



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

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Inspiring Excellence Together

May 13th, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer of Year 11 students,

As we enter the final weeks of the mini-assessment period to gather evidence for the students' Centre Assessed Grades I am writing to you regarding the arrangements for the end of term. Friday 28th May is the last timetabled day for Year 11 in school. All scheduled assessments are due to finish on Wednesday 26th May. On Thursday 27th May, we plan to do some work with the students on writing CVs, careers advice and interview skills.

On Friday last week, the year group formed an aerial picture of 'Monty 2021' on the school field. Students looked very smart and appreciative of Mr. McArdle's efforts. The week before they had a Rewards Breakfast and this week those deserving should be having Dominos Pizza at lunchtime. It is important that we celebrate their last few days in school, yet they must maintain their levels of maturity and continue to adhere to school rules, which the vast majority have been doing.

Last years' Year 11 did not get the chance for a final Leaver's Assembly. We plan to hold one in the afternoon of the last day and celebrate the current Year 11's time at Montgomery. We will run an inter-form 'rounders' competition and ice-cream will be provided. Students that want to wear appropriate non-uniform on their last day can do so. They may, however, want to wear their uniform for shirt signing, which will happen in the afternoon.

They have had a rough deal during the pandemic, though I would say that we have done our best to support them through it and face the challenges it has posed. Attendance to this Leaver's Assembly is by no means a given right and therefore students that fall below their usual standards in the run up to and on the day of the assembly will miss out. I mention this as a few students have let themselves down last week by displaying poor behaviour and attitudes when asked to follow simple requests given by staff. There has also been some damage caused by some individual year 11 students in the toilets and in Isolation. This is unacceptable. Eighteen students had their phones confiscated today and this cannot continue either.

I want to be crystal clear in light of the above as we approach the final two weeks of Year 11 that:

- OFQUAL, who oversee the exam boards, have stated that where student engagement levels drop off in the last few weeks of their mini-assessments, it should be reflected in their final Centre Assessed Grade
- Students
 - whose phones are confiscated more than once, will then have to hand in their phones at the start of each day to be returned at 2:45pm. This will be non-negotiable
 - who are absent from school, without a justifiable reason, will not suddenly be allowed to come in on the last Friday and attend the Leavers Assembly
 - who need to be taken to Isolation as they cannot adhere to the school's SMART ethos of Safe, Mature, Ambitious, Respectful and Thoughtful pose the risk of being excluded for their last few days and missing the last day entirely
 - who disturb lessons, as classes prepare for their final assessments pose the risk of being required to complete all lessons in Isolation, including the last day

This clarity is intended to ensure that the last few weeks are as pleasant as possible for the well-mannered, conscientious students as well as the staff that are working incredibly hard to prepare your son or daughter for their assessments.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. McArdle and Miss Sharpe for their amazing commitment to Year 11 students over the past five years at Montgomery. Their level of support for the year group is truly humbling.

It has been my absolute pleasure to work with this group of students over the last five years. As the first year group I have taken all the way through as Headteacher, I will remember them as a great bunch who I will miss greatly. I wish them all the best in their future.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. P. Careless', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Careless
Headteacher