



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

October 16th, 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you to thank you for your support this half-term. I feel very proud of what the Montgomery Family of parents, students and staff have achieved over the last 7 weeks. We opened 5 mini schools in one and they have all worked well.

Our staff have adapted to working in at most year 3 year groups, more duties, teaching behind the line and regularly moving from one lesson to the next. You, yourselves have adapted to different start and finish times and when required supporting students in engaging in their remote learning. I do feel that the students themselves probably deserve the most credit. They have adapted to only working in 1 block, different breaks and lunches, wearing face masks in communal areas, being taught in non-specialist rooms for subjects such as Science, Art & Food and most impressively returning to school after an absence in most cases of almost six months. When we had to take the decision to ask some Year 9 students to self-isolate this week we asked 45 students to come and sit in the Hall whilst we contacted home, they were both calm and mature about it. The complimentary waffles and toasted sandwiches may have had something to do with it though.

We have had some positive cases of Covid-19 amongst the staff and students in the last 7 weeks. I feel that we have managed the situations well, safely and communicated effectively. I read that almost a quarter of schools in England were affected by cases last week. This is not going to go away anytime soon and it is important that we stay positive over the coming months and remember the true value of our current aim, which is to continue to deliver an education to our young people in challenging circumstances. Whatever level of restrictions are introduced either locally or nationally we will continue to do that. I remind you that further levels of restrictions may mean students attend school on a rota of different year groups attending on different weeks and working remotely when not attending. The highest levels of restrictions could mean the majority of student working at home and school only open for children of keyworkers and vulnerable students, as in the previous lockdown. Currently none of us are clear as to what the local or national restrictions will be when we return on Monday 2nd November, so if there are any changes to our provision we will contact you in the second week of half-term and any important information will be posted on our website.

This does make it really important that we have up to date contact details for yourselves ideally a mobile phone number, you have the Expressions App and/or an email address.

In the next two weeks of half-term it is really important that students get time to relax and unwind as there is another 7 week half-term to come in the run up to Christmas. Year 11 student will want to do some revision for their Year 11 Finals in November, though they should be sensible and give themselves at least a week off. This also applies to our staff who also need some time to recuperate, so please do not expect any replies to emails over the holiday. However, we would need informing if your son or daughter does test positive over the holiday. If this does happen please could you let us know by emailing admin@montgomery.fcat.org.uk with their name and year group. Then if we need to contact you, we will.

Lastly, I would reinforce that any student that is showing any of the main COVID symptoms or is in a household where someone else is, then the whole household should self-isolate for 14 days and the person who has symptoms should get a test.

We are sending out a reminder today about uniform expectations so please read that as well as this. I hope you have a very good half-term. Stay safe and thank you again for your continued support, we certainly have been 'Inspiring Excellence Together'.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. P. Careless'.

Mr Careless
Headteacher