



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 27

April 2013



Message from the Head of College

This edition is slightly later than usual as we wanted to provide a bumper edition taking into account events that were happening close to the end of the last half term, particularly our annual Presentation Evening where Louis Smith MBE was our Guest Speaker. For details on this extremely successful event, please see pages 4 and 5.

The external examination season is now almost upon us and students have been working extremely hard in the run up to both GCSE and A Level examinations. A large amount of additional revision sessions, both in the Easter holiday and at lunchtimes and after school, have been taking place and students are certainly making the most of all opportunities in order to maximise their performance. Year 11 have also been issued with a Revision Guide, providing useful notes for individual subjects as well as overall tips for revision generally.

The back page of the Voice this time has been dedicated to 'getting to know the Governing Body'. In future editions, further information will be provided on the work of the Governing Body and the various committee work that takes place.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Voice and that all parents and students had a restful Easter break.

M Sandeman

Key Dates next half term

Term resumed	Tuesday 16 April 2013
Year 7 Parents' Evening 'A'	Monday 22 April 2013
Cucina Bistro Evening	Thursday 25 April 2013
Year 7 Parents' Evening 'B'	Monday 29 April 2013
Cinema Night	Thursday 9 May 2013
Sweat the Technique	Thursday 9 May 2013
Examinations commence	Monday 13 May 2013
<i>Half Term</i>	<i>Monday 27 May 2013 to Friday 31 May 2013</i>
Term resumes	Monday 3 June 2013

PARKING AND TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS



In order that we can maintain good relationships with our neighbours, could we politely ask all parents to park considerately, avoiding the pavement, so that access for pedestrians and pushchairs does not become an issue.

Please note that there is a **20 mph speed limit** along the Helpston Road and parking restrictions do apply.

NO PARKING

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

KEY STAGE 4 UNIFORM

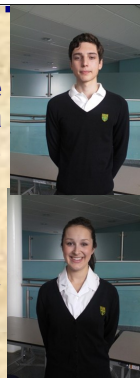
Parents may remember that in September 2012 we introduced the variation in uniform for Key Stage 4 of a black jumper / cardigan and for the girls, a white blouse. At the time this change was not compulsory but an option for parents and students if they wished to adopt the new styles. The change in style and colour for **Key Stage 4 only** has proved extremely popular with students, and therefore, for those students going through into Key Stage 4 this coming September, the variation of the black jumper / cardigan and white blouse will continue. It is expected that students in Years 10 and 11 next year will be wearing the new style uniform and that it will no longer be an option but a **compulsory** element of our uniform policy. This was advised in our original letter dated 23 May 2012.



I hope that parents agree that the new items are pleasing to the eye, represent good value for money and more importantly, afford the older students the status they so rightly deserve around the College.

Your support in helping us maintain our uniform standards is very much appreciated.

By Mr Kennedy, Assistant Headteacher



AMAZON WARD PETERBOROUGH CITY HOSPITAL

On Wednesday 6 February 2013, the Sixth Form Health and Social students swapped the classroom for a tour of the Amazon Ward in Peterborough Hospital. They were given a guided tour by the play therapy team. It was fascinating to see all the ways in which staff try to create a positive experience for the children.

Mrs Blackmore hopes it will give the students some career ideas.

By Mrs Blackmore, Health and Social Teacher



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Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS

BIOLOGY CHALLENGE

This year we entered some of our Year 10 students into the UK Biology Challenge competition. The aim of the competition is to encourage an interest in Biology beyond the school curriculum and to act as a junior version of the British Biology Olympiad, which is part of a wider international competition.

Certificate winners are still to be announced by The Society of Biology but the highest scoring students, at the College, were Rebecca McTrustery and Dylan Dhokia who both scored 100 out of 120.

The 10 top performers were:

Rebecca McTrustery - 10DWA, Dylan Dhokia - 10LED, Tyler Widnall - 10LMC, Kyle Widnall - 10DWA, James Green - 10MTU, Hester Baird - 10SWA, Joshua Chan - 10MTU, Harry Halfhide - 10IDI, Anna Wood - 10MTU and Natasha Ribakovs - 10ASH.

By Mrs Benton, Science Teacher



CLASSROOM MEDICS

On the Friday 22 February, Year 9 were invited to a science workshop called Classroom Medics. The instructors who ran the workshop taught us about things like heart rates, amounts of oxygen in our blood and intubation. The workshop gave us an insight into what goes on behind closed doors in the medical profession.

One of the things that they brought in with them was a life-size mechanical human dummy called Stan. Stan could do things that most humans could do; talk, blink, breath and have heart attacks! They also brought in other equipment we could use, such as a camera that could take a picture of the back of our eyes and an endoscope. We even got to take blood from a model arm.

It was an amazing experience and I really enjoyed it.

By Adelaide Hunt, 9VWA



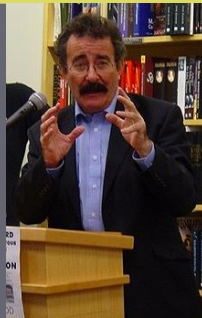
SCIENCE CHALLENGE

Year 12 student, Jennifer Thorpe, is turning in to a great role model for our students at the College. Not only has she been voted by her peers in Peterborough to be Deputy Youth MP for the city, she also recently came second in a National Schools Science competition organised by the Imperial College London.

Jennifer submitted an essay to answer the question "Is public debate a good forum for discussing issues such as climate change." She was awarded second place and invited to the House of Lords for a presentation evening hosted by students and senior staff from the Imperial College. The prize itself was presented by Lord Robert Winston who also gave the finalists a tour of the House of Lords and took the time to speak to each of the finalists, including Jennifer, throughout the evening. Jennifer said "We saw Charles I's death warrant, a copy of the Magna Carta and the room in which the Queen prepares for the State Opening of Parliament."

Jennifer is hoping to study Geography, History or International Relations at University. She said "Climate change is a subject I am really passionate about and this essay gave me the opportunity to research further into the science behind climate change but also the economic and political factors that occur when faced with the issue of combatting it."

By Mrs Benton, Tutor and Science Teacher



EARTH HOUR

Every Year on 23 March at 8.30 pm the WWF hold "Earth Hour" – an hour of switching all lights off, instigated to raise awareness of conservation and our population's carbon footprint. The hour of darkness is meant to be symbolic, as well as to show how just one hour can have a huge effect on the amount of energy used in a day. At Arthur Mellows we decided that we would like to take part in Earth Hour, and hopefully raise awareness of both the event and its cause.

On Friday 22 March, over lunch break, 11x1 Biology class led by Mrs Benton decided to hold an Earth Hour event.

The Glow in the dark dodge ball took place in the Main Hall with a team of Teachers versus a team from 11x1. The team sold Glow sticks and other glow in the dark accessories to spectators who came to watch the game. After 3 intense rounds, the teachers emerged as victors 3-nil; clearly the students were taking it easy on them. Overall the event raised £115.00, and introduced a lot of students and teachers to the event; hopefully encouraging many of them to take part in the global event on Saturday 23 March 2013. The amount of energy saved in the single hour was phenomenal. Our goal of raising awareness was met, and we look forward to taking part in the event in the future.

By Rosie Reynolds, 11MRI



COLLEGE NEWS

BATTLEFIELDS

On Thursday 21 March 2013, a coach full of excited Year 9 students set off from Arthur Mellows to our destination, Ypres (pronounced 'Wipers' by British troops). During this trip our knowledge, understanding and emotion grew.

Our guide Neil was incredible. He told us, in detail, everything about World War I, from deaths to statues to flowers. One story he shared was about a very unfortunate soldier who was riding his bike. He had his metal helmet on so he thought he was safe, but he was hit by a piece of shrapnel half an inch below his helmet. He died instantly, yet he carried on his bike for 3 more rotations until he toppled over. This was a true story taken from a letter written by an eye witness soldier, writing home to his mum.

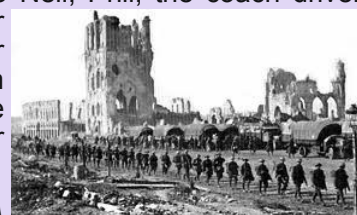
We visited the biggest British cemetery in Belgium. The scale really took my breath away as, not only were there this many graves, but each one represents a young man with a mother, a father maybe a wife and children. The graves were clean and spaced out with individual white headstones. However, the comparison between the British and German cemeteries was shocking. German cemeteries were dull, grey, dark

places with 4 or 5 soldiers to a headstone; cramped into a small piece of land, tennis court size, were 25,000 soldiers alone. Even though Germany invaded Belgium, the men deserved to be remembered. Neil, however, also told us that Adolf Hitler himself had stood where we were in that cemetery just 73 years before. Old photos showed the place had not changed. Oh, what a chilling thought.

On the second day we visited a very special place called Talbot House. During the war the soldiers would come here when their duties were relieved. Here they could drink, be entertained and, above all, it provided shelter from the battle. We all had a hot cup of tea and a warm welcome.

Finally, as the saying goes 'All good things must come to an end' including trips. This meant that on Sunday 24 March 2013, we were heading home. We had to say a huge 'thank you' to Neil, Phil, the coach driver and, above all, Mr Pepper and his team for organising such an incredible trip; one we shall surely remember for a very long time.

By Martha Young, 9VVA



NORWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 6 students at Norwood Primary School have been studying Star Wars as their topic theme for the Spring term. This is a design and technology-based unit, in which children have been researching and designing their own wooden Star Wars toys. The end project which they are working towards is to make and finish their toy design.



Students researched Star Wars toys past and present and then went on to research existing designs for woodwork toys. Students chose an original design as a basis for their own work and used this to create patterns for their own project. They transferred the patterns onto MDF and created instructions for the project.

In order for children to accurately cut out their pattern pieces, the class paid a visit to Arthur Mellows in order to make use of their tools and equipment. Students were given a safety talk and guidance on how to use the coping saws and vices; they then spent time cutting out their own patterns with support from the adults and Mrs Watson.

Students will now complete their project by painting and assembling the toys, then writing up their work to evaluate the process and the end product. Visiting Arthur Mellows and using the equipment was an extremely worthwhile and valuable experience for the students, who do not get experience at using such tools in the primary school. Many of the children are hoping to attend Arthur Mellows in Year 7, so they thoroughly enjoyed visiting and carrying out work here.

By Mrs Watson, Head of Technology

PETERBOROUGH SECONDARY YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 NETBALL TOURNAMENT



A big well done to everyone who took part in the Year 7 and Year 8 Peterborough Secondary Schools Netball Tournament held at Arthur Mellows Village College on Tuesday 19 March 2013.

The event was very successful and was organised by the Higher Sports Leaders at the College: Jake Gardiner, Chris Walls, Josh Pople, Charlotte Harris and Lizzie Pacey.

The organisation involved in planning and hosting the event was substantial. Roles included contacting and liaising with schools, organising the order of play, score cards, collating results, contacting the local press and organising prizes for everyone who took part. We also managed to raise money for the Year 13 prom in selling refreshments. The stall was managed by Charlie Wing, Alice Beavis and Sian Jones.

Arthur Mellows got through to the semi-finals in both age groups but unfortunately were unable to get through to the finals this year.



Congratulations to this years' winners:

Year 7 winners: The Peterborough School
Year 8 winners: Thomas Deacon Academy

Well done and a big thank you to everyone who took part especially the teachers who made great umpires.

By Jake Gardiner, 13KGR and the HSLA team

COLLEGE NEWS

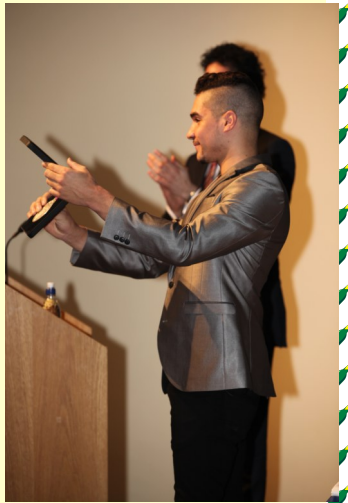
Louis Smith, MBE Visits Arthur Mellows Presentation Evening 2013

On Tuesday 26 March, Arthur Mellows Village College held its annual Presentation Evening, during which certificates and awards were presented to a representative number of students, indicative of real success achieved at all levels. It is a tradition that such successes have become an established expectation at Arthur Mellows.

Our guest speaker this year was the Olympic Medallist, Louis Smith. Louis was a student at Arthur Mellows between 2000 and 2007. His love affair with Gymnastics began at the age of 4. Suffering with ADHD as a child, Louis tried a variety of sports over a number of years giving him the opportunity to release his energy. It was Gymnastics that eventually captured his mind and at the age of 15 Louis secured his first major international title, becoming Junior European Champion in 2004. This was swiftly followed by a Commonwealth Gold medal in 2006 and then Olympic success in the form of a Bronze medal in Beijing in 2008 and more recently a Silver medal in London 2012.

As if the success of London 2012 wasn't enough, Louis captured the hearts and minds of the British public in his venture into Strictly Come Dancing. Along with his partner, Flavia Cacace, Louis lifted the Strictly Glitterball at the end of series 10, playing to his strength and his gymnastic talents to great effect, bringing the pommel horse moves to the dance floor in a thrilling show dance.

The College was extremely honoured that Louis found time in his busy schedule to be the Guest Speaker at this event.



Mike Sandeman, Head of College, said *"to have Louis Smith as our Guest Speaker contributed to the 'best ever' Presentation Evening. He is a truly inspirational person who was superb with the students he was presenting awards to. He ensured everyone had 'their moment of fame' and the College is extremely grateful to him for the time he gave up in his busy schedule."*

Academic results for the College are only one indication of success. In other areas, particularly sporting and cultural, many individuals and groups of students have been involved at all levels. Their participation resulted in a large number of awards

which reflected most positively upon themselves and the College. Our students show enthusiasm which is most creditable to themselves, their parents and the College staff who care for them.



Joseph Giggs

Shannon Dale



Lucy Moylan

Joseph Giggs, Lucy Moylan and Shannon Dale winning the award for Outstanding Progress.

Joseph, Lucy and Shannon have continued their studies into Sixth Form at Arthur Mellows.

COLLEGE NEWS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

Progress Award

Joseph Giggs
Lucy Moylan
Shannon Dale

English Language

Keanu Gee

English Literature

Amelia Haines-Eynon

English Language / Literature

Shannon Pardoe

Award in Media Studies

Modestas Visockas

Environmental Science

Sam Rollason

Physics

Emily Beales

Biology

Emily Beales

Chemistry

Luke Stalley

Mathematics

Tommy Huynh

Philosophy and Ethics

Lauren Davies

History

Ben Kruse

Geography

Amy Ptolomey

Travel and Tourism

Holly Cooper

General Studies

Jade Emery

Graphics

Rachel Taylor

Resistant Materials

Robert Shadbolt

Technology – Textiles

Megan Bill

The Karen Gribble Award for Art

Alexandria Clow

Food Technology

Robin Leaper

The Paula Whitfield Award for contributions to Drama

Hope Tarney-Peters

Business Studies

Joshua Lawes

Applied Business

Hannah Dundas

Health and Social Care

Victoria Howchin

ICT

Adam Short

Psychology

Siobhan Jones

Extended Project Qualification

Siobhan Jones

Sociology

Ben Kruse

The Neil Pengilley Award for Sport

Jo Longland

The Duncan Fleet Duke of Edinburgh Award

Amelia Haines-Eynon

Governors' Award for Outstanding GCSE Results

Georgia Lindley

Head Boy Award

Adam Dinatale

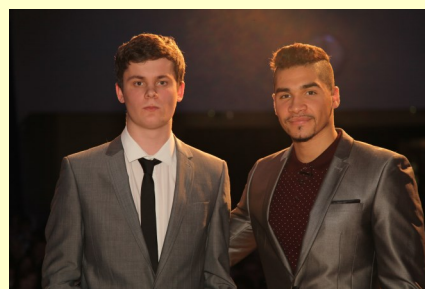
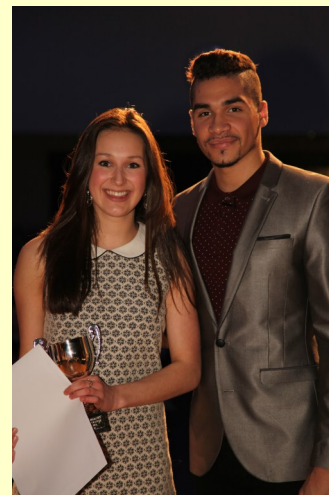
Head Girl Award

Emily Beales



Georgia Lindley accepting her Governors' Award for Outstanding GCSE results. Georgia is continuing her studies in the Sixth Form at Arthur Mellows.

Emily Beales accepting one of her awards. Emily is now studying medicine at the University of Birmingham.



Ben Kruse accepting one of his awards. Ben is now studying Sociology at Anglian Ruskin, Cambridge.

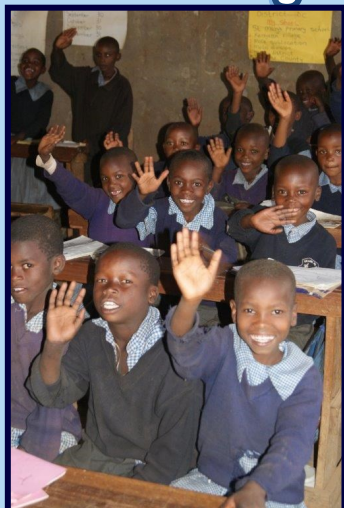


Siobhan Jones accepting one of her awards. Siobhan is now studying Primary Education at Bishop Grosseteste University.

All Presentation Evening photographs are available to view, or download, from the news gallery on the College website: www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

COLLEGE NEWS

Connecting Classrooms - Kenya Visit - February 2013



As part of Arthur Mellows plan to bring in an international dimension into school life, we have recently been able to set up links with schools in Kenya and Sudan; exciting times.

This has been something which Arthur Mellows has been hoping would be possible for around a year. However, recently all the plans have slotted into place and we were able to visit Kenya in

February half term. We had just enough time to get prepared and with us took presents, videos of lessons and textbooks donated by teachers in the College. We also received lots of gifts from students and staff including football shirts, stickers and stationery, which the Kenyan students absolutely loved. Thank you for your support!

The British Council led project, that Arthur Mellows is now part of, is called 'Connecting Classrooms' and aims to help share best teaching and learning practices with schools in Kenya and Sudan. Hopefully this will help us to develop an understanding of the cultures in these countries and the similarities that we have.



We left England on Thursday 7 February and after a lengthy couple of flights, arrived in Kenya. After a night in the bustling capital, Nairobi, we travelled through the beautiful Great Rift Valley to our next destination. We spent 2 days visiting the Masai Mara National Park where we saw many animals in their natural environment including elephants, lions, cheetahs and hippos. We were invited into one of the Masai villages where they showed us traditional dances and songs and shared many of their traditions with us. They welcomed us into their homes with huge smiles - this was a unique insight to this ancient tribe's life. It was extremely hot

for us, about 28 degrees; many of the locals however found this weather quite cool.

On Monday we had a fantastic day as we were



finally able to meet our partner school in Molo, East Kenya. The school called Mianzini Secondary, has 500 students and is situated in a rural setting. Many students

come to school from surrounding villages and the majority of the locals work in agriculture; farming maize and peas. We were given the opportunity to spend 4 days with our school, watching lessons being taught and also teaching music and geography lessons whilst we were there. This was a great opportunity to share with other teachers our different styles of teaching in England and the students were all very responsive.



We felt truly humbled during our time at the school; despite the classrooms being extremely basic and the teaching resources being very limited, we were welcomed with bundles of warmth and happiness, something that will stay with us for a long, long time.

This project is just beginning! Over the next few months we will start to work on projects focusing on healthy living, environmental issues and exploring global issues through the arts! All of these projects will be carried out by students here in Arthur Mellows, as well as in Sudan and Kenya.



Excitingly... we are looking forward to a visit from our partner schools later in the year and hope that they will bring students with them. Our aim is to take a small number of students to Kenya in 2014 to visit the school. In the

meantime, we plan to have a Skype day with students in Kenya and Sudan and will keep you posted with all developments of this exciting project. Keep your eyes peeled and we hope that you will be able to support the project and maybe even visit Kenya in the future.

By Mrs Gray, Music Teacher and Miss Banks, Geography Teacher



COLLEGE NEWS

ON THE HORIZON: AN ESCAPE INTO LANDSCAPE

On Sunday 3 February 2013 I was fortunate enough to attend "On the Horizon: An Escape into Landscape", a drawing master class for Years 11 to 13 led by Gift Ltd. This exciting day, at Tate Britain in London, allowed us to explore landscapes, cityscapes and seascapes. Using works by the artists J W M Turner and John Constable, we explored the nature of landscape; how these artists painted the weather, seasons and created idyllic landscapes, especially in the romantic era of painting and why Constable continually addressed the theme of man versus nature as well as science versus creation. We recorded some of these techniques in our sketchbooks which culminated in creating a cityscape 'en plein air' alongside the Thames.

Throughout the day we were given challenging tasks to get us to think about landscapes differently. We made quick one minute drawings of the interior of Tate Britain; some with our opposite hand and without looking at the paper in order to loosen up and start really thinking about perspective and depth. We went on to focus on Turner's horizons and how he created atmosphere and drama.

The day was thoroughly enjoyable, and has helped me to view the landscape and to appreciate the art of landscape in a whole new way.

*By Ellie Jones,
13SAH*



SUCCESS IN SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS CONTINUES

On 5 March 2013 we took our district winners to St Ives Leisure Centre to take part in the County finals of the Secondary Sportshall Athletics competition.

The result was fantastic. All 3 teams ended up not just winning but winning handsomely. The Year 7 boys did not lose a single track event, the girls, Year 7 and Year 8, fared nearly as well. Everyone put in brilliant performances, it was a real team effort. There was great team spirit between all the competitors and culminated in everyone cheering all the relay teams to victory. Mr Low, Mrs Burke and myself were very proud of our students. They are a very talented group of athletes.

The team will now go on to the Regional Finals on Wednesday 24 April 2013 which will be held in Hertfordshire.

Mrs Griggs, Head of PE



*Year 7 Photo L – R
Lia Cataldo, Emma Hickling, Kiera Cooper,
Mia Purnell, Natalie Ellen,
Anna Warrington*

*Year 7 Boys – Back Row
Aidan Tipton, Ollly Shackleton,
Oliver Allan (Standing), Joe Mills,
Jake Peachey, Harley Meadows*



*Year 8 Girls L – R back row
Bethan Gilligan, Jess Snape, Holly Alexander,
Imogen Woodard
Front : Serena Korkmaz, Megan Porter*

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

**Do Something
Funny for Money**

COMIC RELIEF 2013

From bake offs to cake sales, to talent shows to sponsored silences, when faced with the challenge to raise money for charity, our school does not fail. Students and teachers alike helped raise a grand total of £2,100,00 for the comic relief 'DO SOMETHING FUNNY FOR MONEY' cause. Even Mr Sandeman got involved, providing his own taste testing fork to the judging of the bake off. According to other judges Mr Sandeman was a harsh marker, but the winner, Jordan Griffiths, 7JMF, with the Irish themed rainbow cake rightly took the prize. After busy cake sales, every cake from the bake off sold in record time, alongside cupcakes donated by students and parents; thank you for those! After providing food it's only right that some entertainment be provided, which came with the 'Do Something Funny For Money' talent show, including live bands, beatboxing and a Gloria Gayner tribute from a Year 13 student. All in all the fundraising spread over the 3 days leading up to comic relief, was a huge success, showing that students, teachers and parents can come together to raise a considerable amount for a good cause.

A special thanks goes to Paige Ferrier and her team of Sixth Form helpers for organising and running each event, as well as all lower school years who donated and lent a hand. Whether you bought a cake, went to the talent show or simply wore non-uniform, thank you for donating!

By Mrs Reilly, Assistant Headteacher



COLLEGE NEWS

Meet the Governors at Arthur Mellows Village College

To many parents and guardians, College Governors are a mystery. They know we exist, but are not quite sure what we do or how to contact us. We are going to put that right, beginning by introducing the current Academy Trustees and Governors in this issue of Voice.

Much of the work of the College is delegated through Mr Sandeman to the staff you all know. The work of Governors includes, amongst other things, appointment of the Head of College, budget setting, the curriculum, target setting and monitoring results for senior staff as well as students. A Governors' committee has, over the last 5 years for example, overseen all the building and refurbishing work students now benefit from. Governors set policies of which, if you glance at the College website, there are many. Governors hear appeals against exclusions or employment issues and any student foolish enough to have a temporary exclusion may be faced with a Governor's re-entry hearing.

Much of the work is carried out in specialist committees; Curriculum and Standards, Finance and Administration, Property and Personnel and there are Governors with special responsibilities, for example, monitoring Special Educational Needs, or the College programme for Gifted and Talented Students.

In future issues we will report on the work of the committees, but in the meantime, should you wish to contact a Governor, write to or phone Mrs Sanderson or Ms Schaffer, joint Clerks to the Governors.

G McLaren, Chair of Governors



Gilmour McLaren
Chair of Governors'



Alan Kirkpatrick
*Vice Chair



John Dadge
*Governor



Gary Dawkins
*Governor



Ken Doughty
Governor



Paulina Ford
*Governor



John Holdich
Local Authority Governor



Nigel Jennings
Governor



Trevor Parke
Governor



David Whiles
Governor



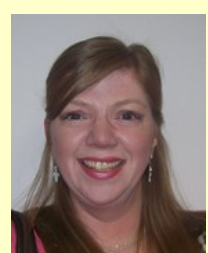
Debbie Beales
Parent Governor



Kevin Fear
Parent Governor



Peter Jordan
Parent Governor



Poppy Reynolds
Parent Governor



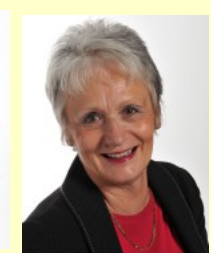
Neil Smith
Parent Governor



Angus Welch
Parent Governor



Sarah Blackmore
Staff Governor



Sue Duncliffe
Staff Governor



Mike Sandeman
Head of College

*Committee Chair

If you would like to find out more about the Governors' and their specific committee responsibilities, please visit the College website:
www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk