

27 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of term and head into the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an exceptionally rich, uplifting and memorable week at Montsaye. Our students have once again demonstrated curiosity, character and community spirit, and I am incredibly proud of all they have achieved.

This week, our Year 9 students took part in their Character Day on Tuesday, a thoughtfully designed programme that helped prepare them for the important choices ahead of their GCSE years. Students engaged in sessions on decision-making, values and virtues, building strong study habits, and an introduction to GCSE options supported by helpful “myth-busting” discussions. They also benefitted from careers drop-ins with Mrs Knight, our Careers Adviser, as well as CV-building support from Mrs George. The day was rounded off with an engaging talk from a representative from Starting Off Apprenticeships, giving students an insight into pathways and future opportunities.

On the same day, we were delighted to welcome Ricardo Erasmus into school to deliver his inspirational talk, UBUNTU - “I am, because we are” to students in Years 7, 8 and 9. His session encouraged reflection on collective responsibility, kindness and the importance of community. It was a privilege to hear him speak, and his words resonated strongly with our students.

Wednesday evening saw our Year 9 Subject Preferences Evening, a key milestone as families explored the wide range of GCSE options and KS4 pathways available. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended - your support, questions and conversations make such a difference as students begin shaping their future.

Today, we celebrated one of the most joyful events in our school calendar: Culture Day, and this year it was bigger and better than ever. With our theme, “*Our differences unite us,*” students and staff proudly wore clothing representing their culture or heritage, creating a vibrant and uplifting atmosphere across the whole academy. Throughout the day, students enjoyed inspirational virtual guest speakers - including Alastair Campbell (journalist and author) and Toby Gorniak OBE (hip hop mentor and innovator), a stunning culture gallery created collaboratively by our wonderful parents, carers and students, a lively lunchtime cultural performance event, and a live band performance, bringing the community together in celebration. It was a fantastic showcase of everything that makes Montsaye such a unique and inclusive school community.

This week also marked the awarding of our first set of pledge point pin badges during assemblies - a well-deserved recognition of students who consistently show dedication, character and a desire to achieve more. We look forward to celebrating even more students as the year continues.

In sporting news, our Year 11 football team experienced the heartbreak of a narrow semi-final defeat in the National Cup. In incredibly challenging weather conditions, they fought back three



times against West Derby School before finally losing 5–3. Goals from Mason J (2) and Louis H kept them in the game throughout, and their resilience, teamwork and drive were remarkable. Reaching the last four in the country is an extraordinary achievement, one of the greatest in the school’s history, and the team have travelled the length and breadth of the country over the past two years representing Montsaye with pride. In recognition of their exceptional excellence, I was honoured to award them Principal’s Recognition Badges - a rare accolade reserved for truly outstanding contribution.

Our top pledge point earners this week were:

Year	3 rd place	2 nd place	1 st place	Average points
7	Daisy T – 17	Florence D – 17	Leo B – 18	8 points
8	Cerys F – 21	Elsbeth B – 21	Beverly N – 22	10 points
9	India J – 18	Dib B – 18	Toria W – 21	6 points
10	Ella D – 12	Munashe G – 13	David H – 14	5 points
11	Charlie F – 11	Oscar C – 11	Harley I – 13	4 points

Our top attending tutor groups this week were:

1st place – 9ERO – 96.8%

2nd place – 7ATH – 96.21%

3rd place – 11ZHA – 95.63%

As we approach the Easter break, I want to thank all parents, carers and families for your ongoing support this term. It has been a term full of growth, success and unforgettable moments, and none of this would be possible without the strong partnership between home and school.

I wish you all a very restful and enjoyable break, and I look forward to welcoming students back after Easter for an exciting and purposeful final term.

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

Best wishes,

Mr Baria
Interim Principal