

Spring 2017

MONTGOMERY High School

News

A Thespian in our midst

The hidden talents of a teacher at Montgomery



Inside Stories



Interactive Options



Science is Explosive



Red Nose Day Fun



Principal: Mr S. Careless

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term and the sunshine seems to have returned, the excitement is building towards our school production Hairspray performed over three nights in the last week of term. If you were lucky enough, as I was, to see the fundraiser Hairspray – Unplugged, then you will know the depth of talent that Mr Dickson has at his disposal. The singing, dancing and acting was exceptional and I can't wait to see it all come together.

You will be aware that the current Year 11 face harder exams, in both English and Maths this year, yet Year 10 will be the first to sit new exams across the board in 2018. To help prepare students for the rigour and resilience required to cope with these new assessments, this term has seen all year groups sit exams in the Sports Hall. The students' focus and conduct has been great to see.

Year 11 are on the final run-up to their exams having just completed their second set of "Finals" examinations. All students had a conversation with a member of staff to assess their progress since

"Finals 1" and determine what they needed to do to improve further. Revision is vital in the final weeks and social lives will need to be put on hold, to some extent, until the end of June and potentially their 10-week holiday, before starting the next stage of their education. Students with excellent attitudes to learning have been rewarded with Subway and Dominoes lunches. I have never seen food disappear so quickly.

You may remember me highlighting our Year 11 Girls' Futsal team in the last newsletter. They represented Fleetwood Town FC magnificently in Manchester reaching the semi-finals where they lost to the eventual winners Blackburn Rovers FC. Our Year 8 Boys' Football team got through to the last 8 of the Lancashire Cup, before coming up against a team with several Manchester City Academy players. The sporting success continues across the school with many of our teams becoming Blackpool champions in Basketball, Table Tennis, Cross Country and Indoor Athletics.

There has been a buzz of excitement in recent weeks as Year 6 students, who have chosen Montgomery, have been in to do some taster sessions and explore their new secondary school. We look forward to seeing them again next term.

The academy is about to complete a contract for new catering arrangements starting in August 2017. This will bring upgraded facilities, more serving points to reduce queuing and better value for money.

Comic Relief Day saw Montgomery fully involved in raising money for good causes. Red noses were worn, cupcakes were devoured, plus around 40 staff and students ran a mile around the school field at the end of the day. Mr McArdle dressed as a Leprechaun for the day, raising over £120. An extremely popular event was the chance to throw wet sponges at members of staff in the stocks with many a homework grudge being settled.

I would like to finish with yet another positive. Attendance since the February half-term has been excellent across Montgomery, with some startling figures of over 99% attendance in some year groups. This is indicative of the hard work of Progress Tutors and the attendance team in setting high expectations and the student body meeting them. However, superb attendance figures are mainly achieved through strong partnership between school and parents. I thank you once again for your unwavering support in establishing and maintaining our Montgomery standards.

Have great Easter.

HAPPY EASTER





Executive Principal: Mr S. Bullen

Dear Parent,

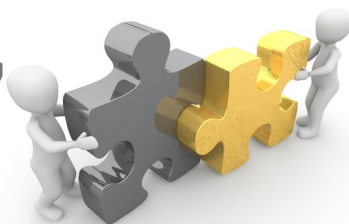
I have thoroughly enjoyed this term. Amongst other things, I have carried out three audits; the first looked at the challenge provided for our more able students in Year 10, another looked at how we use the pupil funding and the third focused on the start of the school day. At some point I will be looking at Year 8, particularly at this important time of when they make their option choices.

We are moving in the right direction and I will continue to support the work of Mr Careless and the staff team as we continue to improve the school.

Have a good Easter.

Blackpool Careers Options Event 2017

Our Future, Our Choice



In January, pupils from Year 8 attended Blackpool Pleasure Beach for a fantastic, interactive Options Event that was organised by the local Guidance Community Group. Students had the opportunity to find out more about the following career sectors: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths; English, Languages and Communications; Humanities and Social Sciences; Business, Retail and ICT; Expressive and Creative Arts; Health and Social Care; Leisure and Tourism; Armed Forces. Students engaged in interactive sessions and had the chance to speak to experienced professionals, teachers and trainers: learning about colleges, universities, training and job opportunities that are currently available in the local area.



NCS is a 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 in order to promote and offer them the National Citizen Service and their summer 2017 programme. There are two waves of events that are available to Year 11's this summer; 13th July – 4th August and 1st August – 23rd August. The three phases, which are run over approximately three weeks with a break in between, are; Phase 1 - Adventure, Phase 2 - Skills and Phase 3 - Social Action.

The National Citizen Service are going to showcase their programme to Year 10 students at Parents' Evening and will be in school, running sessions with Year 11, before the summer.

If you would like some more information or would like to apply then you can visit:

www.ncsnorthwest.co.uk.

Please contact Mr Hegarty if you would like to attend but would struggle to pay the fee.

Email: R.hegarty@montgomeryschool.co.uk

Follow us on twitter at
MontyHighSchool - #Ambition





Spring into Science!

The Science department at Montgomery continues to go from strength to strength in 2017. We are determined to enrich the learning experience of our students by offering as many extracurricular activities, visits and events as possible alongside our innovative and thought provoking curriculum. The aim is to enthuse and inspire our students to share our passion for science and we believe wholeheartedly that this will help them to be as successful as possible. As well as our thriving STEM and Science Clubs and our custom designed, themed wall graphics, we have strengthened our collaborations with both the Institute of Physics and the Ogden Trust and have also fully embraced British Science Week. Here are the highlights of a fantastic spring term for our students.

British Schools' Go-Karting Championship 2017



After a fantastic 'Physics of Go-Karting Poster' competition in December, we took two teams of Year 9 students to represent Montgomery at the British Schools Go-Karting Championships 2017. In January, there was a practise session and then in February we returned to the TeamSport Arena in Manchester to compete in the semi-finals. Both our teams competed brilliantly against more experienced and older students, and our fastest team have qualified for the regional finals at the Three Sisters outdoor circuit, Wigan in April.

This remarkable achievement gives our students an opportunity to go to the national finals later on this year. They couldn't possibly do it again, could they?



Young Engineers STEM Skills Challenge 2017

In February, Mrs Bach twice accompanied a team of Year 10 Science students to Blackpool and the Fylde College to compete in the Young Engineers STEM Skills Challenge 2017. Having successfully qualified through to the final from the heats, and with the chance to win £10,000 for the school, the team engaged in a challenging project to assemble a free flying plane from basic materials. The team worked tirelessly together under high pressure and showcased their flying prototypes to an audience including the local Mayor. Although we did not win, our students deserve huge credit for their efforts and most importantly, they loved every second of the experience!





Year 7 Blackpool Zoo Trip

On Saturday 18th February, our department Transition Champion, Miss Chadwick led a superb Year 7 trip to Blackpool Zoo. The weather held out and our students were a real credit to the school and Science curriculum area throughout. With close up animal encounters around every corner, our bright, energetic students were challenged to take inspirational photographs that captured their favourite exhibits.

The competition was fierce, with some truly fantastic pictures taken, but our winners in the end were Jessica and Mia,

who captured magical moments with the mountain gorillas and alpacas.



The theme for this year's British Science Week was "change", encouraging young people to think about and investigate the changes happening in the world all around us; from seasons and climate, to materials,

chemical reactions and energy. It was also a chance for young people to consider the changes they can make that will have a positive impact on the future. In embracing the initiative of change, we successfully ran a Year 7 and 8 poster competition and a Year 9 and 10 photograph competition. We also had a prominent display up in the main school reception promoting British Science Week where students, parents and visitors had the opportunity to name our skeleton. A tutor time activity named 'Under the Microscope' proved very popular with students, as did our dry ice class demonstrations throughout the week. There was a real buzz around school about Science all week, and this embodies the passion for Science we want to inspire within our whole school community.

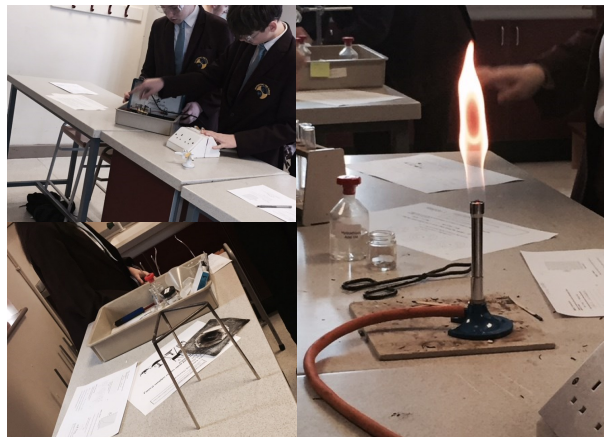
Collaboration

with the Institute of Physics and

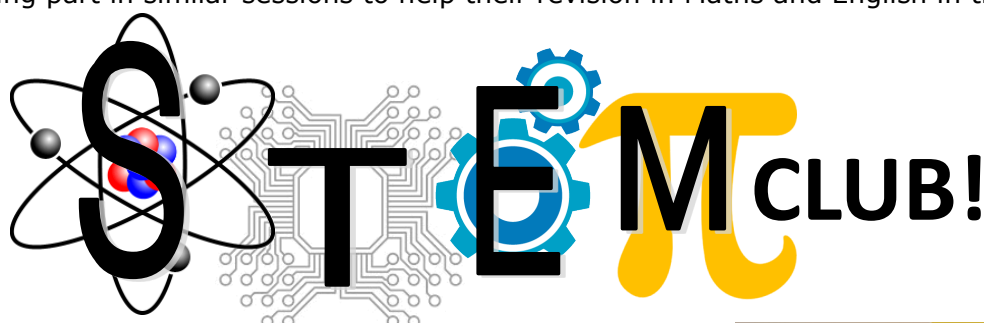
The
Ogden
Trust



During this term we have continued our thriving collaborations with both the Institute of Physics and the Ogden Trust. These partnerships aim to enhance the teaching of Physics in the classroom and further inspire the uptake of Physics at higher education. Engaging sessions on energy and light have been fascinating for all involved, as was a lecture in Bolton, delivered by Professor Jeff Forshaw. This was attended by Dr Paden and one of our Year 8 pupils, Al. Both thoroughly enjoyed how it helped explain some of the most fundamental questions about our Earth, Sun, and Solar System.



With GCSE examinations looming, Year 11 students took part in an interactive Science revision session. Students completed four Chemistry experiments including the production of Hydrogen gas and the use of Copper to aid electrical flow within a circuit. Upon completing the experiments, students used the information to answer exam questions likely to be posed in their GCSE exams. The students will be taking part in similar sessions to help their revision in Maths and English in the coming weeks.



Organised by B&FC, two pupils from every Blackpool school set out to convince a panel of judges why their school should be chosen as STEM Club of the year!

St Bede's, Hodgson, Baines and Millfield were our main competition.

Our display included an example of our work; Balloon-powered cars/soap/candles, and two of Ms Healey's famous 'Mystery boxes', as well as samples of student's written work. Catherine-Ann was able to use these as she spoke to the judges. Meanwhile, Alex presented a power point slideshow (By Connor) called 'A year in the life of our STEM Club' detailing all our activities 2016-17.

Alex and Catherine-Ann spoke independently and



presented not once, but to three separate pairs of judges!

Alex commented; 'I'd give the experience 10/10. It was a very good morning. I learned another way for Science to be fun, and so many schools have STEM Clubs – not just us! I would go again, if you needed me.'

Catherine-Ann also gave the experience 10/10, adding; 'It was my Birthday. I was proud of myself because I remembered all the things I needed to say. I was scared I was going to mess it up, but hurrah! I got it right this time. I talked Science, like how to make soap and a Balloon-powered car!' Mr Byrne and Mrs Bach commented that it was an absolute joy to experience our students developing their confidence, and demonstrating their Scientific knowledge. We came runners-up and won £500 for the Science Department.





English

Department

A Thespian in our midst.. Or what some teachers get up to in their spare time.

Miss Morgan, our famed teacher of English appeared from the 22nd to the 25th March in a production of Charles Dickens' 'Great Expectations', at the Lowther Pavilion Theatre in Lytham. For anyone who is interested in Dickens or has children who will soon be tackling his work at GCSE this was a rare opportunity to see one of his novels in performance. The Fylde Coast Players used the latest technology to bring the play to life – moving seamlessly from the atmospheric Kent marshes to the high life of London; from Miss Havisham's cobwebbed mansion to Jagger's musty London office.

This large cast costume play, featuring many NODA award winners, was suitable for all ages, Dickens fans and those who just like a good story well told. This was a perfect opportunity to introduce Dickens to the family. In addition you could witness Miss Morgan's attempt to manoeuvre from the harsh, and domineering character of cockney Mrs Joe to the placid and empathetic Devonshire Biddy. Nate, a student from Hodgson Academy, also made his acting debut with the company in the role of Young Pip- it was all definitely worth the watch.

Look out for more "AM-DRAM" productions that meet the needs of the GCSE specification.

HAIKU Competition

2017 seems to be the year for outstanding work on poetry within the English Curriculum Area, especially from Year 7 who raised the bar when it came to the standard of entry for the Haiku competition. Five entries were shortlisted from each class, and then a class winner from each group was chosen by the teachers.

Well done to everyone for their excellent contributions, and special

thanks to prize winners: Ilyria, Maija, Lydia, Holly, Brooke, Hannah, Sophie, Kyle and Peter.

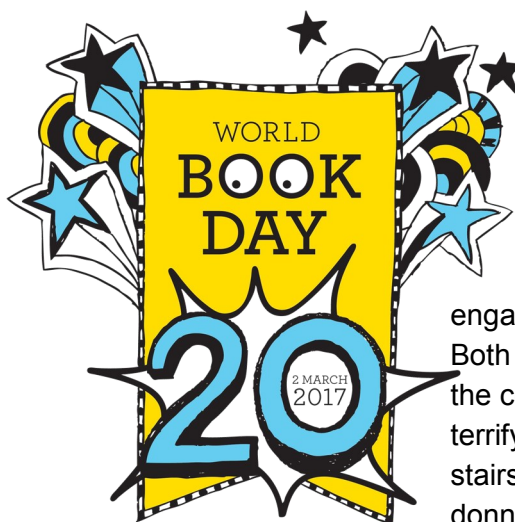
Also, congratulations to Ilyria, voted our 2017 overall Haiku Competition winner!

Agile feet scamper

Burnt sienna fur glistens

Deep, tranquil eyes stare

DO
SOMETHING
BOOKY



The 2nd of March marked the 20th celebration of World Book Day, and the English Curriculum

Area launched an eclectic celebration of all things literature. Each member of

the department decked their doors in the fashion of their chosen book, ranging from Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* to Stephen Chbosky's *'Perks of Being a Wallflower'*. To further add to the whimsical atmosphere, several residents of E block donned a range of ridiculous costumes, designed to engage students in discussion about figures from all genres of literature.

Both Miss Slade, as Titania and Miss Wood, as Tinkerbell were found flitting around the corridors, whilst Mr Leyden lay in wait, skulking at the end of the corridor, as the terrifying Long John Silver. A little touch of magic could be found at the bottom of the stairs, where Miss Farnworth was spotted in her Hogwart's uniform, Mr Meakin donned the garb of Captain Ishmael and Miss Morgan was spotted scampering around in full Victorian costume.

During the day, students from Year 8 were invited to take part in the curriculum area's Bookmark Competition, and all students in Years 7 through to 9 engaged in activities designed to promote and enthuse a love of reading. A successful and enjoyable celebration for both staff and students!

Doodlebug Club



The newly initiated history modelling club goes from strength to strength. Here are some images of our student members busy modelling World War 2 aircraft.

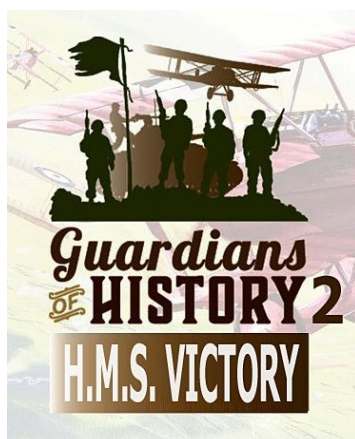
Future BAE apprentices? You never know! Montgomery students can always check out the opportunities on offer at BAE at our annual Careers event.



For this project we learned about life on board HMS Victory, and how to build a model of Lord Nelson's flagship.

Connor compiled a PowerPoint presentation for the group about one of the most famous sea-battles in history - Trafalgar in 1805.

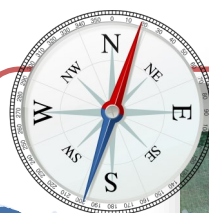
He presented a learning quiz that included the question; 'How many versions of HMS Victory have there been before the current one birthed at Portsmouth?' (Four!)



So many students wanted to join that Mr Byrne was extremely relieved when Mr Picking, who has a son Jack in Year 7 and runs 'Top slots 'n' trains' in Fleetwood, offered to help out with the kits!



School CLUBS



Explorers Club



Kira of Year 8 talks about an intriguing visit from an ex-Montgomery student...

Natalie Wilson is currently a geographical leader. She has been extremely interested in geography since a young age. Natalie went to Montgomery as a student and her passion for geography grew. Once she completed her studies, Natalie became a geographical explorer. Over 20 years, she has taken part in many expeditions, hikes, walks and discoveries. Within those 20 years, she has learnt things no geography teacher could teach. Geography teachers can teach about people's way of life, but they can't always let you experience it! Natalie learnt from Amazonians that drinking a special brew would give you strength - yet it's disgusting. Natalie brought in a Tibetan singing bowl for us to look at, which creates rhythmic sound waves for meditation.

After visiting Montgomery, she gave Mr Lewis prayer flags from the Himalayas. He has them in his room, so each time we go there we're blessed!

- P** - Punctuality
Be where you need to be on time
- A** - Attendance
Be there to do your best
- U** - Uniform
Wear it with pride "Look the part/ Play the part"
- S** - Safe / Sensible
Think about how your decisions & behaviour affects others & yourself
- E** - Exam Success
Gives you the stepping stones for the next stage of your life



The Anime & Manga Club is thriving!



The club members discussed with Mr Byrne last September what they needed:



A place to watch
Anime together

A place to be able to listen to
Anime music.

A place to draw
Anime characters
and write stories.

A place to discuss
Anime & Manga with
like-minded students

This is exactly what the Club provides, along with regular competitions each term.

You may remember the challenge for December was to write an original Anime short story with the option of including original artwork. Independent judges decided that the joint winners were:

'We wish you a wooper Christmas and a mudkip New Year' by Year 7 students Yulan and Hannah and **'Celastrina Argiolus'** by Year 10 student Lee-Mei.

Mr Byrne and Ms Wood were delighted to present the winners each with a £10 gift voucher. The spring term competition is to present a drawing/illustration of an original Anime inspired character.

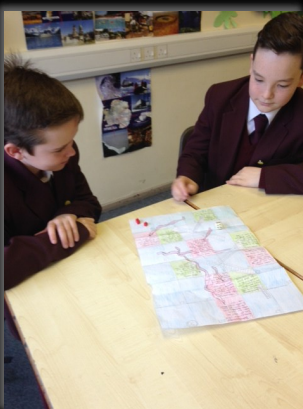
Geography Homework Challenge

Miss Skiffington knows that her Year 7 students often get bored in the holidays, particularly when they are wet and windy and likely to be disrupted by events such as storm Doris during February half term. There is also always a prize to be won as an incentive.

With this in mind, she set her classes 2 different challenges; Christmas Holiday Challenge – To design and make a weather measuring instrument that might actually work when tested!



February Half Term Challenge – To design and make a board game for two or more participants based on different types of energy and their advantages and disadvantages.



You can see some of the fantastic outcomes in the pictures..... The standard was very high and the winners were; Sarah and Chloe for their Heliograph and Wind Sock respectively along with Jack and Olivia for their Energy Monopoly and a Pathway game which was very original.

Sports | Report

Athletics:

The year 7/8 girls and the year 8 boys qualified to represent Blackpool in the Lancashire Indoor



Athletics competition which took place on Tuesday 28th February & Thursday 23rd March. Each individual did an amazing job and were up against some tough competition. The star performances from year 7 came from the obstacle relay team (Chloe, Stephanie, Olivia and Annie) who came in 2nd place and Chloe who came 3rd in the 6 lap relay. The year 8 star performances came from Laura, finishing in 3rd place in the 6 lap relay and Lloyd finishing first in the vertical jump and 2nd in the 2 lap Individual race. A fantastic effort from all of the girls and boys involved. Well done everyone Montgomery High School is extremely proud of you all.



Basketball

On Tuesday 7th February the Year 7 Girls' basketball team played in their first basketball tournament against other Blackpool schools, including St George's and St Mary's. Montgomery played exceptionally well, displaying passing,

Badminton

U16 Badminton Team

The U16 badminton team represented Blackpool at the Lancashire Badminton Championships in February. The team performed exceptionally well playing against some outstanding opposition across Lancashire and showed great determination when the defeats were quite heavy; excellent sportsmanship from all involved. Well done!

The team were: Joel, Clayton, Sam & Matty

Futsal

Montgomery students represented Fleetwood Town FC on Friday 10th February at the regional stages of the competition, held in Manchester.



The team played exceptionally well making it through the group stages to the semi-final where they came up against Blackburn Rovers. The team conceded within the first minute of playing against Blackburn Rovers and from then on in it was tough going. The team showed great determination and commitment to put in a good performance. Blackburn Rovers were a formidable team and later went on to win the competition!

U16 Girls' Futsal team: Caitlin, Isima, Lauren, Taylor, Ellie, Lucy, Ellie and Hannah.

dribbling and shooting skills to outwit the opposition.

Montgomery A team = 2nd
Montgomery B team = 3rd Overall
(combining scores) = 1st

We have champions in our midst! Both the Year 8 Girls and Boys basketball team played outstandingly in the February Basketball Tournaments. We are proud to announce both teams came



Sophie, Olivia, Charlotte, Chloe, Isabella & Caisey-Lee

first and huge congratulations goes out to them all. Well done!

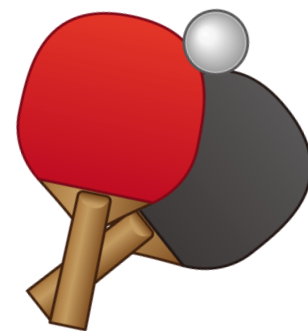


Table Tennis

Year 7 & 8 Girls' Blackpool Schools Champions will now represent Blackpool at the Lancashire Table Tennis event.

The team consisted of: Olivia, Freya, Chloe, Isabella, Abi, Laura, Caitlin.

Year 7 & 8 Boys' Blackpool Schools Runners Up: Jacob, Joel, Nathan, Lloyd, Isaac, Spencer & Callum.

Football

The Y8 Montgomery Football team reached the quarter final of the Lancashire Cup this year. The boys did excellently reaching this stage and beat some excellent teams including; Darwen Academy, Longridge and Priory in Preston. Unfortunately the draw meant they played a school associated with Manchester City and who had beaten their last opponents 21-0, so we knew we were up against it from the start. The team found it hard against the undoubted favourites for the trophy and lost 14-1. There were some excellent performances from the boys throughout the tournament, but the boys who deserve special mention were; Lloyd, Ethan, Dan, Donny and Dec.

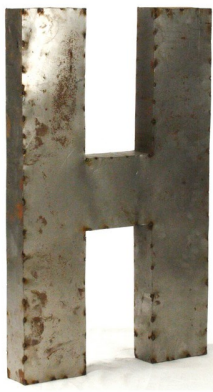
In the Blackpool and Fylde Cup Y11, 9, and 8 have yet to play their scheduled games due to the weather. Y10 boys lost an entertaining game 5-4 to Carr Hill. The game went to extra time with the score at 4-4 at full time. Harry, Thomas and Matty played well and were unfortunate to be on the losing side. The Y7 boys team have made it through to the quarter final of the cup after beating Fleetwood 5-4. Jake rounding off an excellent game with the winning goal. Jake played brilliantly in goal and made some fantastic saves during the game.

Memory Lane...

On the 23rd April 1997, the Girls' Under 16 Football team were crowned National Champions after beating Archbishop Grimshaw High School 2-1. The girls also won the Lancashire Cup that year, beating St Michael's High School 1-0 at the Stanley Park arena.

20 years seems like a long time ago, yet to some of us, it seems like only yesterday. The players themselves may well be married and have families now, and the world is a very different place. That night, that year, they were the best; unbeaten all season – what a team !!





History Department

The history subject area have been reflecting on who they think is the most influential person from history and why history continues to play such a vital role in educating young people.

There is a game that some people play at dinner parties. It asks the question "Who, if you could choose from history, would you like to have dinner with?" We asked our history team a similar type of question. "If you had a time machine which period of history would you most like to visit and why?" We also asked which figure from history did they most admire and a few other questions too. Here is what they came up with!



Mr Wilkinson

The period of history that I would like to be able to visit the most is Roman Britain. This was a period of warfare and upheaval in British history but also a time which cemented the importance of Britain in Europe and the wider world. Even today previously undiscovered artefacts are being unearthed and changing the way we think about the Romans.

The person I admire the most from history is the Victorian explorer Ernest Shackleton. In his quest to be the first person to reach the South Pole, when disaster struck he put the safety of his men before his lifetime dream of reaching the South Pole. He wouldn't allow anyone to die in his pursuit of fame. The safety of others became more important than his own fame.

I believe that history is totally relevant to the world we live in today. Many of the thoughts and actions of people today are shaped from what has happened in the past. History is about people and it is those people, like them or not, who have shaped some of our beliefs on how to treat others around them.

One of my favourite facts from history is when the American President (the most powerful person on the planet) JFK stood up in front of thousands of people in Berlin and millions on TV and radio (no internet!) and said 'Ich bin ein Berliner'. He said this to reassure the people of Berlin that America will defend them. He said it slightly wrong and ended up saying 'I am a doughnut!'

If I could go back and visit any time in our history I would like to be able to sit in the cabinet room of the Houses of Commons, on the afternoon of June 4th 1940. The room would have been a smoke filled fog field and the smell of tobacco would have scented the air. You would have been able to sense the growing anxiousness and heavy-heartedness of the whole room, bar one man. That man was Winston Churchill. In my opinion it was at this point in British history that the 'bulldog spirit', the sheer and utter 'stubbornness' even when the odds are against us, that people associate with the British, was born. Whilst most members of the cabinet willed Churchill to begin the surrender to Nazi tyranny and oppression following the evacuation of Dunkirk, Churchill said, 'Not a chance in hell will we, the British give in to this tin-pot dictator.' Churchill became a true leader that day, not just of the British Empire but of the free world and all the people in it that have a human right to live as free men, women and children irrespective of gender, race, religious persuasion and sexuality and this is why he is the person I admire the most in history. It was on this day that the British

brought the fight to the Nazi's. 'We shall never surrender' 4 June 1940. House of Commons.

I believe that history is crucially important in society today. History teaches us that we all make mistakes but history also teaches us that we all find solutions to problems, perhaps not straight away but the point is history teaches us that we need to persevere in life both as an individual and as a human race, embrace the mistakes and persevere with the solutions. As Churchill quoted, "*A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity, an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.*"

One of my favourite facts from history is that Napoleon Bonaparte had a terrible fear of rabbits as he was attacked by a pack of wild rabbits whilst on holiday as a child.



Mr James





Mrs Harrison

that sometimes it can be difficult to properly relate to them and understand how they were feeling and why they made the decisions they did.

The person from history who I have followed the most is Katherine of Aragon – the first wife of Henry VIII. A devout Catholic from Spanish royal blood she was married to Henry VIII in 1509 and had 6 children to Henry. Sadly, only one survived, Mary and due to no male heir to the throne her lady in waiting, Anne Boleyn caught Henry's eye. Throughout her life she stayed true to her beliefs and fought for what she believed to be right. Henry VIII had 6 wives and even though she was upset at being divorced, at least she didn't have her head chopped off!

I have loved history since I was at school. My history teacher, at secondary school, was so knowledgeable and passionate about his subject, it really inspired me! It is difficult to pick one favourite period as there are so many fascinating ones to choose from but I am a big social historian. I love learning about what the ordinary people were doing in; the Victorian period, during the World Wars or Elizabethan England. For example; what did they eat? How did they socialise? What did they do for fun? What did they wear? What kinds of jobs did they do? Did children go to school? I have always found it easier to relate to ordinary people. There is so much written by kings and politicians

The period of history I would like to visit the most would be the 1920's.

Ms Kinsey

The experiences during the Great War influenced British society, particularly women. During the war, many women had been employed in the factories, giving them a wage and therefore a certain degree of independence. Women over 30 had been given the vote in 1918, and by 1928 this had been extended to all women over the age of 21.

Women felt more confident and empowered, and this new independence was reflected in the new fashions. Hair was shorter, dresses were shorter, and women started to smoke, drink and drive motorcars. The attractive, reckless, independent 'flapper' appeared on the scene, shocking society with her wild behaviour. Girl Power 1920s-style had arrived!

The person I most admire from history is John Locke an English philosopher, his works lie at the foundation of modern philosophy and political freedoms. He was born on August 29, 1632, in Wrington, Somerset, England. He became a highly influential philosopher, writing about such topics as political philosophy and education.

I believe that history remains really important to young people because having a knowledge of the thoughts and actions of people in the past gives us an insight into an uncertain future and how to deal with things that will happen.



Mr Houlihan

The period of history that I would like to live in is amongst the Ancient Greeks. Some of the amazing stories of Greek mythology and the Gods of Mount Olympus used to fascinate

me as a younger child. Instead of being read nightly tales about Hansel and Gretel or the Pied Piper of Hamelin my dad would often tell me about the many weird and wonderful Greek myths such as Theseus and the Minotaur, Jason and the Golden fleece or the 12 labours of Hercules. I would also like to go back to these times as I would like to wear a toga and be fed grapes all day like a true God on Mount Olympus. Also one of my favourite films is Disney's Hercules so I could walk in his footsteps and take on the Titans.

The person from history that I admire the most is Sir Francis Drake. His fearless willingness to adventure

around the world helped to advance cartographers knowledge of the world and vastly improve nautical technology. His adventures provided inspiration for many others to follow in his footsteps. He was also a brave leader who commanded his men to victory during the Spanish Armada invasion. I believe History is vital for our future. If we do not know or seek to learn about the past then how can we learn from other people's successes and mistakes. How can we as the current leaders of the human race continue to improve on others great works or avoid the many errors of the past? In the words of the famous Spanish philosopher George Santayana "those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it" and I truly agree with this.



Finally one of my favourite facts about history is when Gunter Schabowski an East German official held a press conference 9th Nov 1989 and casually announced that travel restrictions were being lifted between East and West Germany (bearing in mind the restrictions had been in place since August 13th 1961 this was a pretty big deal) and when asked "when will they be lifted" he confusingly shuffles his papers (clearly not knowing what time the borders are going to be open) and just blurts out "immediately".

Schabowski should have said it comes into force 4am the next morning so everyone was ready and an orderly process was put in place. However upon hearing the announcement 1000's of East & West Germans immediately headed for the wall only to be met by confused border guards who refused to open the barriers (they had no idea). However as time went by the borders opened and the wall was torn down piece by piece.

The rest, as they say, is history. Slightly earlier than expected but I like it better this way.



HOW CAN LIFE GO ON? HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2017

Holocaust Memorial Day took place on the 27th January 2017 where the world is given a reminder of the horrors that took place during the Nazi's final solution. This year's theme was 'How can life go on?' Mr James shared a poignant presentation about the horrors of the holocaust but also, how since those terrible events, further atrocities have taken place.

It was very much a moment for reflecting on how, because of one group's hatred (the Nazis) towards others, they classed certain groups of people as "undesirables" (including Jewish people, homosexuals, the homeless and mentally and physically disabled people), just how much harm and destruction can take place when ideas are unchecked and unchallenged.

Pastor Niemoller, in the poem to the right, in many ways sums up the importance of supporting everyone regardless of their background. It is about the cowardice of German intellectuals following

“First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out -
Because I was not a Jew.

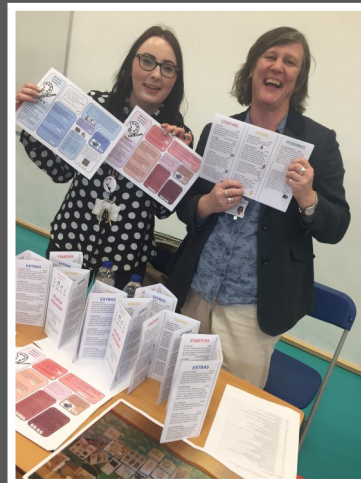
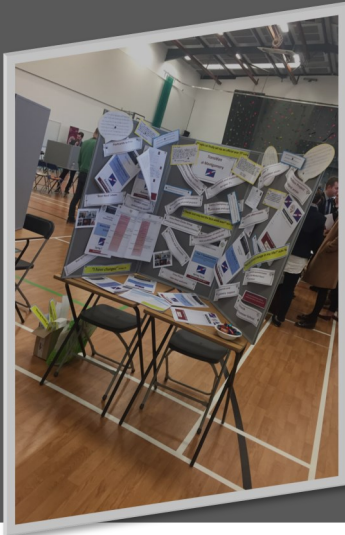
Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me.”

the Nazis' rise to power and subsequent purging of their chosen targets, group after group.

10 students of history from Montgomery attended a Fylde Holocaust event, hosted by Hodgson Academy, on the 29th March, 2017. In order to be selected to attend this event, each student was asked to submit a written request as to why they, as an individual, should be chosen to represent the school. We will hear more of their story in the summer term newsletter.

Making A Difference

On Tuesday, 14th March, all Montgomery colleagues headed to Blackpool Sixth Form for the annual teach meet event. There were representatives from all FCAT schools as well as teachers from other local schools. A teach meet event is an opportunity for teachers and teaching support staff to showcase best practice, as well as catching up with colleagues within our own school and the wider teaching community. The event took over the Sixth Form sports hall and boasted 41 stalls (with Montgomery exhibiting at 10 of them). The event was attended by over 200 teachers, who left with lots of resources that will now be used in schools across the Fylde.



Ambition Points

Have you given 100% every lesson, every day?

- A** - Attendance
- M** - Montgomery Way
- B** - Bonus Points
- I** - Involvement In Extra Curricular
- T** - Tutor Checks
- I** - Involvement: Charity Events
- O** - Outstanding
- N** - Next Steps

Recent Themes in Assemblies

Pride

Resilience

Progress

Integrity

House colours

Toot Toot

Keep up to date with events by visiting the school website www.montgomeryschool.co.uk

Positivity!



Positivity has been the theme this term as part of the school's drive on "Resilience".

Research has shown that many teenagers today lack "Mental Toughness" and give up far too easily, so to develop an 'I can do this' attitude is really important. Self-belief is a vital part of achievement and to reaching future goals.

Every Monday a Positive Tip for the week has been circulated and students have been discussing a range of ideas to make them reflect and consider their own approach to challenge and commitment. These have included looking at positive influences, how outlook can affect outcomes, gratitude for what we have, and the need for hard work!

The initiative links to the on-going work with Right to Succeed, a charitable company who support schools in developing "Resilience" in their students in order to give them the coping mechanisms needed to maximise their potential.

'Too many students lack deep down confidence in their ability, despite appearances to the contrary,' said Miss Marini, teacher of Resilience. 'It is really important that students understand that they can determine their outcomes and control their future lives more than they think, and it is up to schools to provide the tools for them to set goals and go all out to achieve them'.



As part of Montgomery High School's celebration of International Happiness day on the 20th March we took time to share this poem with each other, both students and teachers alike. We hope it makes you smile too.

*Smiling is infectious,
You catch it just like flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner
And someone saw my grin,
When he smiled I realised
I'd passed it on to him.*

*I thought about that smile,
Then realised its worth,
A single smile just like mine
Could travel around the earth!
So if you feel a smile begin
Don't leave it undetected –
Let's start an epidemic quick
And get the world infected!*



Gordon Smith's war

As the school is named in honour of Field Marshal Montgomery we have always tried to uphold our links with the men who fought in the Sahara Desert in the Second World War. Sadly, our contact with these brave men has been dwindling due to the passage of time. However, we always focus on remembering our heroes and with this in mind the History Club would like to give Cole, of Year 7, an opportunity to honour his grandfather, Gordon Smith. (25/12/19 – 1/2/17). R.I.P. It is amazing what this man survived. That's resilience! Here's an extract from Cole's account of his grandfather's experiences in the Second World War:

One morning in October 1941, Gordon's unit started its journey to the Pacific, forming a convoy off the coast of Ireland. At this stage Gordon still didn't know their final destination. On the 8th December, after stopping for fresh water in Freetown, Sierra Leone, they were informed via the ship's newspaper that Japan had bombed Pearl Harbour. This meant that they were now at war with Japan, so the convoy was redirected from their destination of Basra to Singapore. When they approached Singapore they were continually attacked by Japanese bombers, but their ship was lucky and escaped a direct hit. They docked in Singapore early January, 1942 and went to the Shanghai Barracks for a few days. Unfortunately, though they made

their trip to Singapore safely, their equipment was still on route to Basra. Gordon's detachment of ten men, (who were all technicians) only had a service rifle and ten rounds of ammunition each. They were sent to guard the refinery, but this was taken by Japanese paratroopers. The situation was looking dire.

They contacted their commanding officer and he said to commandeer any truck or car they could find, pick up troops they saw, and make their way to the coast. It took Gordon two days and two nights to get to the coast and they arrived just as a small ship was about to leave.

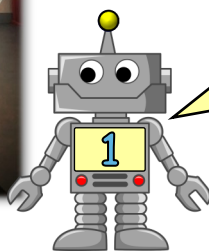


There were many students and staff involved in this project at various times, not just in IT classes, but after-school club, and during the Holidays, as well. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to go with just three students for this particular competition. All the kit, lesson plans and resources that we now have means that the club can go from strength to strength in this area.

We couldn't have made Runner Up in the competition without the input, help and support of Mrs Bach, Miss Greenwood, Mr Spall, Mr Morris and Paul, our STEM Ambassador. A BIG thank you to all of you, and Mr Byrne, would particularly like to thank Mr Harwood, without whom we simply wouldn't have been able to complete the final mission!

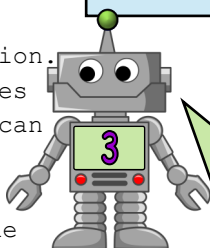
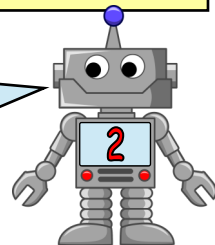
Runners Up

This involved travelling to Preston College to compete in three challenges for the Montgomery team of, Alex, Brodie and Malaki.

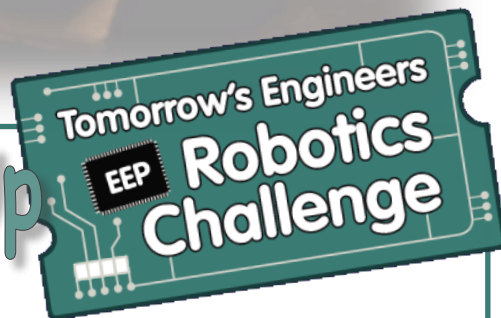


Robot challenge - This consisted of seven space missions. Monty Mayhem completed as many as possible in under three and a half minutes, using the Lego Mindstorms robot they had built and programmed.

Robot design - The team then presented their software and the designs they had constructed to the judging panel.



Research Project - For the final part of the competition, our intrepid designers presented their own solution to a contemporary scientific problem; one faced by engineers and scientists at NASA! Brodie delivered a power point presentation that Toby Mc had researched. It tackled the question 'What energy types could be used on other - world settlements? (Chemical energy/Solar power/Radio-isotope power, if you're wondering!)



RECIPES - FOR - HAPPINESS



Miss Higgins' Year 10 Spanish Class have enjoyed writing their own "Happiness Recipes".

Students worked really hard submitting some outstanding work that not only coincided with International Day of Happiness on the 20th March, but is also a part of the new GCSE specification.

RECETA DE LA FELICIDAD

- 500 gramos de amor
- 4 pintas de herbicida de abrazos
- 1 kilogramo de sonrisas
- 10 gramos de humor
- 3 paquetes de reflexion
- 1 pizca de locura
- 6 latas de diversion
- 10 gramos de recuerdos



Receta para una torta de felicidad

Ingredientes:

- Una taza de buenos pensamientos
- Un litro de acciones simpáticos
- Una taza de consideración por otras personas
- Dos tazas de sacrificio
- Un pizco de perdón

Direcciones:

- Mezclar los ingredientes juntos
- Añadir lágrimas de alegría, dolor y compasión
- Mezclar con cuatro tazas de fe
- Mezlar con la bondad humana

Y ahora servir con una sonrisa



CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

La Journée Mondiale Du Livre

World Book Day was celebrated on the 2nd March and students in Mrs Bunker's French class were busy being book worms. Each student read through Mrs Bunker's review of her favourite childhood book; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. They then took time to annotate the review and picked out the useful vocabulary.

Students then grouped together for the next challenge to review their own favourite books. Working in groups, the task wasn't easy as their reviews had to be in French, but the students rose to the challenge and produced some fantastic work, which is now proudly on display in L10.

The new GCSE specification requires all students to read extracts from literary texts, so this task was good practice for all those hoping to take French as a GCSE.

"I am looking forward to doing French at GCSE" Steph Year 8



RED NOSE DAY



Here are a trusty bunch of students who have helped Miss Farnworth produce the "the stocks" for use on Comic Relief Day. Why do they look so eager to pay to throw wet sponges at teachers???

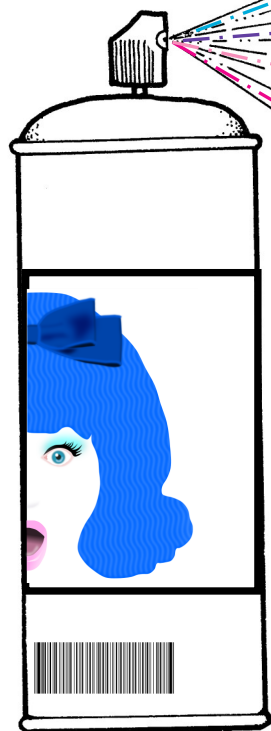
Students' had a fun packed day all in aid of raising money for Comic Relief. Miss Mckenna and a group of students baked cakes in their Design Technology lessons, which were sold around school at break. A group of GCSE Music Students had a Monty Unplugged session in the Assembly Hall at break & collected donations from students in the audience.

The student favourite has to have been the stocks that were positioned on the sunny side of the quad. Numerous members of staff took turns to have cold wet sponges thrown at them. Popular targets were Mr Careless and Mrs Montgomery!

Well done to every one that contributed on the day we raised an amazing amount for the charity.

We raised a grand total of

£810.55



MONTGOMERY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

hairspray

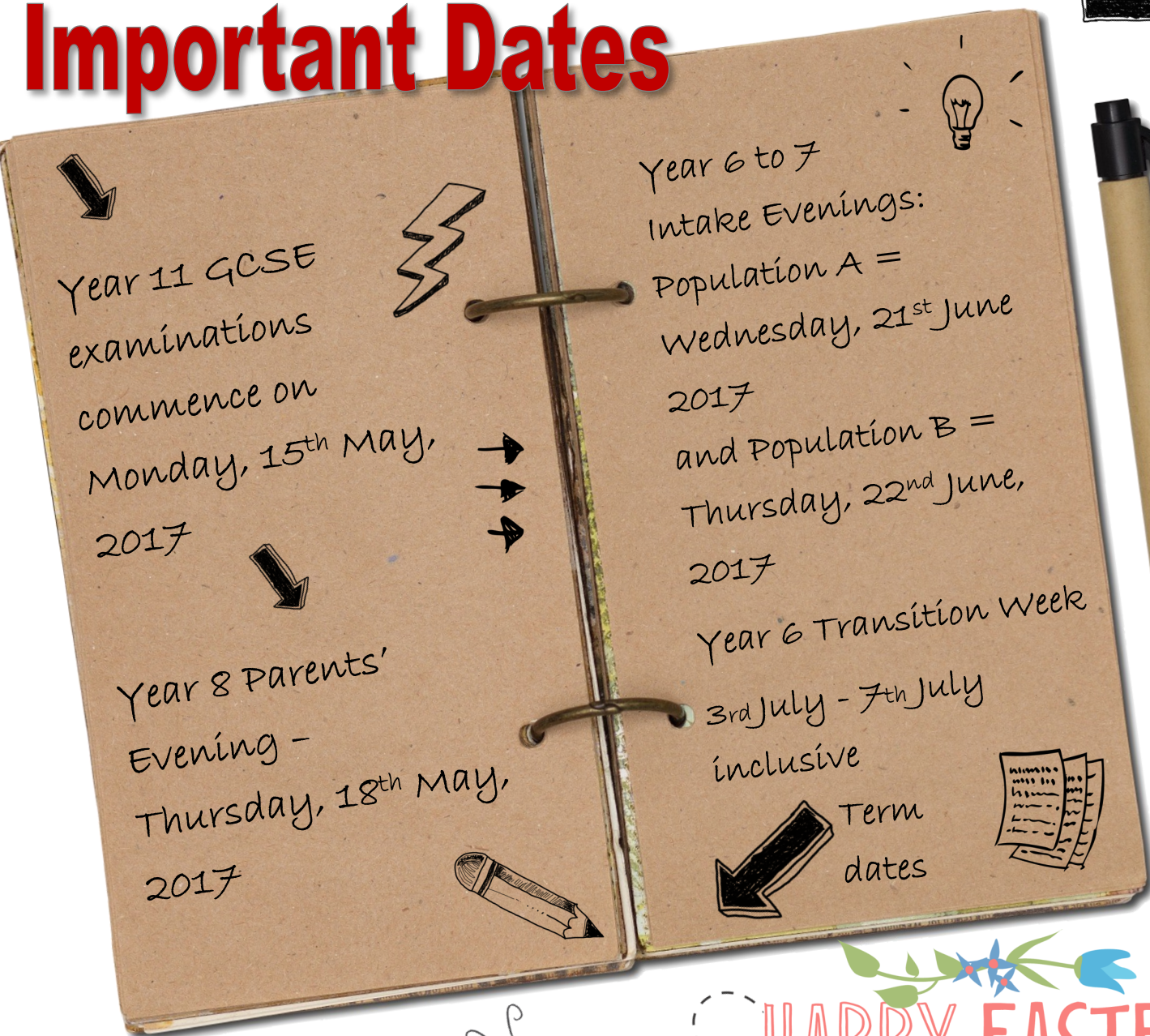
The cast of Hair Spray the Musical performed for Year 6 students ahead of their big performances in the last week of term.



Mr Dickson & all the cast have put on another amazing show this year. Well done to all involved.



Important Dates



Dates for your diary

Summer 2017

Monday	24th April	School Opens
Monday	1st May	May Day Closure
Monday	29th May	Half Term Closure (inclusive)
Friday	2nd June	
Friday	21st July	School Closes



HAPPY EASTER

Autumn 2017

Wednesday	30th August	School Opens
Tuesday	29th August	Inset Day
Monday	23rd October	Half Term Closure (inclusive)
Friday	3rd November	
Thursday	21st December	Inset Days
Friday	22nd December	
Wednesday	20th December	School Closes

