



October 3rd 2025

Individual and Sibling Photographs

Next Thursday is individual and sibling photograph day. If your child usually has PE this day, please send them in dressed in their school uniform and they can bring PE kits in their bags on this day. If you would like younger siblings to be photographed, please bring them to the hall door for 8.30am. If your child attends our nursery and does not come on a Thursday, please bring them in at 8.30am too if you would like to have their photograph taken.

Year 5 Swimming on Thursday 9th October

We have been informed that the pool is closed on Thursday 9th October. Year 5 will have an extra session at the end of the term's 10 week swimming block and swimming will resume as usual on Thursday 16th October.

Well done Darcey

Darcey recently competed at a swimming gala in Middlesbrough. At this gala Darcey won a silver medal for 200m backstroke and a bronze medal for 100m. From this, Darcey has been invited to swim at the Yorkshire County Championships for six events which take place on October 18th and 19th. Well done Darcey and good luck!

New Menu

Autumn/Winter lunch menus have been sent home this week. If you would like your child to have a school meal, please complete the menu and return to school by Monday 6th October. The new menu will start on Monday 3rd November. Thank you.

Flu Immunisation Catch Up Community Clinics

If your child did not have the flu immunisation at school, Catch Up Clinics have been arranged at Consett Family Hub on 09/10/2025

Meadowfield on 27/10/2025

Bishop Auckland on 28/10/2025

To find exact locations and book onto a clinic please call 0333 358 3397 Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm.

Reception Local Walk

Next Wednesday, 8th October 2025, Reception class will be walking into town to take notice of some of its special features; Barnard Castle, the Buttermarket, church, the Bowes Museum, the River Tees etc. Parents/carers/family members are welcome. They aim to leave school at 9.30am and return before 11.45am. If you would like to come along please let Miss Lauder know.

Year 3 Local History Walk

On Thursday afternoon Year 3 will go on a Local History Walk around Barnard Castle, looking for clues of the past and learning more about the mills, housing and living conditions during Victorian times.

Durham Trainee Teacher

You may be aware that for the last few years we have taken trainee teachers from Durham University and support them on their journey to become a teacher. Next week we welcome Miss Palmer to school and she begins a placement until Christmas alongside Mrs Channell in Year 6.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body. If you are interested in being involved and would like more information about the role, please contact me or our Chair, Mrs Sarah O'Doherty. Sarah can be contacted after 5pm on s.odoherty400@montalboschool.org.uk or 07970422813.

Parking around school

We recognise the volume of traffic at drop off and pick up street on the neighbouring streets which is why we have the soft start from 8.30-8.45am and continue to promote walking, biking or scootering to school. If you do need to drive, please park considerately (not blocking paths, not parking on the corners or junctions, not blocking driveways etc) which will help keep all of our school community and residents safe. Our PCSO will be visiting the surrounding streets in the coming days and weeks.

Sporting Competitions

On Friday last week 10 children from Year 5 played basketball against several local teams and did a great job!

On Monday Year 6 played Handball against Green Lane and Middleton, with each school splitting into several teams and playing in leagues. Our red team enjoyed the most success, finishing second. All of the children did well in this new sport – well done Year 6!

Y6 Visit

As part of the Year 6 World War II History topic, Mrs Channell has arranged for the children to visit an exhibition at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle on Friday October 17th. Please see ParentPay for details on costings and Mrs Channell's letter for further information. Thank you.

Reception Places for September 2026

The window for applications for Reception school places for children due to start school in September 2026 will close on January 15th 2026. School Admissions at the Local Authority organise this. Please see further information [here](#).

Attendance

This week's attendance figures are below. Well done Year 3

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	96.7
Year 1	96.7
Year 2	97.9
Year 3	98.6
Year 4	97.7
Year 5	94.7
Year 6	96
Whole School	96.9

Dates for the Diary

October 8 th	Reception Local Walk
October 9 th	Individual and Siblings Photographs
October 9 th	Year 3 Local History Walk
October 15 th	Turn Barney Pink Day and Run
October 17 th	Year 6 visit to the Discovery Museum
October 20 th	Multi Skills (Y5 full class) at Staindrop
October 21 st	Kurling and Boccia (Y2 full class) at Bishop Auckland College
October 21 st - 22 nd	Parents' Evenings

October 22 nd - 24 th	Halloween Discos
October 24 th	Tag Rugby (12 Y3 children)
October 27 th - 31 st	Half term holidays
November 3 rd	Children return to school
November 21 st	Dance Off
November 27 th	Christmas Fayre
December 5 th	Reception Nativity (pm)
December 10 th	Nursery Christmas Singalong (pm)
December 10th	Christmas Lunch
December 12 th	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Carol Concert and Christmas Jumper Day
December 15 th	Reception-Y6 to the pantomime at The Witham
December 16 th	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (pm and evening)
December 17 th -19 th	Christmas Parties
December 22 nd -Jan 2 nd	Christmas Holidays
January 5 th	Children return to school

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher

Please see the QR code for the School Lottery. The more players we have, the more we raise for the school and the bigger the prize fund.

