

Summer 2016

MONTGOMERY High School

News



Montgomery High School heads in the right direction

Mr Nicholson: 'this Ofsted report recognises the hard work of all staff, students and the wider school community in taking Montgomery High School out of special measures on an 'upward trajectory of improvement' in a very short time. We are not complacent and recognise that there is still much work to do in taking students to those higher levels of performance and progress throughout their five years with us'.

Inside Stories



Tasty Treats



Weird & Wonderful



A Fond Farwell

Principal: Mr T. Nicholson



The end of term newsletter gives me a final opportunity to thank everyone I have worked with in the year that ran from June 2015 to June 2016. It was a highly rewarding year and one that I will forever look back on with the greatest fondness. The Montgomery students are delightful, the staff diligent,

hardworking and committed and the parents have been overwhelmingly supportive of all we set out to do. Montgomery is certainly in much better shape now that it was some 15 months ago. More importantly, I have every confidence that it will improve further and with pace under the team led by Mr Careless and Mr Bullen next year.

Seeing the wonderful Year 11 students arrive at the Prom was the icing on the cake for me. They conducted themselves with grace, poise and dignity. They all looked amazing and they wanted to show their deep affection towards and appreciation of their Montgomery years. Over the years, in seven high schools, I have worked with many final year students and I can say with the greatest sincerity that these young people are amongst the best and most impressive I have ever had the privilege to know.

My connection with Montgomery has not finished. I am the Deputy CEO of the Fylde Coast Academy Trust and therefore remain directly responsible and accountable for its continued success. You will still see me walking the corridors and meeting with the staff and students. I look forward to our new school year ahead, but firstly the whole of the Montgomery community can deservedly recharge their batteries with a restful and enjoyable summer break.

My best wishes to you all
Tony Nicholson

Executive Principal: Mr S. Bullen



Dear Parent/Carer

May I introduce myself to you again. My name is Sean Bullen, Executive Principal at Montgomery. In all we do, we are seeking to improve this potentially great school that still has some way to go on its journey.

We are continually looking to develop work ethic and the quality of teaching and learning.

We have already looked at uniform, mobile phones, lunchtimes, a one way system and year group identification. These are all designed to help with calm and order. Mr Nicholson, Mr Kilmurray and others have also worked very hard to ensure we have the best quality staff for September and a stable staff. In terms of stability we welcome Mr Careless as Principal in August. Both Mr Careless and I will be here for at least 3 years to give parents the confidence of stability at Montgomery.

Best wishes to you all for a safe and happy holiday.

Sean Bullen
Executive Principal



**P
A
U
S
E**

- Punctuality

Be where you need to be on time

- Attendance

Be there to do your best

- Uniform

Wear it with pride "Look the part/ Play the part"

- Safe / Sensible

Think about how your decisions & behaviour affects others & yourself

- Exam Success

Gives you the stepping stones for the next stage of your life

Don't forget School starts back early after the Summer break

Wednesday 31st August School Opens

Principal: Mr S. Careless



It is with great pleasure and pride that I introduce myself as the new Principal of Montgomery High School starting in September. My name is Stephen Careless. I feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to lead such a brilliant school that is clearly on the up. Over the last 12 months Mr Nicholson's leadership has been truly inspirational. It is clear from my visits to the school, that both staff and students are immensely grateful for what he has done.

My job is to continue the good work and take the school to the next level. As well as achieving their full potential academically, students should also be given the opportunities to maximise their sporting and creative talents too. I am passionate about great teaching yet it starts with having high expectations of all students in terms of their effort, behaviour and resilience.

Students should be reaching for the stars and it is our job to ensure they have the skills of lifelong learning to achieve their goals. I cannot wait to get started and I am really looking forward to getting to know yourselves, the students and the staff better.

I believe that together we can make Montgomery High School a beacon of success and innovation.

See you in September

Montgomery High School becomes RAF Platinum Partner



On Thursday 28th April staff and pupils at Montgomery High School welcomed Flight Lieutenant Ed Stephens to school to present an award on behalf of the Royal Air Force. The RAF Platinum Partner award was presented to Montgomery High School in recognition of the high number of students who successfully progress to join the RAF thanks to the effective partnership links they already forged.



Year 11 pupils James Nash, Sadiyah Khanum, Matthew Fielding and Brooke Singleton were presented with the award by Flt Lt Stephens who then gave them insightful advice on future career aspirations and the range of careers that the RAF offer.

 **ROYAL
AIR FORCE**



Science is Blooming



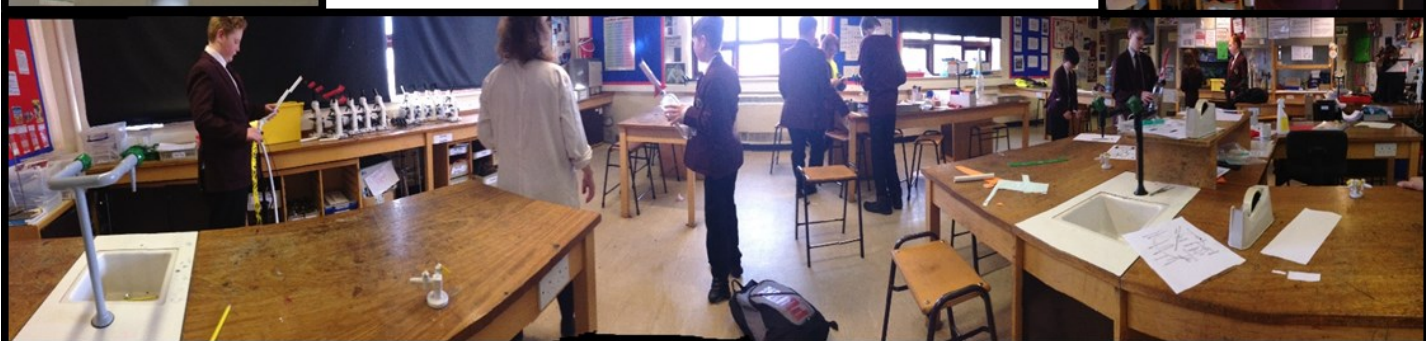
This year, both the Science team itself and our fantastic students have been busy exploring the crazy, often unbelievable but amazing world of Science. As well as strengthening the curriculum across all year groups, we have also had thriving extracurricular activities taking place every week. With two Science clubs and a STEM club, students have been successfully building DNA sweet models, aerodynamic rockets and more recently, planting a variety of plants and dissecting different organs to name but a few of the exciting tasks that have taken place.



Everything we see, smell, hear, touch and taste can be explained using Science and trying to understand how the world around us actually works is truly fascinating. Science also leads to a variety of careers which span across a vast array of industries. As well as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, engineering, drug development, the polymer, cosmetics and materials industry and the search for more environmentally friendly fuels all provide Science based jobs.



Here at Montgomery, we are very much excited by the prospect of moving into next year, and look forward to working together again with our students, and inspiring them to share our passion for Science.



Blackpool Town Sports



On Friday 1st July all of the Blackpool schools attended Blackpool Town Sports at Stanley Park in the quest to be crowned champions of athletics. 64 Montgomery students did our school proud by being crowned the champions. All students were fantastic on the day and represented our school in an exemplary manner.

Key performances came in the Triple Jump, 1500m, 300m, the High Jump and the 800m.

Well done Montgomery High School, a fantastic performance and a well-deserved win



RSC

ROYAL
SHAKESPEARE
COMPANY

LIVE FROM

STRATFORD - UPON - AVON

On the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, staff and students at Montgomery were fortunate enough to secure tickets to see the live, televised celebration event at the Royal Shakespeare Company theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon. With front row seats, Mr Dickson, Mrs Walmsley, Paige Binns (Year 7) and Mia Washington (Year 8) were treated to a star-studded performance of Shakespeare-themed drama, comedy, music, ballet and opera. Featuring performances from David Tennant, Sir Ian McKellen, Dame Judi Dench, Helen Mirren and Benedict



Cumberbatch, this really was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and we are very grateful to the staff at RSC Education who entered us into the ballot for tickets.

Image sourced
from RSC Website

Blackpool students perform on Stratford stage

On 5th July, sixteen students from Blackpool, including Montgomery Year 9 students Dylan Haslam and

Eleanor Langlands, performed in a specially-commissioned performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the RSC's Swan theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon. The performance was the culmination of our three-year involvement with the RSC's Learning and Performance Network and allowed the Blackpool cluster to join with students from five other UK regions to create a unique performance.

The student performers were given a full professional experience as they worked with RSC technical staff, musicians, costume and make-up teams and directors to create the performance and all the Blackpool students were praised by the RSC team for their dedication, professionalism and patience.

The performance on stage was outstanding, with the audience laughing and cheering as our students performed one of the most iconic scenes of the play – the fight between the bewitched lovers.

RSC Artistic Director, Gregory Doran, singled out students from Blackpool as stars of the future.

This great experience was a well-deserved reward for our students, who had given up time after school and spent full Saturday's in rehearsal to create a truly memorable performance.

Shakespeare



Lancashire Youth Games



On Tuesday the 5th July numerous Montgomery students represented Blackpool in a variety of different sports as they had been crowned Blackpool champions in each area. The day was jam packed with fun and engaging activities with our school representing Blackpool in the year 9 rounders and the year 7s in cricket and athletics. All students displayed significant amounts of determination, fairplay and team work and were exemplary on the day. Well done everyone, you did your school proud.

Blackpool Youth Games Champions

Montgomery High School girls were crowned Blackpool Youth Games champions in both football and tag rugby. All year groups, 7, 8, 9 and 10 participated in the events and displayed an exemplary attitude and performance in both sporting activities. The day was attended well with the majority of Blackpool schools involved on a lovely sunny day.

A huge well done to all who participated, Blackpool Youth Games champions!





The 'Guardians of History' project which started in February, ended with a student diorama display in school reception.

It was one way for us to pay respect and to remember the men and women from all nations who perished, or gave service during WW1- particularly, in this case during the Battle of the Somme.

It was the culmination of work and input by staff and students from across every year group, and included cross – curricular resources within the subjects of History, English, Art, DT, ICT and Geography. Besides literacy and letter writing, Role-play and student PowerPoint demonstrations, 16 Airfix tanks were constructed – 10 completed, 3 under construction and 3 missing-in action!



Also as part of The Somme Remembrance activities, tutor groups were provided with a link by Mr Byrne to a YouTube demonstration of how to draw a WW1 tank.

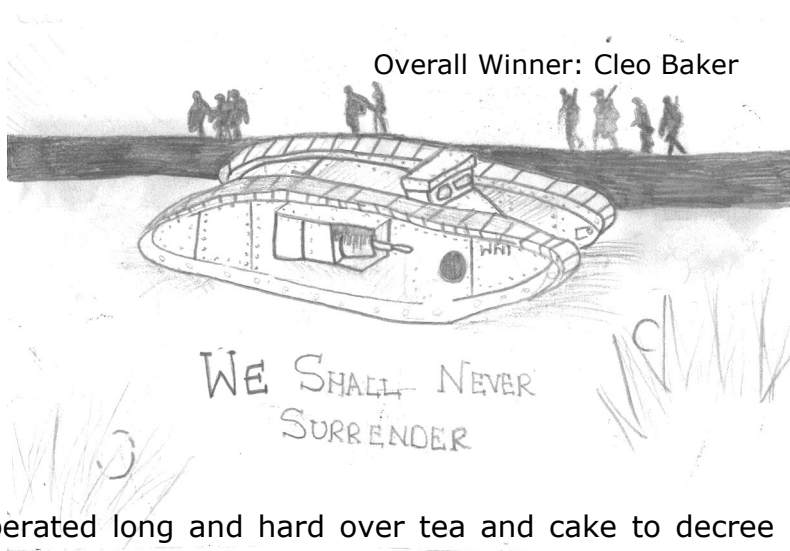


The judges (Including Mr Staples (Ex Royal Logistics Corps) deliberated long and hard over tea and cake to decree the winning team as 7CX.



7CX - tutor group led by Mrs Cox

Highly recommended: Chloe Drury, Amy Harwood, Finley Truby.



What's Cong at Montgomery?



During the week commencing Monday 9th May, year 10 catering students completed their practical assessments. Their brief was to design and make an afternoon tea including 4 baked products. Students had researched and planned their dishes, and carried out their practical over the course of a day.



All students completed their practical with enthusiasm and total professionalism at all times. There were some absolutely fantastic afternoon teas produced, some of which would give Mary Berry herself a run for her money. Competition was very very tight for the best brownie.

Is that the call of The Great British Bake Off we can hear???

Well done year 10!!!

Cricket News

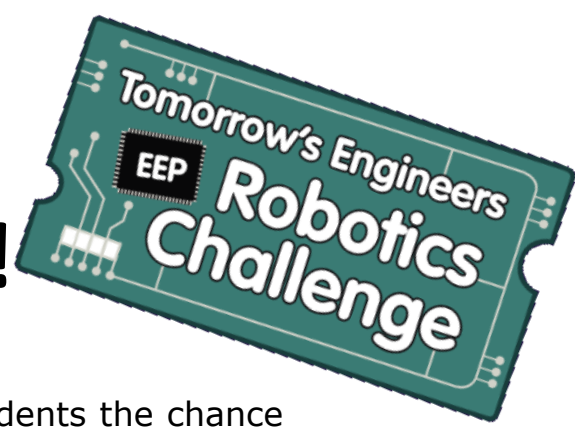
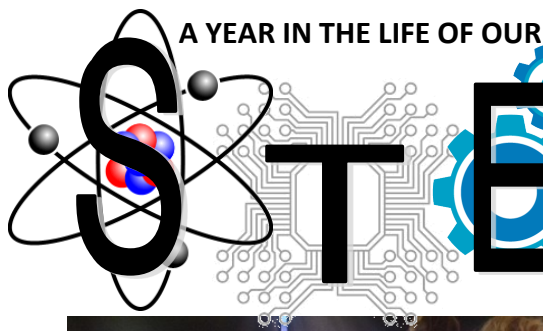
The year 7's and 8's girls joined forces for the Youth Games Cricket Event on Thursday 28th July 2016. The cricketer's came up against their first opponents St. Marys.

The girls started fielding, covering the ground well and communicating brilliantly.

Montgomery were the clear winners, winning 42-21. Their second came was against South Shore, the girl's fielding skills were fantastic, getting all the oppositions batters out within minutes! Montgomery won their final game 32-19. It was a fabulous morning that the girls thoroughly enjoyed. The girl's won the competition meaning they will go forward to represent Blackpool at the Lancashire School Games on Tuesday 5th July 2016.

The Year 7 and 8 Cricket teams played some fantastic cricket this term and resulted in them both qualifying for the Blackpool Schools final at St. Marys. This was a fantastic achievement particularly as it was the first experiences of playing cricket for a number of the boys. After overcoming both Aspire and Unity in the pool stages, both teams met St. Marys in the final. The Year 7 came up against a very strong side including a number of county players, they acquitted themselves brilliantly and to finish runners up in the town was a great achievement. The year 8 game was a closer affair with the game be decided by two runs. Again, unfortunately Montgomery finished runners up. Both teams played the game in a great spirit and improved both their cricketing skills and experience. Bring on next year!!





STEM Club gives students the chance to explore aspects of **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**aths. It was trialled during July 2015 and we haven't stopped since. Staff and students has enjoyed a wide-range of sessions from dissecting a sheep heart and lungs and making home-made bird feeders, to planting Geranium seeds and constructing and then racing, balloon powered cars.



We have ambitious plans for the next academic year including our entry for the 'Tomorrows' Engineers Robotics Challenge.' If chosen, this would involve us broadening IT and DT teacher involvement, as well as actively encouraging more main stream student membership. As ever, on behalf of our students, Mr Byrne, Mrs Bach and Mrs McMullan would like to express how we much we appreciate the support and unconditional encouragement we receive from our Super Science Department – we thank you!



A fond Farewell

It is with great sadness that we report two long serving members of staff leaving us at the end of this term. Mr Duckworth and Miss Marini will be moving on to pastures new. Mr Duckworth has been at Montgomery for 30 years and Miss Marini for 40 years. Many parents will remember these two stalwarts of the Montgomery staff.

Miss Marini is in semi-retirement but will be in school one day per week next year working with us improving our resilience. Mr Duckworth is relocating to be with family but also pursuing his passion for History visits with some opportunities with NST School Travel Company. We thank them for the exceptional support they have provided to the Montgomery community over the years. We will miss them dreadfully but wish them both well!

WEIRD

& Wonderful



Year 9 Photography Students work

Year 9 Students have been developing their ideas for their most recent topic, called 'Weird and Wonderful', this term. After researching Francesca Woodman and using her images to develop their own photos using shutter speeds, students have started to develop their own themes around weird and wonderful.

Some students have used the street photographer Slinkachu as their focus, developing the use of focus points and aperture mode in their camera. Other students have started to develop ideas using levitation, horror and wildlife photography as their focus, using Photoshop to develop their theme. Here are a selection of students work so far, we're looking forward to see what their final images develop into! Follow their progress on twitter @monty_photo.

Year 9 & 10 Badminton

On Tuesday 21st June a group of Year 9 & 10 students represented Montgomery at the badminton Youth Games event at Blackpool Sports Centre, Stanley Park.

Montgomery performed exceptionally well and were undefeated throughout the event. Clayton Wyles, Ercan Mustafa and Sam Kellett performed to a high standard, beating St George's and St Mary's convincingly with a range of powerful shots that the opposition couldn't return. Ellie Spooner, Verity Kinnon, Emma Wright and Eve Moore represented the girls team and again did not lose a match, displaying great teamwork and determination to outwit the opposing badminton players.



England Talent Open Water Camp



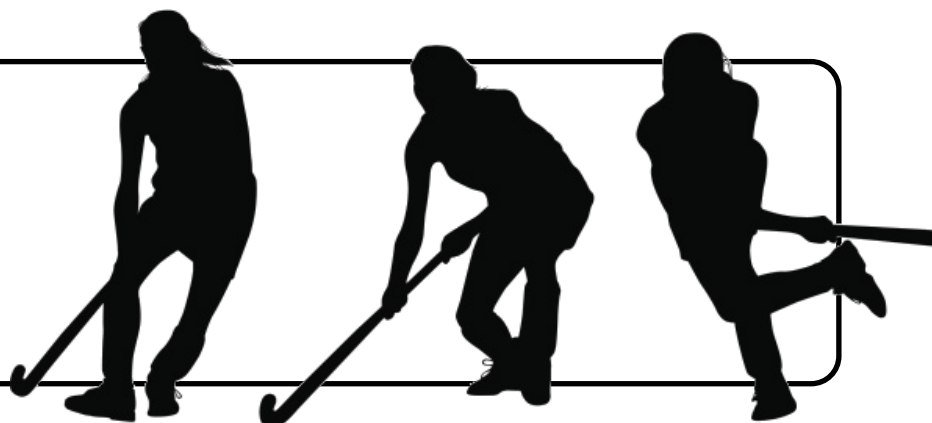
Syd recently attended the England Talent Open Water Camp at Salford Quays. This was based on 800m freestyle times. Syd was one of 30 swimmers from the North West to be selected to attend this event. The day involved an introduction to skills and safety along with swimming skills and training in Salford Quays. The afternoon comprised of a question and answer session with an elite athlete and then further skills and training in the Quays.



Year 7/8

Hockey -

Youth Games



On Wednesday 22nd June, a mixed group of year 7 and 8 pupils took part in a hockey tournament at Stanley Park for the Youth Games week for Blackpool schools. For some this was a new experience, they were playing this sport for the first time and it was great to see the excitement and enthusiasm of the pupils as soon as they arrived. Due to the lack of schools that turned up to the event it was left for Montgomery to play one game against St Marys. With a bit of practise and a few skills and drills learnt before the game our pupils were raring to go. The goalkeeper was dying to get all the equipment on so that he resembled 'iron man'. When the game started it was clear to see that St Marys had the upper hand, with Montgomery looking quite green to the challenge of playing their first ever hockey game. Throughout the game it was clear to see that Montgomery were improving with every minute and in the second half it was a close game. The pupils showed a better tactical knowledge and great teamwork. In the end St Marys were the victors. However, it was clear to see the progress that the Montgomery pupils had made, as well as the enjoyment that the pupils showed when playing the game.



Don't forget School starts back early after the Summer break

Wednesday 31st August School Opens

Year 7/8 & 10



ultimate Frisbee

On Friday 24th June, nine year 7 and 8 boys and eight year 10 boys took part in the Blackpool Youth Games Ultimate Frisbee tournament representing Montgomery against St Marys. For some this was a new experience, they were playing this sport for the first time and it was great to see the excitement and enthusiasm of the pupils as soon as they arrived. When both teams arrived there was a brief time to get familiar to the rules and tactics to the game. It was clear to see that the lads were enjoying this new sport and showed great transferable skills from other sports they have learnt throughout their P.E lessons this year. When the year 7/8 game kicked off it was clear to see that Montgomery had the upper hand and they quickly went into a big lead. In the end the boys won and won comfortably, showing great teamwork and ability to adapt to the new sport. The year 10 game was a lot tighter with both teams showing great skill and teamwork in the game.

Unfortunately St Mary's won this tight affair.

However, it could of gone either way on another day.

Have a safe



See you at the end of August

Dates for your diary

Autumn 2016 Term

Tuesday	30th August	Inset
Wednesday	31st August	School Opens
Monday	24th October	Half Term
Friday	4th November	Closure (inclusive)
Wednesday	21st December	School Closes
Thursday	22nd December	Inset
Friday	23rd December	Inset

Spring 2017 Term

Monday	9th January	School Opens
Monday	20th February	Half Term
Friday	24th February	Closure (inclusive)
Friday	7th April	School Closes

2017