



5th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome you back to what promises to be another exciting school year at Montem Academy! Last year, was a very productive year at Montem. The School Council arranged two family trips, which were well received; pupils in Year 5 took part in a new initiative, 'The Adventure Challenge Service', and our maths and sporting superstars won an array of trophies both at Federation and County level.

As a school, our SATs results in Key stage 1 and in Key Stage 2 continue to be in line with the national average. However, as a school we recognise the need to improve our reading results. Being a confident reader at a young age is key to future success. Therefore, the school will be introducing a range of strategies to support reading and reading across the curriculum, in order to promote a love of reading.

We are incredibly excited about the forthcoming year, as we believe that it promises to be filled with even more golden opportunities for all of our children as we strive to find ways that we can be even better than we have before! As we begin this new year, we aim to provide learning experiences that are engaging, meaningful and memorable, whilst ensuring that all children reach their full potential. We will therefore be:

- providing a wider range of extra-curricular activities.
- providing pupils with more opportunities to work within the wider community.
- securing our own mini bus so that we can provide our pupils with a wider range of learning experiences.

Last year, there were a number of exciting and significant changes at Montem Academy including the amazing MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and the new tarmac playgrounds and footpaths. I am delighted to inform you that further changes continued during the Summer Holiday with extensive improvements being carried out to school building and grounds. It is the aim of Montem Academy to provide our children with an excellent learning environment which will have a positive impact on their learning, physical development and well-being. These improvements included:

- New Year 6 Canteen and hall extension for dance and drama: **£250,000**
- Windsor Gardens reading and learning area: **£15,000**
- Refurbished Key Stage 1 toilets for boys and girls: **£20,000**
- New fire doors in Key Stage 1: **£30,000**

I would personally like to say a very big thank you to Mr Hendry and Mr Croft who worked throughout the summer to ensure that the school was ready and looking at its best for the pupils on their first day back. These improvements and the investments made in these projects, demonstrates the Park Federation's commitment to providing the children and families of Montem Academy with a first class learning environment.

In addition to these improvements, we have also purchased resources to support the teaching and learning in the classroom. These include:

- “Singapore Maths” resources : **£40,000**
- “Read, Write Inc” phonics resources: **£15,000**
- New Geography and History text books: **£5,000**
- New reading books: **£5,000**

During this academic year, we will continue to build upon and refine our foundation of good work and look forward to a very positive and productive year together! We extend a special, yearlong invitation to our parents to join us at school activities and events whenever you can. Because we value your involvement and support, we are introducing a new initiative called ‘Welcome Wednesday.’ Welcome Wednesday’s will provide you with the opportunity to come in to school to watch a lesson being taught to your child. In addition to this, the school will be providing parent workshops to demonstrate to you how you can help support your child at home.

Please also know that we highly value home/school communication here at Montem Academy. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student’s success. Please do not hesitate to contact us if/when the need arises. We will do likewise. We want and encourage our parents to be actively involved and to be well informed in their child’s education

Here’s to a FABULOUS new school year . . . and to making each day better than the one before!!

Yours sincerely

Ms. A. Probert
Principal