



# THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 12

October 2010



## Message from the Head of College

The first half term has gone very quickly and the new Year 7 students are already a significant part of the College. They enjoyed their team-building experience at MEPAL earlier this term and you can read more about this on page 4.

My 'Welcome Back' letter in September focused on our recent conversion to Academy status and the excellent examination results in both GCSE and A Level. Intervention work is already underway with our current GCSE and A Level cohorts to ensure they achieve similar success and reach their potential in this academic year.

Our 'Outstanding' Ofsted and excellent examination results culminated in our Year 6 intake evening earlier this month being as popular as ever with an estimated 1,000 visitors on site. Our students and staff showcased the College in an excellent way and students in particular are to be thanked and congratulated on a superb effort.

Please enjoy this edition of The Voice and also find the time to take a look at our new College website which also focuses on news and important events.



## The Bistro Experience

"The latest Bistro Experience on 7 October was another successful evening with a superb menu devised by Steve (Cucina Chef) in liaison with the 7 new students involved. Our diners included guests who had been to previous evenings and couldn't resist another delicious outing, as well as some first time diners who had seen our reviews and joined our mailing list. Our next three Bistro Evenings will be on: Thursday 10 March, Wednesday 11 May and Thursday 23 June. If you would like to attend on one of these occasions, or to provisionally book a table, email [s.nash@arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:s.nash@arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk) We look forward to seeing you soon".



## SANTA IS COMING EARLY TO GLINTON



The Arthur Mellows Association (AMA) is holding a Christmas Fair bursting with mince pie goodness on Saturday 27 November from 11.00 am until 4.00 pm in the main College building.

There will be a table-top sale from a variety of sellers, from Christmas cakes to antique riches, vintage linen and bottles, festive activities to amuse the children and a home-made cake stall to tempt your taste buds. Please note, any offers of cakes or knitted items will be gratefully received from any of you budding Nigella Lawson cooks or avid knitters.

**Mrs R Lee**

## Key Dates next term

Break up for Half Term	Friday 22 October
Half Term	25—29 October
Term resumes	Monday 1 November
Y10 Work Experience Evening	Wednesday 3 November
Eastern Angles Theatre Company	Tuesday 9 November
Academic Day	Thursday 11 November
Sixth Form Open Evening*	Wednesday 17 November *
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	Monday 22 November
Strange Face Theatre Co Evening	Wednesday 24 November
AMA Christmas Fair	Saturday 27 November
AMVC 'Xmas Factor'	Tuesday 7 December
Year 13 Parents' Evening	Monday 13 December 2010
Year 11 Mock Exam Results Day	Thursday 16 December
Christmas Concert	Thursday 16 December
Term Ends	Friday 17 December

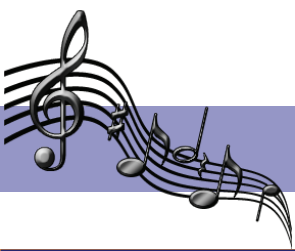
\* Denotes change of date from last edition of The Voice



## Academic Day—Important Note

Academic Day takes place on 11 November. If you have not yet returned your reply slip confirming your appointment time please could this be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

*Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture*



# COLLEGE NEWS



## Introducing the new Head of Music ~ Mrs Hammond

Hello to everyone! I would like to introduce myself to you, as I am new to Arthur Mellows, and have the exciting job of leading the Music department!

Since I started at Arthur Mellows, I have been made very welcome by both staff and students, and I am so impressed by the musical potential of students at the College! I am very excited for the future!

I have been leading a Music Department for fifteen years, mainly in Dagenham in Essex. I love teaching music, as it is a chance for all students to express themselves, and often to discover a skill they did not know they had!

I love all areas of music, but I have a couple of areas that I want to develop at Arthur Mellows. The first is Music Technology. Over the summer, we have been fortunate to have a brand new music technology suite created in the Music Department. We are now teaching A Level Music Technology, and all of our GCSE students are using the software

to improve their GCSE coursework! All students will get to use this fantastic resource over the coming year.

Another area that I am passionate about is singing. I would like to see all students enjoy singing. It is such a big part of all of our lives, with shows like "X-Factor" really promoting singing. Since I have started at the College I have started a Junior Choir, which in addition to our existing Senior Choir means that all students have the opportunity to sing. A very exciting event will be taking place later in this term when we run our very own "Arthur Mellows – "Xmas Factor" competition" (Watch this space!!)

Longer term, I would like to see Arthur Mellows become a centre for musical excellence. I would like to see creativity and students aiming to achieve higher standards within class music lessons, and I want to see our orchestras, bands and choirs thrive and become a leading force in the borough! We certainly have the talent, so with the right opportunities, who knows how far we could reach!



## Year 10 Geography Trip to Hunstanton

On 7 October, Year 10 went to Hunstanton to complete their GCSE fieldwork exercise. After a week of rain the sun came out and we were able to get down to recording data to assess the importance of the sea in shaping the Hunstanton coastline. One group started on the sand dunes looking at plants and evidence of human activity, which was not too difficult given the beach huts, whilst the other group were busy measuring slope angles, pebbles and sea defences at New Hunstanton. Excellent progress was made by the students with a number of individuals showing leadership potential in keeping the rest of their team on task.

In the afternoon, the two groups swapped over, stopping to observe the crumbling, colourful cliffs and admiring the wide open views produced at low tide. Both sets of students stuck to their task well, measuring somewhere in the region of 200 pebbles each. This will enable them to see how the sea moves pebbles along the beach at the same time as wearing them down. The speed of work also meant there was time for an ice-cream before getting back on the bus with plenty of data for their controlled assessment projects.

**Mr A Barrett**



# COLLEGE NEWS

## The European Day of Languages at Arthur Mellows ~ Friday 24 September 2010

There are over 6000 languages spoken in the world, and behind each and every one of them lies a rich and diverse culture. That's what the European Day of Languages aims to celebrate - by showing people across Europe how important languages are, and what fun can be had learning them. Here at the College, the Languages Department was visited by Year 6 students from Barnack, Ginton, Newborough and Helpston primary schools, who enjoyed taster sessions in both French and German and a very tricky European Quiz. The children participated in interactive games and activities and in just one morning could name items of clothing, animals and numbers in two different languages. The language teachers were very lucky to be assisted by some helpful Sixth Form students, who received payment in pain au chocolat! As well as all the fantastic language learning, the primary students also had time for a quick break in the Refectory with a croissant. For many, this was their first experience of language learning and of AMVC, both of which they all



found very positive and enjoyable. A great day was had by all and we are looking forward to next year.

Arthur Mellows Village College Presents...



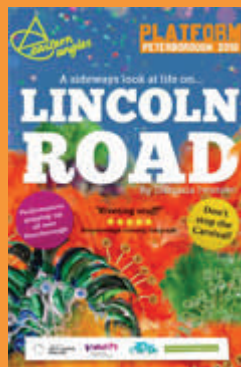
Auditions will take place between 1-10<sup>th</sup> November. (Lunch times) 12 finalists will be selected to perform in a live final on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Entry forms available from the music department

## AMVC Maths Team Challenge

Before we broke up for the summer, 30 gifted and talented students from Years 7 and 8 took part in the AMVC Maths Team Challenge. Teams of 4 students had to work together to solve problems and race to beat the other teams. It was extremely close in the end but the overall winners of the 2010 challenge were Team Newton - Lydia Jordan, Kelda McKnight, Harry Halfhide and Dylan Dhokia! We will now be using this challenge to decide on the team that will compete in the Regional Final of the Team Challenge next year.

## In November we are fortunate to have two touring theatre companies coming to perform at AMVC



Eastern Angles 'Lincoln Road'  
9 November 7.30 pm  
College Auditorium  
£7.00 per ticket

Based on interviews with Peterborough's Italian, Pakistani, Polish and Afro Caribbean communities, Lincoln Road contains a host of stories, some heart-breakingly sad, others tender and very funny. Tickets may be purchased from [easternangles.co.uk](http://easternangles.co.uk), telephone: 01473 211498.

Strange Face Theatre Company  
'A Christmas Carol'  
24 November 7.30 pm  
College Main Hall  
£6.50 per ticket



Strangeface present an extraordinary adaptation of Charles Dickens classic

Christmas ghost story. A heady cocktail of eccentric masks, wild puppets, and live music chills the spine and warms the heart. The enduring tale of skinflint Scrooge is moving and comic in equal measure and a perfectly memorable Christmas indulgence. This festive performance is suitable for all but the very young (7+) and includes the company's ever-popular backstage tour. Tickets available from the College Finance Office (01733 252235)

For further details see <http://www.strangeface.co.uk/>  
**R Wentworth, Drama Department**

**Health and Safety Policy**—The College's Health and Safety Policy has been placed on the College website. All students and parents are invited to read the Policy and ensure they are particularly familiar with section 4E. Any queries on Health and Safety should be referred to Mr R Yemc.

# COLLEGE NEWS

**Shakespeare**  
**Schools Festival**

**2010<sup>TH</sup>**  
Anniversary  
Festival



On the evening of 12 October, an intrepid band of Years 9 and 10 students saw weeks of (very) hard work come to fruition at the Key Theatre as they performed their adaptation of William Shakespeare's "Measure For Measure". The performance was part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival, a nationwide celebration of The Bard's works, in which 650 schools across the UK perform abridged versions of Shakespeare's plays.

Our performance evening also featured shows from Ormiston Bushfield Academy and the Thomas Deacon Academy who performed "The Taming of The Shrew" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" respectively. The evening was a tremendous success with all schools presenting imaginative and engaging versions of these classic plays.

Our own performance was of "Measure for Measure", one of Shakespeare's lesser known plays. It is a dark tale of treachery and blackmail; a corrupt leader seeks to force a virtuous young maid into giving up her virginity in order to save her brother. The level of maturity and skill shown by our students in successfully staging such a challenging play should not be underestimated and the reactions from the audience were overwhelmingly positive.

The students involved have taken a huge amount from studying Shakespeare in performance, engaging with the language in the way that it was supposed to be enjoyed. They gave up lunchtime after lunchtime, evening after evening and worked incredibly hard to bring language and ideas from centuries ago to life and we are incredibly proud of them.

The students involved were: Harjeevan Bisla, Nicola Evans-Reid, Josh Ferguson, Daniel Grant, Shannon Hamey, Heather Hayes-Bowlzer, Dominique Mallabar, Libby Polkey, Maia Reid, Rosie Reynolds, Liam Savine, Ellie Simpson, Lauren Woods

With special thanks to Kourtney Haw in Year 13 for all her help and support in the build up to the show.

***Mr Norris and Miss Kavanagh (show directors)***

## Year 7 Team Building Days

"It is awesome!" This was one of the many enthusiastic comments I heard during the Year 7 Team Building Activity at MEPAL, near Chatteris, at the end of September. The students were accompanied by their Head of Year, Tutors and Support staff. They had a great time making new friends whilst learning new skills. They took part in a variety of activities – archery, rock climbing, high ropes, kayaking and raft building. Through team work some of them overcame their fear of heights and became more confident in water. It was a very positive experience and great fun.

***Mrs Deasy, Head of Year 7***



***Produced by Mr B Zaidi (Media Teacher) and Mrs D Sanderson (PA to Head of College)  
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