

MONTGOMERY

INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY



Friday 21st March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,



The amalgamation of Montgomery Infant and Junior school is in the final stages of approval and will take place in September 2025. The school will then become one primary school: Montgomery Primary School. All branded items, such as jumpers and cardigans, will have the new name embroidered on the badge, but we will not be asking parents to replace the current items until the children grow out of them. The other major difference is that there will be no requirement for Year 2 parents to apply for places in Year 3 for September 2026, which will be a welcome change. Once the final approval has been granted, we will send out further information.

We are starting to prepare for our September intakes and have sent out a Google Form to all parents who have expressed an interest in our 'outstanding' nursery. If your name is not on our list, please contact the school office as soon as possible so that we can register your interest. Spaces are limited.

For our Reception and Year 3 admissions, the application window has now passed so any late applications need to be made via Essex Admissions - <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-school-places>

On Monday 31st March and Tuesday 1st April, the Year 2 children will go to Fingrinhoe Nature Reserve for their school trip for a 'bushcraft and nature' day; please ensure you have returned your child's slip and donation as soon as possible so that we have the correct staffing ratios in place.

Due to the incredible progress made by our Year 2 Front Row musicians, their teacher feels that they are able to perform in the Spring term musical concert at the Junior School on Tuesday 25th March, in the afternoon at 2:15pm. We are organising the Year Two groups, so that any children, whose parent would like them to perform on Tuesday, can take part in the Fingrinhoe trip on Monday. Parents and carers of Front Row musicians are invited to attend the concert. Please go along to the Junior School Office to sign in on the afternoon.



We are delighted to be able to offer all Reception children the chance to have a 'stay and play' session in school on Thursday 27th March from 3:15-4:00pm. A letter has been sent home today with a consent form attached. Please return the form by Tuesday afternoon so we can calculate our staffing ratios accordingly.

Mrs Wright – Interim Headteacher



Dates for your diary

Monday 24th March—Cat and Yeti class Forest School sessions

Tuesday 25th March—Nursery and Sunshine Room Forest School Sessions

Thursday 27th March—Reception After School Taster session, 3.15-4pm (Reply slip required)

Monday 31st March/Tuesday 1st April—Year 2 Trips to Fingrinhoe Wick Nature Discovery Centre

Break up for Easter—Friday 4th April. Early Finish of **1.30pm** on this date.

Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April—Easter Holidays

Tuesday 22nd April—Non-Pupil day

Wednesday 23rd April—Children return to school

Weekly clubs

The following clubs will run in the Spring Term:

Monday:

Front row music lessons, Year 2 (during the school day)

Football, Year 1 —Colchester United, 3.15-4.15

Dance, Year 1 and 2—Carol Gale school of dance, 3.15-4.15pm—

Tuesday:

Military club, Year 1 and 2, 3.15-4.15

Wednesday:

Gymnastics, Year 2—SCS, 3.15-4.15

Friday :

Cricket, Years 1 and 2— Chance to Shine Cricket Coaching, 3.15-4.15

Dinner Menu

Dinner menu week beginning **Monday 24th March** will be the **Week 2** menu, from the Winter 2024/25 Menu.

Please note that on Week 2, Tuesday, the dessert will now be pancakes served with maple syrup and bananas

Our menus can be found online [here](https://www.montgomery-inf.essex.sch.uk). Paper copies are available from the foyer by the school office.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese
Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese	Spaghetti Bolognese
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Reminder—End of Term Early Finish

Friday 4th April



As we do at the end of each school term, we will be finishing early on **Friday 4th April**. Collection time will be **1.30pm** on this date.

Please ensure that you have made any necessary arrangements for your child to be collected at **1.30pm** on this date.

Reception After School Club Taster Session

Thursday 27th March 3.15-4pm

A letter has been sent home today to our Reception pupils, inviting them to attend an After School Club taster session on Thursday 27th March from 3.15-4pm. Please return the reply slip by Tuesday 25th March if you would like your Reception child to attend.

Reporting your child's absence from school due to illness

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please inform us by calling the absence line on 01206 570231 and selecting option 2. Please clearly state your child's name and class and the reason for their absence. Please leave a message on each day of your child's absence.

It is important to clearly inform us of the symptoms of your child's illness, in order for us to determine how to record their absence. We are unable to authorise any absence where the reason stated is not specific, such as the pupil had a bad night, is tired, is unwell, is under the weather, is not 100 percent or is not themselves. These phrases do not indicate an authorised illness.

We follow the NHS guidelines below, to help us determine whether an absence should be authorised. Children can still attend school with minor ailments such as coughs, colds, aches and sore throats. You can let us know if your child is experiencing any of these symptoms and we will always contact you if your child is unable to manage the school day.

More NHS information is available here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Nursery Spaces—September 2025

Our Nursery is part of our Ofsted Outstanding EYFS provision, and a great start to a child's Montgomery journey. We will soon begin the process of allocating Nursery Spaces for the Autumn Term.



We have 3 Nursery classes:

Unicorn—Morning sessions, Monday to Friday, 8.45-11.45am

Bear—Afternoon sessions, Monday to Friday, 12.15-3.15pm

Owl—Full day sessions, Monday to Friday, 8.45am –3.15pm

If you have a pre-school aged child who will turn 4 between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026, and you would be interested in a space in our Nursery, please contact the school office for an application form.

For those families already on the waiting list, we will soon be sending out a google form for you to complete—Please keep an eye on your email inboxes, as these emails can sometimes land in junk folders.

More information about our Nursery structure and our admissions criteria can be found on the 'Nursery' tab of the school website:

<https://www.montgomery-inf.essex.sch.uk/nursery/>

Celebration assembly awards

Each week we hold a celebration assembly for the children who have been selected by their class teacher for a 'Monty Achiever' award, writing award, reading award or Maths award. An email is sent to the parents of these pupils earlier in the week, inviting them to attend the assembly on a Friday Morning to share in their child's moment.



During the Friday assembly we also announce the weekly 'Dojo stars'. Dojo's are the daily reward system we use for positive learning moments, actions and behaviours. The weekly winners are only generated just before the assembly, allowing us to take account of *all* the Dojos earned by the children during the week. Therefore, we are unable to invite parents of Dojo certificate winners in for the assembly. Mrs Clarke explains to the children each week that this is our surprise moment, where we all find out together who the 'Dojo Stars' are.

