



Principal's update

I would also like to wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck as they sit their statutory SATs tests this week. These assessments are an important opportunity for pupils to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have developed throughout their time in primary school, particularly in reading, writing and mathematics.

While SATs are just one part of each child's learning journey, they help to inform secondary schools and celebrate the progress pupils have made. We are incredibly proud of how hard the children and staff have worked in preparation showing resilience, determination, and a positive attitude.

Towards the end of this week, Year 2 pupils will also be completing their end-of-key-stage assessments. I am incredibly proud of the progress and hard work the children have shown and know they are ready to showcase everything they have learned.

The assessments will take place in a calm and supportive environment as part of normal classroom practice. We kindly ask parents and carers to continue supporting children by ensuring they arrive at school on time each day, well rested, and ready to learn.

I trust our pupils will achieve the outcomes that reflect their hard work and dedication, and that they feel proud of all they have accomplished.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Mrs Nel
Principal



Dates for your diary

11th May - 14th May

Year 6 SATs Week

15th May - 21st May

Year 2 SATs week

18th - 20th May

Glow in the Dark Dodgeball

19th May

Year 5 Parent Meetings

20th May

Reception National Number Day
- See Dojo for details

21st May

Last Day of Term

22nd May

School closed - INSET day

23rd - 31st May

Half Term Break

1st June

Back to school - Summer Term 2
(8:40 am start)

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

🏆 1st place:

1 Oak - 100%

🥈 2nd place:

R Sequoia- 99.17%

🥉 3rd place:

6 Oak - 99.17%

Classes with 100% attendance will have a non-uniform day.





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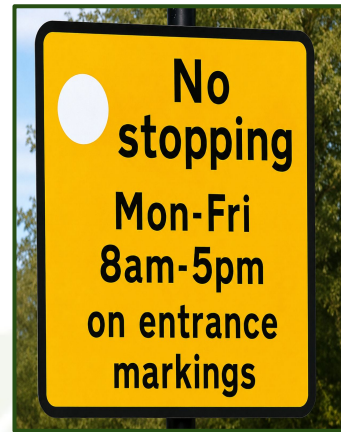
Chalvey Grove Parking Notice

Please do not stop or park on the entrance markings, yellow zig-zag lines, or on the curb. We have received complaints from residents about blocked driveways and unsafe parking.

Please be respectful and abide by road laws and do not:

- Mount or parking on the curb as this blocks pedestrians, wheelchair users, or pushchairs,
- Parking on yellow zig-zag lines is illegal.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration for our local community.



Stay Hydrated – Drink Plenty of Water

Keeping hydrated helps children to stay focused, energised, and ready to learn throughout the day. Even mild dehydration can affect concentration, mood, and memory.

Why hydration matters:

- Improves concentration and focus in lessons
- Boosts energy levels and reduces tiredness
- Supports physical health, including digestion and temperature control
- Helps prevent headaches and irritability

Please ensure your child brings a **named water bottle to school every day**. We encourage regular drinking and refilling throughout the day.

Stay Sun Safe

We all love spending time in the sun, but it's important that your children are safe. As the weather gets warmer, please **apply sunscreen to your child at home and ensure they bring a named sun hat to school each day**.

How do you stay safe in the sun?

- Stay indoors and out of the sun. This is especially important at midday, when the sun's rays are strongest.
- Cover up. Wear long-sleeved shirts and long trousers to protect your skin. If they are in light colours and fabrics, you won't get too hot.
- Wear a hat. Protect your head!
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from the sun's rays.
- Apply sunscreen regularly, especially if you are playing sports or swimming. Use a high SPF and check the expiration date on your sunscreen.



DRINK WATER



PROTECTIVE CLOTHING



SUNSCREEN

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Year 6 SATs Week

Our Year 6 pupils have worked incredibly hard this year and we are very proud of their dedication and perseverance. We know they are ready to do their very best during SATs week.

Y6 SATs will take place from **Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May**. It is vital that all children attend school every day and arrive on time, as SATs papers cannot be retaken if missed.

To help children feel calm and prepared, our **FREE Y6 SATs Breakfast Club** will run from **8:15am each morning** next week. Children will have the opportunity to enjoy a healthy breakfast and settle into the day positively before the tests begin.

Best of Luck Year 6!

Year 2 Hindu Temple Visit

Last week, our Year 2 children enjoyed an inspiring visit to a local Hindu Mandir as part of their Religious Education studies. During the visit, the children had a wonderful time observing the vibrant decorations and beautifully adorned shrines while learning about the traditions and daily life within the temple. The visit provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of different cultures and traditions beyond the classroom. They were commended for their respectful behaviour and thoughtful questions throughout the day!

Year 6 SATs timetable

Monday 11 th May	Grammar, punctuation and vocabulary paper Spelling test
Tuesday 12 th May	Reading paper
Wednesday 13 th May	Maths arithmetic paper Maths reasoning paper
Thursday 14 th May	Second maths reasoning paper
Friday 15 th May	You're done! 🎉





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Reception Odds Farm Visit

Reception children had a wonderful time during their visit to Odds Farm Park. Throughout the day, the children enjoyed exploring the farm, meeting a variety of animals, and taking part in exciting outdoor activities.

The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their understanding of farm animals whilst also building their confidence, independence, and communication skills. The children particularly enjoyed feeding the goats, observing the different animals, and playing together in the outdoor areas.

All of the children demonstrated excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the trip and were fantastic ambassadors for Montem Academy. We are very proud of how well they represented the school and know that they created many special memories during the day.



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Year 1 Windsor Castle Visit

Year 1 children enjoyed an exciting and memorable visit to Windsor Castle as part of their learning this term. Throughout the day, the children explored the historic castle, discovered fascinating facts about the Royal Family, and experienced what life was like inside one of the most famous castles in the world.

The visit brought the children's learning to life through immersive, first-hand experiences. History truly felt real as they dressed up and acted out scenes from the past, sparking their imaginations and deepening their historical understanding. The children were particularly excited to see the grand State Apartments, learn about the history of the castle, and explore the beautiful surroundings.

All of the children demonstrated excellent behaviour, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout the trip and represented Montem Academy brilliantly.



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KS1 Multi-Skills Federation Event

Children from Year 1 and Year 2 were selected to represent Montem Academy at the KS1 Multi-Skills Federation Event. They demonstrated excellent teamwork, enthusiasm, and determination throughout the activities and were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Being part of a multi-academy trust provides our children with valuable opportunities to take part in a wide range of events alongside pupils from other schools across the federation. These experiences help children to develop confidence, teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship, whilst also allowing them to build new friendships and experience healthy competition in a supportive environment.



Dance Festival Event

A group of Montem pupils delivered an amazing performance at the Slough Dance Festival, wearing coordinated tiger-print costumes as they danced energetically to 'Survivor - Eye of the Tiger'.

It was wonderful to see the children perform with such confidence, enthusiasm, and energy in front of a full audience at The Curve in Slough. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment during rehearsals truly paid off, resulting in a fantastic performance that the whole school community can be proud of.

We are exceptionally proud of all the pupils who took part and represented Montem Academy so brilliantly.

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Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about

DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time; they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

REMINDE YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

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