



Principal's update

This week, I would like to reinforce the importance of reading and the significant impact it can have on a child's future success.

Research consistently shows that children who read for pleasure perform better academically, develop a wider vocabulary, increase their general knowledge and gain a deeper understanding of the world around them. Even just a few minutes of daily reading can make a real difference.

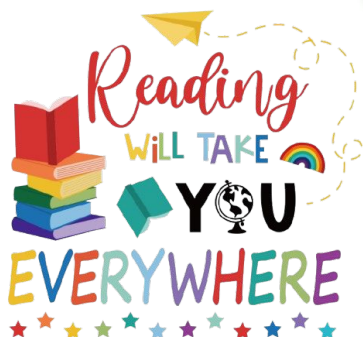
As parents and carers, you play a vital role in nurturing a love of reading. Reading together, talking about books and making time for stories at home are some of the most effective ways to support your child's learning. Parents are a child's first and most influential teachers, and your encouragement can help foster positive reading habits that last a lifetime.

To support you, we have shared a *Parents' Guide to Reading*, which contains practical tips and ideas for encouraging reading at home. I hope you find it both useful and inspiring. Download the 'Parents' guide to reading' [here](#). I hope you find it useful.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children become confident, enthusiastic readers.

As we look ahead, we are excited for our upcoming Sports Days, which provide a fantastic opportunity for pupils to take part in healthy competition, develop their teamwork skills and celebrate their achievements. We look forward to welcoming families to these events and cheering on our children as they participate.

Mrs Nel
Principal



Dates for your diary

22nd June

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

Please Note: Sports Days are cancelled due to the extreme heat predicted for next week.

22nd, 24th - 26th & 30th June Y3 Burnham Beeches

1st July

Y2 Ruislip Lido Trip
Nursery Sports Day

3rd July

Lark in the Park from 2pm

6th - 10th July

Y1 - Y5 Assessment Week

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week is:

🏆 1st place:

R Sequoia - 98.3%

🥈 2nd place:

6B Redwood - 98%

🥉 3rd place:

**3 Redwood, 2 Redwood,
6B Oak - 97.3%**

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



MONTEM ACADEMY

The Park Federation Academy Trust

Montem Newsletter

Summer Reading Challenge 2026 – Read to the Beat!

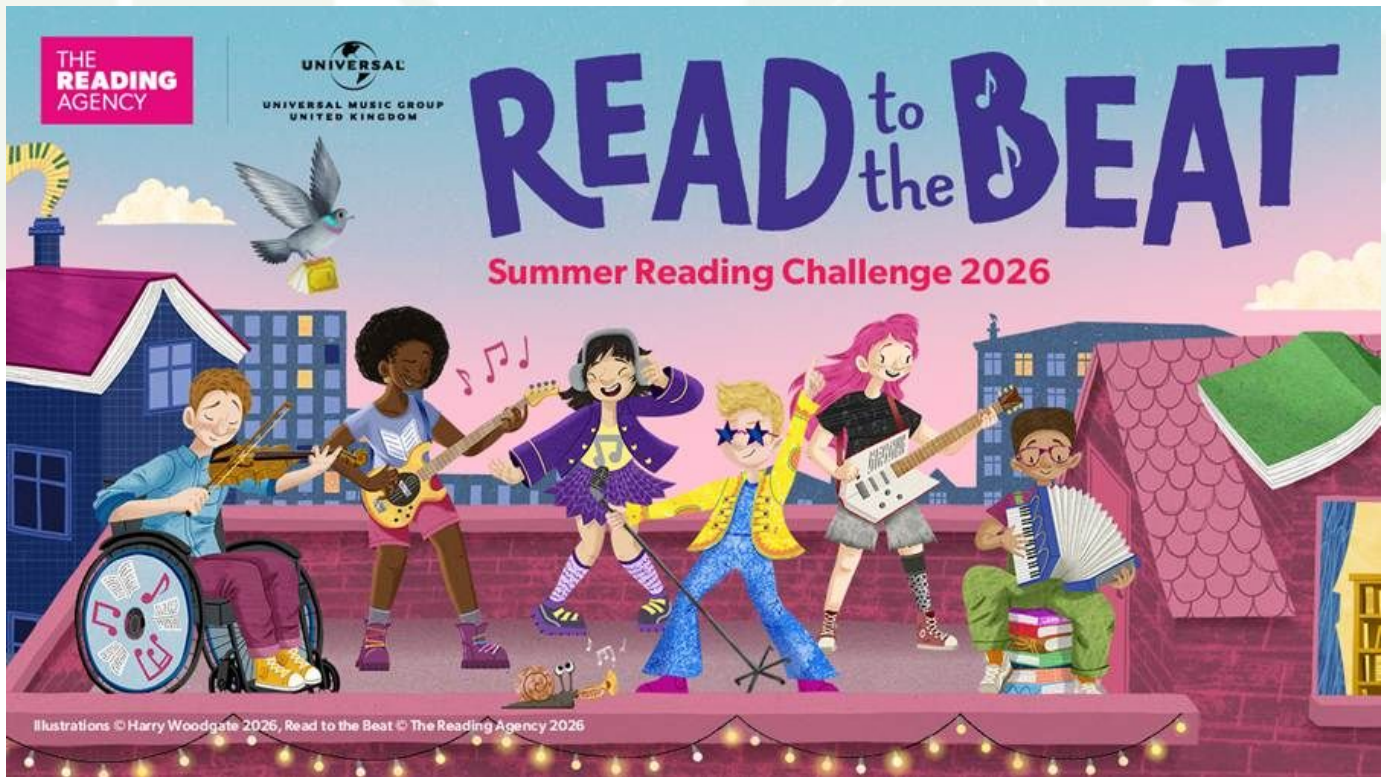
Today, we were delighted to welcome representatives from Slough Library, who visited the school to launch this year's **Summer Reading Challenge – Read to the Beat!**

During the assembly, pupils learned how they can take part in the challenge by reading **six library books over the summer**. Along the way, they can collect rewards, with those who complete the challenge receiving a certificate and medal. Younger children can also join the Mini Challenge and earn stickers.

The challenge is a fantastic way to encourage children to continue reading during the summer holidays and develop a lifelong love of books. It is free to take part and runs from **30th June to 12th September**.

We would like to thank Slough Libraries for inspiring our pupils and encouraging them to enjoy reading throughout the summer.

For more information, visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk.



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Montem Newsletter

Important Message - Sports Day Cancellation

Looking at the intense heat that is predicted for next week, we have taken the difficult decision to cancel Sports Days.

We carefully considered the wellbeing of the children, staff and parents/ carers/ grandparents and younger siblings who may have been coming to watch.

Our PE coaches will be making sure the children have some fun, safe activities to enjoy instead, but parents will not be able to come along.

Thank you for your understanding



Coffee Morning for Parents

We would like to invite you to our upcoming relaxed, non-judgemental weekly Coffee Morning.

When: Wednesday 24th June 2026

Where: The Development Centre

Topic: Helping your child with Transition

As we approach the end of the academic year, many children can experience a range of emotions about moving on to a new year group or transitioning to secondary school.

This workshop will provide guidance on how to support your child(ren) through these changes.

This is a great opportunity to:

- Gain practical strategies
- Learn ways to help reduce stress, worries, anxiety and build confidence
- Understand what you can do at home to prepare your child(ren) for their next steps
- Ask questions and discuss any concerns you may have

We look forward to welcoming you.

MONTEM ACADEMY

Kindest regards,
Mrs Bishop and Miss Jones

Coffee Morning



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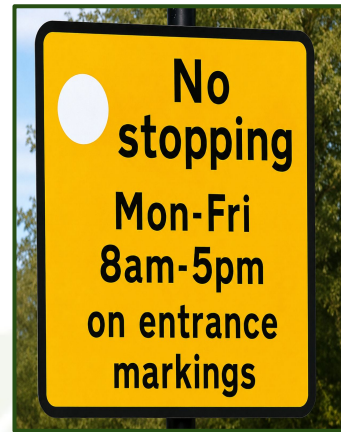
Chalvey Grove Parking Notice

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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Please Park Considerately Around Our School.



Be Healthier



By turning off your engine you can reduce pollutants known to cause harm to people, especially children.



We all breathe easier when you turn your engine off.

Keep our streets safe for every child. Legal parking helps everyone get to school happily and on time.



A GREAT DAY STARTS WITH BREAKFAST!

WE'RE LAUNCHING OUR FREE BREAKFAST CLUB!

STARTING SEPTEMBER 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are thrilled to announce that Montem will be launching a **Free Breakfast Club** starting in September 2026!

This initiative is designed to support children in starting their day healthy, happy, and ready to learn.

BREAKFAST FUELS BRIGHT MINDS!

Eating breakfast at school has been proven to boost attendance, improve behaviour, and children's learning and attainment.



CHOOSE YOUR OPTION

Our breakfast provision will run from **8:00 AM** to **8:40 AM** each morning.

OPTION 1

BREAKFAST CLUB PLUS

For parents who need a slightly earlier start to the day.

The first 10 minutes (8:00 AM – 8:10 AM) will be chargeable at **80p per day**, followed by the 30-minute free session.



OPTION 2

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

This is the standard 30-minute session which is **completely free** for all children in our school from Reception to Year 6.



WHAT WILL MY CHILD GET FOR BREAKFAST?



No matter which time they arrive, all children will be provided with a healthy, nutritious, and varied breakfast. All food served will strictly follow the School Food Standards, ensuring your child gets a balanced and fuel-filled start to their morning.



Montem caters to all dietary needs and preferences across all our food services.



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!

While this provision is open to all pupils, we need to understand how many children will be joining us and which time slot you potentially may be interested in so we can arrange staffing and food quantities before we return in September.

PLEASE COMPLETE
OUR QUICK EXPRESSION
OF INTEREST FORM BY:

**FRIDAY
26TH JUNE 2026**

SCAN HERE TO
COMPLETE THE FORM



NEXT STEPS: Once we review all responses, we will get in touch so you can secure your child's space using a booking form.
Please Note: Spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis while we increase our capacity.



PLEASE NOTE: If you have more than one child at Montem, you must complete a separate form for each child you wish to register for Breakfast Club.

CLICK HERE

[Click here to complete the form](#)



MONTEM ACADEMY

The Park Federation Academy Trust

Montem Newsletter

Snacks permitted at Montem Academy

Healthy eating plays an important role in children's wellbeing, concentration, and readiness to learn. At Montem, we are committed to helping children develop healthy habits and make positive food choices that support their learning throughout the school day.

We have **recently noticed an increase in children bringing high-sugar and unhealthy snacks to school.** These foods can negatively affect children's energy levels, concentration, behaviour, and readiness to learn following breaktime. To help all children return to class focused and ready to achieve their best, **we expect snacks brought into school to be healthy and nutritious.**

Thank you for your support in helping our children stay healthy, focused, and ready to learn.



STAY
FOCUSED



HAVE
ENERGY



FEEL OUR
BEST



LET'S FUEL OUR BODIES AND MINDS FOR A GREAT DAY OF LEARNING!



GREAT CHOICES

Snack smart and feel great!



FRUIT



VEGGIE STICKS



DRIED FRUIT



POPCORN
(UNSALTED)



YOGHURT



WHOLEGRAIN
BREAD



PLAIN CEREAL



RICE CAKES



CHEESE

FRESH, NATURAL & NUTRITIOUS!



NOT GREAT CHOICES

These can make us tired or unhealthy.



CHOCOLATE
BARS



CRISPS



SWEETS &
LOLLIES



BISCUITS



CAKE BARS



DOUGHNUTS



CHOCOLATE
SPREAD SNACKS



FIZZY DRINKS



SUGARY
DRINKS

REMEMBER!

BE KIND TO YOUR BODY.
FUEL IT WELL!



TOP TIPS

- ★ SIMPLE IS BEST
- ★ PACK JUST ONE HEALTHY SNACK
- ★ BRING WATER IN YOUR BOTTLE



NO NUTS PLEASE!



We are a nut-aware school.
Please do not bring nuts or
products containing nuts.



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Montem Newsletter

Year 6 Chessington Trip

Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed their much-anticipated trip to Chessington World of Adventures. The visit provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to celebrate the end of their primary school journey together and create lasting memories with their friends.

The children had a fantastic day exploring the park, enjoying the rides and attractions, and sharing lots of laughter and excitement along the way. It was lovely to see them celebrating their achievements and reflecting on the friendships they have built during their time at school.

We were incredibly proud of the pupils, whose behaviour throughout the visit was exemplary. They represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating maturity, respect and responsibility at all times, and were excellent ambassadors for our school community.

The trip was a fitting way to mark the end of their primary school years, and we are delighted that the children were able to enjoy such a special experience together.



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Montem Newsletter



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Massive Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to our three incredible cellists for achieving **Distinction** in their recent cello exams!

Your hard work, endless hours of scales, and dedication to your craft have truly paid off. Bringing such passion and precision to the instrument is no small feat, and we couldn't be prouder of this brilliant achievement.

Keep making beautiful music, and celebrate this well-deserved success!



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Montem Newsletter

Year 5 & 6 Girls' Cricket Success

This week, a group of our Year 5 and Year 6 girls proudly represented the school in cricket competitions.

On 17th June, selected pupils took part in the Federation Girls' Cricket Tournament, where they demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day. The girls battled well all day and managed to secure an **impressive 3rd place finish**.

On 18th June, selected pupils competed in the Slough Dynamo Girls' Cricket Competition. The girls managed to win all of their group games, resulting in a three-way play-off for the top positions. Showing great resilience and skill, they **secured 2nd place overall** and have now been invited to represent Slough at the Cricket Berkshire Finals – a fantastic achievement!

We are incredibly proud of all the girls who participated in these competitions. Not only did they showcase their sporting talents, but they also displayed exemplary behaviour and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Well done to everyone involved!



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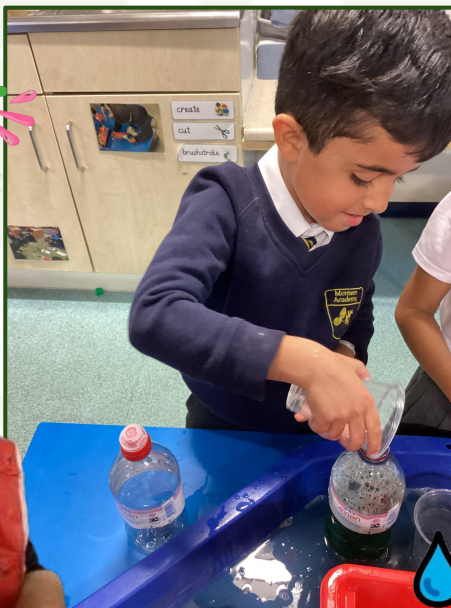
The Park Federation Academy Trust

Montem Newsletter

Hands-On Maths in Reception

This week, Reception have been learning all about capacity in their maths lessons. The children have been busy exploring and measuring different containers, comparing how much each one can hold. They have been developing their mathematical vocabulary by using and understanding key terms such as full, half full, nearly full, nearly empty and empty. Through a range of practical, hands-on activities, the children have enjoyed investigating capacity and applying their new learning in a fun and engaging way.

**FULL, HALF FULL
and EMPTY!**



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Montem Newsletter

Lark in the Park

Lark in the Park will be on **Friday 3rd July**. Children will be dismissed from their classes at **2.00pm** into the care of their parents or carers. Children can't attend Lark on their own, so if they usually walk home alone, we will send home a slip for you to tell us what the arrangements are for that day.

We are really looking forward to this year's event and can't wait to see you all there.

Please note: This year, instead of cash, you will be able to **pre order a spending card, value £5 or £10** which you can spend around the stalls. You can buy as many as you need, so no one will need to rely on having the right change or cash on the day - more details to follow!

Lark in the Park 2026



£10 card

Lark in the Park 2026



£5 card

LARK IN THE PARK

DONATIONS NEEDED!

HELP US MAKE THIS YEAR'S EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS!

We are kindly asking for the following donations:

TEDDY TOMBOLA



WHAT WE NEED:

Clean, pre-loved soft and cuddly toys.

HANDY TIPS:

Please ensure they are in good, clean condition.
Every ticket wins a teddy!

SPREAD THE JOY!

JAM JAR TOMBOLA



WHAT WE NEED:

Clean, empty jars filled with small treats.

HANDY TIPS:

Fill them with sweets, stickers, crayons, or small toys – anything children will love that fits in your jar!
Children are welcome to decorate the outside to make them even more special.
Every ticket wins a jar of treats!

GET CREATIVE!

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL YOUR DONATIONS ARE NOT FREE.

HOW TO DONATE:

Please bring all donations to our

MAIN RECEPTION DESK

by **FRIDAY 26TH JUNE**.

Your generosity makes a huge difference to the success of our event! Thank you so much.



Proudly supporting

act:onaid

real change starts with women and girls

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Lark in the Park!
Friday 3rd July
2026
at 2.00pm



Doughnuts

PopCorn

Hook a duck

Face
Painting

Sweet Stall

Teddy
Tombola

Lucky Dip

and lots more...

Come and join the fun!



MONTEM ACADEMY

The Park Federation Academy Trust



**Montem
Academy**

MONTEM IN CONCERT

A Spectacular Instrumental Performance

SAVE
THE
DATE

Friday 10th July 2026



In Association with Slough Music Service



MORNING CONCERT

9:30am



**ukulele
and
guitar**



AFTERNOON CONCERT

2:00pm



**violin
and
cello**



TICKETS £1 AT THE DOOR

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

MINECRAFT

AGE RATING

7+

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying; it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unsettle young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

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