

News

Christmas Card Winners



Sam Yr10



Sydnee Yr7



Harrison Yr8

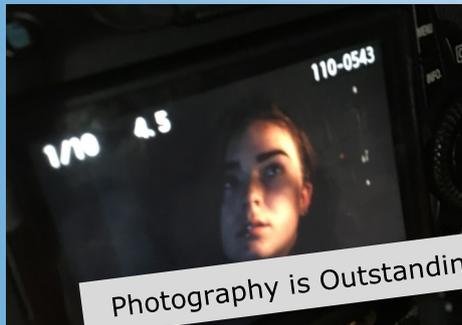


Evie Yr9

Inside Stories



Autumn Action for Team Science



Photography is Outstanding



We are the Champions



Principal: Mr S. Careless

As the Autumn term draws to a close it is worth reflecting on an extremely positive term in

entered education, employment or training.

Our senior prefects have been absolutely amazing and are great role models for our younger students. They are ambassadors at school events, complete break-time duties, support the work of curriculum areas and help younger students through mentoring and paired reading.

Montgomery continues to set the standards in sporting success in the area. We have won many individual and team competitions, progressing through to county level and beyond, in many disciplines. I would like to thank the PE department, led by Mrs Campbell, for their unwavering commitment to our students during many hours after school and at weekends. Our Year 11 Futsal Team, Jake of Year 11 and Lucy of Year 9 were nominees for the Gazette 'Sports Achievement Award.'

Our very own Mr Byrne was also nominated for the 'Unsung Hero Award'. Although unsuccessful, it highlights how fortunate we are to have him working at Montgomery. He runs many school clubs including the STEM and Robotics clubs. His passion for creative extra-curricular opportunities is a strength of our school. He is also a true gentlemen.

In September, we hosted an Anti-Bullying Ambassador Regional Training Day at Montgomery. Twelve of our students completed the training, in addition to fourteen students who completed the training in May. Anti-Bullying assemblies took place during the national Anti-Bullying week 13-17th November. Two Y9 students performed a dance whilst a

Y11 student recited a poem about bullying and then three Y11 students performed a drama piece from a play about bullying. Our Anti-Bullying ambassadors then stood in front of all year groups, along with a section of Y11s, united against bullying.

The end of this term sees Mr Harwood, Ms Dunn and Mr O'Neill moving on to pastures new and we wish them well in the next stages of their careers. Mr Harwood has been at Montgomery for 9.5 years and his enthusiasm for ICT and the Robotics Club will be missed.

It is likely that you will have seen in the local news that our Associate Principal, Mr Kilmurray, has been appointed as the Head of School at the new Armfield Academy in the south of the town. This is very well deserved and he starts in his new post in June 2018. He has been influential in Montgomery's journey over the last 30 months and he will be missed by both staff and students.

We have had three external visitors to Montgomery this term. The Deputy CEO of FCAT, Chris Lickiss, HMI Jonathan Smart and visitors as part of the Blackpool-wide review of English provision. The consistent feedback across all these visits was that students at Montgomery were a credit to us and themselves and that the school continues to improve. Next term we go again!

Merry Christmas

Mr Careless

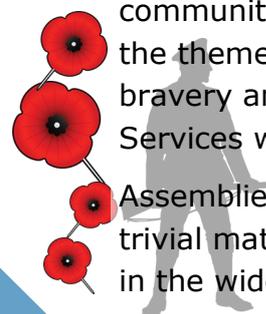
Montgomery Remembers

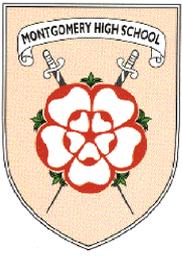
On Friday 10th November we held our annual Service of Remembrance. Attended by many members of the local

community, as well as students from local primary schools. We focused this year on the theme of "Courage". Because in our everyday lives we must never forget the bravery and willingness of our Armed Forces, along with those in the Emergency Services who help to keep us safe and well.

Assemblies led by Mr Wilkinson throughout that week focused on keeping our trivial matters in perspective and realising how fortunate we all are with all the issues in the wider world.

"Montgomery will never forget"





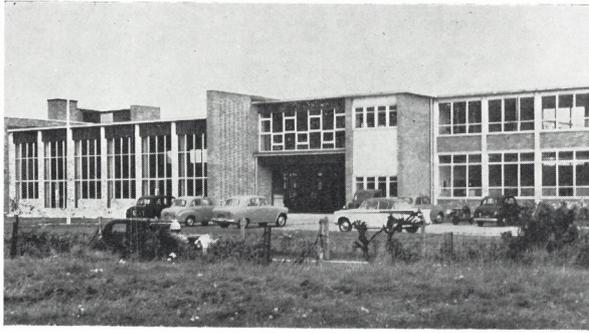
Fond Memories and a Final Farewell

A tribute to Betty Deane, a former Montgomery stalwart who sadly passed away on the 1ST November, 2017 just 6 weeks short of her 87th birthday.

Betty Deane worked at Montgomery from 1966 to December 1992. She first took up the position of part-time school secretary working alongside a lady called Wynne McLean, who was the then full time secretary. The two of them were the only secretarial staff for the whole school at that time and although student numbers were probably about half of today's everything they had to do was paper based; registering attendance figures, collecting school dinner money to name just two of their responsibilities.



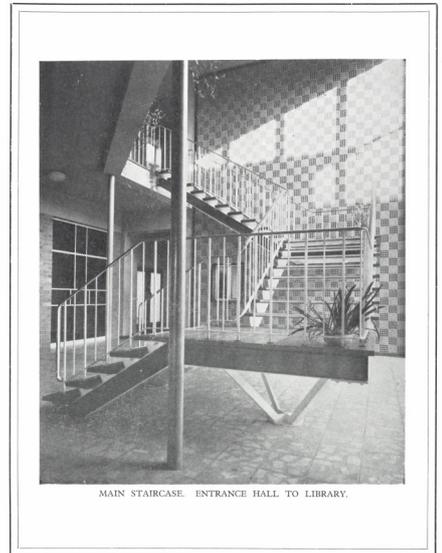
Betty was a fantastic shorthand typist and soon took on the role of the Headteacher's secretary, nowadays known as a PA. She always did an amazing job despite working for two very different Headteachers in her time. She was devilishly well organised and always a perfectionist.



MAIN ENTRANCE AND ASSEMBLY HALL.

As her family can attest, Betty always had fond memories of school life which were probably very different from the

Montgomery of today. One of her roles was to take the money for banking each day, unaccompanied, down to the village. However, this was always secretly combined with the "cake run"! Staff parties were also lively, as well as Wednesday after school when Mr Denham, the then Headteacher, left the premises early to attend his Rotary Club meeting. At the end of school, sharp, the filing cabinet storing the sherry would be slid open and a glass was enjoyed by all in the office. Betty was always keen to be involved in organised staff visits like those to the theatre and in a weekend away in London she somehow managed to gate-crash the BAFTAs in the Grosvenor House Hotel which caused quite a stir.



MAIN STAIRCASE. ENTRANCE HALL TO LIBRARY.

After retiring, Betty and her husband had a wonderful time. They travelled, visiting places like Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Canada and many European destinations. Riding the Rocky Mountaineer train through the Rocky Mountains and enjoying a trip on a glass bottomed boat at The Great Barrier Reef were highlights, as well as high tea at Raffles Hotel in Singapore.

Just two weeks before her family sadly lost her, her mind had started to wander and she started telling her son "that there wasn't a lot of time left and we had to tidy". He went along with the conversation and it transpired she was talking about the approaching September new term at Montgomery. Clearly, the job she loved so much was never far from her thoughts.

I had the pleasure of working with Betty for ten years at Montgomery. Her character was strong, her sense of humour fantastic, her

organisational skills second to none, and her truthfulness and sense of fun were evident for all to see. She was a fantastic role model for both the staff and students at Montgomery, always demonstrating the important values of public life; selflessness, integrity, honesty, objectivity, openness and a sense of justice.

We missed her when she retired but we know that her family will miss her terribly now and we send them our sincere and heartfelt condolences.

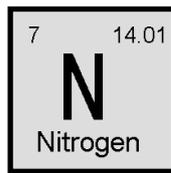


We now have over a 1000 followers on twitter. Keep up with us @MontyHighSchool

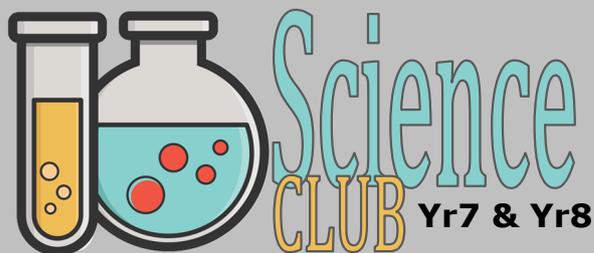


Autumn action for Team Science!

Sci



The Science department at Montgomery continues to go from strength to strength and has had a vibrant start to this academic year. We continue to enrich the learning experience of our students by offering as many extra-curricular activities, visits and practical learning activities as possible within our challenging curriculum. The aim is to motivate and inspire our students to share our passion for Science and build an inclusive team ethos in the curriculum area; a culture that we believe will allow our students to reach their full potential. As well as our popular and established STEM and Science Clubs, we have continued our collaborations with the Institute of Physics, the Ogden Trust and the Royal Society of Chemistry and have also invested in a Science based online learning program called Tassomai. Early indications are that this program could have a really positive impact on improving both independent study skills and overall GCSE outcomes, something we are really excited about!



Led by Miss Healey, our excited Year 7 and 8 students have been developing their science, technology, engineering and maths skills. As we have moved towards the festive season, the activities have been Christmas themed. This has included designing vehicles to complete in Rudolph races, making geometric snowmen, and constructing gingerbread houses. The ultimate challenge was our 'help the elf off the shelf-sledging adventure' competition. In this challenge, students had to build a sledge for Ernie the Elf and rescue him from the shelf. Joshua in Year 7 was the winning student, successfully rescuing Ernie in a fantastic 0.49 seconds! Well done to all students who have been involved, we cannot wait for next year already.



Science Peer Mentoring

Montgomery scientists developing Montgomery scientists!

During this term, Miss Chadwick has organised and overseen a superb Science peer mentoring

scheme that has been overwhelmingly successful. Year 10 role models have been used to mentor and support a group of Year 7 students. As well as helping them with the transition to senior school, additional help with numeracy, literacy and scientific investigation skills has been built into the mentoring scheme. Together, students have investigated elephant's toothpaste, methane bubbles and the mysterious red lead genie. Currently all students are making progress, and the success thus far means we will look to continue with this mentoring as we move forwards this year.



The Scholars Programme - Brilliant Club

Brilliant!



Started at the end of last year, twelve Year 10 students (now in Year 11) began their journey on 'The Scholars Programme', which was organised by the Brilliant Club charity. On the 9th October, Mr Jacks and Miss Healey accompanied these students to the University of Liverpool for their graduation. To complete this course, students attended 6 tutorials with a PhD tutor (John Shaw from Lancaster University), and after this had to complete a 3000 word assignment on what they had learnt. The title of this formal written assignment was 'Sleep, the lost 200,000 hours' and this was submitted for feedback in July. The purpose of the trip to Liverpool University was to experience what university life is like and to graduate from this prestigious programme. They also had the chance to meet students and staff and had a tour of the facilities, with the hope of inspiring the students to apply to study at university in the future. Every student passed the assignment and 'graduated' from the programme, with two students, Ellie and Maariyah being awarded a '1st class' mark. Huge congratulations to all the students that completed this tough but extremely rewarding programme. Well done!

TASSOMAI

Being led by Miss Nouraghaei, we have launched an exciting and innovative online Science learning programme called Tassomai.

This is an intelligent learning programme that uses multiple choice micro-quizzes to build knowledge, boost confidence and reduce exam stress. Content is broken down into bite-size chunks and tailored to each user as the platform works out what students know and, more importantly, where they need to focus more to achieve outstanding results. This revolutionary online learning package is currently being used by our Year 11 students in the run up to their GCSEs and is also being trialled in Year 7. Research has shown that 96% of students who used Tassomai regularly and completed, successfully, over 80% of its content, achieved a level 5 in their GCSE and above. 56% of these students achieved a level 7-9 and so using Tassomai is something we are keen to promote and use amongst the students who are currently registered.



Blackpool Aspire Academy

In early November, Mr Mistry accompanied a group of Year 10 and 11 students to Blackpool Aspire Academy to take part in a 'Operation Theatre Live' interactive medical programme sponsored by the Royal Society of Medicine. This secondary school workshop is the UK's only portable operating theatre, and allowed Montgomery students interested in a career in the medical field a hands on approach to dealing with dissections and real anatomy in a clinical based setting. The event, as a whole, was a breath-taking and unforgettable learning journey for our students and gave them an insight into the human body like never seen before. We cannot wait to take another cohort of students to similar events in the near future.



STEM CLUB!



STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) is a curriculum-based club led by Mrs Bach and Mr Byrne which meets twice a month after school.



Alongside the 'Dunkirk' sessions detailed elsewhere in this issue, the autumn term's topics have focused on the theme of Space (as in... 'Space: the final frontier!') We've learned how to launch customised rockets by harnessing the power of not only fizzing vitamin 'C' tablets, but also Hydrogen!



We've experimented with UV Light and various materials to discover what might be the most appropriate to use as a visor, when constructing an Astronaut's helmet. Students have also experienced how difficult it might be to perform tasks in outer space by competing to build fiddly LEGO Mini-figures, whilst hampered by various types of heavy gloves!

In our final session before school ends for 2017, we will discover what genuine NASA space food tastes like here on Earth! We are looking forward to representing Montgomery at the North-West STEM School of the Year Awards, early in the New Year. We will let you know how we get on, in the spring newsletter. 'Til then, 'A Very Merry Christmas!' from all of us.



BRITISH SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
CREST Awards

This term, and with the guidance of Miss Healey and Miss Walker, a group of Year 9 students took part in a skills audit and online evaluation survey supplied by the Crest Awards. By representing Montgomery in the first stage of this pilot project, these students have secured £600 of funding for the department to engage students in Science and STEM related independent research. This is a fantastic achievement and all credit must go to the talented students who took part.
Well done indeed!



This is our second year of competing in the challenge, and we were selected from over 250 schools across the UK who applied. In early March, we will go to Preston to show off our skills at the North-West regionals, which will include three challenges

Robot challenge this consists of several aviation missions, and the team are required to complete as many as possible in under three and a half minutes, using the Lego Mindstorms robot they will have built and programmed.

Robot design the team will then present and discuss their software and the designs to the judging panel.

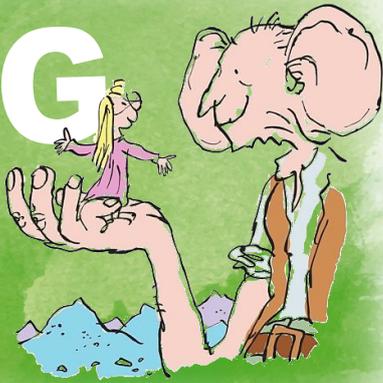
Research Project for the final part of the competition, our intrepid designers present their own solution to a contemporary scientific problem; one faced by engineers and scientists of the RAF!



Mr Byrne writes that on behalf of the team we would like to express how grateful we are to Mr Harwood for his advice and programming teaching, and wish him all the very best in his new role. BIG thanks must also be given to Mr Careless, who has been particularly supportive.

Thank you!

The BFG



English Department

Another glorumtious year for the Dream Jar Competition, held in honour of the splendiferous writer Roald Dahl. Students were asked to create a representation of their most magical dreams or as the jumbly, BFG would call them- their Golden Fizzwizards.

These jars could be drawn, painted, computerised, made or even sculpted anything to help the whoopsy, whiffling, delumptious creations come to life! A treat for any viewer, the entries provided a kaleidoscope of different worlds and imaginations.

After long deliberation, we finally came to a decision as to which of the excellent entries would be crowned the winner. In the end we had to agree on a prize winner from both year 7 and year 8. Well done to Connor of year 8 for his creative and thought provoking Dream Jar, a miniature natural world was created in his organic and symbolic interpretation. Also congratulations to Caitlyn of year 7 for her whizz-popping dream jar which was filled with hopes and aspirations and sparkled in illuminated technicolour. A truly swashboggling effort from both students: Roald Dahl would have been proud!

S I L E N T T I M E

Year 7 Silent Reading in Extended Assembly

Every week Year 7 students read together as a year group for between 15 and 30 minutes in the extended assembly on a Friday Period 1. Both staff and students enjoy this quiet time to discover new and exciting books together.



Stonewall

Acceptance without exception

Stonewall Ambassadors Group

This term has seen the launch of a new club at Montgomery High School by Mr Jacks- the Stonewall Ambassadors Group! The group is for 'all students who want to stand up against hate and let others know they are not alone, no matter what.'

Stonewall is a charity which works hard across the UK to promote LGBT issues and it fights for equal treatment of all people. The idea is that this group in school will increase awareness of equality and LGBT issues around school. It will also help the school achieve 'Bronze Stonewall School Champion' status.

The group launched on Tuesday 21st November, with a great turnout. Our current project is making anti-bullying displays for noticeboards around school, with messages promoting equality, kindness and treating each other the same, no matter what.

Next term, we hope to highlight issues some people face in "LGBT history month" which is in February, through fundraising and assemblies. We have a long term aim of representing the school at Blackpool Pride in the summer!

All students are welcome, from every year group. It's held every Tuesday 3pm-4pm in S3.

BAE SYSTEMS

INSPIRED WORK



As part of our continued work with local employers, BAe brought their Road Show into a school assembly this term and many of our Year 8 and 9 students got to enjoy playing with some incredible technology from the aerospace division at Warton.



SEASIDE TOWNS OUT OF SEASON

At the start of October Year 10 and 11 photography students visited Jill Reidy, a local photographer's exhibition based at Abingdon Studios, on Abingdon Street in Blackpool. Jill presented her work to the students and introduced her photos based on her recent road trip around the seaside towns of Great Britain. The project began with a successful "kickstarter" campaign, appealing for funding. Through the images in the exhibition – entitled "Seaside Towns out Of Season" – Jill captured what remains when the holiday season ends, featuring seascapes, architectural landscapes and everyday life in a seaside town. Montgomery students used Jill's photos to supplement their portfolio work on "Britishness", where they are exploring all things British, and which will culminate in their own interpretation and responses to this exciting topic.

B&FC Year 10 visit to Blackpool and The Fylde College



Year 10 students have been attending master classes at Blackpool and Fylde College's Palatine Road campus this half term. Students have had hands on experience of a range of digital cameras and exploring lighting in order to recreate "Film Noir" stills. Students have explored the history of film cameras and used a full frame camera to photograph one another. They have also experienced the dark room and its facilities to



create their own Photograms using Man Ray as their stimulus. Photography students have also created their own Cyanotypes, following in the footsteps of one of the first woman photographers, Anna Atkins, using a technique developed in the 1800's which uses sun light (we used a UV light bed...It was December!) to create an image from some found objects like leaves and feathers. All students have thoroughly enjoyed their time at the college and the gracious hospitality they received there. It has also provided students with a great set of experiences to support them in developing their coursework!

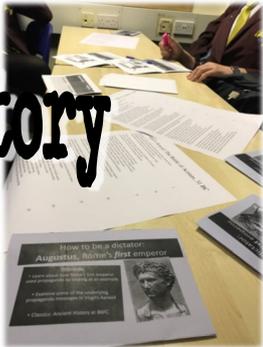
Year 9 Stanley Park visit

Year 9 photography students have been to visit Stanley Park earlier this year, in order to put into practise their new camera skills. Students were given the specific task of taking "interesting" photographs, whilst using a range of camera angles and compositions. These images were then reviewed back at school and edited using Photoshop to create a fantastic collage.





History



During this term, a select number Year 11 students were treated to an 'epic' lesson in classic civilisations, led by Blackpool Sixth Form tutor, Pete Wright. Somewhat worryingly, they were taught 'how to be a dictator' through looking at the rise of the Roman Empire. This culminated in the studying and analysis of Virgil's Aeneid, a poem which is over 2000 years old!

The lesson was organised as part of the school's connection with Blackpool Sixth Form, and is only a taste of things to come. In December, Year 8 students will have the opportunity to visit the sixth form in order to watch a performance of The Odyssey, a text they are due to begin studying after Christmas.

Pete's lesson has surely allowed these Year 11 students much needed practice for their Literature GCSE, as well as having given them an insight into an A Level subject. We're just crossing our fingers that none of them are planning to overthrow the school's leadership any time soon!

GCSE Geography Challenge



Over the course of this term Year 9 students have been learning about plate tectonics and seismic events. They have learned to "Drop, Cover and Hold" (DCH) when they hear the phrase "shockwave" being yelled by their teacher and then it's under the desk they go to practise this vital earthquake drill that keeps thousands of students safe in schools in seismic zones around the world.

Next up! They learn about the 3 Ps. "Predict, Prepare and Protect." As part of this learning they were challenged to design and build an earthquake proof structure with straws, string, sellotape and blu- tac. The building had to have an upper floor that would be weight tested as well as being placed on the Geography Department's trusty earthquake machine. Fun was had by all with the outcome of some very serious understanding of what was required to protect people in terms of buildings because as a seismologist once stated "Earthquakes don't kill people, buildings do". Congratulations to Ethan and Tom, their building survived all the tests.

Key Stage 3 Geography Homework Projects

Here at Montgomery, the Geography Subject Area has introduced homework projects for all students in Years 7 and 8.

The time given to complete these projects is 6 weeks and students are asked to select a way of presenting their work which is original and that suits their individual talents. Many

chose to present their work using IT. However, some others come up with really unusual ideas. Their commitment and enthusiasm is clear. Well done to Abigail and Cameron of Year 8 for producing the amazing models for their China project – You can be sure that their work featured on our WOW walls.





Year 11 Geography Fieldwork visit to Cleveleys - Tuesday, 28th November, 2017

Our intrepid and hardy Year 11 students took to the beach and the streets of Cleveleys to test two hypothesis for their GCSE examination in June, 2018. What a glorious, if chilly, day it was. Crisp, clear and cold with a cerulean blue sky.

The aim of the day was to try to prove or disprove if the groynes on Cleveleys' beach really do control Long Shore Drift, which is the geographical concept of the transport of material along a beach in the direction of the prevailing winds, as well as to map the land use function of the buildings in Cleveleys' Central Business District in order to see if the majority of tourist linked uses are located close to the beach.

The students are currently using their data to produce the maps and graphs they need to help them decide if the hypothesis tested are true or false. They also have to evaluate the methodology they used. **A busy but enjoyable day!**



THE DUNKIRK PROJECT



This season behind the scenes in the Student Support Centre, we have been working on a **cross-curriculum project** with our SEMH and some mainstream students. Back in ye olde days before my hair turned grey, er, silver, 'It's SILVER, Joel Hallam!' we used a similar way of learning in O Block, home of the Orange Pathway!

We took the recently released film, DUNKIRK, as our theme. In English, Mrs Walmsley used the soundtrack from the film that included machine gun fire, explosions, the screeching of dive bombers attacking the beach, etc. and footage to inspire the students to create a piece of empathy writing, amongst other work.



Mrs Davies (Teaching Assistant- Literacy) and myself used the Children's book, 'My Uncle's Dunkirk' to produce work centred around a 20 year old soldier, who survived the battle, and his feelings upon his return to the beach many years later with his extended family.



**REMEMBER
YOUR KIT !!**

YEAR/ POPULATION	C	D	E	F
7	Thursday & Friday	Tuesday & Wednesday	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday & Thursday
8	Thursday & Friday	Monday & Wednesday	Monday & Wednesday	Monday & Wednesday

MacMillan Coffee Morning



When September comes around you will hear the rallying call from Miss Farnworth in the staffroom. She always gets us organised and ready for this annual event. This year we raised over £300 pounds in one 30 minute break time. Some teachers will do any thing for cake! As you can see from the display below there are some fantastic Bakers amongst us. Mr Dickson walked away with the competition prize for his amazing chocolate Guinness cake. It sounds like a combination that shouldn't work but clearly, it does! A big cheer for all who took part, from guessing the height of the cake to actually submitting an entry into the competition. Marvellous.



Autumn Maths Challenge

Answer the following questions and submit your answer to your Maths teacher no later than the 19th of January, to be in with a chance of winning a £10 Amazon voucher.

Round the number above the door to O9 to 1 significant figure.

What is Mrs. Whittingham's favourite number?

Add together the classroom numbers for Mr. Fernandez, Mr. Diver and Mrs. Ewing.

How many Maths classrooms are there upstairs on O block?

What is the positive square root of 16?

Add together your answers for questions 1 to 5 and find the square root.

Levels of

Have you given 100%



A - Attendance

M - Montgomery Way

B - Bonus Points

I - Involvement In Extra Curricular

T - Tutor Checks

I - Involvement: Charity Events

O - Outstanding

N - Next Steps



YEAR/
POPULATION

A

B

9

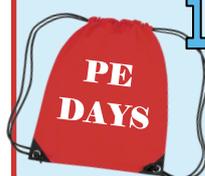
Monday &
Friday

Monday &
Friday

10

Tuesday

Friday



**REMEMBER
YOUR KIT !!**

Sports | Report

Badminton:

Year 9 Blackpool Badminton Champions

The girls Y9 badminton team played in a singles and doubles tournament and won on Tuesday 28th November. They played brilliantly and were a credit to the school. The team comprised of: Daisy, Antonia, Tsvetomira and Louisa.

Year 10 Blackpool Badminton Champions

Both the girls and boys Y10 badminton teams were crowned Blackpool Champions on Tuesday 21st November beating all opposing schools convincingly in the competition. The teams consisted of: Ella, Keisha, Maddie, Sophia, James, Cameron and Adam.



Football: Montgomery has enjoyed great success this term, starting with the Blackpool Schools' Cup where Montgomery were winners in the Year 11, 10, 9 and 7 age groups. Montgomery has entered teams into the English Schools' Cup this year and has also enjoyed great success by beating teams from around the North West, playing at schools from Chester to Carlisle. The Y7 team were cruelly eliminated on penalties in round 2, against a very good Broughton side.



The Y7's however are still involved in the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Cup and we have high hopes of further success for this team.

The Y8's were narrowly eliminated by Archbishop Temple School in Preston, 7-4 in round 2, though, at the time of writing, they are still in the Lancashire Cup and play Unity, Burnley in the next round.

The Year 9's progressed into the last 64 of the competition and lost 1-0, in a tight game which could have gone either way, to Nelson Thomlinson of Carlisle.

The Y10 football team also achieved the status of reaching the last 64 in England, however they never played to their true potential in this round and were defeated by St Bedes of Blackburn, 8-3, though they too are still in the Lancashire Cup and Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Cup, so we are hoping for further success for this team later this year. We'll keep you posted.

The Y11's also reached the last 64 of the English Schools' Cup and had to travel to Carlisle to play William Howard School. The game was very even in the first half with Montgomery being 2-1 down. However, the Cumbrian school really proved too strong in the second half and ran out 7-1 winners. Sadly, this is the last competition for the Year 11 team. It's now down to focussing on those all important GCSEs.



U13 Fleetwood Town FC Futsal Tournament

The girls were all fantastic representatives of Montgomery. Both teams were faced with some tough opposition to try to make the final. The A team made it through the group stages to the quarter finals - facing the overall winners Hodgson! This was a well fought defeat, only losing 5-0. Hodgson had scored 48 goals within 3 games in the group stages. They were on fire.

Players of the Tournament: Y7 - Casey & Y8 - Yulan



Chariots of Fire or what?

During the month of August 2017, Jake of Year 11, joined Blackpool Wyre & Fylde Athletics Club (BWFAC) because he has a passion for running and was advised by the Montgomery PE department to join a club after his performance at the Blackpool Schools' Cross Country Championships and the Blackpool Town Sports Schools' Competition. He performed exceptionally well at both events, finishing 1st in cross country, when he was in Year 10, competing against students who were in Year 11 and winning the 1500m with a time of 4 minutes and 52 seconds, without any focused training at the that point. Since joining Blackpool Wyre & Fylde Athletics Club, he has dedicated his time to improving, training 4 times a week and regularly running the 5k park run at Stanley Park, which he completes in under 18 minutes! Recently, Jake participated in the mid-Lancs Cross Country Championships, held at Cuerden Park, Bamber Bridge and came 4th in the 5.5k race, with a time of 19.58. This is an astonishing result with the little formal training that he has had and we are all proud of his achievements to date, and excited for his future in Athletics.



In the last week of term a number of staff were challenged to a race at Stanley park's weekly Park Run by Jake Acton (now of year 11). The first achievement was having everyone turn up at 9am the morning after the last day of term. Miss Gilderdale, Mr Hegarty and Mr Morris were confident that they would finish ahead of Jake, who had yet to run in a race! However it was Jake who was able to head off to the summer break the happiest, completing the 5K race with an amazing first run time of 18:39 and finishing 6th overall from a field of 200 runners. Jake now trains weekly to push himself further with **Blackpool Fylde & Wyre**. The next time he challenged the staff he finished further ahead and came 3rd overall finishing in under 18 minutes.

The results were as follows in this prestigious athletics event right at the end of the summer term. You may have seen the report in the Blackpool Gazette. We are very proud of our dedicated students and their unflagging team ethic.



Girls - overall 1st, Boys - overall 3rd, Year 8 girls 1st, Year 8 boys 3rd,
Year 9 girls 2nd, Year 9 boys 3rd, Year 10 girls 2nd, Year 10 boys 3rd

Montgomery WIN (overall by 1 point)

An amazing achievement for Montgomery from our very well behaved students who followed all rules and staff instruction extremely well! They made us all proud. 100% from all... Thank you to all parents, carers and staff for your help, encouragement support!



Netball:

Year 7 Blackpool Schools' Netball Champions

Congratulations to the Year 7 Netball Squad: Lily, Molli, Natalie, Niamh, Izzy, Lily, Freya, Samantha, Georgia, Tyler, Harriet, Hollie, Isobel and Millie, champions in their first year as a team. Brilliant!

Year 8 Blackpool Schools' Netball Champions

Year 8 Netball Team: Annie, Freya, Olivia, Chloe, Yulan, Hannah, Caisey-Lea, Charlotte & Caitlin. Hard earned success.

Year 9 Netball

Undefeated and played extremely well in their tournament.



Blackpool Schools' Dance Festival

Our performance was amazing, and if it had been a competition we think that they would have won!!! The girls were a credit to the school and performed as though they were professional dancers at a performing arts school and not just school students who had managed to rehearse two hours a week after school. The girls have worked so hard over the past two months, showing true commitment and dedication. "They sure did pull it out of the bag on the night " stated Mrs Cambell, who is absolutely sure that the girls like to pretend they are not prepared on purpose just to wind her up!!! A special mention to Rebecca, Kasey, Cleo, Abbie, Hollie & Ellie who all choreographed the dance to an extremely high and technical standard!!



Meet the team for the Computing Curriculum Area



Where did you study?

After completing an A-level in ICT at Blackpool Sixth Form I went off to Manchester to complete a degree in Information Technology from 2003-2006. I then completed a PGCE at Lancaster before starting at Montgomery in 2007.

What or who inspired you to study this subject at degree level?

Looking back, I was inspired by two subject teachers at Collegiate; Mr Brocklebank and Mr Lovell, they taught IT and Geography respectively. I chose to follow the IT path due to love for all things technological. (I'm a massive nerd)

What is your favourite current piece of technology?

That would have to be my phone. Like many of the students at school it is never far from reach and I use it to assist me at school as well as away from school.

What was the first piece of IT hardware that you owned?

That would be the IBM 386. My father managed to rescue it from his work as they were upgrading their office computers. It ran on Windows 3.11, which took several floppy discs to install. There was 50mb spare on the computer, enough for me to install Championship Manager 1993.



What do you love about technology?

I love how technology helps us in everyday life. There is rarely a day that technology does not support us whether that be a mobile phone app or the use of a different device.

Where did you study?

After completing my Highers (the Scottish equivalent of A Levels) I went to Robert Gordon's University in Aberdeen to complete a degree in Business Management. After working in industry for 18 years, I then completed a PGCE at St Martin's, Lancaster in ICT before starting at Montgomery in 2002.

What or who inspired you to study this subject at degree level?

Throughout my time at high school I had always enjoyed business related subjects. I studied both Economics and Accounting and after PE these were both my favourite subjects. The degree I studied was a sandwich course that meant that I had to complete a 15-month industrial work placement as part of the degree. My favourite teacher was Mr Dobson who taught me for both subjects.

What jobs have you held previously?

Having wanted to be an Accountant, I was somewhat surprised to end up in placement in a pipe yard in Aberdeen – maintaining all of the pipes and arranging for them to be sent offshore to the oil rigs. I loved it and my first change of 'career' was sealed. After University I got a job acting as a liaison between Sales and Production and was involved in purchasing and distribution, a fantastic first proper job. I then spent 7 years working in Purchasing for Beecham Products and then Britvic, before transferring to one of the Britvic factories in a production planning role and then Production Manager. I held further roles as both Production Manager and Factory Manager and between redundancies I also held various roles including selling plastic purses and wallets door to door in Australia for the Cystic Fibrosis Association. My last job prior to starting my teacher training was as an OSG working in Preston Prison.



Why teaching, why ICT, why Business?

I realised in my role as Production Manager and Factory Manager that I enjoyed working with people and communicating with them to empower them to do their jobs to the best of their ability, and I recognised the importance of training, which led me to a career in teaching. I chose ICT as it was something I had been using increasingly in my jobs and it was a shortage subject at the time of my training. At the end of my first year at Monty, I was asked to become the Subject Leader for Business, which rekindled my interest in the subject. In recent years the popularity of the subject has meant that I now deliver Business almost exclusively. I enjoy teaching Business as there is such a lot of scope, all businesses are different, there is seldom one right answer, A + B does not always equal C. There is Business all around us, we experience it daily as customers and in the news.

Non-Teaching Highlights

Fife Schools Under 13 High Jump record holder for 30 years – 1.52m District U19 representative - Rugby Union, also Scottish Schoolboy triallist Part of team of 4 that redesigned the 2ltr plastic bottle that is now the industry standard.

“There is always space for improvement, no matter how long you've been in the business.

Oscar De La Hoya

Where did you study?

After leaving Montgomery High School as a student in 2002, I went on to study at Blackpool and the Fylde College to complete a BTEC Higher National Certificate in ICT. This qualification enabled me to become an ICT Technician and I returned to Montgomery! Whilst working as a technician, I continued to study, in my own time, to complete a degree through the University of Central Lancashire, before completing my Qualified Teacher Status with Gloucester University in 2010.

What or who inspired you to study this subject at degree level?

I have always loved the subject, my IT Teacher really pushed me at high school and I was able to take my GCSE a year early. I then went on to complete an AS level in IT in year 11. I've always wanted to make my family proud and this has always pushed me to further myself.

What is your favourite current piece of technology?

My iPhone is always up there, but I love my DSLR camera too! Also, my cheap and cheerful step counter never leaves my wrist as I'm a slave to my 10,000 step goal every day!



What was your first piece of IT hardware that you owned?

I remember spending hours playing on our family's Amiga 64, we had to load games using a floppy disk, and it would crash all the time! Looking back at the graphics, they're rubbish compared to the ones out there these days! My favourite game, which I remember playing as a 10 year old, was Rolling Ronnie; it looks so simple looking back at it now!!

What do you love about technology?

Technology is literally everywhere, our phones help us to keep up to date in so many ways, I really love seeing photos of friends and family from across the globe.

Computing Fact File



Name:
Mr Hegarty

Where did you study?

After completing my A-level's at Blackpool Sixth Form I went off to Manchester to complete a degree in Business from 2003-2007, with a year in placement. I then came home after completing my degree not fully decided on what I wanted to do. A job came up at Montgomery for a Cover Supervisor role and so I applied as this was going to help me decide if teaching was for me. Shortly after starting I knew it was for me and I completed my teaching qualification while working here and have remained ever since.

Computing & Business Fact File



Name:
Miss
Greenwood

What or who inspired you to study this subject at degree level?

I was always in two minds whether to complete a degree in Business or Art. I finally decided to choose Business as I found it challenging, diverse and so much to learn. I really enjoyed all aspects of this subject including computing at GCSE and A level.

What is your favourite current piece of technology?

Apart from my phone, I really enjoyed seeing the leap motion on a recent programming course I attended. It allows you to reach into virtual reality using our bare hands. A great investment for cross-curricular work. I also wouldn't be without my Surface as I really love the combination of touch screen and detachable keyboard.

What was your first piece of IT hardware that you owned?

My earliest memory was of a Commodore 64, also known as the C64. It was an 8-bit home computer. I just remember it having a really heavy monitor and mainly playing games on it using the joystick.



What do you love about technology?

I love how technology changes, it excites me to wonder what will be invented next. I love how technology assists us in our everyday lives and basically I wouldn't be without it!

**IT'S NOT THAT WE
USE TECHNOLOGY,
WE LIVE
TECHNOLOGY.**

Montgomery Students Complete the Cultural Citizen Challenge



Twenty students from Year 9 were amongst the very first in the country to successfully complete the 'Cultural Citizens Challenge', run by Curious Minds in the North West. The students planned and went on visits to 5 arts and culture venues across and beyond the region. The young people, who were chosen because they had little prior engagement with arts and culture, have also provided feedback on their experiences, which will help arts and culture organisations become more attractive to other young people.

The students, who also completed a Bronze Arts Award qualification, celebrated their achievement at The Grand Theatre in Blackpool.

The students have visited the Museum of Science and Industry, the National Football Museum and The Lowry in Manchester. They have also enjoyed a trip to Liverpool visiting The Beatles Story, The Maritime Museum and The Slavery Museum. In particular, students have found performances of Running Wild at the Grand Theatre and The Wedding Singer, more recently at the Opera House, to be amongst "the best things they have ever seen!"

As a local heritage site both groups have chosen to visit the Blackpool Tower and reviewed the attractions on offer to young people there including the Dungeons, The Ballroom and the famous Tower Circus.

The scheme is also funding 20 tickets to the Christmas Pantomime at the Grand Theatre, which we are looking forward to watching in December.

The pilot project, funded by Arts Council England, is testing how the Cultural Citizen's Scheme, as outlined in the government's Culture White Paper, could work on a larger scale.

Curious Minds Chief Executive, Derri Burdon said: "The North West's arts and culture offer is rich and diverse. We want to make sure that all children and young people benefit from access to our region's great cultural venues and experiences. The national roll out of Cultural Citizen's scheme would help make that happen. We're pleased to be using our experience and expertise to help shape this."





Christmas e-Safety

During the Festive Season many children and young People will receive gifts of smartphones, games consoles and tablets. The UK Safer Internet Centre has issued the following advice for parents.

Ask the right questions. Use the shopper's checklist from the UK Safer Internet Centre to help you ask the right questions when buying technology this Christmas. Topics include apps, communication and costs.

Set up parental controls. Most devices will have parental control tools that can help you, for example by preventing in-app purchases so you don't get any shock bills. You can see more detailed guidance about how to set up parental controls at the UK Safer Internet Centre website:

www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents

Have a conversation. Chat to your children about in-app purchases and other costs that can be incurred when using a device and encourage them to 'think before you click'. It can be helpful to agree spending limits and make sure they know they can turn to you for advice or if they accidentally make a purchase. Use the conversation starters from the UK Safer Internet Centre to talk to your child about staying safe online on an ongoing basis.

Enjoy the technology together. Make sure you know what functions the device has perhaps they can show you their favourite app, or you can play a game together? It may be helpful to be involved when your child downloads an app, so you can review whether it is paid-for or if it has in-app purchases. By staying engaged you can also be there to remind them about the importance of staying safe, and they'll know they can turn to you if anything worries them.

www.saferinternet.org.uk/news/new-devices-for-christmas



Montgomery High School

Taking on a role of responsibility as a student

We asked our Head boy from 2016/17 to explain what it means to take on a student responsibility and to be a role model for all students here at Montgomery. Here is his reply.

I was motivated by my love for the school and the need to give something back in return for all the hard work they'd done for me. (For a comedic edge, I was also told about free toast on a Thursday by my predecessor but feel free to ignore that if it doesn't fit the tone of the interview.)

I've really benefitted from the experience of working as part of a team and the valuable communication skills that it required. I've also had the chance to improve the direction the school is heading in, which has been an honour and privilege.

The greatest challenge, personally, has been ensuring all members of our 44 member Student Leadership team were on the same page at the same time. Co-ordination of that many stressed teenagers is a bit of a nightmare but it pays dividends when achieved.

I believe that my greatest legacy would be the Carpool Karaoke video. Not only did it work as light entertainment but as a nostalgia fuelled reflection on our time at the school. Furthermore, it's the only thing I did in my time that seemed to please everyone! (Not quite true Luke – Editor)

My advice comes in two parts. Firstly, make sure you're committed before taking on responsibility; this job is more than just a tie. You are being given the chance to improve the school, not just add something to your C.V. whilst leaving others to do the hard work for you. Secondly, never stress if you feel you're making no difference. Changes take time but as long as you lay the foundations, you're achieving something. One of my proudest achievements is a coffee morning I spent six months organising only to see it take place after I'd left Montgomery.

In the future, I'm off to Blackpool Sixth Form to study Classical History, Film and Computing. After that, my plan is to attend a university (including applying to Cambridge) to read History.



Image via Luke's Twitter Profile



Careers Evening

4th October 2017

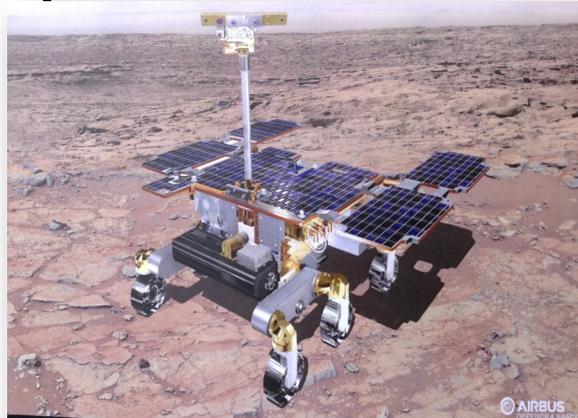
Here at Montgomery, on the 4th October, we held our annual Careers Evening to promote the exciting opportunities that are open to students when they leave school. Year 10 and Year 11 pupils and their families attended the evening where they received advice and guidance to support them in making decisions about their future from a range of Further Education, Higher Education, Employers and Training Providers. This year we had a guest speaker, Jane Ayrton (BA (Hons) Dip.C.Hyp.NLP, AssocCipd) from the Confidence Coffee House, who gave talks about how parents can help students 'Prepare for the World of Work'. Jane is working closely with Montgomery School as our Enterprise Adviser through the Lancashire Enterprise Adviser Network.

The Adventures of Katrina Parker

a young physicist extraordinaire

The
Ogden
Trust

making physics matter



Katrina is currently at Blackpool Sixth Form having graduated Montgomery in the class of 2017.

In March of this year, my physics teacher, Mr Mathers, told the class about an incredible opportunity to attend a residential in Foxton, Cambridge named 'How the Universe Lives and Dies'. My passion for physics overcame the fear I felt when I learnt it'd be five days away from home with people I had never before met and I am delighted this was the case because I honestly had one of the best times of my life. I learnt so much and met some astoundingly interesting people. Everyone had vastly different interests, yet we all got along so well.

Before I went, I received a number of emails and letters supplying me with more information about it. One letter I received was four sides of A4, each sentence getting me more and more excited to go. Casually mentioned on the final page, in the final paragraph, was a presentation we would need to do. It's safe to say I'm not a fan of giving presentations. We were asked to think about two or three ideas for the presentation related to physics or astrophysics so that, when we were put into groups of four, we could decide on the best one to be researched throughout the week in preparation. I came up with four ideas, just in case, and my fourth idea was the one we used. When we did the presentation, it went brilliantly as we seemed to impress the tutors and the guests who had come to watch, one of which was the CEO of Villiers Park. I felt very smug.

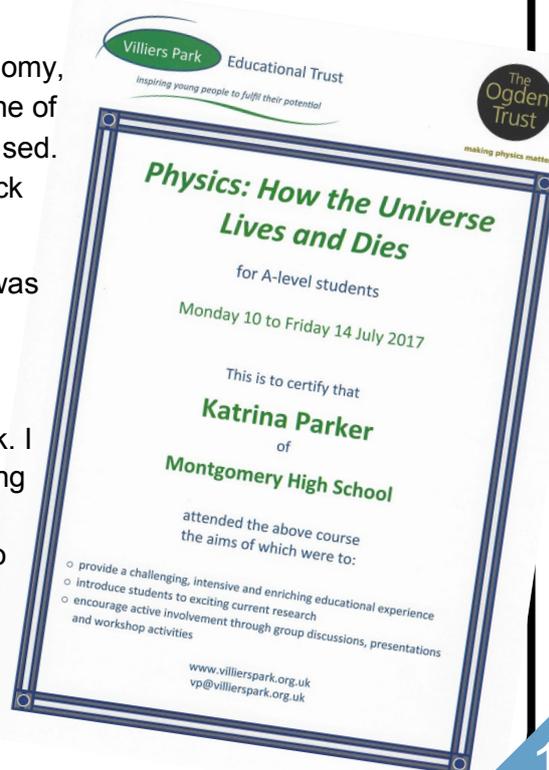
As well as the seminars, lectures and research sessions, we also got to launch rockets. First, we did the maths regarding projectiles before working in small groups to build our own. They were made of card and paper but had to be able to deploy a parachute (made of a plastic bag) from beneath the nosecone. We were told we had to consider the centre of mass and centre of pressure and where they should be relative to one another. My group launched our rocket using a motor containing gun powder. It went so high we couldn't actually see it until it crashed gracelessly next to some nearby trees. As a result of this, we expected it to catch on fire but the predicted destruction would not cause any issues for re-launching it with the larger motors. After we launched and recovered the rocket, we named it Burnie. As you may be able to tell from the name, it did catch on fire and, honestly, it was glorious.

The highlight of the week was when we went to the Institute of Astronomy, part of the University of Cambridge. There, we were able to go into one of the old observatories from decades ago that is now disused. Inside was an enormous telescope that was used to track stars and planets in the night sky.

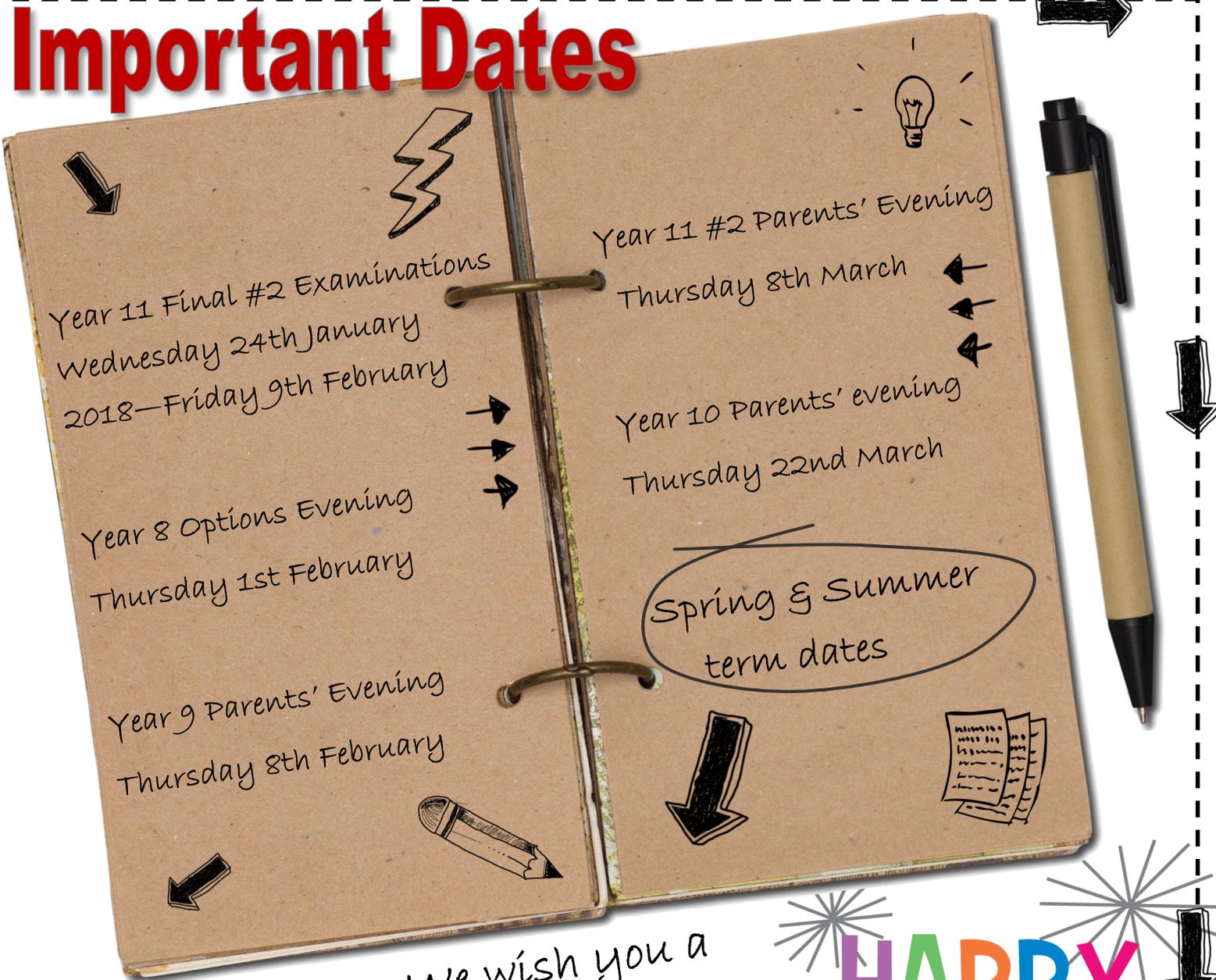
On the final day of the residential as everyone was leaving, I said goodbye to the tutors and to the other fantastic people I'd met. One final time, I thanked those who worked at Villiers Park. I am so grateful for being nominated. If I ever have the chance to do something like this again, my answer will without hesitation.

Villiers Park

be a yes



Important Dates



We wish you a Merry Christmas

and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Dates for your diary

Spring 2018 Term

Monday 8th January	School Opens
Monday 12th February	Half Term
Friday 16th February	Closure (Inclusive)
Friday 23rd March	School Closes

2018

Summer 2018 Term

Monday 9th April	School Opens
Monday 7th May	May Day Closure
Monday 28th May	Half Term
Friday 1st June	Closure (inclusive)
Friday 20th July	School Closes
Monday 23rd July	Inset Day
Tuesday 24th July	Inset Day