 6th round of the national cup! This is a momentous achievement! 619 schools entered the competition and now Montsaye are in the last 32! A massive well done to all of the players – Seb S, Michael L, Callum G, Tom B, Jude B, Kai B, Lucas B, Mason M, Mason J, Jeffrey S, Charlie F, Alfie S, Louis H. Next game – District Cup Final on Friday 12th. Good luck!

Our top pledge point earners this week were:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Michael F – 19	Florence D – 19	Sophia D – 20	10 points
8	Jenissa L – 21	Thalia H – 22	Brooke C – 23	8 points
9	Demi W – 27	Ava H – 31	Olivia E – 36	12 points
10	Imogen W – 26	Imogen C – 27	Delin F – 30	10 points
11	Morwenna O – 13	Bethany H – 13	Sophie B – 14	5 points

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Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1st place – 11RKU – 97.93%

2nd place – 7HWI – 97.5%

3rd place – 9MSE – 96.4%

Following our transfer to United Learning our draft Admissions Policy for consultation is now available on our website via the following link: [Admissions - Montsaye](#)

Finally, a big thank you to the parents and carers that openly defend the school, your support is greatly appreciated. As I said when I was first appointed, social media should never be the first place that we hear about a problem in school so rather than resorting to such forums, please contact us directly and we will be more than happy to help resolve any issues.

Looking ahead to next week, we have more Christmas Advent Calendar fun with events including WOW Day, staff pantomime and the big Golden Ticket Prize Draw. Please also be reminded that we close early for the Christmas break on Friday 19th December. Montsaye Academy will close at 12.30pm and transport has been changed with NNC to reflect this.

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

Yours faithfully,

Mr B Baines
Principal

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