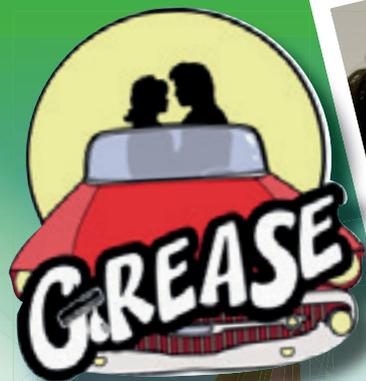


# MONTGOMERY ACADEMY



*Easter 2019*



Welcome to the Easter edition of our Academy newsletter, which having just read through the proof all I can say is WOW! This showcases the fantastic talents and achievements of our wonderful students supported by our superbly committed staff. I am always in awe of the massive extra-curricular work that goes on at Montgomery, such as the amazing achievements of our STEM and Science clubs and the never taken for granted success of our sports teams.



*Principal: Mr S. Careless*

This has been yet another exciting term in the Academy's journey to Good. We have had several visitors, quality assuring what we are currently doing and where we are heading. They have all made positive judgements on our progress. Our focus on three key areas for further improvement are summarised by:

**At Montgomery,**

- We all act **SMART**
- We all plan to **EXCEL** and
- We all show **PRIDE** in our work

These three acronyms are explained in the one page summaries included at the back of the newsletter. SMART focuses on student conduct and self-regulation, EXCEL focuses on the quality of teaching and learning and PRIDE focuses on work-ethic and study skills.

We have again tightened our expectations in terms of behaviour and conduct around the academy. We have introduced one-way systems and one-way doors for dining halls to make movement around the school safer. This has worked very well and made an immediate impact. Future work on raising our expectations of student conduct will focus upon mature use of the dining halls, separate toilets for Years 7-9 and 10-11, lining up outside in the morning, uniform and punctuality. Our new Logo for Montgomery Academy has been launched and it will be included on all new uniform from August. The new Year 7 will have the new uniform from August and other year groups will buy new as and when required.

Please can I remind parents that no student will be allowed to wear a nose piercing after Easter, even if it is covered with a plaster. Any student wishing to get their nose-pierced should do it at the start of the summer holiday, allowing six weeks for it to heal.

You may have seen the press coverage of the Fylde Coast Academy's trust OFSTED survey, which took place in January. Hopefully you are aware that Montgomery is an FCAT school and the survey was very positive about the work of the Trust and its schools. The survey is available on the FCAT website (Under FCAT in the News).

Year 11 are on the homeward stretch of their GCSEs and when we all return on Tuesday 23rd April, they will only have a few weeks left before the exam season is in full flow. There are several booster classes on over Easter and ask your son/daughter for the letter to have a look at what is available (also on our website). Obviously please support your son/daughter in ensuring that Easter is used for significant revision time, as they have a long summer break coming up.

By the time you receive this newsletter the three nights of the school-production Grease will have run their course. We are very excited to see the fruits of the extreme hard work that the cast and staff have put in to ensuring that this is our best production ever. We have recently invested in all new sound and lighting equipment. Thank you in advance to all cast members, Mr Heyes, Mrs Smith, Mrs Walmsley and Ms Farnworth for their tireless commitment to giving our super-talented students the platform to shine.

To all members of the Montgomery Family, have a great Easter.

Mr Careless

# THE HOUSE SYSTEM AND THIS TERMS CHALLENGES

**The House System** is designed to embody the values and ethos of the school and aims to be an integral part of our school community. The house captains will lead the student council to create a strong pupil voice to motivate students and further the community spirit of the school.

**HOUSE SYSTEM OBJECTIVES:**

Our aim is to provide every pupil in each house with the following:

- a sense of belonging within the school community
- opportunities to develop social, intellectual, physical and practical skills
- a sense of achievement both inside and outside of the classroom
- fun and excitement through competition
- opportunities for leadership
- an awareness of individual and collective responsibility

**LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

The house competition is about participation and working together with students from all year groups. It provides students with opportunities to be a leader either by being a House Captain, being elected as an ambassador or even taking responsibility to help lead a specific activity or event.

**HOUSE ORGANISATION**

Pupils are assigned to one of the four houses on entrance to the school in Year 7 where they remain until the end of year 11.

Each member of staff is also attached to a house.

Each house has two designated House Captains from each year group who will act as representatives for all the students in their house throughout the year by: helping co-ordinate house teams, organise activities and events and represent their house at relevant meetings.

**HOW TO EARN HOUSE POINTS: GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION**

Each House is in competition with each other to achieve the highest number of house points at the end of each term and most importantly by the end of the year when there will be prizes.

Regular house point totals will be advertised in tutor time.

Pupils can contribute to their house point totals in a number of ways both in and out of the classroom. All pupils are expected to participate in at least one of the many house events/activities.

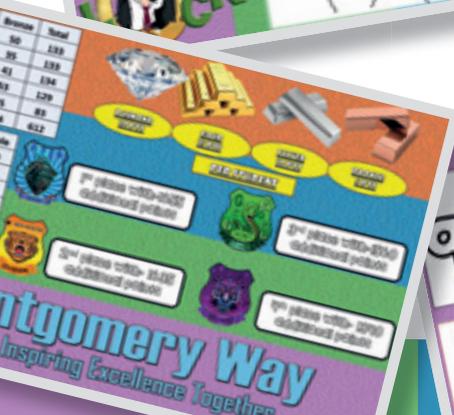
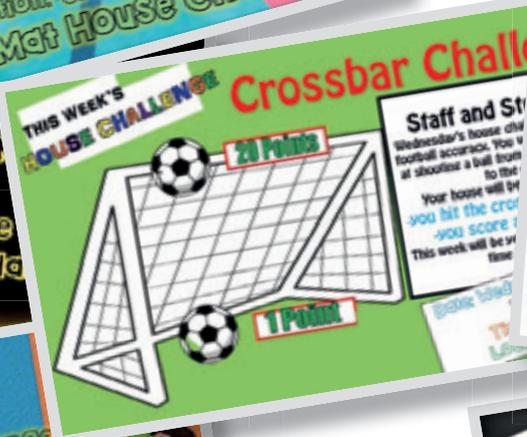
**WEEKLY CHALLENGES**

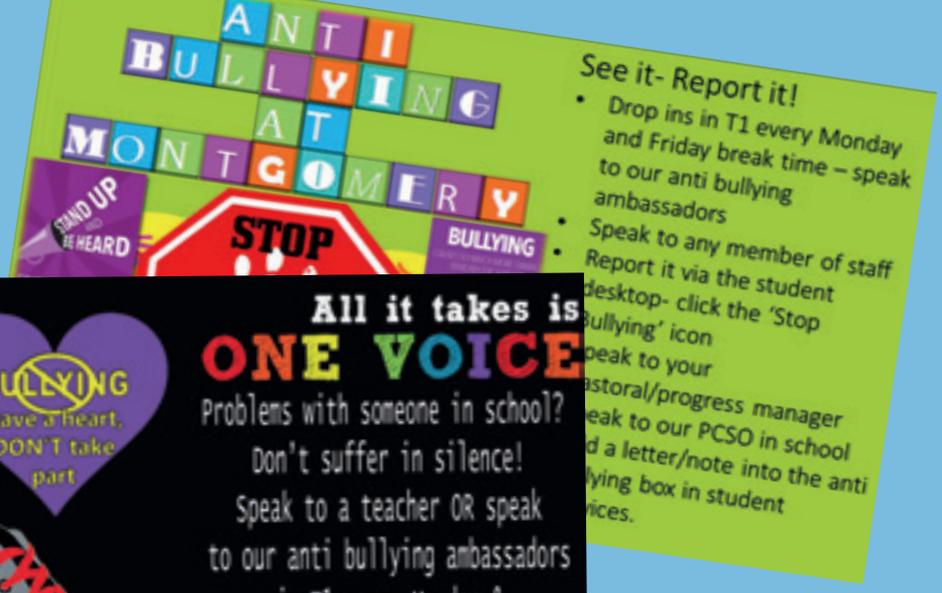
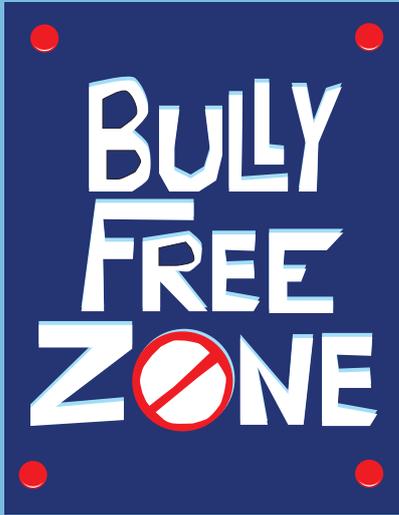


- **AMBITION POINTS-** Pupils are awarded ambition points for effort and achievement in lessons. Each week house points will be rewarded to houses as follows:
  - o 1st place - 40 points
  - o 2nd place- 30 points
  - o 3rd place- 20 points
  - o 4th place- 10 points
- **ATTENDANCE-** The average attendance for each week will be calculated. Each week house points will be rewarded to houses as follows:
  - o 1st place - 40 points
  - o 2nd place- 30 points
  - o 3rd place- 20 points
  - o 4th place- 10 points
- **House Challenges-** Each week students will embark on a weekly challenge in which students will compete against each other to be rewarded weekly house points. Each week house points will be rewarded to houses as follows:
  - o 1st place - 40 points
  - o 2nd place- 30 points
  - o 3rd place- 20 points
  - o 4th place- 10 points

**BONUS CHALLENGE OPPORTUNITIES**

- **CHARITY FUNDRAISING-** Each house will select a local charity to work with and support throughout the year. The house that raises the most money will earn:
  - o 1 house point for every £1 earned throughout the year.
- **I AM LEARNING ENGAGEMENT-** The student that engages with I am learning will gain extra house points throughout the year.
- **ACCELERATED READING-** Word counts linked to house points in years 7 & 8 with the top readers in each house acknowledged.
- **PIXL ENGAGEMENT-** The student that engages with I am learning will gain extra house points throughout the year.
- **EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS -** Pupils can also earn house points for their involvement with clubs inside or outside school. These can be achieved by pupils showing commitment through high attendance, outstanding effort and outstanding achievement. (At the end of each term pupils can ask their teacher in charge of the club they have attended, to email the house leader with specific information of the achievement to earn relevant house points.
- **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT -** Students that make the Montgomery Way will be added to the house totals.
  - o Diamond students- 20 points (per student)
  - o Gold Students- 10 points (per student)
  - o Silver Students- 5 points (per student)
  - o Bronze Students- 2 points (per student)





# HeadStart's Youth Engagement Conference

8th March 2019

De Vere Hotel, East Park Drive

Six of Montgomery's anti bullying ambassadors spent the day at the HeadStart Youth Engagement conference on Friday March 8th 2019! It was a great opportunity to meet resilience committees from other schools, share ideas, make new friendships and learn new skills to make our resilience committee the best it can be!

HeadStart recognises that pupil voice and activism is so important in making real change in schools and communities and the aim of the day was to bring everybody together to celebrate and strengthen the united approach to resilience in Blackpool.

Students were involved in workshops focused on; digital media, keeping the good stuff going, how to make research fun and useful in school and lots of other fun activities and features!

They had a fantastic day and came back with lots of ideas of how to make the anti-bullying agenda at Montgomery even stronger!

Any student at Montgomery can be involved and become an anti-bullying ambassador. Please contact Mrs Cumming or any of the ambassadors for further details.

See it- Report it!



# VIVA Italia!

A number of students from Years 7,8 and 9 have been attending Italian club either after school on Wednesday or lunchtime on a Thursday. Students are making excellent progress and are already able to have conversations in Italian.

## A dopo! Italian Club.



## THERAPY DOG IS GOING FOR GOLD

As part of our successful bid for funding through the Headstart innovation fund, we have recruited a school therapy dog.

Pip is based in Engage with Mrs Chandler and they attend weekly training sessions together in Preston. Pip belongs to Mrs Montgomery and her family but enjoys her days in school with us.



We are learning to share Pip as she spends some time up in the SSC and goes on duty with Mr Burns and Mr Benson. All the children stop to talk to her on their way into school and Mr Burns says he has never had so much attention!

Having already completed her bronze award Pip has just this week passed her Silver training assessment and earned herself a certificate, she has literally been jumping through hoops to pass her exam!! The first one really impresses me because she has learnt to nudge a book to tell the reader she wants them to go on to the next page (quite good for a small dog I think!) The second thing I think is amazing is she can close the door by herself - it's quite handy to make sure we all stay where we should be, but lots of the students have never seen a dog do this before. One of the things we enjoy getting involved in is hiding treats for her around the room and she has to use her sense of smell to find them all. She has learnt to bow, prey and crawl along the floor, jump through a hoop and spin. She lets us brush her and keep her clean as well cuddle her if we are feeling sad or cross. Some children come to talk to Pip if they are upset about something and they say that taking her for a walk helps them too. It is amazing that she can do all these things and makes us all so happy.

Every time we come in Pip greets us like she has known us for such a long time and it makes us feel even happier to be here. Lots of staff like her too and enjoy coming for a cuddle at the end of the day!

She has worked so hard every week training to get her silver award-it has made me see what hard work can get you. It is not always easy straight away but if you keep trying and practising hard you will get there. She is a pleasure to have with us all of the time.

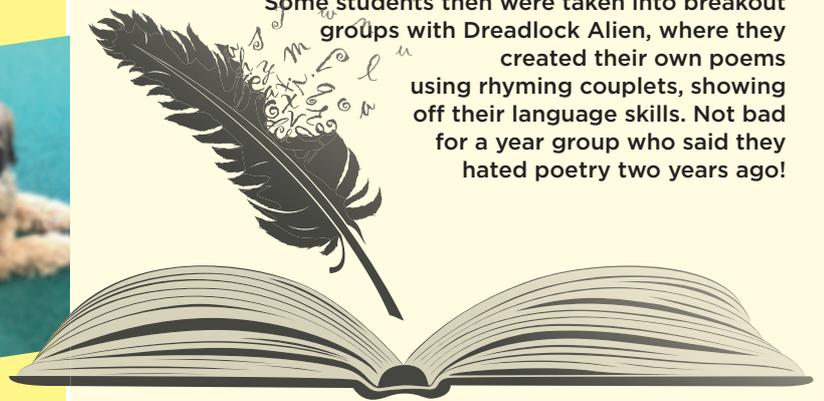
# Poetry Palooza

In their quest to be poetry masterminds, year 11 have this term been treated to not one, but two fantastic poetry experiences.

A number of students attended the Poetry Live! event in Manchester, where poets such as Carol Ann Duffy, Simon Armitage and the legend that is John Agard performed and discussed their poetry. Agard received a standing ovation following his performance of Checkin Out Me History and reminding us that "words are sexy."

If that wasn't enough, the whole year group was treated to a visit from Dreadlock Alien, another well-known performance poet. He created poetry on the spot by using the very names on the registers for the event. He also performed Checkin Out Me History and London, whilst challenging students to think of connections between the two. Once students had proved their poetic knowledge, it was over to the teachers, who faced a really tough grilling.

Some students then were taken into breakout groups with Dreadlock Alien, where they created their own poems using rhyming couplets, showing off their language skills. Not bad for a year group who said they hated poetry two years ago!



## National Literacy Trust Story Explorers Competition

*You may remember that last term Jennavive of Year 7 was chosen as one of the 25 winning pupils for the Story Explorers competition.*

*Jennavive produced an excellent tourist guide and she won the school an author visit to help celebrate the National Literacy Trust's 25th anniversary.*

*It has been confirmed that the brilliant Paul Cookson will be visiting us after the Easter break! Look out for more information on this fantastic opportunity.*

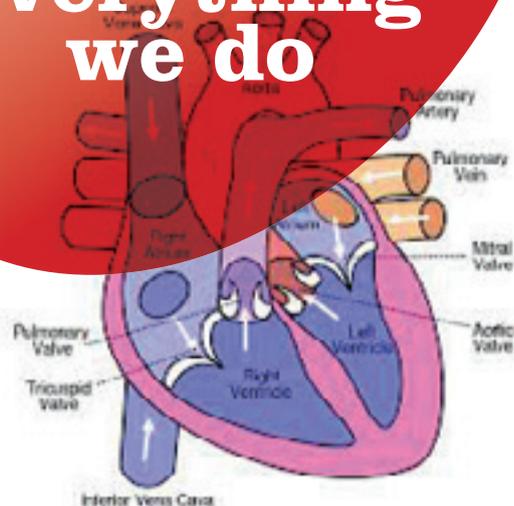
*Jennavive's winning piece will also be published on the Trust's website and social media channels, along with the other winning entries.*

# Science has a spring in its step!

The Science department at Montgomery has enjoyed a fantastic term. We continue to enrich the learning experience of our students by offering as many extracurricular activities, trips 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 department; 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 long standing collaborations with the Institute of Physics, the Ogden Trust and the Royal Society of Chemistry and have also took part in the Brilliant Club. We have also promoted with enthusiasm British Science week and are due to take out a trip to Disneyland Paris over the Easter break. It has been busy, busy, busy, but we absolutely love it!

## Science is at the heart of everything we do



Students in year 7 have been getting to grips with structure of the heart, quite literally! Each group had their own lamb or pig heart to dissect. The first task was to label the 4 different chambers (left and right ventricle and left and right atrium), as well as identifying the different veins and arteries associated with the heart itself. Then it was time for the gruesome bit... cutting it open! Our students really enjoyed this series of organisation lessons, and now have an excellent knowledge and understanding of what a mammalian heart looks like and how it functions.



## Year 7 Space Club

## Year 7 Science Club

This club soared into action in October under the experienced leadership of Mrs Bach and has continued to thrive this term. With tasks such as designing and testing egg landers for use on Mars, making balloon powered moon buggies and Martian snake monsters and testing Mars soil, students have been extremely busy. They have also enjoyed excavating fossils and making space slime and super fizzy planet bath bombs. It really is to infinity and beyond in this club, well done space team!



Led again this term by Miss Healey, our enthusiastic Year 7 students have made their own indicator from red cabbage to test the pH of acids and alkalis, made chromatography flowers for Valentine's Day and explored the states of matter using chocolate. As well as investigating what ingredients make the very best slime mixtures, our students have also been encrypting secret messages using their own invisible inks made in school. In the Easter challenge, students had to build a vessel to protect an egg whilst it was travelling down a zip line and involved in this was making their own glue out of vinegar and milk. Well done to all students who have been involved, they cannot wait for next term already.

# Montgomery STEM CLUB

we have a Nimbus 2000

Mrs Bach Mr Byrne

This club has students in it from a variety of year groups and whilst it has been led by Mrs Bach, Miss Lee has also offered fantastic support, particularly with the delicious pancake making that took place on Shrove Tuesday. The students in this club have continued this term with a Harry Potter theme, and within this they have investigated fire by testing for mysterious gases that can relight glowing splints

and make strange squeaky pops. They have also made magical bath bombs, candles and soap, and explored pH rainbows. On Valentine's day, students performed a heart dissection and investigated the properties of coke.



## YEAR 8 STEM CREATIVE ART CLUB

The newest of our clubs this year is the Year 8 STEM Creative Arts club, led by Miss Healey. In their 2nd term together, they have enjoyed breaking down old electronic equipment like cameras and hard drives to see how they work and to see if they could be upcycled. Students have also made their own paints and printing tools and used them to develop a variety of painting techniques such as bubble painting, spray painting, gravity painting and pendulum painting. Within this topic, students were taught how to make their own ink, quills and tie dyed t-shirts. This included using natural dyes such as berries, red cabbage and tea to dye different fabrics in a creative, artistic style. Just before Easter, our students have been busy making their own lip balms, and this has proved very popular indeed!

## STEM CHAMPIONS & OGDEN TRUST COMPETITIONS

In late January, Mrs Bach and Miss Healey took two students, Lily Koekemoer and Myles Green to compete in the STEM Champions competition at Blackpool and the Fylde College. Both students were an absolute credit to the school and performed fantastically well. Science students across all year groups have also competed this term in an Ogden Trust Particles Competition and with some exceptional entrants, we have high hopes of achieving awards when winners are revealed by Blackpool Sixth Form College later this month.



## YOUNG ENGINEERS STEM SKILLS CHALLENGE 2019

In March, Mrs Bach accompanied a talented team of Year 10 Science students to Blackpool and Fylde College to compete in the Young Engineers STEM Skills Challenge 2019. Having successfully qualified through to the final from the heats, and with the chance to win £10,000 for the school, the team will engage in a challenging project to assemble a fully operational and functioning digger from basic materials such as card and balsa wood. The final is on the 29th March and we wish the team the greatest of luck in bringing home this prestigious title.



# British Science Week – 8th-17th March 2019

The theme for this year's British Science Week was "journeys", and in embracing this theme, we made a display in the main school reception that showed clearly our own journey in STEM related activities and clubs at Montgomery. Miss Healey also designed and implemented a fantastic 'Escape Room' House Challenge that students absolutely loved. They had to hunt for clues and solve puzzles to escape from S10 before it was too late. Purple house were the overall winners, represented by Matthew in Year 7 and Laura in Year 8. Within our Year 7 Science club, we also ran a journey of a rocket competition. Students had to research, design and launch their own rockets down the Science corridor. All students successfully launched a rocket, and Dylan was the overall winner. Well done for another fantastic team effort during British Science Week which will once again return this time next year!



## THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME



The  
Brilliant  
Club

Building on a successful collaboration last year, 'The Brilliant Club' has been brilliant again this term and concluded with a graduation ceremony for our hard working Year 10 students at Lancaster University in February. Accompanied by Mr Mason and Miss Healey, students celebrated completing the course which included attending 6 tutorials with a PhD tutor after which each student had to complete a 3000-word assignment on what they have learnt. Huge congratulations to all students that have embarked on this tough but extremely rewarding programme, well done. We now look forwards to running a similar experience for our Year 8s later this year, something which will be new for us but equally as exciting!



## Primary Science Club

Led by Miss Healey and supported by Dr Hutchinson and Mrs Bunker, the Montgomery Science team have expanded their popular Science clubs to include Year 5 and 6 students at some of the local primary schools in our community. Bispham Endowed were first, followed by Anchorsholme Academy and we are now looking at other primaries such as Moor Park, Norbreck and Westcliffe. The students at the two primaries visited to date have studied density by making lava lamps, made a variety of slimes and explored diffusion using magic milk and skittles. They have also made chromatography flowers and marbled paper and investigated acids and alkalis using suitable indicators. This Primary Science Club has been superb in not only inspiring younger students to love Science, but it also promotes Montgomery in the local community, something that we are keen to continue with. A big thanks to Miss Healey for her efforts in making this happen!



Disneyland  
PARIS

## Science Trip to Paris

From 5th April – 10th April 60 students and 7 staff will be travelling to Paris France on a Science department trip... look out in the next newsletter to find out what we got up to, or even better, spread the word and follow us on twitter @MontyParis2019 or on Instagram – MontgomeryScience2019 to keep fully updated!

# EXTRA STEM CLUB NEWS!

## Montgomery Academy, Blackpool, UK



## Robotics Club



Regular readers may remember that in our last issue, we left STEM Robotics Club about to set off to compete in the Tomorrow's Engineers Robotics Challenge! So how did they get on, Mr Byrne?



**TIMEDATE. 9.45AM LANCASHIRE ENERGY HQ:** Furness Academy, Leyland St Mary's, Hodgson and Millfield were our competitors!

### FIRST CATEGORY - ROBOT DESIGN INTERVIEW:

Ian with over 20 years experience with BAe systems grilled the team individually 'The Apprentice' style to determine what everyone's contribution had actually been in reality.

### SECOND CATEGORY - ROBOT CHALLENGE

Mat: Here comes the Judges! Various tasks that our robot 'Uncle Monty' had been pre-programmed to complete by Charlotte and Matthew.

**THIRD CATEGORY - PROJECT PRESENTATION:** Kasey-Lee and Hallie presented their PowerPoint about 'Drones and their connection with Humanitarian Aid' to two Engineers.

### FOURTH CATEGORY - BLIND TEAMWORK CHALLENGE:

**FIFTH CATEGORY - SPEED CHALLENGE** with our own MontyZoomer!: 400cm as fast as you can - or can't in Montyzoomer's case, as we had major technical problems!!!

***We were the first North West Team this year going through to the Nationals!***

Kasey-Lee and 'Birthday Girl' Hallie took first prize for their presentation. In their summing up, the judges said (they had) '... judged these types of events over a number of years now and presentation is the very foundation of any project. The girls put in a great effort and were really impressive.'

We also took the overall first prize which takes us to the BIG BANG Fair at the NEC, Birmingham.

The Judges said: 'It was a very close run with Hodgson, however, Montgomery worked really well as a team. They were organised and clearly demonstrated how different students had the ability to take on various roles. They edged it on their organisation.' Commenting behind the scenes, Judges were also impressed that our team included not just four girl engineers, but students who obviously enjoyed working well together in mixed groups.



# English

## Department

Our Year 7 students were literally 'Blown Away' following another fantastic 'Montgomery' visit in February from local author Dan Worsley.

As part of our 'Reading Matters at Montgomery' initiative to raise the profile of reading amongst our students, our Montgomery Year 7 Family welcomed local children's author Dan Worsley to their weekly reading assembly. The children/students were charmed with his animated performance and storytelling of the fantastic stories from his book 'Impossible Tales'. Dan wore the famous 'multi-coloured' waistcoat as he performed the hilarious 'Blown Away'.



Immediately following the successful assembly, a group of our top Accelerated Readers from Year 7 were invited along to a writing workshop with Dan. The workshop gave the students an opportunity to build confidence and develop their creative story writing in the hour long session. As a result of the workshop one of our Year 7 students, Harry Youde, produced his very own version of 'Blown Away'.

We look forward to another visit in the near future from Dan Worsley.

## Lemony Snicket reading group



*Mr Byrne David Shannan Kyle Peter Catherine-Ann Theo Brent Louisa Joshua and Stef*

Mr Byrne brings us up to date with their adventures thus far!

Miss Slade and I started the first Lemony Snicket Reading Group in May 2018, he writes. We read the first three books of the series during tutor times throughout the summer term and into Autumn. We then took a break to read 'The Breadwinner' which became an Oscar nominated animated film. Just as we are about to start book the fourth; The Miserable Mill, we have started a second group stuffed with Year Seven and Eights, who have just begun book the first: The Bad Beginning.



Dear Reader,

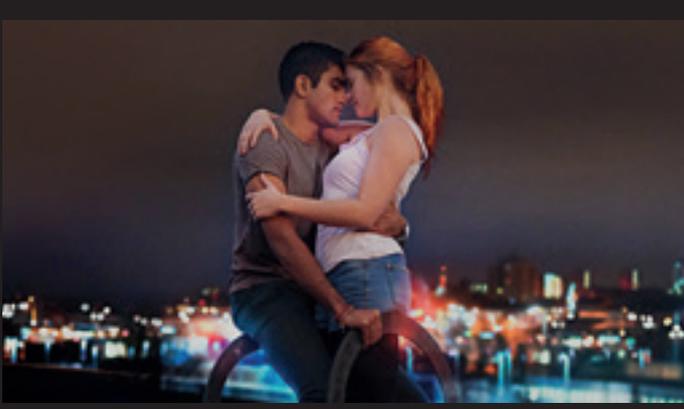
I hope for your sake, that you have not chosen to read this book because you are in the mood for a pleasant experience.

If this is the case, I advise you to put this book down instaneously, because of all the books describing the unhappy lives of the Baudelaire orphans, this might be the unhappiest yet.

With all due respect,

Lemony Snicket





# Reading Rockets at Montgomery Academy

## YEAR 11 ROMEO AND JULIET TRIP

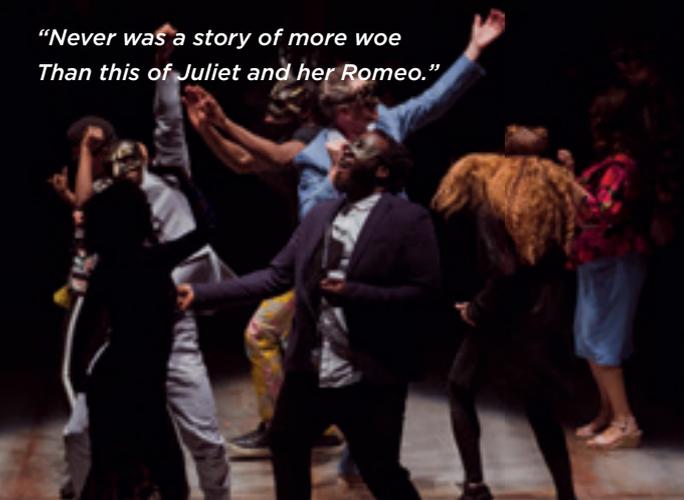
*“Love goes toward love as schoolboys from their books,  
But love from love, toward school with heavy looks.”*

On a turbulent Thursday evening, 62 year 11 students ventured out to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's contemporary production of 'Romeo and Juliet' at The Grand Theatre, Blackpool. Thankfully there were no “heavy looks” to be spied and spirits were high as the stage was set for what promised to be a thrilling evening of drama, made even more spectacular with the excitement of seeing some of Montgomery's own students treading the boards before us. We entered the theatre that evening expecting to have our conceptions of this GCSE text challenged by the promise of a modern and fresh outlook on an old masterpiece. We were not disappointed! The students were captivated by some wonderful performances and the overall relentless energy of a decidedly youthful cast. The traditional rustling of Haribo packets was quelled immediately by the actors entry to the stage and several gasps could be heard echoing down the rows of Montgomery students at each daring knife blow and moment of dramatic climax.

This play truly is, as Harley Granville-Barker observed, a tragedy of youth and with our youth captivated once more by the story which unfolded before them, I was reminded of how young and yet how mature our students were in that instance. Several members of the public complimented the behaviour of many of our students who conducted themselves with the sensibilities of any regular theatre goer and were a credit to the Montgomery family. Although this performance's gender fluidity was definitely a hot topic for debate at the interval; some postulating that this served to highlight the gender battle and role reversal within the play; others that they felt it merely served for confusion or questioned the validity of the casting of Mercutio: if Shakespeare's play is an attack on the destructiveness of male violence, is there any gain in casting one of the key knife-wielders as a woman? Whatever their standpoint, it was heart-warming to hear hundreds-of-years old theatre debated by our students, many with the dogged tenacity of any seasoned critic.

All considered, it was a night at the theatre that none of us will forget.

*“Never was a story of more woe  
Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.”*



Our Accelerated Reading Programme has truly taken off this year with our students reading an amazing 3,000 books and accumulating an incredible 50 + million words. Amongst our readers we have 4 amazing book worms who have become 'Millionaire' readers. Emma, Lucy and Kaine in Year 8 and Harry in Year 7. The students have celebrated their success with a celebratory assembly and gift this term. Additionally, we also have a high number of students who have read 100,000 words or more also students who have read up to 30 books this term which is an amazing achievement too.

Each week, our Year 7 and Year 8 students have an extended assembly, lead by Mr Bullen, where students bring their own choice of book and read as a whole year group with staff. A key focus of this assembly is to raise the profile of reading at Montgomery. It is also a fantastic opportunity for the reading success of students' to be acknowledged and celebrated with postcards and prizes.

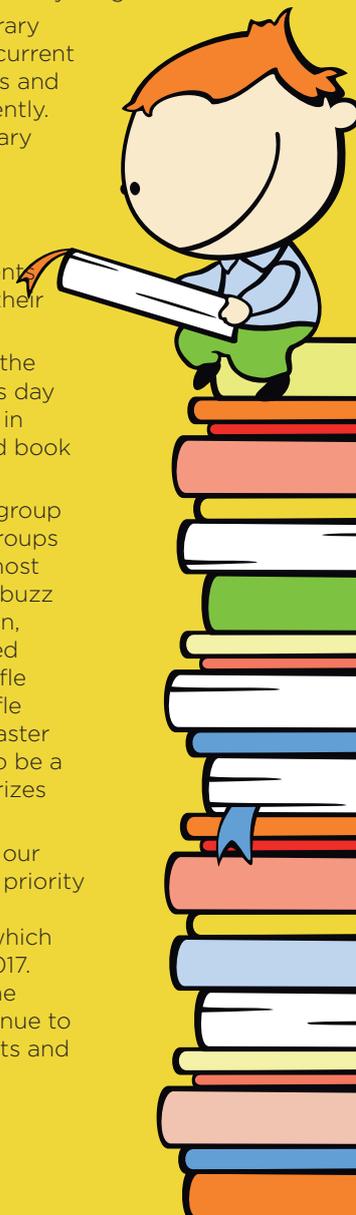
As part of their English studies, all Key Stage 3 students have a fortnightly timetabled library lesson where they quiz on their current reading book, swap library books and have the opportunity to read silently. In addition to the fortnightly library sessions, all students also take part in our whole school

'Drop Everything And Read' initiative which involves all students silent reading for 30 minutes in their regular timetabled lesson.

To celebrate our love of reading the Year 8 students had a Valentine's day themed 'Blind Date with a book' in which students chose a wrapped book based only on the blurb.

Our current Easter Year 7 Tutor group challenge, which pitches tutor groups against each other to read the most books and words, has created a buzz amongst the students. In addition, every student who has completed a reading quiz will be given a raffle ticket and then placed into a raffle draw for the chance to win an Easter prize. Individual success will also be a celebrated and rewarded with prizes too.

The amazing reading success of our students is reflective of the high priority that is placed on the 'Reading at Montgomery Matters' initiative which was introduced at the start of 2017. At Montgomery, we recognise the importance of reading and continue to promote this to all of our students and families.

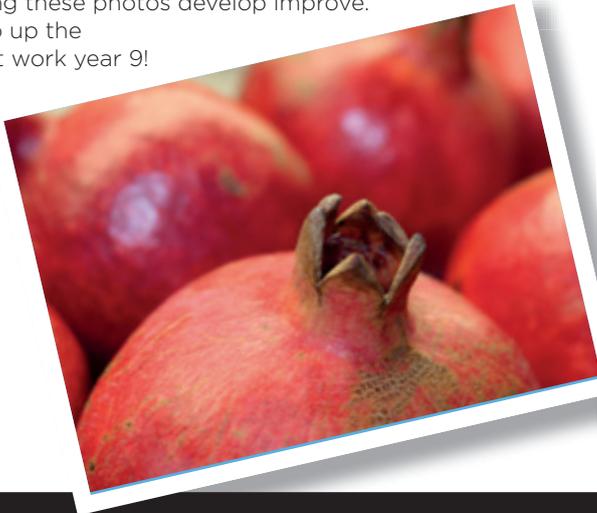


# PHOTOGRAPHY



## YEAR 9 FOOD PHOTOGRAPHY

This term Year 9 students have been developing their skills on their first piece of photography coursework, focusing on Food photography. Students have been looking at Texture, Depth of Field and looking for patterns and symmetry in Food. After some practise shoots in school, students have visited Bispham's Fruit Bowl in the village as the location for a huge variety of fresh fruit and vegetables. They have taken some fantastic photos and we look forward to seeing these photos develop improve. Keep up the great work year 9!



## PHOTOGRAPHY HOUSE COMPETITION

This terms house photography competition was very well responded to students. Students were given a week to respond to the theme 'weather'. A fantastic set of photos were received and displayed on Monty Way corridor; the following 3 students were decided as first, second and third place. Well done to Robyn, Emma and Sarah for their imaginative and creative entries!

**1ST- ROBYN - BLACKPOOL PHOTO PURPLE HOUSE**

**2ND - EMMA - LEAVES IN WATER - ORANGE HOUSE**

**3RD - SARAH - RAINBOW OVER MONTGOMERY - GREEN HOUSE**

If you love taking photos of the weather, create an account on the [bbc weather watchers](http://bbc.weatherwatchers) to upload your own shots, these can be submitted using your mobile and could appear on the television! Head to [www.bbc.co.uk/weatherwatchers](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weatherwatchers)



# YEAR 10 GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

Year 10 GCSE Photography students have this term been visiting Blackpool and the College's University Campus on Palatine Road to build on their double exposure images they have been creating in school.

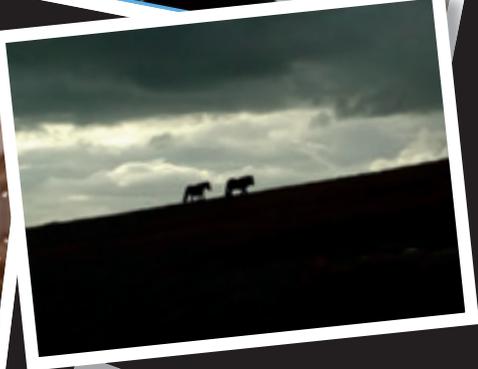
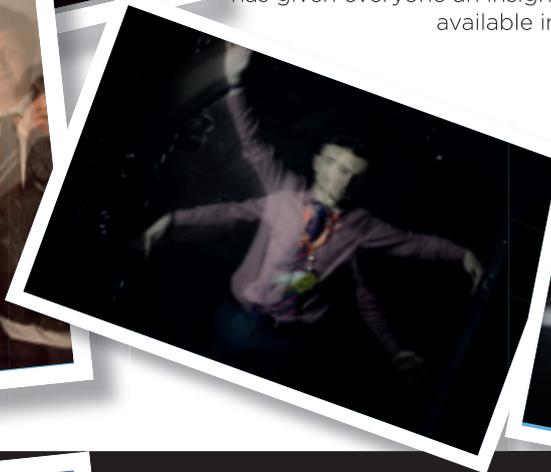
Rather than using Adobe Photoshop to mix portrait and landscape shots we visited the college to use their cameras and photography booths. Students visited once a week for a duration of 5 weeks building on the previous lessons work each week.

Students double expose work started by building multiple shots on top of each other. Students shots varied from head shots and Full Body Shots, 2 to 4 exposures. Each booth also had a different type of lighting setup. There was a Ring flash, a strong movable floor light and a large off camera flash all gave a different look to the students work.

Students also experimented with shutter speeds in their photos, these images built on a photographer they had researched in school called Francesca Woodman.

In the most recent visit students used their double exposed images to develop the look of them. Students created their own cyanotypes, firstly students created their own light sensitive paper and then exposed their images to a strong UV Light to transfer their images onto the paper.

These weeks have been a fantastic experience for all students, it has given everyone an insight into the facilities and opportunities available in the further education environment.



# YEAR 7 CHANGING HORIZONS EVENT

## FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY SKYPE INTERVIEW

In March photography students in years 10 and 11 have had the privilege of chatting to retail company JD Williams' clothes photographer. The interview took place in lesson time and was done through the internet using Skype! Students were given a tour around the dedicated photography floor of the companies building in Manchester.

Students got a sneak peak of next years' Spring Summer collection for Jacamo and Simply Be whilst learning about the role of the fashion photographer. JD Williams had recently started using a light 360 studio that provides photographers with continual lighting and moves away from flash photography. JD Williams along with Yves Saint Laurent and Armani are the only companies to be shooting using the state of the art equipment in the UK.

After a tour of the studio students asked questions around the use of photoshop on models and were reassured that models were not photoshoped at all and it was only used to make sure clothes were colour matched to give a true representation of their colour online and in catalogues.

Other questions were about what advice would be given to young photographers, students were reminded to keep exploring different styles of photography and take opportunities when they come along, whether it's helping out or volunteering for a friend within the industry - all experiences are valuable opportunities!

The power of social media and students presence online was a strong reminder to all that potential employers would look through their Instagram and Facebook accounts to see their portfolio of photos, having a dedicated website showcasing photos also has a huge impact on job opportunities when applying for jobs in the photography industry.

The atmosphere within the studio came across as really fun and gave students a great insight into the fashion photography industry.

On Saturday 30th March year 11 students have been invited to visit the building to see for themselves about how the equipment and role of photographer work.

Mr Hegarty and Mrs Watson were invited to the Changing Horizons Event on the 7th February at Blackpool's Winter Gardens, 10 Year 7 students joined us on the day including Paige, Demi, Cory, Jennavive, Wann, Kelise, Sam, Michael, Nathan and Daniel. Students spent the day at the careers event talking and participating in taster sessions with lots of local and national businesses which were encouraging students to consider the career opportunities available to them on and around the North West.

The Winter Gardens was full of stalls of around 100 providers sharing their career opportunities with year 6 and year 7 students from around the Fylde coast. Students spent around 20 minutes with providers discussing their job roles and learning about aspects of their jobs.

Some of the group sessions involved talks from HM Border Security looking at what the Border Force do as part of their jobs, Blackpool Police Force, national bread brand Warburtons also shared their range of jobs and interview techniques. Blackpool Pleasure Beach and Blackpool Transport were also sharing with students the range of job roles, qualifications needed, and their offers of apprentice and career progression opportunities available with them. Students also took part in a budgeting campaign with the finance department of the DWP. The roles of the volunteer for the RNLI were also shared with year 7's and students participated in team building activities with the Environment agency looking at building flood defences. Students were fantastic ambassadors to Montgomery and thoroughly enjoyed the day, fulling engaging in every activity that was given them.



# CAREERS

On Wednesday 30th January over 200 of our Year 8 pupils from Montgomery travelled to Blackpool Pleasure Beach to attend a Careers Exhibition.

At the event pupils moved their way around three rooms full of exhibitions from Further and Higher Education, Public Services, Armed and uniformed Services, local and international businesses were all on show. The aim for this interactive event was to enable our Year 8 pupils to make informed decisions regarding their GCSE option choices and gain a deeper understanding of what and why we are doing the things we do in school and what it could lead to.

Many thanks from everyone at Montgomery to the exhibitors who gave their time and effort with the children. As you can see from the photos the pupils were somewhat inspired and motivated by the choice and variety of jobs and opportunities out there for life after Montgomery.

Thank you also to Blackpool Pleasure Beach who kindly donated 2 x wristbands to access the Pleasure Beach as prizes - won by Jasmine Knight and Myles Green - Congratulations!



## MOVING INTO VOLUNTEERING COURSE MARCH 2019

March saw the start of the 'Moving into Volunteering' course in school which was delivered by UR Potential - a Community Interest Company which assist people into volunteering placements. We had over 20 pupils give up their spare time after school to take part in this exciting course aimed to get pupils ready for the opportunities that volunteering holds.

The course consisted of learning new skills, team building, careers guidance, social action but most of all the students had fun! We look forward to seeing which volunteering placements they get up to in the not so distance future.

## MINIBUS DRIVER VOLUNTEER NEEDED

If you have some spare time and would like to help with driving the school minibus to facilitate school trips we would like to hear from you!

You will need to have a valid UK driving license with D1 listed as an additional category on your license. School will provide further training and CRB checks.

**Please get in contact with [r.hegarty@montgomery.fcac.org.uk](mailto:r.hegarty@montgomery.fcac.org.uk) for more information.**

# Classroom Practice

At Montgomery,  
teachers will plan to EXCEL



Montgomery  
Academy

Inspiring Excellence Together

E

Entry

Entry task

X

Excellent

Excellent relationships

C

Challenge

Challenge and  
support learning

E

Effective

Effective explanations,  
modelling and questioning

L

Learning

Learning over time

Rulers used  
for titles



Presentation



Montgomery

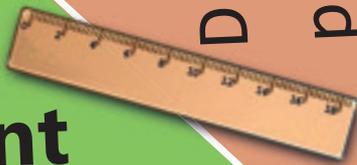
E

Independent  
study



Diagrams in  
pencil/ruler

Excellent  
work



**At Montgomery  
Academy**

**we act SMART by being :-**

**S**afe

**M**ature

**A**mbitious

**R**espectful

**T**houghtful

**But why?**

As a consequence of these qualities our expectations for each of you is that you will:

- grow as a person
- be a positive and an active member of our school community
- be lifelong readers with a love of reading
- be able to work well independently and interdependently
- be employable and
- want to be the best you can be in whatever you choose to do

All these qualities will help you achieve excellence now and in your future lives.



**Montgomery Way**  
Inspiring Excellence Together

# sports report

**Tuesday 29th January**

Montgomery hosted the **Y9 BLACKPOOL SCHOOLS' BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FOR GIRLS**. The Y9 girls are super keen, therefore we were able to enter 2 teams into this competition. Both Montgomery teams played exceptionally well, outwitting opponents with their dribbling and passing skills and even saw Olivia score a 3 pointer!! Montgomery and South Shore were equal in points at the end of the competition, which then saw it come down to the number of baskets scored and unfortunately meant SSA won the overall competition with Montgomery as runners up. A brilliant performance by all involved and as you can probably see from the photograph below, some students participated who you might not have thought would have - a real positive!!



**Team: Jess, Charlotte, Molly, Chloe, Annie, Jade, Caitlin, Stephenie, Alex, Holly, Bethany, Olivia & Amelia**



**OUR Y11 FOOTBALL TEAM** played against St George's in the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Quarter Final. Both teams met in the final last year so we knew it was going to be a close match! The full time result was 1-1 with a goal from Joe, which led to extra-time. Montgomery saw out the extra time with another goal from Joe to make it 2-1 to Montgomery AET. Montgomery will now continue through to the semi-finals (opposition TBC), let's see if they can retain the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre trophy for the 3rd year running. If they do reach the final it is to be played at Bloomfield Road

**Team: Cam, Nathan, Joe, Kyle, Will, Jamie, Liam, Nico, Joe, James, Liam, Jamie & Ellis**

**Wednesday 30th January**

Our U14 girls faced Lytham St Anne's in the Lancashire Football Cup. Lytham have always reached the later rounds in this competition and have some great female footballers, playing for Blackburn Rovers and other local academies so we knew it was going to be a tough ask. The girls put up an amazing performance with goals from Olivia and Natalie but unfortunately the final score was 3-2 to Lytham, who will now go onto the next round of the competition.

**Team: Natalie, Lily-Mai, Laura, Robyn, Emma, Yulan, Chloe, Izzy, Olivia, Paige, Emily, Caisey-Lea, Courtney, Chloe & Izzy**  
**Player of the Match (POM): Olivia**

**Thursday 31st January**

Our Y9 boys football team faced Cardinal Allen in the semi-final of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Cup, beating them 6-3 with goals from Jake (4) & Josh (2). They will now face Lytham St Anne's in the final of the Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Cup. Date TBC but we will be sure to let you all know

**Team: Jake, Blake, Luke, Oscar, Jude, Harrison, Jack, Charlie, Tom, Jake, Dylan, Joel, Jacob, Dylan & Josh**



**Friday 1st February**

Our Y8 boys football team were also in the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre semi-final this week coming up against Garstang Community

Academy. Unfortunately, Kayden was ruled out of this match after suffering concussion playing for Fleetwood at the weekend prior to the match, but attended the match for support!! It was a tight match but our determination and desire to succeed came out on top with a 1-0 victory, goal from Danny. We will now face Baines in the final, again we will let you all know when the final will be!!

**Team: Raeden, Harrison, Mason, James, Lucas, Isaac, Josh, Jenson, Ben, Danny, Finlay, Will & Kayden**



**Dave McNiven has also got trials for a few of the Y8 football team at Blackburn Rovers including: Harrison, Josh, Finn & Will**

### Monday 4th February

Our Y11 football team took on Ormskirk High School in the last 16 of the Lancashire Cup. Unfortunately, we were down to the bare bones with Harry still recovering from his break and James absent from school (who has been covering for Harry in goal) which meant Jamie stepped up to play in goal for this match. It was an extremely tight game with both teams very evenly matched and at the full time whistle the results was 1-1, which led to penalties. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be with Ellis and Nico both missing their penalties, therefore Ormskirk made it through to the quarter finals of the Lancashire Cup.

*Well done to the Y11 football team for putting up a number of admirable performances to reach a respective last 16 in the Lancashire Cup*

### Tuesday 5th February

Dave, Emma, Laura and I all went to the 'EVENT OF THE YEAR' on Tuesday, the Y7 & 8 Blackpool Schools' Indoor Athletics Championships. This is where all schools across Blackpool select their top athletes to participate in various athletics events, with the winning schools going on to represent Blackpool at the Lancashire Indoor Athletics Event on Wednesday 13th March. The Montgomery students were an absolute credit to the school, showing great sportsmanship; cheering on their team mates along with congratulating participants from other Blackpool Schools. Our students participated in the following events: obstacle relay, 2 lap race, 4 lap race, 2 lap relay, speed bounce, vertical jump, long jump & triple jump. Our selected students performed to a high standard in all of their events and in final standings we finished:

Y7 boys 1st

*Our Y7 & 8 boys will now go on to represent Blackpool at the Lancashire Indoor Athletics Event in March.*

Y7 girls 2nd

*Y7 boys team: Michael, Zack, Freddie, Calvin & Owen*

Y8 boys 1st

*Y7 girls team: Joanne, Demi, Honey, Jess & Cara*

Y8 girls 3rd

*Y8 boys team: Louciano, James, Sam, Harry & XinChen*

*Y8 girls team: Laura, Hollie, Grace, Holly and Lily-Mai*



### Wednesday 6th February

On Wednesday it was the Y8 Blackpool Schools' Basketball Tournament at SMCA. Our Y8 students love basketball and are exceptionally talented in this sporting activity. They performed brilliantly at the tournament, showcasing a high level of basketball skills and tactical awareness to outwit the opposition, with this outstanding team display they beat all opposing schools and were crowned Y8 Blackpool Schools' Basketball Champions.

*Y8 basketball team: Raeden, Finn, Mason, James, Sam, XinChen & Danny*



### Friday, March 8th

The Y8 football team played Unity, Burnley in the last 16 of the Lancashire Cup. I am pleased to say they won 4-1 with goals coming from Danny X2, Raeden and Jenson.

They will now play Ribblesdale, Clitheroe in the Lancashire Cup Quarter Final.

*Team: Harry, Ben, Danny, Mason, Kayden, Jenson, Lucas, James, Will, Josh, Isaac, Finlay and Raeden*



### WE ARE THE Y9 BLACKPOOL, FYLDE AND WYRE CUP WINNERS

*What a fantastic Cup Final, beating Lytham 6-5 and the curse of Storm Gareth!!*

We were 2-0 up, however Lytham pulled it back to 2-2 and from then on in Montgomery took the lead but then conceded to continuously take it back to a draw, however with true grit and determination the winning goal came from Jacob. It was a brilliant performance by all the players, particularly Jake scoring 4 goals and a super save from Jake to maintain our lead in the final stages of the match.

*Team: Jude, Jake (4), Tom, Joel, Dylan, Josh, Harrison, Jake, Zico, Josh, Tom, Charlie, Oscar, Jacob (1) and Luke (1)*



### Y8 Lancashire Indoor Athletics Championships

Y8 indoor athletes competed at the Lancashire Indoor Athletics Championships on Wednesday, where they were up against all of the other district winners across Lancashire.

We finished 3rd out of 16 district winning schools, which hasn't been achieved in over decade at Montgomery!!

*An outstanding performance by the Y8 boys:*

*Harry, Kian, Xin Chen, James, Sam, Harrison and Finlay*





# SCHOOL GAMES

## MONTGOMERY AT THE SPORTSABILITY FESTIVAL, BLACKPOOL SIXTH FORM COLLEGE.

Mrs Campbell, our curriculum leader of PE invited us to represent Montgomery in the inclusive sports programme at Blackpool sixth, writes Mr Byrne: Every time we join in, it is a rich learning experience for our students, not just in developing and developing new skills, but in the opportunity to meet and play alongside students from other schools like Woodlands, High Furlong and Park. The event is a unique, inclusive activity programme designed to engage young people in sports including New Age Kurling, Sponge-sword Fencing, sit-down volleyball and traditional handball.

**Catherine-Ann:** 'Every year you ask me and every time, I always say 10/10 obviously! Volleyball is king. I can do things here, so let's just say I'll go every year, and don't even need to ask!'

**Louisa:** 10/10. 'I would love to go again because the reason for me was the actual volleyball was BIG enough for me to hit!'

**Peter:** 'My favourite was the sit you down volleyball, because I was good at it. 10/10 and yes, I would love to go again!'

**Kyle:** '9.9999! The Fencing because I actually beat Catherine-Ann...for once!'

**David:** 'I just love it all - every time! Well.... the twice that I have been anyway.'

It was fun... I made new friends with the college students - they helped us.... and of course, Noah the new boy is a new friend now too. 10/10'

Meanwhile, I put on twitter that the whole event is really well organised. Our students love being in the college environment, and have a real sense of excitement that the older 6th form students at various times are teaching and encouraging them.



# Having a mental health crisis?



**Text YM to 85258 for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis.**

All texts are answered by trained volunteers, with support from experienced clinical supervisors.

**YOUNGMINDS**  
Crisis Messenger

powered by

CRISIS TEXT LINE |

2018 YoungMinds. Registered charity numbers 1016968 & SC039700



betty

it's perfectly natural

## CAUGHT SHORT?

Sometimes, thinking about periods can feel a little overwhelming. But don't worry - we've got you covered just in case.

You can find spare pads and tampons at:

You can also come to me if you need any advice or have a question you want answered.

betty.me is an advice hub created for superstar young girls like you.



**ON SATURDAY, 9TH OF MARCH** we went with 10 girls from year 9 and year 10 to sixth form College to celebrate International Women's Day. Prior to attending, we interviewed two local female role models and had to prepare two displays about them. The girls did brilliantly in the interviews and decided to write two poems about the women we interviewed.

Girls taking part on the day were: Catherine Ann, Sophie, Ellie, Misha and Elise all year 10s and then year 9s Bayleigh, Nacoya, Caitlyn, Bethany and Grace.

On the day itself they went to different workshops about self

defence, self confidence, the power in kindness, soap making, pilates, special effects makeup and about STEM topics- are robots harmful or not and a hackathon etc. They had the chance to try laser shooting and archery, which the girls enjoyed the most.

Our girls had a fantastic time. They enjoyed the workshops, the entertainment of the sixth form performing arts students and behaved really well.

If you see any of these girls, ask them what they enjoyed the most and what their outcome of that day was.

### Julie Brotherton – Role Model for Montgomery Academy

**“If I can make a difference, other people can do it”**

Julie loved maths and science in school  
And was born and raised in Blackpool

Uni – she didn't go  
Instead she started the insurance flow

Being ambitious in her job  
She had to do a little swap

At British Aerospace she climbed the ladder  
Following her dreams and getting better and better

An inspiring female manager she was  
Making the men in her team never pause

For her jobs, she did a lot of travelling  
But she calls Blackpool her home which is the most important thing

Combining work and family  
She made it happen quite happily

Being amazing in all sorts of IT and managing jobs  
2 years ago – she became her own boss

Embracing her independence  
She puts in 100% attendance

Using her free time to do the right thing  
Will be worth remembering

Being ambitious, strong, wise and kind  
She helped females to get in the right state of mind

She wants us to use all of our potential  
She finds, nothings else is more essential

IT, Maths and Science are her inspiration  
And she wants to infect the female nation

Julie is passionate that being a women is the most special thing  
hearing all this female praise, we just want to sing

Your passion inspired us and plenty more  
It motivates us to get the top score

### Gillian Campbell – Role Model for Montgomery Academy

**“We can do anything. Believe in yourself”**

In Scotland, Gillian was born and raised  
In school she didn't get much praise

She loved Latin, Greek, geography and books  
For a girl, she was told she will get odd looks

Growing up on a Council Estate was pretty tough  
For her this life wasn't enough

A vet she wanted to become  
instead she became a Zoo keeper for the long run

Pizza Hut was later down the line  
Being the manager took most of her time

This was her last job before she became a politician  
Blackpool! That's her new mission

That isn't a job she is regretting  
but sometimes it can be hard and upsetting

Female discrimination she had to overcome  
but stronger and more authentic she has become

Her favourite day is Friday  
Where she listens to Blackpool people and what they have to say

She uses her Council Deputy Leaders influence  
to try and give them more assurance

Being a single mum she has to combine job and family  
and she makes it happen quite happily

By the way, lots of music stars she has met  
but she hasn't completed the set yet

Gillian loves Blackpool as much as we do  
she uses her power to make a clue

But about the youth she has some concerns  
However, she encourages us to make some turns

Believe in yourself, Gillian tells us  
Then there is nothing more to discuss

Empower- and encouragement is the key  
Nowadays girls and boys are equal as can be

We are inspired by you Gillian in many ways,  
and we have learned to give us girls some more praise

# A SAFER START TO SOCIAL MEDIA

## Be aware that others can see your location

Location services on apps can be a fun way of showing friends and family where you are. But if your child doesn't turn off settings on certain apps, others can track their whereabouts in real time. Help your child manage their location settings so they are sharing wisely. For example, Snapchat users can switch to 'Ghost Mode' to avoid being tracked.

## Not all followers can be trusted

Talk to your child about only accepting friend requests from people they know and trust. Explore settings to limit who can see their posts. It's better that only people they know and get on with can view, like or comment on their posts and activity.

## Think twice before clicking

Tell your child to avoid opening links that they are sent in private messages. Even if it appears to be a message from a friend, their friend's account may have been hacked. The link may be a scam or lead them to an inappropriate site.

## Think about granny when sharing

Yes, seriously. Encourage your child to follow the 'Granny Rule': if you wouldn't be happy with your granny seeing it, don't post it! It'll get your child thinking before sharing something they may regret – especially as it could be online forever.



Visit [vodafone.co.uk/digitalparenting](http://vodafone.co.uk/digitalparenting) for more social media safety tips and

Check the safety features! A friend might turn on location tracking as a joke – or your phone may auto-update – so regularly check your settings as you want them.



**38%** of UK children aged 12-16 believe their parents let them use social media too young.

**74%** of children aged 12-15 have their

## AUTO-LOCK

**CHECK:** Is your phone set to auto-lock? Protect your device with a pattern, PIN code, password or fingerprint.

## PASSWORDS

**CHECK:** Are your passwords tough enough? Use upper- and lower-case letters, numerals and special characters (?!@). Keep them different for each site.

## CAMERA

**CHECK:** Do you think about what you snap? Images accidentally shared can give away private information, such as location (e.g. school uniforms, street signs and door numbers).

## PRIVACY

**CHECK:** Are you keeping things private? Social media privacy policies and settings change regularly, so check them every time.

## LOCATION

**CHECK:** Have you turned off location sharing functions? Only leave location-related services on when you need them, and only for those who need them. Otherwise, turn off!

## BLOCKING

**CHECK:** Do you know how to spot trolls and effectively block them? People won't be told you've blocked them, so don't worry about making someone feel bad or angry.

## REPORTING

**CHECK:** Do you know how to take appropriate action? Tell the platform.

Are you smartphone secure?

Tool checklist

## Advice to share with your child when they first start out in the world of likes and shares

### When ARE they old enough?

Social platforms like Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook require users to be 13+ (16 for WhatsApp), but these sites and apps cannot verify age. You can manage accessibility with parental controls, but if your child is interested in social media at an earlier age, it's best to be open and discuss their motivations and whether it's really the right time for them. Remember, allowing hundreds of people to comment on your posts can affect any person's self-esteem, so consider whether they are ready for this.

### Explore the safety features first

Most social media sites have their own safety features and reporting procedures. If your child is setting up a new social media account, help them explore these settings and tools. For example, select the right privacy and security options, and check how to block

# 10 Tech tips to bring you together

Apps, games and online platforms can get your family busy, connected and active together in new and creative ways. Tech expert Kieran Alger picks 10 of the best.



Kieran Alger  
Tech expert

Kieran Alger has been writing about technology for more than 10 years for national magazines, newspapers and the UK's leading tech websites.

## GET CREATIVE

### Get sketching

Help your child unleash their artistic flare with paint and draw apps like **Kids Doodle**. Get them experimenting in animation with **Deck Puppets** (iOS only) or using their creative forces in **Star Wars Creativity Studio** (iOS/iPad only).

### Start up a blog

Use sites like **Wix**, **WordPress** or **Squarespace** to start a blog and let your child explore a favourite hobby in more depth and learn some simple coding in the process.

### Snap a family photo album

Create a scrapbook that comes to life with **Lifeprint** – an app that works with your smartphone to turn photos and prints into videos. Or create a themed photo book for printing with online album makers **Snapfish** or **Apple PhotoBook**.

## GET ACTIVE

### Do the housework

Apps like **ChoreMonster** provide fun incentives for younger children to tidy rooms, while planners like **Motherhip** help set schedules for older ones.

### Explore augmented reality

Get outdoors and see the world a different way with augmented reality apps. Whether on a prehistoric hunt (**Dinosaur Everywhere**, iOS only) or catching outlandish creatures (**Pokemon Go**), these apps make moving and exploring more fun.

### Go on a nature hunt

Explore your inner David Attenborough with UK conservation apps like **Wildlife Trust Nature Finder**, **Great British Bee Count** and **BirdTrack**.

## GET CONNECTED

### Play games together

There are loads of games you can try together. From modern twists on family classics like post-it note identity-guessing game **Headz Up** (iOS £0.99, Android free), to Connect4 rerelease **Four in a Row** or the brain-training **Lumosity**.

### Make a playlist

Use a music streaming service like **Spotify** or **Apple Music** (iOS only) and make a playlist of your family's favourite songs to soundtrack that long car journey or housework session.

### Explore your history

How much does your child know about their family tree? Use an ancestry site (**MyHeritage.com** and **Ancestry.co.uk**) together to turn family detective, trace your roots and discover where you came from.

### Never miss story time

For those times when you can't be home for bedtime, fire up video messaging (**WhatsApp**, **Skype**) or a voice app (**Voice Record Pro**) to record a personalised video reading or audiobook of your child's favourite night-time adventure.



Please note: All apps are available in the App Store (iOS) and may have in-app purchases. Some

1) Search the UK's wildlife with Wildlife

Blackpool Family Information Service is an information and guidance service for parents and carers, young people and professionals working with families.

They provide free and confidential information and advice to help Blackpool children, young people and their families find the services they require.

The Family Information Service provides clear, accurate and up to date information on all registered childcare and early years providers in Blackpool.

They also provide information on family services which may

meet the needs of parents/carers and children in Blackpool. The FIS holds the Blackpool Children and Family Directory and also the Young People's Positive Activity Directory called RuBothered. RuBothered is packed with information about hundreds of regular activities and one off events for young people in Blackpool. Alongside this there is a separate list of events at The Oracle – all our directories have a presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Additionally we hold the Local offer directory which is a one stop shop to enable parents and young people to access

# Ask the experts...

The answers to your digital dilemmas



## "How do I know if my child is spending too much time gaming?"

**Dr Mark Griffiths says:** "I devised the following checklist to help you to check if your child's video game playing is getting out of hand. Does your child...

- Play video games every day – and for long periods (3 to 6 hours)?
- Play as a way of forgetting about other things in their life?
- Get restless, irritable, and moody if they can't play – or you make them stop?
- Sacrifice social and sporting activities to play?
- Play instead of doing their homework?
- Struggle to cut down their amount of video game playing?

If the answer is 'yes' to more than four of these questions, your child may be playing too much. If their schoolwork, physical education, peer development and interaction are not affected, there is little to worry about. Excessive gaming doesn't always have negative consequences.

## Our experts:



**Dr Mark Griffiths** is a Chartered Psychologist, Distinguished Professor of Behaviour Addiction and Director of the International Gaming Research Unit.



**Dr Victoria Baines** is an expert on cyberbullying and child online protection.



**Dr Asha Patel** is CEO of Inspiring Minds, a social enterprise fostering emotional and mental health in young people.

### IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT GAMING...

- Give your child a specified time for play.
- Give them reasonable countdowns for turning off.

## "I heard that one in five 14-year-old girls has self-harmed in the past year. Is this linked to peer pressure on social media?"

**Dr Asha Patel says:** "Self-harm is generally in response to feeling emotionally distressed. Social media can be a go-to, to seek content that is often distorted or far away from reality. As a result, children compare themselves to filtered images and seemingly perfect lives – contributing to children spiraling further."

The internet has a long memory and once you click on an advert or a website, it will identify sister sites, reinforcing and increasing vulnerability to accessing unhelpful content. To prevent this, you can try deleting their browsing history.

Also, beware online communities that are very seductive for those who self-harm. Those they meet in chat rooms can understand and share their feelings and consequently they may feel that they belong. In fact, their negative thoughts are being reinforced."

## "My kids want to get a virtual reality headset. Are there any risks?"

**Dr Victoria Baines says:** "Until recently VR was largely a solo activity, but all this changed with the advent of Social VR – combining the immersive world of VR with the functions we're used to on social media."

In Social VR, you feel like you have a body in your virtual environment. If someone walks up to you and touches you, it feels – to some extent – like you're actually being touched. With the kind of unwanted experiences children can have online – bullying, approaches from strangers, inappropriate chat – we need to prepare ourselves for the possibility these experiences in VR could have a physical aspect."



### IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT SELF-HARM...

- Ask if any sites or apps are upsetting and worrying your child.
- Discuss and support them in how to best address this.
- Don't pressure your child and give them an outlet to talk.

If your child doesn't want to talk to you or wants any additional support, they can contact The Mix [www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk) | 0800 505 4374

### IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT VIRTUAL REALITY...

- Discuss the risks of shared virtual experiences with your child.
- Remind them there is a 'realness' to VR when involving other people.
- Encourage them to tell you if something doesn't feel right.



Things will go wrong online. How you respond when they do will make all the difference in the long term.

### ... Your child has been sexting

**KNOW:** Sending or receiving sexual images to or from a child is illegal – but context and common sense are important. Schools and police forces have guidance that allows them to consider your child's best interests when dealing with these incidents.

**REACT:** Stay calm. Your child will be feeling embarrassed and worried, so however tempting it is to get cross, it's important to remain composed and provide reassurance.

**RECOVER:** Decide who else should be informed and then deal with the practical things that can be done to limit any negative impact. You can find all the info you need at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

### ... Your child has seen inappropriate or upsetting content

**KNOW:** Children of any age can find things online that upset, confuse or worry them. This can lead to a whole barrage of questions about anything from violent YouTube videos to world news, sex or extremism.

**REACT:** Take your lead from them: ask them to explain what they've seen. They will have questions, so offer straightforward, honest answers (while being careful not to overwhelm them) to help them deal with whatever has upset them.

**RECOVER:** Leave the conversation open and reassure your child that they can come back to you if they have further questions



Cyberbullying affects 1 in 3 children. If your child is affected or if you need support, visit [www.stoppeaksupport.com](http://www.stoppeaksupport.com).

### ... Your child has been trolling or bullying someone

**KNOW:** The truth is, most children slip into some bad behaviour at some stage in their growing up. It doesn't mean you've done anything wrong or that they are getting into bad habits. It does mean you need to deal with it firmly and quickly.

**REACT:** Don't be tempted to step in until you have heard every side of the story. Give your child the chance to explain exactly what has been going on and be ready to listen to how they feel.

**RECOVER:** Make sure they understand what is and isn't acceptable on and offline, and agree together how they are going to put things right. For

## Parental Controls & Filtering

Understanding parental controls and privacy settings on mobile networks, devices, apps and websites can help you manage what your child sees and does online.

### Mobile phones and tablets

The UK's main mobile providers (Vodafone, EE, O2 and Three) automatically block 18+ rated content. But remember, these filters only work when a device is connected via the mobile network, not Wi-Fi. To set up extra controls, go to settings on the device or the App Store and Google Play.

### Broadband and Wi-Fi

Broadband providers offer parental controls that allow you to monitor your child's device and set rules about what they do online when they're at home. You can restrict things like inappropriate content, social networking, screen time and location services. Some are automatically applied and some need to be manually set up, so check with your provider.

### Search engines

Your web browser lets you control content and search options, including blocking or tracking history, preventing apps being downloaded, and blocking sites containing nudity, violence and inappropriate content. Don't forget to apply suitable settings to all the browsers used on every family computer and device.

### Social media

Privacy settings on social networking sites like Snapchat, Twitter and Instagram help you manage what your child sees, who contacts them and how they interact with others. They can also be used to report inappropriate content.

### Gaming

You can use parental controls to manage your child's

## NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE FOR YEAR 11s

NCS is government-backed summer programme that builds confidence, new friendships, CVs and UCAS forms, all at the same time. NCS Northwest have visited year 11 this term to offer the National Citizen Service during the Summer 2019 programme. There are weekly events available to year 11's this summer, starting 22/06/2019 until 10/08/2019.

The NCS are offering an early sign-up discount, so if you apply and pay in the next few days you only have to pay £35. The normal price to take part in NCS is a £50 admin fee. There are three phases which are run over approximately three weeks with break in between. Phase 1 is Adventure, Phase 2 is Skills and Phase 3 is Social Action.

The National Citizen Service are hoping to showcase their programme to year 11's at parents evening and be in school running sessions to year 11 in the next term.

If you would like some more information or would like to apply visit [www.ncsnorthwest.co.uk](http://www.ncsnorthwest.co.uk).





## Grease, Truly Is The Word Around Town

What an incredible week it was at Montgomery Academy in the final week of the term! The Academy's production of Grease The Musical was performed during four sell-out shows by a huge cast of over sixty young actors! Students, teachers, governors, friends, family and members of the local community filled the Academy Hall every night and played a very special part during the evening performances; they cheered loudly, applauded enthusiastically but most of all, they showed our students how fantastic they are!

Montgomery Academy was transformed by the music, fashion and dancing spirit of Grease The Musical! Everyone was taken on a journey to one of the most iconic, energetic and fabulous musical schools of all time; Rydell High! The students worked exceptionally hard to act and choreograph this incredible show to provide an entertaining experience the audience. Social media has been alive with positivity about the standard of the performance and we are all very happy that Montgomery Academy can showcase its ability to provide opportunities for students to shine.

Since his appointment at Head of Drama in September, Mr. Heyes has been blown away by the work ethic, dedication and talent of the students in this show. It has been an absolute pleasure to see them produce this show to such an incredibly high standard.



### REHEARSALS



### CORE CHORUS



### CORE CAST



### FULL CAST



After launching our new maths online platform back in September we have had a **fantastic response** from most pupils in terms of engaging with it!

**Year 11:** A whopping **2998** hours spent in total!!

**Year 7:** **1609** hours spent in total

**Year 10:** **13880** hours spent in total

**Year 9:** **1276** hours spent in total

**Year 8:** **1035** hours spent in total

**School total:** **8306** hours of learning since September!

### HEGARTY HEROES:

**Year 7:** Willow (49 hours) and Razvan (18 hours)

**Year 8:** Louisa (10 hours) and Lucy (9 hours)

**Year 9:** Jess (8 hours) and Yulan (7 hours)

**Year 10:** Kiera (34 hours) and Matthew (28 hours)

**Year 11:** Sophia (29 hrs) and Harry (15 hrs)

A big well done to all who are making this a success at Montgomery!

**HARD WORK + SUPPORT + BELIEF = SUCCESS!**

Team Maths