



January 30th 2026

Mrs McIntyre

Today was a bittersweet day as Mrs McIntyre, Team Monty Legend, retired. We are delighted she can spend more time on the things she loves to do, but sad that she is leaving. Mrs Mc has worked at the school for more than 40 years, joining in 1981. This dedication and loyalty to our school is incredible and we all feel so lucky to have worked with her for many years. Mrs Mc worked with me in my first class here when I joined in 2014 as Deputy Head Teacher and it is fair to say there's been a lot of changes she has witnessed. My first class here was a class of eighteen Y5/6 children – ten Y6s and eight Year 5s! In that year I soon recognised what an incredible asset she was to the school: so knowledgeable, nurturing and encouraging.

When she first joined Montalbo, Mrs Mc worked in Nursery when it first opened and later moved around the school as various classroom additions were made. Mrs Mc has worked with a number of children with additional needs, groups of children and classes and supported them brilliantly over many years.

As well as supporting so many Montalbo children and families, Mrs Mc has been such a valued member of Team Monty. It is fair to say you need a good sense of humour to enjoy working here, which she has in abundance! Mrs Mc has been an excellent Strictly judge for example, and her love of dancing is well known and spectacular at staff nights out!

Our children looked fabulous in their 1980s inspired outfits and I know Mrs Mc will leave with so many great memories, from working with our children and staff past and present. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her enormously for her contributions.

Mrs McIntyre is overwhelmed by the gifts, cards and kind words from children, parents, staff and governors and is very grateful.

A busy final week for Mrs Mc!

The Year 2s have had an exciting week in which they have been out of school on two occasions. Firstly, they attended a sporting festival at Barnard Castle School where they got to try many different sports. When the children returned to school, they could not wait to tell me all about it!

Yesterday, as part of their Geography work, they completed a traffic survey, which was not easy in the weather! Well done Year 2!

Sportshall Athletics

When I taught Year 5/6, Sportshall Athletics was one of my favourite sporting events and I know our Year 5 children will enjoy it next Friday, February 6th.

Change to Valentine's Disco Dates

As we have just been sent details of a swimming gala for some Key Stage 2 children, we need to rearrange the Year 5 and 6 Disco and swap it with EYFS and Year 1 and 2's date. Year 5 and 6 disco will now be on February 11th and EYFS/Year 1 and 2 now on February 13th. Year 3 and 4s date stays on February 12th.

Nursery Grab a Grown Up Event

Please see Mrs Lomax's Weduc post with details of the Grab a Grown Up session for Nursery parents/carers.

WOW Poster Entries

Thank you to the children who have designed a poster for the walk to school challenge. Please send any completed designs back to school by February 24th.

Safer Internet Day

On February 10th we will be marking Safer Internet Day by working on some information to share with you toward the end of the school day. Classes 1 to 6 would like to invite you to school at 2.55pm to give you some important online safety messages. Early Years will share their information via Weduc.

Arbor

Thank you to the parents/carers who have logged into Arbor. It is very important that everyone does this as eventually all our messages, bookings and payments will come through this. Please see below if you have not yet logged on. Well done to our year 4 parents/carers for navigating the system to book their earlier Parents Evening slots. **Next week the slots for the rest of the school will go live so it is important you do log on.** We now have 94% of parents/carers on Arbor!

Log in Details for the first time you use Arbor

1. Go to: <https://montalbo-nursery-and-primary-school.uk.arbor.education> (you must do this from a browser not the app)
2. Click on "[First Time Logging in?](#)", and this will take you through the initial steps of logging in - please ensure you use your email we have for you on our school system
3. Once complete, please then download the 'Arbor Parent App' from your play store and log in with your new password

Any problems, please contact the office. Please log in as soon as possible so we can help you quickly if you had any difficulties with the process.

Useful Information to book clubs (Breakfast & Afterschool Care)

To book clubs (Breakfast and Afterschool) you will be required to top up your payment accounts in advance which can be done now by clicking on 'Payments' - debts & credits from Parent Pay have now been transferred across!

To book Breakfast Club & Afterschool Club, club on 'Clubs'. Select which club you require and click on register for this club, you will then select what days / hours you require

Tax Free Childcare (TFC) Payers

People who pay by TFC vouchers will be required to book their sessions from Mon 2nd March on the Arbor App - You will no longer receive a 'booking form' to complete. When making your booking please select 'Pay by voucher' - Mrs Teasdale will then credit the voucher off your Arbor account when she receives this on our bank statement.

Please see attached links to some useful guides from Arbor

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360020147458-Getting-started-Log-into-Parent-Portal-and-Arbor-App>

https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/212097029-A-quick-introduction-to-Arbor-for-guardians-and-parents#h_01HAPC98YPK9K3K74KOCT3M9PH

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/203792102-Booking-Guardian-Consultations-Parent-s-Evenings-on-the-Parent-Portal-or-Parent-App>

Attendance-

This week and term's attendance figures are below. Well done Year 1!

Class	Attendance this week (%)
Reception	90
Year 1	98.6
Year 2	88.2
Year 3	96.4
Year 4	98
Year 5	94
Year 6	88.2
Whole School	93.3%

Dates for the Diary

February 2 nd	Nursery Grab a Grown Up Event
February 3 rd	Year 4 Parents/Carers Evening
February 6 th	Sportshall Athletics at Teesdale Leisure Centre (all Year 5)
February 10 th	Safer Internet Day (parent/carer invited from 2.55pm)
February 11 th	Years 5 and 6 Valentine's Disco
February 12 th	Years 3 and 4 Valentine's Disco
February 13 th	EYFS/Years 1 and 2 Valentine's Disco
February 13 th	Swimming gala (selected Key Stage 2 children)
February 17 th	Dance Event Barnard Castle School (all Year 3)
February 17 th and 18 th	Parents/Carers Evenings
February 19 th	Multi-skills at Staindrop Academy (all Y1)
February 23 rd – 27 th	Half Term
March 2 nd	Children return to school
March 20 th	Badminton Y5/6 (2 teams)
March 23 rd	Multi-skills (all Y6) Staindrop Academy
March 25 th	Football Y2 at Staindrop Academy
March 27 th	Girls Football Y4-6 at St Johns
March 30 th	Orienteering at Staindrop (all Y4)
March 31 st	Tennis at Parkside (all Y3)
March 31 st	Years 3 and 4 School Play 6pm
April 1 st	Years 3 and 4 School Play 6pm
April 1 st	Multi-skills (all Reception)
April 3 rd – 17 th	Easter Holiday
April 20 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.

