MONTEM ACADEMY
The Park Federation Academy Trust

Montem Newsletter

June 12th, 2026
Edition 6

Principal's update

This week, our Year 1 pupils completed their Phonics Screening Check. We are incredibly proud of the resilience, confidence and determination they demonstrated throughout the process. Thank you to our staff and families who have supported the children in developing their early reading skills.

Our Year 4 pupils have also completed the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). We are extremely proud of the effort, perseverance and positive attitudes shown by the children. Mastering times tables takes consistent practice, and I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work in preparing the pupils, as well as our parents and carers for the support and encouragement they have provided at home.

Today, we came together to celebrate Diversity Day, one of the highlights of our school calendar. Montem is a vibrant and diverse community, and events such as these remind us of the importance of respect, inclusion and celebrating the many cultures, languages and experiences that make our school so special. It was wonderful to see so many families join us for the picnic and enjoy the afternoon together.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we continue to create a welcoming community where every child feels valued, respected and able to thrive.

Mrs Nel
Principal



Dates for your diary

15th & 16th June
Y6 Chessington Trip

17th June
Y5/6 Federation Girls Cricket *(Selected Pupils)*

18th June
Y5/6 Girls Slough Dynamo Cricket *(Selected Pupils)*

19th June
Y5 & Y6 TPFAT Tennis Event *(Selected Pupils)*

22nd June
Choir at Reading Hexagon Concert 6:30 - 8:00pm *(Selected Pupils)*

22nd June
Y1 & Y2 Sports Day

23rd June
Y5 & Y3 Sports Day

25th June
Y6 & Y4 Sports Day

26th June
EYFS Sports Day

TPFAT Strictly Speaking Competition

We are incredibly proud of the pupils who represented Montem Academy at The Park Federation's annual Strictly Speaking Competition on Wednesday 10th June.

This year's topic, **"Should teachers be replaced by AI?"**, challenged pupils to think critically about the future of education and technology. The event brought together talented speakers from across The Park Federation, providing pupils with an opportunity to share their ideas and develop their public speaking skills.

After working hard to prepare their arguments, our team delivered an impressive presentation, demonstrating confidence, eloquence, teamwork and thoughtful reasoning throughout. They spoke with clarity and conviction, engaging the audience with persuasive arguments and well-considered points.

Their outstanding performance earned Montem an impressive **second-place** finish. This achievement reflects the pupils' dedication, resilience and excellent communication skills.

A huge congratulations to our Strictly Speaking team for their hard work and commitment. They were excellent ambassadors for Montem Academy, and we are incredibly proud of their achievement.

A special thank you to **Mrs Gunn** for her support and guidance in helping the children prepare for the competition.





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Diversity Day Picnic Celebration

On Friday 12th June, our Montem community came together to celebrate Diversity Day – a wonderful occasion that reflected the rich cultures, backgrounds and experiences that make our school such a special place.

The afternoon began with children being collected from their classes to join family members for our Diversity Day Picnic on the school field. It was fantastic to see so many families attending and enjoying time together in the sunshine.

Children and adults took part in a range of fun games in the MUGA, shared food and conversation with friends, and enjoyed refreshing ice creams and cold drinks. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, celebrate our differences and recognise the strength that diversity brings to Montem.

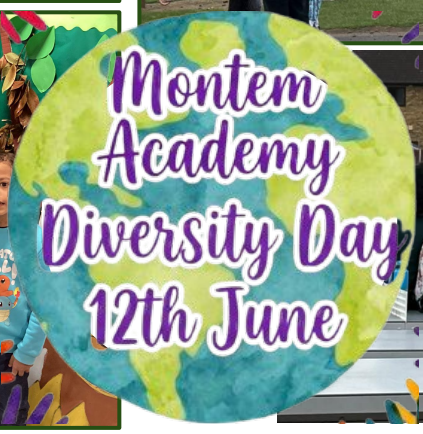
A huge thank you to all the families, staff and volunteers who helped make the afternoon such a success. Events like these remind us of the importance of belonging, respect and inclusion, and we are proud to celebrate the diverse community that makes Montem such a vibrant and welcoming place.

We look forward to celebrating Diversity Day again next year!











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TPFAT Y3 & Y4 Tennis Event

A group of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils proudly represented Montem at The Park Federation Tennis Tournament, hosted at our school.

The children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, determination and teamwork throughout the day, competing against 5 schools from across the federation.

Montem's outstanding performance saw our team finish in first place.

We are incredibly proud of all the pupils who took part and the positive attitude they showed throughout the event. Well done to everyone involved on this fantastic achievement!





TPFAT Cricket Competition

A group of selected pupils proudly represented Montem Academy at the recent Slough Dynamo Cricket Competition. Throughout the day, they demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship while competing against other schools.

The boys played with enthusiasm, skill and resilience, progressing all the way to the finals and finishing in an impressive second place. As a result of their outstanding performance, they have secured a place in the Berkshire Finals, where they will represent Slough against schools from across Berkshire.

Well done to all who took part, and good luck to the team in the Berkshire Finals!

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Celebrating a Third Consecutive Trinity College London Accreditation Award

We are delighted to share the exciting news that Montem Academy has once again been awarded the prestigious Trinity College London Accreditation Award - for the third consecutive year!

This achievement is a testament to our continued commitment to providing high-quality arts education and enriching creative opportunities for our pupils. The accreditation recognises the outstanding work taking place across the school and our dedication to ensuring that the arts remain an integral part of our curriculum.

A special thank you goes to **Miss Steenkamp** and **Mrs Southwick**, whose dedication, passion and commitment have been instrumental in securing this accreditation once again. Their expertise, hard work and unwavering support for both staff and pupils have helped ensure the continued success of our arts provision and have played a significant role in achieving this recognition for a third consecutive year.

Congratulations to everyone involved in this fantastic achievement!



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Year 5 & 6 PGL Residential Trip

Some of our Year 5 & Year 6 pupils recently returned from an unforgettable residential trip to Windmill Hill in East Sussex, where they enjoyed a packed programme of exciting outdoor activities, teamwork challenges and opportunities to develop their independence.

Throughout the trip, the children demonstrated excellent cooperation, resilience and determination as they took part in a wide range of activities. From raft building and abseiling to problem-solving challenges and team games, pupils embraced every opportunity to step outside their comfort zones and challenge themselves.

The residential provided a fantastic opportunity for children to build confidence, strengthen friendships and develop important life skills such as communication, cooperation and perseverance. It was wonderful to see pupils encouraging one another, celebrating each other's successes and showing great maturity throughout their time away from home.

We are incredibly proud of all the children for the positive attitude and enthusiasm they displayed during the trip. They were excellent ambassadors for Montem and represented the school brilliantly.

A huge thank you to the **Mr Stewart, Miss Samuel, Miss Probert, Mrs Barry, Mrs Farr & Mrs Pawlowska** who gave up their time to accompany the children and ensure that everyone had a safe, enjoyable and memorable experience. We would also like to thank parents and carers for their support in preparing the children for this exciting milestone in their primary school journey.

We are sure the memories made at PGL will stay with our Year 6 pupils for many years to come.









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Everyone to Excel Through Pride and Ambition

DS	Dunbar	Belen Dreyssig	Mya Sharma (supply)	Appointment	4 Cedar	Teacher	£239.

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Everyone to Excel Through Pride and Ambition

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Reception Nature Explorers – Minibeast Adventures!

Reception have been very busy this week as part of their Nature Explorers topic. The children have enjoyed going on bug hunts and building bug houses to create safe habitats for the minibeasts they discovered.

Their learning has been inspired by the story Rumble in the Jungle, which encouraged them to think about the different creatures that live in our environment. The children were excited to explore the outdoors and investigate where minibeasts might be hiding.

Even the rainy weather did not stop them! The children loved putting on their wetsuits and heading outside to search for worms, snails, insects, and other fascinating minibeasts. They showed great enthusiasm and curiosity as they explored and discussed their findings.













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Reminder - Sports Days

Parents and Carers are warmly invited to attend their child's sport day. You will be able to watch your children take part in a variety of activities - it's always a popular day with the children and they have a lot of fun.

The timetable is below.

Please note you will need to enter through the Telford Drive gate, which will be open for you to arrive and to leave. It will not be possible for staff to open the gate for you to leave during the activities unless there is an emergency.

Please ensure your children have a hat, suncream applied at home, and a full water bottle that day. If the weather is too bad for the event to take place, we will post this on ClassDojo.

We look forward to enjoying the day with you all.

Monday 22/06/2026	**AM 9am to 11am Year 2**	**PM 1pm to 3pm Year 1**
Tuesday 23/06/2026	**AM 9am to 11am Year 5**	**PM 1pm to 3pm Year 3**
Thursday 25/06/2026	**AM 9am to 11am Year 6**	**PM 1pm to 3pm Year 4**
Friday 26/06/2026	**AM 9am to 11am RECEPTION**	**Please check with the Nursery team for their event.**

Montem
Academy

MONTEM IN CONCERT

A Spectacular Instrumental Performance

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 10th July 2026

In Association with Slough Music Service

SLOUGH MUSIC SERVICE

MORNING CONCERT

9:30am



ukulele and guitar



AFTERNOON CONCERT

2:00pm



violin and cello



TICKETS £1 AT THE DOOR

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2 PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.

4 THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES



As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.



5 MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER



Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.

National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6 REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.

7 DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE



Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.

