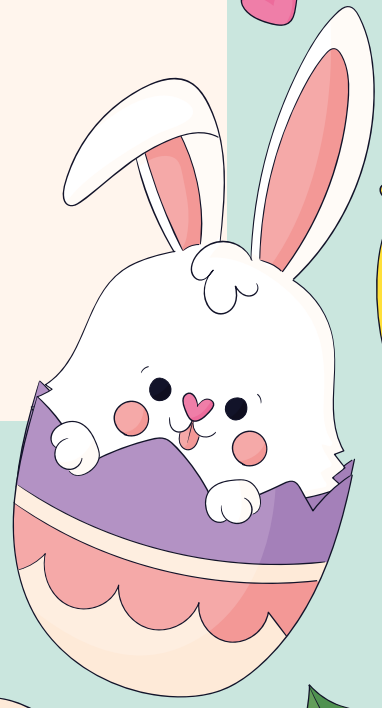


HAPPY

# Easter



**Montgomery  
Academy**





# A Term of Exploration and Achievement!



As another term draws to a close, I'm filled with pride reflecting on the incredible experiences our students have had. This term has been a whirlwind of learning, both within the classroom walls and beyond. From educational trips to inspiring events, our students have been constantly engaged and challenged.

## **Broadening Horizons: Educational Trips**

Our commitment to enriching the curriculum goes beyond textbooks. This term saw several exciting educational trips:

- Year 7 students met Story Ambassadors at the Grand Theatre, sparking a love for literature through interactive storytelling
- Year 9 explored potential career paths at the Winter Gardens Careers Fair, gaining valuable insights into their future options
- Students involved in the Premier League Inspire Us project gained practical skills and learned about teamwork through football themed activities
- As part of a creative sustainability initiative, students ventured to the sand dunes for the Christmas Tree project
- Sports studies groups pushed their limits with a high ropes course, fostering resilience and teamwork.
- And in a welcome return, boxing was reintroduced to the PE curriculum, promoting fitness and discipline.

## **Celebrating Women and Achievement:**

On International Women's Day, a group of students visited Blackpool Sixth Form, specifically focusing on the opportunities available to girls in the field of IT. This visit challenged stereotypes and ignited a passion for STEM subjects in our young women.

## **Beyond the Classroom:**

Our students also embraced challenges outside the classroom. The Duke of Edinburgh award participants persevered through the coldest weekend of the year on their expedition, demonstrating grit and determination. The annual Sciathlon at Blackpool & Fylde College saw our students showcasing their scientific prowess, while the Year 11 Transition project provided valuable support as they prepare for their next steps in education.

Year 11 RE Day took a unique approach, delving into Hindu Festivals and Sikhism. This out-of-the-box approach sparked insightful discussions and a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



## **Beauty and the Beast:**

The excitement was palpable as the school buzzed with anticipation for the upcoming production of Beauty & the Beast. Tickets vanished quickly, leaving both nights completely sold out! The pressure was certainly on, but the cast, brimming with talent and unwavering commitment, had poured their hearts into months of rehearsals. And it showed! They delivered two phenomenal performances, captivating audiences with their dedication and skill. We look forward to another term of learning, curriculum opportunity and community engagement here at Montgomery.

**Have a great Easter everyone!**

*Mr. Careless*







# Uniform at Montgomery Academy



All items should have the student's full name on them.

## Main uniform- the following items are essential

Montgomery Academy maroon blazer with logo
White school shirt (open necked blouses and polo shirts are not allowed)
Black full length regulation school trousers or a Montgomery Academy skirt. (Skirts should be no more than 2 inches or 5cm above the floor when kneeling down)
Plain black school socks OR plain opaque black tights. (No leg warmers or leggings)
Montgomery year group tie of the correct colour
Sturdy black school shoes (not training shoes) (No white/coloured soles, no stripes, no piping, no logos, no boots, no backless shoes or sandals). A student wearing other footwear for medical reasons should provide a doctor's note. <b>WE REGRET THAT A LETTER FROM PARENTS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.</b> If a student is not in correct footwear then they will be expected to borrow some shoes from our stock in the standards room.
Outdoor clothing is not to be worn inside the dining rooms or classrooms Hoodies are not allowed in school and should not be worn instead of a suitable outdoor coat.
Students will need an adequate school bag to carry exercise books, A4 folders, P.E. kit and equipment at all times.
Montgomery v neck jumper (optional) but must be worn under blazers and not in place of a blazer.



## P.E. Kit (Compulsory)

Montgomery polo shirt
Plain, black football shorts or skort
Hair bobble if hair is long enough to tie back
Trainers
Montgomery football socks
Football boots and Shin pads
P.E. bag large enough to carry all PE attire required for lessons
Plasters if ears have just been pierced and earrings are unable to be taken out

## P.E. Kit (Optional)

Montgomery ¼ zip tracksuit top	Plain, black tracksuit bottoms
Leggings	

## Hairstyles must be suitable for the academy environment

- If hair is dyed -only naturally coloured dyed hair is acceptable - no other dyed colours or streaks.
- Tramlines or shaved head designs are not acceptable
- Plain simple hair bands or hair slides (no flowers/ no scarves).
- Hijabs should be plain, black or maroon.

## Jewellery is restricted to:

- 1 pair of plain gold/silver coloured studs
- 1 wristwatch

No facial piercings are allowed

## Nails

Nails must appear natural with only nude coloured nail varnish. Acrylic nails must be short in length and be natural/nude in colour. Students arriving at school with bright coloured nail varnish or inappropriate acrylics will be asked to remove them.

## Make up

Make up must be minimal and natural, with no false eye lashes. Any students not conforming to this will be asked to remove their make-up.

Progress Tutors will ensure that students for whom they are responsible comply with school uniform requirements at all times. Class teachers will reinforce these expectations with their classes and insist that nothing inappropriate is worn during lessons.



## Montgomery Academy Footwear

We understand the challenge parents face in wanting to purchase the correct footwear which adheres to the school uniform code. We have tried to help you with this visual guide.

**Some footwear labelled as 'shoes' or 'back to school' in shops does not necessarily meet Montgomery uniform standards and we ask you to please refer to this guidance before making a purchase.**

Acceptable	Not Acceptable
Plain black shoes	Trainers of any type
	Boots/ canvas or leather pumps

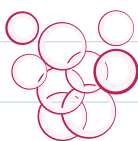


# Attendance Update

100%

## Rewards for many students

Based on the current information over 100 Montgomery students have been able to attend **100%** of school days thus far this year. This is an amazing feat given the many reasons for potential absence. Well done to them.



## Pizza Party

Another 300 or so students are in line to receive an invite to the end of term Pizza Party for achieving **98%** attendance or above. This means that these students have only missed 1 day (2 sessions) all term. This is excellent attendance and these students are fully deserving of their pizza reward.

Our expectation is for students to have at least 96% Attendance, meaning that they have only missed 2 days or 10 lessons worth of learning this term. A student with only 90% attendance will have missed a full week of learning this term, 5 full days.



## Why is Friday different?

One of the things we have noticed is that attendance on a Friday is lower than other days of the week. Current attendance on a Friday is 89.4% compared to the average for the other days of the week which is 91.2%. This means that on average there are 22 more students absent on a Friday than the other days of the week. Please can we ask that all parents treat Friday in the same way that every other day of the week is viewed and ensure their children turn up for school.

IT'S

FRI  
DAY



## Attendance Survey

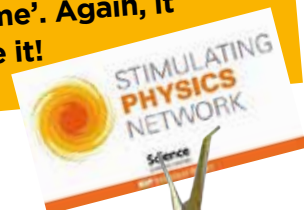
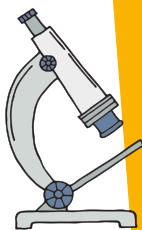
We will be sending out a short survey linked to attendance matters and would request that parents take the time to complete this. Such information is very valuable in helping us to reflect and improve on what we are doing. Thanks





# Science is 'Spring-ing' into action in 2024!

The Science department at Montgomery Academy has enjoyed a very positive and action-packed start to 2024. Gone are the dark, cold autumn days and instead, the extra light brought about by Spring has ensured our team and our students have extra reasons to smile in s-block. Our ongoing aim is to motivate and inspire our students to share our passion for Science and build an inclusive team ethos in the department; a culture that we believe will allow our students to reach their full potential. As well as continuing to offer our popular and well-established STEAM and Science Clubs, we have continued our long-standing collaborations with the Institute of Physics and the Ogden Trust, have taken a group of students to Oxford University and have also continued with our very popular dissection club. We have also promoted with enthusiasm British Science Week and delivered a whole school assembly on the theme this year which is 'time'. Again, it has been exceedingly busy in science this term, but we still absolutely love it!



## Science Club

Our science club continues to be inclusive and open to students from all year groups and this subtle change from last year has had a real positive affect on the dynamics of this extracurricular club. Led brilliantly by Miss Healey, our students have continued this term to develop key scientific skills and knowledge whilst also developing their communication and teamwork skills. The theme this term has been cosmetics, and learning about mixtures in science that are designed for specific purpose. Within this exciting topic, students

have had the opportunity to make homemade glue out of milk and vinegar which was then used to build different lollipop stick models. In and around valentine's day, our students created chromatography valentine's day cards and flowers and at Mother's Day, they made their own lip balm out of coconut oil, beeswax and castor oil. More recently, when getting into the Easter spirit, our students have been challenged to design and make an Easter basket capable of transporting an egg from upstairs to downstairs in s-block. These tasks have included



using a variety of chemicals and practical techniques and our students deserve great praise for their resilience and commitment to following a scientific method with the attention to detail needed to produce the very best products – well done indeed!

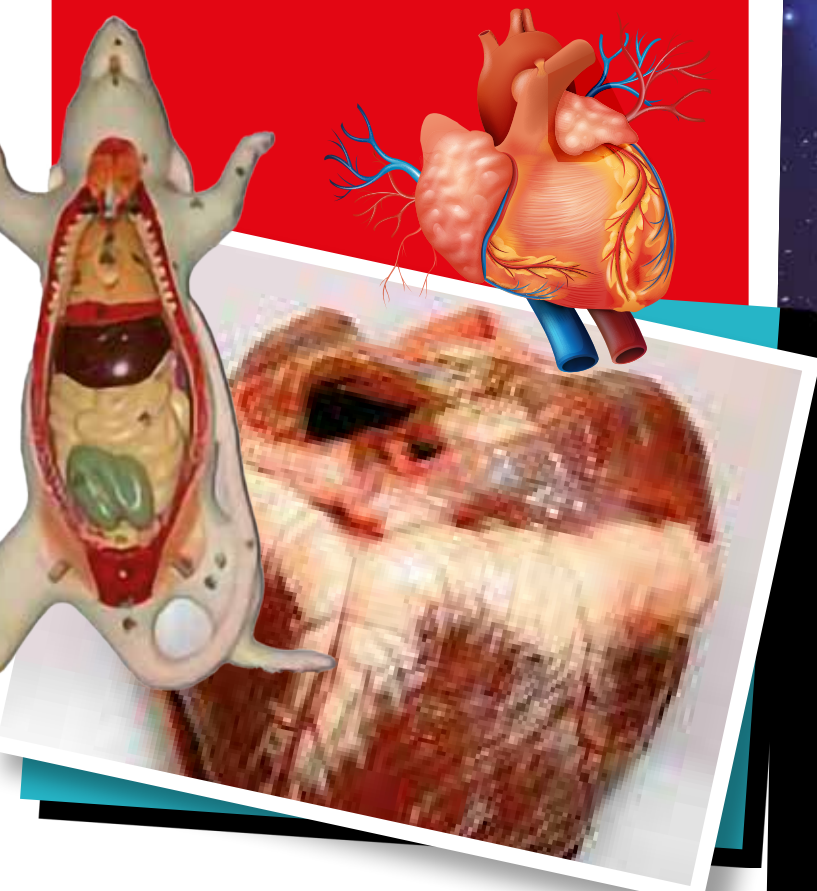


## Dissection Club - Operation Theatre @ Montgomery



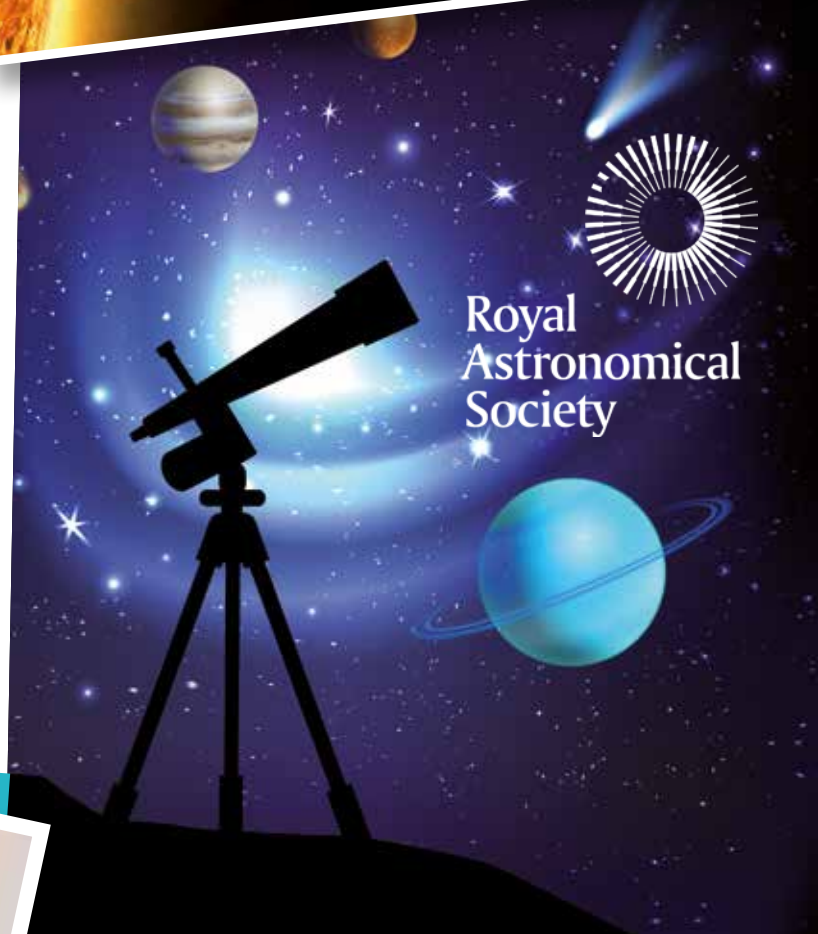
Now in its 3rd full year, the Dissection Club continues to be led passionately by Mr Johnston. This club is being run in 6-week blocks for each year group and this term we have welcomed our Year 7s.

Despite not being for everyone, this club has become more and more popular and has some super excited and talented scientists carrying out different dissections. As well as looking at organs such as the heart and the lungs, we have also looked at fish eyes, rats, squid and chicken wings. Learning about animal anatomy and physiology is an important aspect of the science specification and also develops the interests of those students interested in a career within the medical sector. A big thanks must go to Mr Johnston who has put his heart and soul into this club (no pun intended). We look forward to welcoming our other year groups to this club in the summer term and hope to inspire some of our older students to work with and mentor some of our younger students moving forward.



## GCSE Astronomy

We have continued our collaboration this year with the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) which has seen a small group of students (now in Year 10 and 11) studying for an additional GCSE in Astronomy.



The sessions run every Tuesday after school and are taught by Dr Sheila Kanani from the RAS and supported by Mr Bradley and Mr Mason. This course, with exams this summer, highlights the growth mindset within the science department and also provides evidence that we are constantly looking outwards for ways to improve our overall science provision. Keep going our budding Montgomery Astronomers - you can do it!





# BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

8-17 March 2024



The theme for this year's British Science Week was "time", and in embracing this theme, we have made a display in the main school reception that shows clearly how our STEAM subjects – science, technology, engineering, art and maths have evolved at Montgomery over time.

Part of our success over recent years is the time we have invested in teaching our learners a variety of science specific revision strategies and this is something we are celebrating with all year groups presently in terms of them mastering such areas. Dr Hutchinson also led a whole school assembly which celebrated British Science week and this year's theme. This assembly promoted the success of female British scientists such as Marie Curie, Rosalind Franklin, Helen

Sharman, Jane Goodall and Dame Sarah Gilbert; all of whom have made significant scientific contributions that have gone on to hugely benefit our global community. The science team have also promoted a poster competition that celebrates the theme this year. We hope to reward our competition winners at Montgomery with prizes and send our winning finalists through to the national finals.

**British Science Week 8<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

The theme for this year's British Science Week is "Time", encouraging young people to think about how time affects all aspects of life on Earth.

It is also a chance for young people to consider how science itself has changed over time and evolved.

**Poster Competition**

Produce a prize winning poster that embraces British Science and this year's topic of "Time"

Deadline for submitting to your teacher – **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Download your free British Science Week activity packs: <https://www.britishsienceweek.org/>

**Ideas and guidance for your poster**

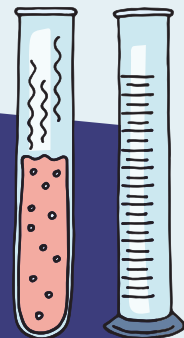
- Research – what does "Time" mean to you?
- It could be evolution, DNA, fossils, the universe
- Your idea might be based on your favourite scientist
- Poster can be A3 or A4 and should be colourful



Well done for another fantastic team effort during British Science Week which will once again return this time next year!

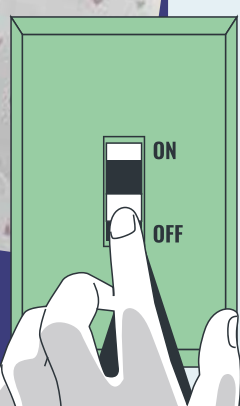
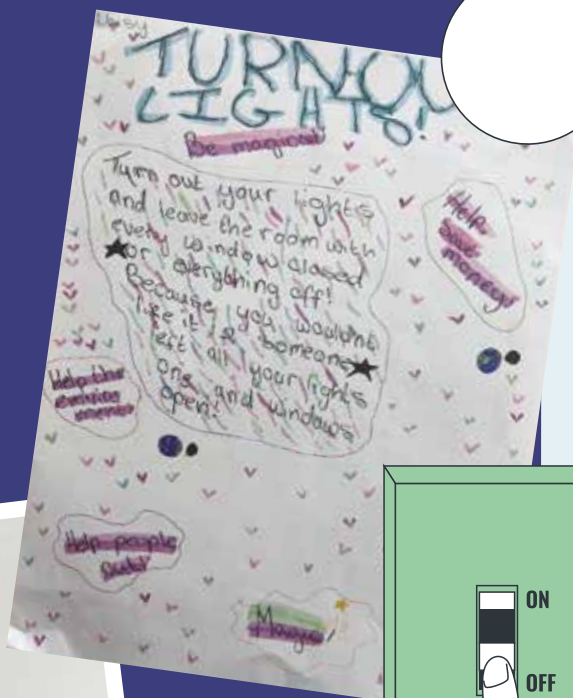
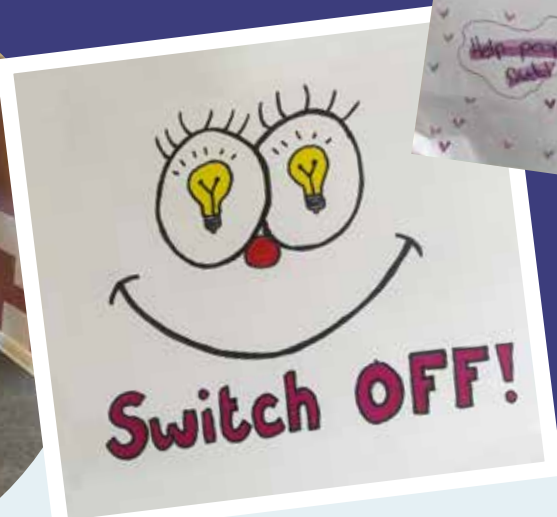
## Convection snakes and eco-action

Whilst studying energy, our Year 7 students this term have enjoyed learning about the different energy stores that exist and how energy can be transferred from one store to another.



They have particularly loved making convection snakes and seeing them twist using the currents formed from our Bunsen burners. In terms of tackling saving energy, Mr Bradley has led a whole school, tutor time activity on how we can best conserve energy across the school. From this, some brilliant posters have been produced and these have been put up around school to remind all stakeholders of the importance of saving energy. Another tutor time activity that Dr Hutchinson led this term was a pitch and toss momentum challenge. Whilst all year

groups competed well, the atmosphere at the Year 10 competition was akin to the FA Cup Final. Finally, our Year 11 students have been learning about the environmental importance of water this half term. This has included an evaluation of where different countries source their water and how it is treated in order to make safe drinking water. More recently, our students have been purifying seawater in a process known as desalination to model how hot and dry countries prepare their drinking water and this has brought this topic to life!





# Ogden Trust Competitions & The Sciathalon 2024

The first competition of 2024 in association with the Ogden Trust was a Space competition in which three winners were selected at KS3 and KS4. These students deserve great praise for their work and will receive certificates to recognise their excellence.

## KS3 Space

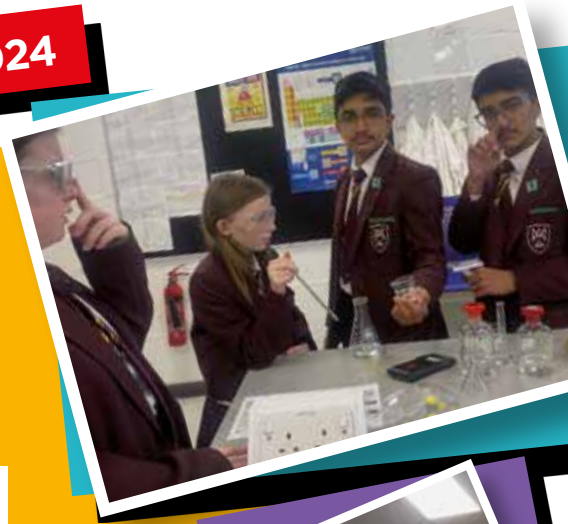
1st place: Freya B, 2nd place: Darci S,  
3rd place: Izzy H

## KS4 Space

Joint 1st place: Cerys H and Emma I,  
3rd place: Liam B



making physics matter



We also took four students from our Science club to a Lancaster University Sciathalon at Blackpool and the Fylde College on 12th March. The team consisted of Siva and Sidharth J (Y8), Lucy T (Y8) and Teagan H (Y7). They successfully demonstrated their engineering prowess by building a solar powered buggy, a wind turbine and also had to make a titration finish at exactly 142.1 seconds. Although we did not win the overall competition,

our team did finish in 4th place which represents a huge achievement. In a separate collaboration, the Ogden Trust in association with Lancaster University have run some virtual coaching sessions for a group of Year 8 students. The aim of these coaching sessions is to inspire and motivate students to consider studying the physical sciences further after their GCSEs. Lastly, we invited three Lancaster University students into

school to teach a lesson to some of our Year 10 and Year 7 students. These university students are keen to pursue a career in teaching and we are more than happy to support this across the sciences at Montgomery. A special thanks must go to both Miss Healey and Mr Woodruff for their commitment to continuing our Ogden Trust partnership at Montgomery, well done!

## Visit to Queen's College Oxford University

At the end of March, Dr Hutchinson and Miss Healey led an overnight residential visit for ten Year 9 students to Queen's College, Oxford University. This incredible experience was part funded by Oxford University and included a tour of Queen's college, two science taster sessions and a critical thinking workshop. With strong links now made to both Cambridge and Oxford universities, we hope to inspire our students to apply to these prestigious institutions in the future. We believe that with the scientific talent we have at Montgomery there is absolutely no reason why our students cannot reach these heights and be successful on degree programs at these universities – let's go Montgomery!



 THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**



Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe - with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS



Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends - but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have *anyone* behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

## EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

## ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

## VISIBLE LOCATION



Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely - but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TURN OFF QUICK ADD



The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

### CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS



In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This 'Friend Check Up' encourages users to delete connections with users that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

### DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.



### CHAT ABOUT CONTENT



It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up - and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.

### KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE



Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life - especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.

### BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT



If a stranger *does* connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, your child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user (annoying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/3266788358932-What-is-My-AI-on-Snapchat-and-how-to-use-it> | <https://values.snap.com/en-gb/news/early-learning-from-my-ai-and-new-safety-enhancements> | <https://stefimac.com/2023/04/19/snapchat-live-location-sharing-chatgpt/> | <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7012304746844>



2015-2024  
 Montgomery Happy Easter!  
**STEAM CLUBS**  
 SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • ARTS • MATH  
 Mrs Bach Mr Byrne Ms Healey

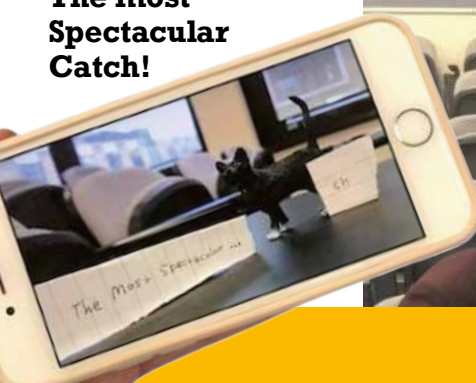


STEAM Club activities are curriculum based; mostly practical and planned specifically with our SEMH students (and fellow travellers!) in mind.



We really enjoy it when colleagues are happy to join us and share their particular skills. This term we were delighted to have a 'Guardians of History' workshop led by Mr Wade and to also have input and support from Little Alex Cox, Ms Elliot and Mrs Ferreira – **Thank you everybody and Happy Easter from all of us at STEAM Club!**

**The most Spectacular Catch!**



**Since returning in January we have learned about:** \* What led to WW1? \* Rubber Band Cars \* The Most Spectacular Catch! \* Best Parachute for a Wooden Spoon \* Draw the 2nd Longest Snake on a Loo Roll \* Red Cabbage Indicator \* Best Paper Loo Roll Plane \* Valentine Cards/ Burning Love Hearts \* Break something into Most Pieces! \* Easter Baubles \* Slime \* What is the Best Things you can Teach STEAM Clubbers to do? \* Lava Lamps \*

Emma B • Drew • Freya • Josh N • Lucy • Charlie T • Niamh • Canaan • Maisie • Oscar • Ellie • Sam Heather • Dylan • Ryan B • Phoebe • Teighlor • Erin • Nathan • Daisy • Adam • Ava • Freddie • Teagan Colin • Dillon • James • Charlie W • Lucas • Hayden • Mikey • Destiny • Angel



**If all the teachers turned into zombies...  
What would be your first course of action?**



**TEAM MONTBOTICS:**

Escape the room and try to block the door and quickly find anything that could be used as a weapon to fight off the zombies.

After you got a weapon, try to run to the nearest exit and fight the zombies as you go to the exit.

Once you get out of the exit run as fast as you can away from the school...

And then you wake up because it was all just a dream!

**TASKMASTER EDUCATION**



**'Make the most brilliant slo-mo school movie... ever!'**  
Lucy & Charlie. Spring 2024.



**Take Three Chefs!**



**Make the best Parachute for a  
Wooden Spoon!**





# The Rubber Band Car Challenge



smallpeice  
Dare to imagine

# STEM Sessions

Time needed:  
**30 min**

#STEMSessions

Audience:  
**Years 8 & 9**



BRITISH  
SCIENCE  
WEEK  
8 - 17 March

# BOOK NOW!

# WW1



Mr Wade teaching us about the sparks that ignited WW1



# The Panathlon Challenge



The Panathlon Challenge is an annual event that presents so many positive experiences for our SSC students. Not least, of course because they have an opportunity to experience alternative sporting activities alongside others with disabilities and special educational needs.

**Charlie T:** 'I did enjoy being with the other students and playing the games. It was...ok, I guess. Maybe. I would go again. I would give it 8.1 as a positive experience... I guess!' 10/10

**Freya:** I enjoyed it all! Throwing the darts was the highlight! I would definitely go again. 10/10

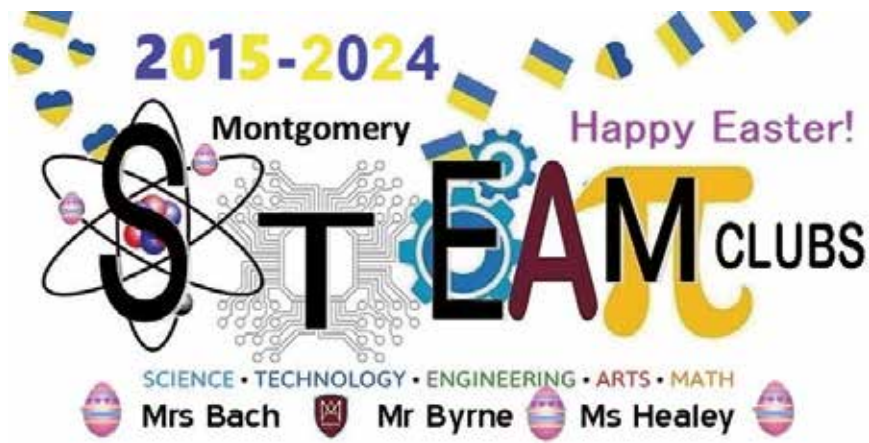
**George:** I liked the football but my favourite activity was the table Cricket. The highlight for me was scoring all those sixes – you can tell by the smile on my face! 10/10

**Lucas:** 'My favourite was mini cricket because I was good I played well. I like having a part in all the games most that was the highlight for me. I would go again, please.' 9/10.



Learning through play helps develop confidence, resilience, social skills... oh, you know the selling points by now! One of the best bits for Monty is that it can help encourage a real sense of school commitment for many of our students.





Obviously, these activities don't happen without lots of support 'Backstage'.



STEAM Club would like to send a message of BIG thanks to Di and Alison, our PE Dept', SLT, The Attendance team, and of course, our brilliant SSC support team, including Ms Astbury, Mrs Chekusheva, Mrs Shanab, Mr Field, Mr Evans, Mrs Welch, Mrs Hodgson, Ms Crane and Mrs Slinger who have supported and been there for us throughout! Thanks a million!!!





# Sparx Maths

# Math Department Celebrates Student Success

The Maths department are delighted to see that Montgomery Students have already passed **650,000** correctly answered questions this year so far, up 25% from this time in 2023.

It is great to see that over 300 students have improved their Times Tables this year, which is a fundamental skill which reduces the cognitive load when problem solving in maths.

▶ **Sparx Maths** creates perfectly tailored practice homework for each student each week driven by our scheme of learning. The practice is both challenging (to ensure students need to think) and, crucially, achievable (so that students can be successful). We also ensure the practice uses spaced repetition and interleaving to support a change in students' long-term memories. We are proud that Sparx is inclusive and can adapt to all students' current level of expertise. This promotes engagement, confidence and ultimately learning.

### Top students so far in 2024

**Y7** – Luke I – 22644XP

**Y8** – Niamh H – 20100 XP

**Y9** – Xinyi Y - 20380 XP

**Y10** - Anni Y – 17540 XP

**Y11** – Cerys H – 15319 XP



# Montgomery Maths Circles

Each week a number of eager mathematicians meet up to form the Montgomery Maths Circle mentor to grapple with intriguing questions, to discover and explore exciting ideas, and to learn to think like advanced mathematicians.

The questions, tasks and explorations in the Maths Circle develop students' mathematical reasoning and expand their mathematical curiosity, at the same time as refining their technical knowledge and skills. In Maths Circles students engage with tasks that they find challenging but satisfying; develop

their knowledge of significant topics in mathematics whilst learning and developing mathematically by the conversations they have about the tasks they are engaging with: either individual conversations with Mr Diver, or conversations with their peers.

**New Students are welcome to join the maths circle in O2 every Tuesday after school. Puzzle to include?**


## Multiplication mysteries

× × ×

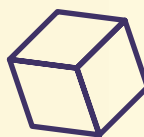
In this calculation, each letter stands for a different digit.

None of the digits is 0.

Can you work out what the digits a, b, c and d are?



	a	b	c	d
×				3
<hr/>				
	c	b	a	d







# ***CYBER FIRST SUPER LEARNING DAY FOR YEAR SEVEN STUDENTS***

**Super Learning Day: Year Seven Students Dive into Cyber Security!**  
**Date: Monday, 26th February**

On a crisp Monday morning, the year seven students at our school embarked on an exciting journey into the world of cyber security. As part of the prestigious Silver Cyber First Award, our budding tech enthusiasts delved into various aspects of this critical field.



# **CYBER FIRST SUPER LEARNING DAY FOR YEAR SEVEN STUDENTS**

## **Cyber Explorers: A Digital Adventure**

The day kicked off with the Cyber Explorers competition—an online activity designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of cyber security. Armed with curiosity and determination, our young learners navigated through virtual challenges, unraveling mysteries and honing their skills.

## **Cyber First Hosts Applaud Engaged Students**

The Cyber First hosts were impressed by our students' enthusiasm and dedication. Their engagement throughout the day was commendable, and their hunger for knowledge left a lasting impression. As the sun set on our Super Learning Day, we celebrated not just the completion of tasks but the birth of future cyber defenders.

Kudos to our year seven cohort for embracing the world of cyber security with open minds and determined hearts!

## **Unlocking Career Pathways**

In a captivating careers talk, industry experts shared insights into the diverse opportunities within the cyber security domain. From ethical hacking to threat analysis, the students discovered a plethora of paths they could explore. The message was clear: cyber security is not just a job; it's a dynamic and ever-evolving adventure.

## **Hands-On Workshops: From Code to Robbery (Digitally, of Course!)**

In the final leg of the day, students split into small groups for hands-on workshops. Here's a glimpse of what they accomplished:

**1. Mechanical Programming:** Armed with logic and creativity, our students programmed mechanical devices. From simple robots to automated door locks, they brought their ideas to life.

**2. Code Vulnerability Hunt:** With a keen eye for detail, they dissected computer programs, seeking out vulnerabilities. Their mission? To identify weaknesses and learn how to safeguard against cyber threats.

**3. Digital Heist:** In a thrilling simulation, students attempted to "rob" a digital bank. Armed with coding skills and strategic thinking, they navigated through firewalls and encryption layers. The adrenaline was palpable!





# Year 10 DUKE OF EDINBURGH



**In a display of resilience and determination, a group of 26 Year 10 students triumphed over challenging conditions to successfully complete their Duke of Edinburgh expedition at the start of March. Despite facing treacherous weather and rugged terrain, these young adventurers emerged victorious, showcasing their grit and teamwork.**

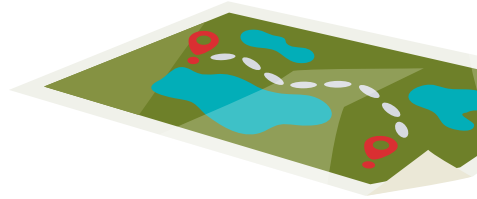
The expedition, a key component of the Duke of Edinburgh Award program, tested the students both physically and mentally. Battling through adverse weather conditions and navigating difficult terrain, the participants demonstrated their ability to overcome obstacles with courage and determination.

Despite the daunting challenges, the students remained undeterred, pushing forward with unwavering resolve. Their teamwork and camaraderie were commendable as they supported each other through the toughest moments of the journey.

The expedition not only tested their outdoor skills but also fostered personal growth and character development.



Each participant emerged from the experience with a newfound sense of confidence and accomplishment, having pushed their limits and discovered their inner strength.



**“We faced some tough moments out there, but we stuck together and supported each other every step of the way,” remarked Freddie.**

**“Completing this expedition has been incredibly rewarding, and I’m proud of what we’ve achieved as a team.”**



The founder of Sam Sykes, the leader of the weekend commented, “Last weekend started the DofE expedition season in a very cold, wet & challenging way. The Montgomery Academy DofE team showed determination, resilience, and maturity in completing their expedition in such challenging conditions. Their ability to overcome this challenge shows a mental & physical toughness few people possess. You should be incredibly proud of yourselves. I certainly am. Please keep it up & I wish you the very best in your future endeavours”

The school community commends these young adventurers for their outstanding achievement and resilience in the face of adversity. Their successful completion of the Duke of Edinburgh expedition serves as a testament to their determination and spirit of adventure, inspiring others to embrace challenges and strive for excellence.







# GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

## GCSE Photography Year 10's

This half term, our Year 10 photography students embarked on a personalised photography journey, utilising the wide range of landscapes our town has, students have captured a diverse range of scenery inspired by various landscape photographers. The result is a fantastic display of images showcasing Blackpool's landscapes for the Blackpool Landscape Photography Topic!

Tasked with capturing the essence of landscapes, our students ventured out to explore the unique landscape of Blackpool. Armed with cameras and fuelled by their research on artists, we visited Stanley Park, in addition, students captured some fantastic shots for homework.











# GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

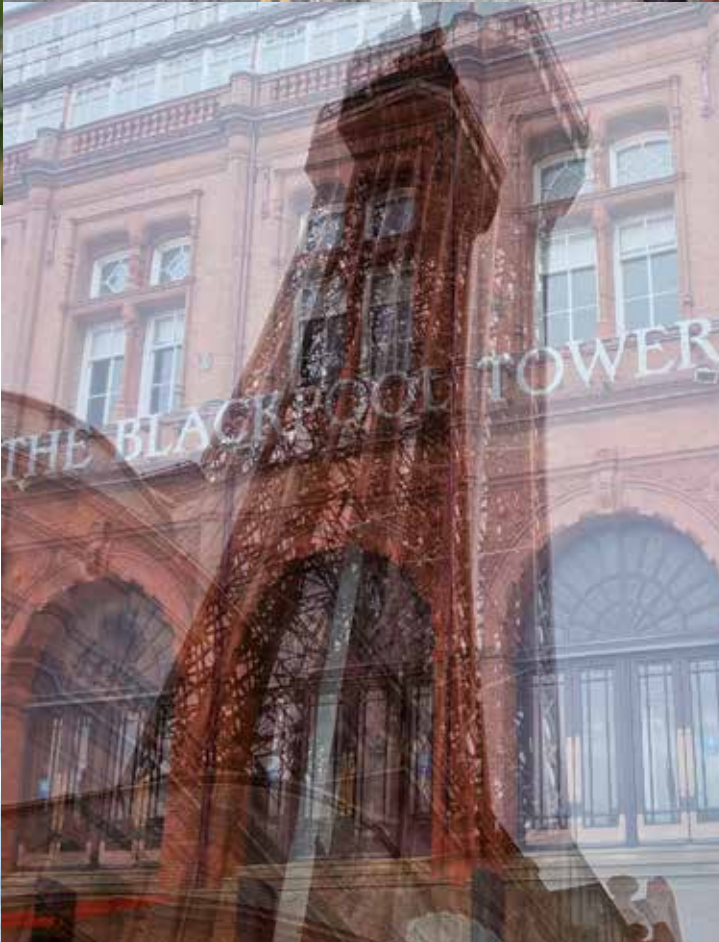
## GCSE Photography continued...

Drawing inspiration from landscape artists such as Ansel Adams, Victoria Siemer, Liesl Pfeffer, and Stephanie Jung, each offering a unique perspective, our students shaped their own creative vision.

As their journey comes to a close, our Year 10 photography students have curated a stunning collection of images that truly encapsulate the essence of Blackpool's landscapes. Each photograph stands as a testament to their passion, creativity, and dedication. In the weeks ahead, we eagerly anticipate witnessing how their images evolve into new pieces of art! Well done, Year 10!











# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

For **International Women's Day 2024**, some of our students led a workshop on healthy and unhealthy relationships and raised awareness about violence against women and girls, supported by the local Empowerment charity. They also ran a bake sale and are donating the proceeds to Fylde Coast Women's Aid. Making change happen!

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024**



**Support and Help IN Education**  
Fylde Coast Mental Health Support Team

Here at Montgomery, the **SHINE** mental health team have been very busy getting to know lots of pupils. We have been doing group sessions, lunchtime activities and working with the student council to help increase awareness of mental health and wellbeing in school – look out for us in our green hoodies!

**SHINE Easter Challenge:** Good mental health comes from being kind to ourselves and being kind to others. This Easter, we challenge you to perform a secret random act of kindness on someone you care about and enjoy watching them smile – you never know, that act of kindness might just find its way back to you. Happy Easter!!



# MONTGOMERY FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry is available to all Montgomery families and also supports the in school cookery club.



**SPONSORED BY MCKS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION UK**





Premier League  
**Kicks**

Premier League Kicks is coming to...

# BISPHAM

## THURSDAY

**4pm - 5pm**

**Blackpool & The Fylde College**

**4G Pitches**

Ashfield Road, FY2 OHB

**FREE evening football sessions for 11 to 18 year olds.**

## PL INSPIRES CHALLENGE 2023/24

Students were asked to present a board with their idea for raising awareness for mental health.

5 year 9 Montgomery students took part in the challenge and presented a great idea to help raise mental awareness. The students attended Blackpool Football Club stadium and presented the idea to Blackpool F.C Community Trust staff. For the challenge the Montgomery students wanted a day dedicated to raising mental health awareness at school which would entail Student and teachers taking part and was to wear an item of green clothing with Green being the mental health colour. Students also wanted to have a bake sale with Green cupcakes available to buy in school and with the money raised being donated to a Chosen mental health charity. The challenge involved other year 9 students from other local high schools and of the 10 groups that took part Montgomery really impressed staff with their idea and with voting from Community Trust staff managed to secure a second place finish. Great effort all round from team Montgomery



# Montgomery House Update

We are excited to share with you the wonderful activities and achievements of our students during this term's House Events.

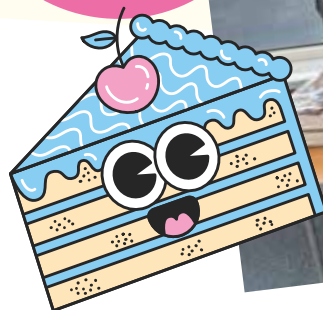


**These events are designed not only to foster a sense of camaraderie among students but also to encourage personal development and community engagement.**

Throughout the term, students have been enthusiastically raising money for our four house charities during break times in the last weeks of each half term.

Total raised so far exceeds

**£1100**



With the dedication of our House Captains, who have been selling delicious doughnuts and cookies for 50 pence each, we are thrilled to announce that our running total raised so far exceeds **£1100!** This incredible effort truly demonstrates the generosity and compassion of our student body.





# The House Events

The House Events have been brimming with exciting challenges and activities that have allowed students to showcase their talents and skills. From the nostalgic game of pitch and toss to the thrilling 'celebrity get me out of here food challenge' hosted by our Food Department, students have been actively participating and engaging with their peers.




# THE FOOD CHALLENGE

## CHALLENGE

### Touch

- 1 - Beans
- 2 - Noodles
- 3 - Custard
- 4 - Jelly
- 5 - Tinned Mandarins
- 6 - Kiwi

Tie Break - Egg

### Smell

- 1 - Vinegar
- 2 - Garlic
- 3 - Lemon
- 4 - Curry Powder
- 5 - Ginger

Y7 winners - PLE  
 Y8 winners - EPG  
 Y9 winners - SWO  
 Y10 winners - JSI

## House winners...

ORANGE 710

BLUE 500

PURPLE 550

GREEN 410



**In celebration of International Languages Day, students put their linguistic abilities to the test in a lively Languages Quiz, while an Energy Saving sign-making competition promoted environmental awareness and creativity.**

Internet Safety Quizzes reminded students of valuable lessons in online safety, and students even had the opportunity to design the next House Tokens using our state-of-the-art 3D printer.

The Library became a hub of activity during the English Scavenger Hunt, where students embarked on a quest to find books on a range of themes, fostering a love for literature and exploration, not only with physical books but also in our e-library.



## Winners of the Scavenger Hunt...

**Green 75 correct answers - 200 points**

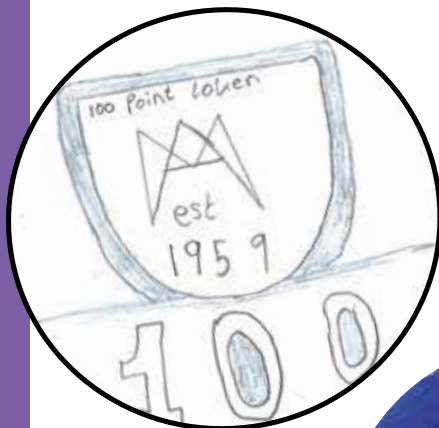
**Orange 51 correct answers- 150 points**

**Blue 42 correct answers- 100 points**

**Purple 25 correct answers- 50 points**

# House Token Designs...

**Design a 100 Point House Token to be 3D Printed. This can be designed on paper or you can design it using a computer.**





# Energy Saving Sign-making competition



1st



### HOW TO REDUCE WASTE:

Don't buy any produce in non-recyclable plastic.  
Separate all waste before disposing.  
Buy what you need, not what you want.  
Shop for food little and often.  
Only buy in season, locally grown, fruit and veg.  
Out of season fruit and veg produces a lot of air miles.  
Don't throw away unwanted items, take to charity shop.

### WAYS TO HELP:

Grow your own fruit and veg.  
Eat less red meat.  
Plant a tree.  
Litter pick.  
Use renewable energies.  
EQ- Wind, solar, tidal, wave.  
Walk instead of drive.  
Reduce air miles.  
Use less water.  
Educate & help others.



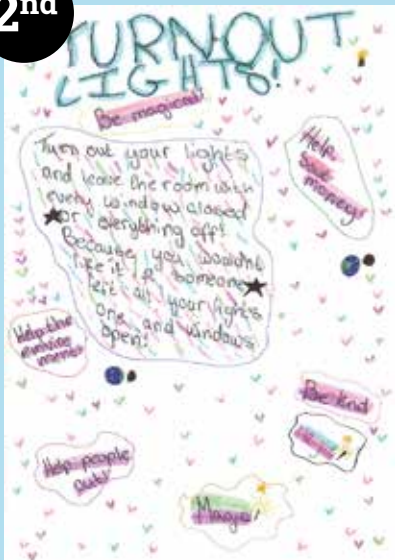
We could accomplish this if we change our ways!



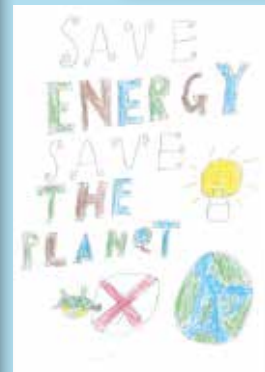
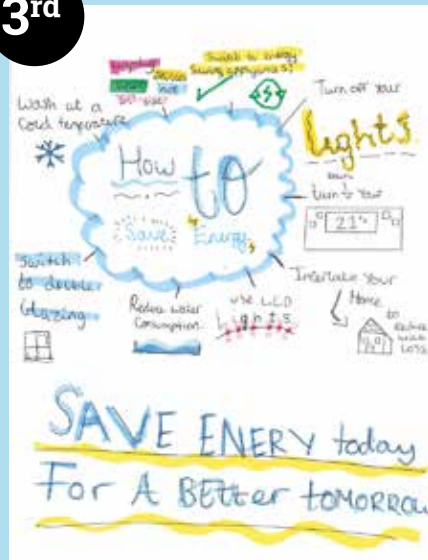
But if we don't stop the world is destined for destruction!



2nd



3rd



## Recycling Challenge Results...

- 1st Darcy K (200 Points for Green House)
- 2nd place - Daisy D (7KKI-100 Points)
- 3rd place - Sophia H-B (7AMA-50 Points)





Additionally, events honouring World Book Day and International Women's Day sparked meaningful conversations and celebrations of diversity and empowerment.



**In the sports hall, students showcased their athletic prowess in a series of challenges, including whole year group contests in basketball and penalty shootouts. These activities not only promote physical well-being but also teamwork and sportsmanship.**

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all students who have participated in the House Events this term. Your enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication have truly made a difference and enriched our school community. We look forward to continuing to celebrate your achievements and personal growth in the upcoming events and beyond.







# SPORT NEWS

## Indoor Athletics

A fantastic display of talent at the Sports Centre, Stanley Park for the Blackpool Schools Indoor Athletics 2024!

All students represented Montgomery in the best way possible, with some amazing individual and team results.



## Y7 Girls Athletics

Y7 Girls finished 3rd overall, the girls involved were Ruby D, Ava K, Annabelle F, Masie M, Ruby BB, Abigail M, Sadie M, Ruby C and Lolo N. All girls deserved to feel extremely proud of their in lesson practices, training and their performances on the day. Well done girls a fab start to athletics at Montgomery - watch this space - next year for the win, I am excited to see what you girls can achieve! Ruby C & Lolo N both had standout performances in their races, winning their races by far and outshining the rest of their opponents.

## Y8 Girls Athletics

Y8 Girls finished 1st the girls involved were Imogen B, Darcy K, Eliza C, Isla W, Courtney G, Mia W and Akay'lah A, super stars who really had to push in every event to get their win after coming second last years event they won on points!! So happy for them they really deserved it and was so shocked alongside excited to go to the finals! Courtney G was a new asset to the team this year with some standout performances!



## Y8 Boys Athletics

Y8 Boys finished 1st by a distance. Team members were Will H, Alex M, Lachlan MB, Ellis P, Josh B, Ellis L, and Sam K. Will H sitting out with Injury but the boys stepped up in his absence with some outstanding results: Ellis L cruising in the Triple & Vertical Jump, Ellis P winning Shot put and 4 lap race. Josh B winning the 6 lap race. Sam K and the boys winning the Relay & parluuf. This team came second in the Lancashire indoor athletics comp last year marginally on points. They will go to the final to win, this will be a first for Montgomery, these boys are naturally gifted in athletics with at least 4 out of the team hitting records regionally for their age group in various events!

## Y7 Boys Athletics

Y7 Boys finished 1st. The team consisted of Oscar W, Jailan RS, Ellis T, Oliver N, Oliver L, Tyler B, and Tyler C. All the boys were incredible working really hard in their events.

Jailan RS winning speed bounce & 2 lap. Ellis T winning the 4 lap race. And the boys all came together to win the relays. Well done boys, let's see what you can do in the finals!!

**Who knows we may have an Olympian in the making within one of these teams #Los Angeles 2028 #Brisbane 2032!**





# Girls' Football

The girls Blackpool Schools' Football Tournament took place before February half term, the results are as follows:

**Year 10 & 11: 1st**

**Year 9: unfortunately cancelled due to a lack of teams entered**

**Year 8: 2nd**

**Year 7: 3rd**

We are delighted to have launched The Whistler's Programme amongst our KS3 girls. Active Blackpool have attended Montgomery to deliver 2 x 3 hour sessions on introducing girls to refereeing within football going through the rules and laws of the game as well as highlighting transferable skills that young girls can take into everyday life such as improved confidence and problem solving. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the course and put their refereeing skills to the test in a practical setting.

Our U16 girls' football team progress to the quarter finals of the Lancashire Cup after beating Lytham St Anne's 4-2:

The girls played inibly well today against a very strong LSA side. The best I've seen from many of the girls. They fought hard defensively and held out a lot of pressure in the 2nd half, with Lucy R counter attacking with 4 solo sprints through the opposition and slotting home each time. An outstanding 4-2 win sees the girls into the Lancashire Cup Quarter Final.



**Year 10 & 11: 1st**  
**Year 9: Unfortunately cancelled due to a lack of teams entered**  
**Year 8: 2nd**  
**Year 7: 3rd**



# Year 7 Football

The Y7 football team have made a fantastic start to their Montgomery football journey, after booking themselves a place in this year's Lancashire Cup Finals Day. The boys were outstanding in their 5-2 Quarter Final win over Penwortham Academy



## Year 8 Football

The Y8 boys football team have continued their incredible Montgomery football journey as they booked their place in the Lancashire Cup Quarter Finals. The team is determined to go one better than their finals day loss last year. Their last 16 game was a hard fought 1-0 win against a strong Ribblesdale High School.



## Year 9 Football

The Y9 boys are currently in the quarter final of the Lancashire Cup where they are due to play All Hallows in Preston. In the previous rounds they have beaten St. Michaels from Chorley 2-1, Jamie B - M scoring twice. In the previous round they were up against last years winners of the Lancashire cup in St Christopher's but the lads destroyed them 6-1. George G 2, Jamie B 2, Harvey B with a 35 yard screamer and Liam H all scored the goals.



## EA 24 Football Tournament



**As part of a new initiative by Playstation we were selected as part of 32 schools to receive a Playstation 5 to run a Boys and Girls EA 24 Football tournament.**

The winners of each tournament will then go to West Bromwich Albion to represent Montgomery and play in a 32 person tournament to find the best English Schools Eplayer in the country. We had over 100 entries from boys and the tournament has produced some fantastic games all of which were played in a sporting manner. The final ended up being played by a Y9 pupil called Daniel R and a Y10 pupil called Lewis T. Dan chose to be Liverpool whilst Lewis chose to be Manchester United. Dan started excellently and went 2-0 in the lead, Lewis then pulled it back and took the lead for 3-2, Dan then equalised to make it 3-3 at half time. Lewis began the second half in control and took a 5-3 lead going into the 85th minute. Dan then produced the comeback of all comebacks to equalise in the last minute 5-5. Then straight from kick off Lewis went up the pitch and scored the winner 6-5!! A great final which was well supported by fellow students. The girls tournament is due to begin this week.





## Lucy Robinson

Lucy has had a fantastic year of football as she continues to make incredible progress. Lucy has spent the last year training with Manchester United ETC, whilst training on the England Lioness Pathway. Lucy has recently been offered a contract for the Manchester United U16 Academy Side. Lucy has been a key player in the success of Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre U15 Girls School District Team who have won every game this season, as they compete across Lancashire & the North West. Lucy has played every game for the U15 boys team this year, with some outstanding performances in defence, a first for any girl to play in a boys team at Montgomery at her age, which speaks volumes about her match performance levels. She has also captained the U16 Girls school team on their way to a Lancashire Cup Quarter Final, which awaits in the coming weeks, scoring 6 goals in two matches. Lucy is an outstanding footballer, with a fantastic attitude on and off the pitch. She has all the credentials to make it to the highest level and we all believe that she can reach her goals. She is an integral part of each team she plays for, as well as being a great role model for the PE Department & Montgomery Academy.



## Y10 Sports Studies High Ropes

Our year 10 sport studies classes took to the Blackpool high ropes course on a wet and cloudy February day. All students had a fabulous day and experienced both the mole holes (indoor caving) and the high ropes course. This trip was part of their task 3 assignment and all students performed extremely well. Now all that's left to do is analyse and evaluate their own individual performances. Well done year 10.







## Lancashire Schools Cross Country

On Saturday 3rd February 2024 some of our amazing students took part in the Lancashire School Cross Country Championships at Witton Park Blackburn. Each and every student that competed did amazingly well and Montgomery had the most students competing on the day out of all the Blackpool schools.

Students that took part were:

- Ruby C - Ruby D - Emma M - Sebastian H
- Darcey K - Orlaith B - Alfie A

The course was long, tough and extremely muddy but all students persevered and ran amazingly well. A special mention to Ruby C who actually placed on the day and came 3rd in the whole of Lancashire! She absolutely smashed it! Honestly... for someone that does not train for running she is just a natural talent! Same again next year guys.







# SPORT NEWS

## Danny Ormerod & Kayden Hughes

Two former pupils are making exceptional strides in their professional football career. Kayden Hughes has signed a two year professional contract with Fleetwood Town after excelling for the Under 18's and Under 21's.



The 17-year-old has progressed through the Academy since joining at the Under-12s level .Kayden signs an 18-month professional contract, which will lead to the summer of 2025, with a one-year option in the club's favour, which is recognition of the hard work the defender has put

in on and off the pitch over the last few years.

Jack Higgins, Academy Manager, said on the news:

“

We are really proud to see Kayden sign his first professional contract in front of his supportive, dedicated and loving family.

Kayden has been with us for a long time now and it's always great to see a local player progress to professional-level status.

He has had a great start to the season, and with being announced as the captain for the Under-18s, he sets examples and standards on and off the pitch and the best thing

about Kayden is the consistency to his personality and the character that he brings to the group.

He's had to develop this, which is every credit to him, his support network, and the staff at Fleetwood Town for honing these desirable attributes during some tough moments with us over the years.

He's a dedicated lad who is developing a fantastic skill set that will surely carry him far in life. From all at the Academy and Fleetwood Town, we wish him all the best and are looking forward to supporting the next step of his journey. ”

**Congratulations on the professional contract, Kayden!**

---

Danny Ormerod is making a real name for himself as a prolific goalscorer for AFC Fylde in the National Conference League.



The 17 year old is proving to be a real example to all members of our current football teams who have dreams of being a professional footballer.

He has had to overcome the disappointment of being released by Blackpool at 14 years of age but has gone on to show resilience and determination to prove any doubters wrong. He is starting to get a reputation now as the "starboy" of the team. His performances and goals this season has seen them rise from relegation zone to mid table safety at the time of print. A fantastic achievement for someone so young. Well done Danny.



## Sports Council

This term our Sports Council students have been giving up their own time after school to help students in lower years with their Indoor Athletics training and scoring for the Blackpool Schools' basketball competitions.

The group has made a really positive impact and are always looking to help the department in any way they can.

We have also had the opportunity to assist with the Primary Schools' indoor athletics competitions this term, ranging from the heat stages to the finals.

The students were impeccable with their behaviour and personable approach, which was commended by the primary schools involved and Active Blackpool.





## Community Links

Brian Rose and Will Townson (former student) have been attending Montgomery since the start of 2024, providing boxing opportunities for our KS3, GCSE PE and Sports Studies classes and also running an after school boxing club running 3 nights a week, which has been well attended.

It has been a fantastic experience for the students to learn the fundamentals of boxing, discipline and learn the knowledge and skills required in a sporting activity that is not usually delivered on the

curriculum. The students have been engaged, respectful and keen to learn, impressing Brian and Will on each visit.

We would like to wish Brian

all the best in his upcoming fight and we hope the partnership between Montgomery and Brian Rose Boxing Academy remains strong in the future.





Fylde Rugby have also been on hand delivering rugby sessions to our KS3 students during PE lessons this half term, which has worked well alongside the Blackpool Schools' rugby tournaments after school.



The coaching staff have been extremely supportive in their delivery style and have also witnessed the raw rugby talent we have amongst our students.

We look forward to continuing to work with Fylde Rugby in the next academic year, where we will hopefully be able to form a yearly partnership with the club.

## Blackpool Community Trust

Blackpool Community Trust have been attending Montgomery on Wednesdays after school to deliver indoor girls' football sessions. The sessions have given the girls opportunities to socialise, build upon teamwork, communication, develop their skills and play football on both a social and competitive level.



# Ellis P makes his Boxing Debut

A long time coming for Ellis' debut where he met his match in Preston on Friday!

He has had 4 previous fights which were 'easy wins' for Ellis, this was his first bigger boxing fight!

He had the backing of his tangerine army in full force, roaring in the crowd!



The suspense took right until the unanimous decision was made!

### Ellis for the win!

Everyone was proud of him and he was happy. Onwards and upwards for Ellis, with his next fight on the cards. Good luck Ellis, all your hardwork and dedication is paying off training at Rose ABC for 8 years, with Brian, Danny and Will and finally you got your time to shine!

A role model to others around you, to stay motivated and focused on personal goals!

