



Dates for your Diary

**THE PARK FEDERATION**

To question, is to grow

**MONTEM ACADEMY**

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

## Newsletter: 3rd May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Montem Academy believes that every pupil has the right to achieve excellence through pride in their ambitions. We are committed to helping each child reach their full potential, pursue ambitious goals, and take pride in their accomplishments. Our school community values excellence, strives for continual improvement, and takes pride in empowering pupils to excel.

This year we aim to develop a Center of Excellence for pupils with visual impairments. Our goal is to provide these students with a first-class learning environment that will enable them to learn Braille, improve their mobility skills, and develop daily living skills like cooking in a specially designed learning space.

To raise funds for specialised kitchen equipment for visually impaired pupils, teachers - including myself- and office staff will climb Mount Snowdon on May 18, 2023. If you would like to contribute, our JustGiving page is linked below - every donation will make a huge difference for these pupils.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/montemacademyVI>

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Probert

### Dates for your Diary

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May - school closed  
Inset Day Friday 24th May - school closed to children  
Half Term Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May inclusive

### Attendance

The Year Group with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: Year 5 : 93.9%  
2nd place: Year 2 : 93.8%  
3rd place: Year 1 : 93.7%

It will be a non-uniform day for classes that achieve 100% attendance



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Montem's Mountaineers are raising money for our  
Visual Impairment Unit

**"NO DREAM TOO BIG"**



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### Nursery

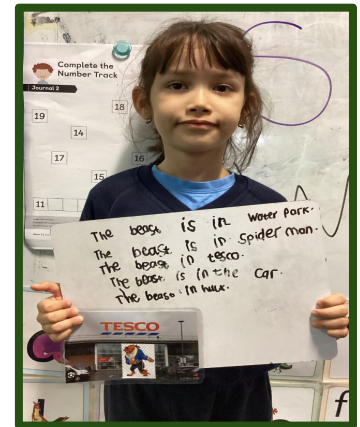
This week we have been re-visiting 2D shapes and we are great at naming them. We also explored 3D shapes and we are now good at describing the properties of different shapes. We know that 2D shapes are 'flat' and we are great at counting and describing their 'pointy corners' and sides. We also know that 3D shapes are 'solid' and we can now sometimes count and describe their faces, and investigate whether they can roll or slide. We have been hunting for shapes in our environment and we were proud to discover lots of cones in our new ice cream shop. Great week, Nursery!



### Reception

This week in reception, we have been doing various activities based on our story of the week 'Beauty and The Beast'. We have been using the sounds we have learnt to write sentences about the story and retelling the story in our own words. We have had lots of fun dressing up as princesses and princes and creating stories to perform in the role play area.

This week in maths we have been learning about using mathematical language one more and one less and showing bonds to 5 and 10 using number lines. We are still using 10 frames to help our learning as we improve our understanding of number composition.



### Year 1

In year 1 this week, the children have started to really focus on their creativity in their "My Write" writing. We have been asking them to write about whatever they like as well as extend their writing by using connectives (because, and, but).

At the end of the week the year 1 children had the most amazing day out to Windsor Castle. We got to see the guards, go around the castle and inside the state apartments, and see the spectacular dolls houses. The children got to hold some special artifacts like the crown with jewels, and learn about what life was like as royalty during the victorian times. It was a long day for all involved and we're sure everyone went home with lots of stories to tell.





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### Year 2

This week has been packed with things to learn and explore. In Maths we have started a new chapter - Length and Height. Therefore we are now learning how to use a ruler to measure and to draw. In Literacy we have a very serious task to fulfill: we are writing a letter to persuade Mrs Probert to send us to the Buckingham Palace. We have found Paddington's adventure in London truly inspiring and we want to experience the journey ourselves. A great opportunity to show off our writing skills: conjunctions for purpose, rhetorical questions and the use of present tense, all wrapped up in persuasive language. Paddington the bear and Mr Gruber are with us during the Big Read as well so we can really deepen our understanding of how emotional visiting a historical place can be. In Science this week we are investigating if a seed needs sunlight to germinate and grow into a plant. We cannot wait to see the results!



### Year 3

This week, we dove headfirst into the world of science, transforming into inquisitive scientists on a quest to uncover the mysteries of nature! With boundless curiosity and enthusiasm, they embarked on an investigation to answer our focus question: Are all leaves the same? Armed with magnifying glasses, torches and keen observational skills, our young explorers ventured outdoors. Amidst the rustling trees, they carefully examined the leaves and compared their shapes, sizes, colours, and textures, leading to lively discussions about their features. From the crumpled, brown leaves to the freshly fallen green leaves, every discovery sparked wonder and excitement.



### Year 4

This week, our year 4 children have been learning about circuits as part of their unit of work based on Electricity, in Science. The children started their learning journey by describing how electricity is used in the home. They then learnt about current, voltage and how simple series circuits work. The children had great fun building their circuits and investigating how the brightness of a lamp is affected by different voltages. The children used different components to assemble three different lamp circuits; one powered by a single AA battery, one powered by two AA batteries and one powered by three AA batteries. They then compared the brightness of the lamp for each configuration. In the next few lessons the children will be learning to make a simple switch and to construct more complex circuits.





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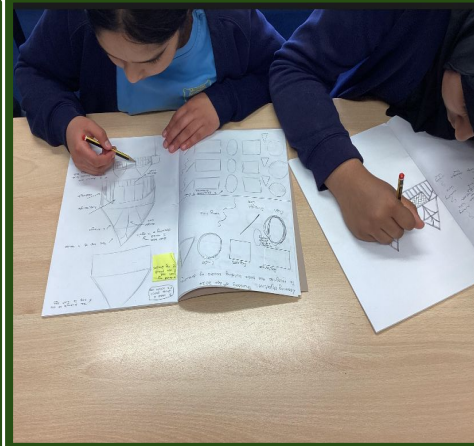
### Year 5

The Year 5's have had a fantastic week! In Maths, they have started a new topic of learning how to draw and plot points on a line graph. In Literacy, they have started to write their biographies about Queen Elizabeth I and have been fascinated about some of the decisions and life choices she made during her reign as queen. In Big Read, the children are studying the book *My Friend Walter* and are intrigued to know what the story is behind a ghost who comes to meet the main character of the story. They certainly can't wait to read more to find out! In Science, the children are learning about plant reproduction and also about the different parts of a flower. Linked with this topic, the children have planted their own potato plant and are doing a marvellous job looking after it. They water the plant regularly and have chosen the perfect spot in the classroom for it to grow in. They are very excited about the amount it has grown so far! Well done for all your hard work this week.



### Year 6

In this week's Year 6 Art lessons, children delved into the world of drawing simple shapes with great enthusiasm. They explored the basic building blocks of drawing by utilising geometric shapes to sketch simple shapes. By examining common objects and identifying the shapes within them, students improved their observational skills. They also practised sketching objects of their choice, adding key details and using shading techniques. The children's creativity and newfound skills in sketching and shading were truly remarkable! They demonstrated impressive progress in their ability to translate their observations into detailed drawings, showcasing both their artistic talents and dedication to learning.



Montem's Eco Motivators are raising money for a new environmental centre at our school! Our vision is to build a cluster of biodomes to promote healthy living, sustainability and celebrate the diversity of our school by growing plants and foods from different climates. We have a Just Giving Page where donations can be made [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/MontemBiodomes?utm\\_term=eegW4gbZk](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/MontemBiodomes?utm_term=eegW4gbZk), a donation box at the main office where money can be donated.

