

30 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As January draws to a close we have had another busy week in and around the school with lots to write home about.

Mr Baria led assemblies for all year groups which focused on the British Value of Tolerance. He talked broadly about diversity in terms of race, religion, languages spoken at home and then went on to talk about the importance of not just tolerating but celebrating diversity. Mr Baria invited volunteers to come to the front of assembly and participate in an activity called Step Forward, Step Together where students were asked a series of questions which demonstrated the diversity even in small groups of students, but that diversity is what we celebrate when we all unite and say 'We are Montsaye.'

Also on Monday, our fantastic sports leaders were back in action as they led a KS2 Archery Event. This was another fantastic opportunity for them to develop their leadership skills and show the wider community how talented our young leaders are. Well done to Kane L, Iyanu O, Zara S, Libby W, James P, Oliver S, Aubrey T, Libby W, Oscar J, Amber S, Charlie O, Hannah M, Taku M and Jonathan U.

On Tuesday, we came together as a school to reflect on National Holocaust Memorial Day which commemorates the day that Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated in 1945. It was moving to see every member of our community reflecting deeply on the Holocaust and the six million Jewish men, women and children that were killed by the Nazis and their collaborators. It also served as a reminder that all people should use their voice to speak out against prejudice and prevent other genocides from taking place.

Our Year 11 food students spent part of the week completing their NEA practical assessments where they each cooked a number of dishes from scratch with the grades contributing toward their final GCSE grade. It was great to have so many of them wanting to come and tell me what they had made and how proud they were of the final dishes – I'm hoping these saved parents and carers from cooking at least one night this week! Well done to all students that completed their practical this week.

Our STEM on track team, Montsaye Motorsport have been working hard to climb the rankings on the virtual leaderboard, and I am pleased to announce they have moved up 8 places since the last update.

My Character Caught focus this week is the vocal group that meet every Friday morning. Mr McEvoy, the United Learning Music Advisor watched them rehearse and was really impressed with what he saw and said it is possibly the largest vocal group within the United Learning Trust which made me feel incredibly proud of all the students involved.

On Friday, I had the pleasure of welcoming Rosie Wrighting MP back into Montsaye to share and celebrate the rapid progress we have made since her last visit. Andy Sawford, our Chair of Governors, also joined her for the visit and they both spent some time talking to our students about social media and the government looking into a ban for children under the age of 16. I was immensely proud of both the maturity of the students and the richness of the discussion that took place. A big well done to Emily M, Meghan M, Dylan F, Eva M, Sam O, Preston T, Jack D and Xavier S for their input into the discussion.

Our top pledge point earners this week were:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Andrew D – 23	Joshua M – 23	Darcey H – 25	7 points
8	Oluwafunmilola A – 17	Ruby C – 18	Robert B – 18	6 points
9	Eva M – 29	Dib B – 31	Mia R – 42	11 points
10	Anaia G – 17	Kenzie C – 17	Eli A – 21	6 points
11	Sophie B – 18	Isabella B – 21	Perfect D J – 24	5 points

Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1st place – 7ATH – 98%

2nd place – 12PSU – 97.8%

3rd place – 10LMO – 97.58%

Looking ahead to next week, we have some exciting trips taking place. A group of Year 11 students are heading to the Theatre in Birmingham to see Macbeth and our Sixth Form design students are going to the Mini car factory. We have a rewards trip taking place where our Librarian, Mrs Palmer is taking a small group of students to Waterstones in Market Harborough to select some new books for our school library after receiving a grant of £750 from the Siobhan Dowd Trust.

The Proud Table also returns on Tuesday and I am looking forward to seeing lots of work that our students are proud of.

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

Yours faithfully,



Mr B Baines
Principal