



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

Headteacher: Mr S. Careless BSc MSc NPQH
Senior Deputy Headteacher: Mrs C. Montgomery BSc MSc NPQSL

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Inspiring Excellence Together

21st July 2024

End of Summer term/Start of new academic year in September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for the end of term on Friday, the start of term arrangements in September, to say a few goodbyes and be up front in clarifying our expectations for the new academic year.

End of term arrangements

On Thursday 25th July, all students finish at 12pm. We are having a non-uniform day to raise money for the school's charities. Students that wish to dress in non-uniform on Thursday morning will need to bring a £1 donation to be passed to their Progress Tutor in their registration period or assembly. If your son/daughter chooses to wear their own clothes on the day, please ensure they dress appropriately for school. Their 'nonuniform' could be to wear their Montgomery PE kit.

Start of term arrangements

The first day of the new academic year for all students is **Wednesday 4th September 2024, though we are staggering the start times** on the first day to allow us to have assemblies and tutor periods with all year groups.

- **The new Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 will need to arrive by 8:45am**
- Year 8 and 9 will come through the **Bike Sheds Gate** and the new Year 7 will come in the **Science Arches Gate**
- **The new Year 10 and Year 11 will need to arrive by 9:15am**
- Year 10 will come through the **Bike Sheds Gate** and Year 11 through the **Science Arches Gate**
- All students will finish at the usual finish time of 3pm
- **From Thursday 5th September, all students will need to arrive by the usual time of 8:45am**

Thank you to all members of the Montgomery Family

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, students, parents, carers and governors for their contribution to making this another successful year despite the many challenges we have faced as a school. Hopefully, we will see even more educational trips, more community events with parents and many more exciting opportunities for students. I have included more of my reflections on this year in our Summer Newsletter which will be available on our website shortly.

Goodbyes

As we come to the end of the academic year, we say goodbye to the following staff. We thank them for their superb work and each one will be missed:

- Miss Lennox Curriculum Area Leader for Expressive Arts (Retiring)
- Mrs. Mainds Exams and Data Officer (Retiring)
- Mr. Gilmour Teacher of Maths (Promoted post)



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Mr. McArdle

Mr. McArdle, Progress Manager for the current Year 9, has taken the decision to work to part-time from September. Therefore, Mrs. King will become Progress Manager from September for the year group as they move in to Year 10. She will be supported by Mr. McArdle together with Miss Sharpe, the year group's Pastoral Manager.

Student organisation

As we prepare to move into the new academic year, it is essential that all students are organised on their return to school in September. At Montgomery, we pride ourselves in being SMART: Safe, mature, ambitious, respectful and thoughtful. Therefore, going forward, every morning in tutor time there will be an equipment check. This links to ambition, showing that students are ready to learn and to work hard. All students need to ensure that they have the following:

- School Bag
- Pencil Case
- Pen x 2
- Pencil
- Highlighter
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Casio FX-83GTX Scientific calculator (Only if you can afford it. Students will need one all the way up to year 11)

If students fail to bring any of the above, they must hand over a personal item (mobile phone), where they will be provided with spare equipment or a spare bag. At the end of the school day, this equipment will be returned to their Progress Manager and their item will be returned.

A reminder that we have now moved away from the traditional school planners. All homework will be recorded on Class Charts so parents/carers can access what is due/has been submitted. If you require your Class Charts log in, please contact Mr Hegarty (r.hegarty@montgomery.fcat.org.uk)

Uniform Reminders

As we look ahead to the start of next term it is the appropriate time to remind you of our high uniform standards. Please make sure you have read all uniform guidance, in particular the guidance on suitable footwear.

Shoes: Students must wear black shoes (no white/coloured soles, no stripes, no piping, no logos) that conform to the expectations set on our website under Acceptable school footwear:

https://files.schudio.com/montgomeryhighschool/files/Acceptable_shoes_guidance.pdf

This link illustrates what is acceptable footwear for Montgomery. I would strongly suggest that you check carefully the published guidelines before purchasing a new pair and do not rely on your child's opinion of what is acceptable. This could save you time and extra money if a wrong pair is bought. Shoes can be



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purchased for under £20 and we will look to support those in genuine financial difficulty where possible. Only students who have brought in a medical letter will be allowed to wear trainers. We will still provide shoes in exceptional circumstances. Footwear must not be trainers or resemble pumps.

Montgomery V-neck jumpers are an optional item, but should be worn under blazers and not in

place of a blazer. If students wear an outdoor coat to school, they must not wear them in dining rooms or classrooms, and hoodies are not allowed in school and should not be worn instead of a suitable outdoor coat.

Skirts: The length of skirts should be just above the knee and they should not be rolled up at the waist.

Jewellery is restricted to:

- 1 pair of plain gold or silver coloured studs
- 1 wristwatch
- No facial piercings are allowed
- Additional jewellery may be confiscated for collection at the end of the school day

If you want your child to have a facial piercing during the summer holidays please make sure that it is done at the very start of the holiday so that they will be able to remove it on their first day back of term on Wednesday 4th September.

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

Nails: Nails must appear natural with only natural/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.

Hair: 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.

Students may be placed within isolation until the situation is resolved.

If you are purchasing a new uniform over the summer break, please consider donating any unwanted items that are clean and in good condition to our main school reception. We can then redistribute to families in need, and this will be gratefully received.

Mobile Phone Reminder: Mobile phones have been banned in school for nine years. Phones should not be seen or heard onsite. Students should not get their phone out until they leave the school premises. We



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will be rolling out a new mobile phone policy that we have trialled with Year 10 this year. Students whose phones are seen or heard will have to hand in their phones at the start of the day to their Progress Manager for the following 5 days.

Headphones: Headphones are banned in school and should not be seen onsite. Phones and headphones will be confiscated, if seen, for collection at the end of the school day

Attendance & Punctuality

Excellent attendance is vital. With this in mind it is essential that all students attend school on time on a daily basis with a positive attitude to their learning. Students need to be punctual to both school and their lessons. Students who are late to lessons or over five minutes late to school will receive a 1-hour detention. Across the country, we need students to be in school every day at attendance levels to return to pre-pandemic levels. Therefore, we now ask that if your child is feeling unwell, that you do your best to send them to school.

Holidays in term time will be unauthorised for all children. Fixed penalty notices will be utilised for requests of 5 days or more, even if attendance is 100%. As a Trust we expect parents to utilise clear school closure times for holidays. In very exceptional circumstances, holidays may be authorised by the Headteacher.

Student reward events run at the end of each term, these celebrate the ambition of students who have shown consistently good effort, including the consistent completion of homework. Students who score an average effort grade of 3.75+ are invited to join their year group in various events throughout the year.

I apologise for the length of this letter, but it useful for everyone to be clear about our expectations from the start of the new academic year.

Have a great Summer break.

Kindest regards

Mr. Careless
Headteacher