

# Monty's Mail

News from Montgomery Junior School

20th July 2020



## Summer Term Edition

Dear Parents/Carers,

We could not have predicted the events that would unfold since the last newsletter was written in the middle of March, and the past 4 months have been unprecedented in terms of education and the enforced, partial closure of schools. We are very grateful, as a school staff, for your support, both with the Home Learning programme, although we appreciate this was not always easy to do, and your patience with the restrictions around our bubbles and the limits this put on numbers of pupils in classes. The children have been amazing and they have calmly accepted the new way of working and the CV-19 protocols evident around the school. We are proud to have had over 40% of children in school, including over 82% of Year Six children. Our Face To Face sessions were well attended and enjoyed by children and the staff alike and gave some closure to the year.

We are sorry to see our Leavers in Year Six go in such circumstances, but we wish them every success in their new schools. We are also sorry to say goodbye to Miss Oxley and Mr Crees, but we know they will continue to inspire the love of learning in the young people at their new schools. We are delighted to welcome our new appointments: Mrs Russell to Year Three and Miss Mason to Year Four.

Looking forward, the government has indicated that there will be a full return for all year groups from September 2020. We are currently working hard to plan for this and will ensure that we continue with the strict health and safety protocols established. You will be receiving further details of the staggered start and end of day times, along with safety measures that we will put in place to reduce the likelihood of any outbreak of the Corona Virus.

We are also sending home a Summer Pack for Years 2-5, which will include essential learning to help prepare the children for the transition to the next year group. We do expect this learning to be completed to the best of your child's ability and feel it will help the children prepare for the recovery curriculum we are putting in place in the Autumn term. The packs should be returned on the first day of term.

On behalf of the staff here at Montgomery Junior school, I wish you and your family a very enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming your child back on Thursday 3rd September.

Take care and stay safe,

Michelle A. Wright

Michelle Wright  
Headteacher



**Wednesday 22nd July**  
**Wednesday 2nd September**  
**Thursday 3rd September**

Non pupil day  
Non pupil day  
Pupils return to school

The academic calendar 2020-21 is available to download from our school website.

**Montgomery Junior School**  
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## School Meals

We will be offering our full school meals service from Thursday 3rd September for all pupils. Your child should order their daily meal in class during registration. School meals are £2 each and should be paid for in advance.

**Online payments** are preferred and can be made online at [www.sims-pay.co.uk](http://www.sims-pay.co.uk). Alternatively you can pay by card at the school office. We will email registration instructions for new pupils in September.

**Please note that children in year 3 will no longer be entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals.** If you think you may be entitled to **Free School Meals** you must apply as soon as possible online at <https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>. Pupils who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals who are not attending school are receiving a weekly £15 voucher which will continue throughout the summer holiday period. This may continue if Covid-19 restrictions remain in place so please make sure you submit your claim.

We offer a full range of meals including vegetarian, vegan and can cater for other dietary needs. Please make sure you inform us if your child has any allergies or food intolerances. Menus are available on the school website.

## School Uniform

We are proud of our school and our uniform and expect all children to follow our uniform policy. A full list of uniform is available on our website. In summary, our uniform includes:

**Boys:** Black trousers, white polo shirt and royal blue sweatshirt with black leather school shoes

**Girls:** Black trousers/skirt, white polo shirt with royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan with black leather school shoes

**PE:** Royal blue t-shirt, black shorts and trainers

Our school uniform is available online from Smarty Pants <https://www.smartypantsschoolwear.com/montgomery-juniors.html> or email [office@smartypantsschoolwear.com](mailto:office@smartypantsschoolwear.com)

**Don't forget to order your school uniform as soon as possible as order processing is taking longer due to Covid-19.**

## Supporting our Veterans

During the coronavirus partial closure period, pupils from our school put together paintings and drawings which were distributed by the Support Our Paras charity to former soldiers who are over 70 and having to self-isolate during the coronavirus outbreak.

Our children designed and painted some beautiful and thoughtful artwork which they shared with some of the veterans. You can read the full story on the Support Our Paras website <https://supportourparas.org/> or read the article published in the Colchester Gazette here <https://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/18463056.talented-pupils-brighten-days-veteran-paras/>.



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