



# THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 11

July 2010



## Message from the Head of College

Needless to say this academic year has to go down as one of the busiest in the history of the College, and indeed my career in teaching. We had the Ofsted visit last November which gave us our well deserved 'outstanding rating'; and just when we thought things couldn't really get busier we received the news that we were to be honoured by the visit by HRH The Countess of Wessex. This was followed shortly by the invitation to apply for Academy status, and by the time you receive this newsletter you should have received my letter confirming that our application has been successful, and the College should re-open as an Academy on 1 September 2010 providing the Academies Bill proceeds through parliament during the Summer months.

Despite all of the above, the College has continued in our normal day to day work of teaching and learning and that particularly Key Stage 4 and 5 students were well prepared to sit their external examinations this Summer. We await their results in August and look forward to celebrating their success.

May I take this opportunity to thank all parents / carers for their support over the last year; it has been very much appreciated. I hope everyone enjoys a restful Summer.

**Mr Sandeman**  
Head of College

Goodbye!

## Active kids get cooking award

Mrs Bowman, Head of Food Technology, was recently proud to present nearly 60 Bronze certificates to Year 7 students who had earned an Active Kids Get Cooking award. As well as their cooking skills, students were assessed on knowledge of food, healthy eating, planning and evaluation and being safe in the kitchen. We hope that all future Year 7 students will enjoy working for these awards. (Pictured



are three students with their hard earned awards)

## This term we say Goodbye to.....

- **Mr Bailey**, ICT Co-ordinator who is retiring
- **Mrs Stephen**, Teacher of English who is retiring
- **Dr Stanley-Isaac**, Teacher of Science who is moving to Grantham College
- **Mr Sharpe**, Teacher of Geography
- **Miss Brooks**, Teacher of Music who is moving to a school in Kettering
- **Mr Li**, Teacher of Mathematics who is hoping to teach in China
- **Miss Jarvis**, Teacher of Science who is returning to Canada
- **Mrs Browning**, Learning Support Assistant who is retiring

## Key Dates next term

Term resumes	Thursday 2 September 2010
Year 7 Photographs	Monday 13 September 2010
Training Day and Year 6 Evening	Wednesday 6 October 2010
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	Monday 18 October 2010
Year 10 Information Evening	Monday 18 October 2010
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>25—29 October 2010</b>
Academic Day	Thursday 11 November 2010
Sixth Form Open Evening	Thursday 18 November 2010
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	Monday 22 November 2010
Year 13 Parents' Evening	Monday 13 December 2010
Year 11 Mock Exam Results Day	Thursday 16 December 2010
Carol Concert	Thursday 16 December 2010
Term ends	Friday 17 December 2010

## Date for the Summer Holidays!

The Arthur Mellows Village College Playscheme for children aged 8 to 13 will run from Monday 26 July until Friday 13 August.

For full details and an application form, please contact Verity Missin 01733 254040

*Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture*

# OUR ROYAL VISIT~ 8 JULY 2010



## OUR MORNING WITH HRH THE COUNTESS OF WESSEX

It should not come as a surprise to anyone connected with the College that the royal visit from HRH The Countess of Wessex was such a positive experience. Everyone from the cleaners and site officers, students, PA's, staff and Governors had done a first-rate job in preparing for the big day down to the tiniest detail. The College looked great – modern, well-presented,

showcasing outstanding work from students all across the curriculum – and the students were ready and willing to smile and wave flags and generally do the College proud in making the Countess feel welcome. So it was certainly no surprise that the day went so well, but you still feel the relief when the Countess departed in her helicopter, clearly having enjoyed herself very much and leaving with such a positive impression of all the great work that has gone into making Arthur Mellows an outstanding school.



As the rumble of helicopter blades sounded over the school on the dot of ten, you could feel the tension grow as Mr Sandeman tried to recall the correct greeting protocols and the Wittering students assembled by the College entrance nervously waving their flags. But the moment the Countess appeared, smiling, relaxed and taking the time to speak to students, everyone was put at ease and you could sense that this was going to be a special day.

The tour continued on to the new Refectory where the Cucina team clearly impressed the Countess with the high quality and range of food, and you could almost sense her disappointment that her busy schedule prevented her from sampling the food on offer. Her easy manner and genuine interest in all aspects of school life immediately allowed the many people with whom she spoke to relax, as her security team glanced anxiously at their watches once they understood that the Countess was clearly enjoying her visit and was not likely to be rushing off to her next engagement anytime soon.

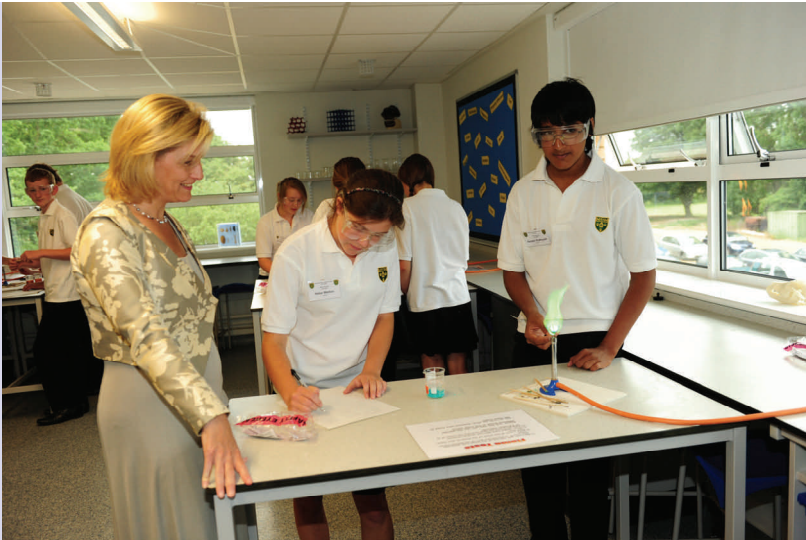


In ICT, there was initial concern that Mr Dignall was just letting his class play Pacman, but it quickly transpired that they had created the games themselves, and so all was not lost.

Moving on, the Countess took a particular interest in the excellent display of Design technology work, before chatting to Performing Arts students in the Auditorium.



# OUR ROYAL VISIT ~ 8 JULY 2010



Quite how the security detail coped with the idea of the Countess wandering around a Science lab with multiple Bunsen burners is not clear, but the Countess seemed to have absolute confidence in the teachers and students as she chatted away, before visiting the new Special Educational Needs facilities. As patron of the Autistic society, she took great interest in the great work that our dedicated team put into SEN provision, and she clearly had a great rapport with the students. It was clear that she was well informed, and was sufficiently impressed to comment that the work of our Special Educational Needs Department could serve as a model for other schools.

The tour finished with a presentation from students involved in the highly successful Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme – of which HRH's husband Prince Edward is Patron – followed by a highly entertaining speech from Mr Sandeman before the assembled dignitaries, including former Warden, Mr Mann.



The Countess concluded by making a lovely speech in which she enthusiastically expressed her thanks for the warmth of her visit and explained how much she had enjoyed herself and how impressed she was with the confidence and high quality work of our students.

Finally, a plaque was unveiled to commemorate the official opening of the new buildings, and it was all over.

For the second time in a mere matter of months, the College, its staff and students had delivered when it really mattered and we received a full endorsement of all the hard work that has gone into turning Arthur Mellows into an outstanding educational establishment.

Who knows, the College could have done it so well we could be chosen for another royal visit in the future!

**Mr Zaidi**



# COLLEGE NEWS

## Goodbye from Mr Bailey to all Parents and Pupils, past and present

You will probably be aware that after a long and thoroughly enjoyable career at the College, I have decided to hang up my mouse and retire. As the ICT Coordinator, I have been fortunate to have had one of the most exciting jobs where new gadgets have appeared with regularity to 'play' with. I have also been very lucky to have been at a school where I have had the continuous support of parents and pupils, not to mention teaching colleagues.

After so many years at the College, it is going to be difficult to 'let go' and I know that I am going to miss the contact with so many lovely, intelligent young people – who will I try my jokes out on now?

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for making my time at Arthur Mellows so rewarding. I hope that I have had a mostly positive influence and that I leave you with many pleasant memories.

Thank you for all of my memories and please accept my heart-felt good wishes for the future.

**Mr Bailey**



## GIFTED AND TALENTED YOUNG ENTERPRISE PROJECT - YEAR 9

I have thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to work with a group of such lively, enthusiastic and highly talented young people this year. All the ideas have come from the students who have displayed both teamwork and commitment to make the projects succeed. Their latest project, to provide Hoodies for Activity Days, was a great success, with nearly a third of Year 7, 8 and 9 opting to buy one. I think Lord Sugar would be proud of them and nobody got fired!

**Mrs Reilly**

We were chosen to take part in a Young Enterprise activity after school. The idea was to set up a small school-based business to give us a taste of working in a business in real life. One of our first priorities was to designate everyone their own specific role and job, including leaders. Joe Roberts was our project manager, Jonathan Kowal was our treasurer, Hebe Walton was our secretary Daniel Richardson was our creative designer and I was the marketing researcher.

We wanted to start off with a small scale project to get us started up so we organised a charity raffle. Due to current events, we thought it was only right to choose Haiti as our charity cause. We sold raffle tickets to win an iPod shuffle, vouchers and chocolate throughout the school (though primarily to Year 9). We all had our own role, whether it was sorting the sold tickets, going out to students and selling them or even planning ahead for our next project. We managed to make £155 towards Haiti.

Next we came up with a customised T-shirt idea, which evolved into a plan to sell personalised Hoodies for Years 7, 8, and 9. This was a much bigger task and much more of a challenge. We started by doing research into which companies could get us bulk orders of hoodies cheapest and the best quality. Meanwhile several teams of us went around all the Form rooms with questionnaires to see if people would be interested in hoodies, polo shirts and whatever else they would like us to personalise.

We received a pitch from Chroma Sports, who were one of our potential suppliers. We found that the quality was excellent and well priced. That, and their ability to mass produce and customise with speed and ease, sealed the deal. We set about creating an order form and advertised our product with a display cabinet in the main reception. As the orders started to flood in, we kept ourselves busy with constant paperwork and organising. The hoodies have turned out to be a great success with 276 sold and over £690 made in profit towards Haiti.

It has been an amazing opportunity to be able to run something like this. I think I've learned a lot about running a business, as well as working in a team. And all of us who have been involved would like to thank Mrs Reilly for her support and guidance through these last few months on our projects. I hope we get the chance to continue developing our enterprise in the years to come.

**By Ashwin Pathiyath 9ECL**

### Gifted and Talented Students:

Katie Lester 9LMA, **Sophie Butler 9CPE**, **Kyle Hill 9ECH**, Matthew Jarvis 9LHU, Jonathan Kowal 9NTU, Georgia Lindley 9NTU, Mollie Norman 9PHI, **Ashwin Pathiyath 9ECL**, Joe Roberts 9PHI, Daniel Richardson 9LHU, Lewis Smith 9LHU, Matthew Smith 9PHI, Alex Thomas 9PHI, Hebe Walton 9PHI, Jack Yule 9MAR

*(students names highlighted are not present in the picture)*



# COLLEGE NEWS

## BISTRO EXPERIENCE

On 1 July 2010 we held our third Bistro Experience at the College. This was by far our most successful evening as we catered for the maximum number (50) of paying guests that we could accommodate - and had to reluctantly turn others away. The students worked with Steve to create and deliver yet another mouth-watering menu which was fully appreciated by the guests. As one guest commented: *"Just thought I would write to congratulate the team on a wonderful evening. We were expecting a quality meal and my wife and I weren't let down. Indeed, our expectations were exceeded."*

As the popularity of the Bistro Experience is growing, we plan to hold four events in the next academic year (dates to be published in September). Further details of our Bistro Experience evenings can be found on the school website under CucinA\* and should you wish to be added to our priority mailing list, please email [s.nash@arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:s.nash@arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students who have been involved in the Bistro Experiences over the year, as well as the parents, staff, Governors and members of the wider community who have supported the evenings. My main thanks, however, have to go to Steve (CucinA\* Unit Manager) for his enthusiasm when working with the students and his commitment to the venture.

**Mrs Nash**



## PRIMARY SCHOOLS AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Year 5 and 6 students from our local feeder primary schools were invited to Arthur Mellows to take part in a range of activities which took place across four evenings in June. The activities on offer ranged from learning to breakdance alongside our highly successful Year 9 breakdancing team Ironik, to making a pinball machine in Design Technology, and completing a forensics activity in Science. The aim of the sessions was to make the students feel more confident about their future transition to secondary school, as well as providing the opportunity to use facilities and work with materials and equipment not available to them at primary level. Thank you to all the staff who gave their time to make this event a success and to the students, including the Sixth Form students, who helped out.

**Mrs Reilly**

The College of West Anglia 

## FURNITURE AND 3D DESIGN COMPETITION 2010

Students from the Design and Technology Department's after-school club individually entered into the Furniture and 3D Design Competition, which is run by the College of West Anglia and open to all students aged between 11 to 16.



Students were asked to design a coffee table, based on the theme of the 2012 Olympics to be hosted by London. Students were not required to make the table, however, the winning design will be made by a professional furniture maker and designer. The winning designs and finalists' work was included in the Creative Arts Faculty Art and Design Exhibition which was held between 22 to 26 June 2010 at the Isle Campus, Wisbech.

Arthur Mellows was well represented and have enjoyed great success. **Peter Stanton** (Year 7) came third in the competition and won £50 for himself. Other finalists in the top ten include **Abbie Holley** (Year 8) and **Rebecca McTrustery** (Year 7). All three have been invited to the formal opening and private view of the exhibition to receive their prizes and certificates.

The Design and Technology Department would like to thank everyone involved.



## SCIENCE GARDEN

In our science lessons with Mrs Benton, we went out into our school garden, determined to do our little bit to help the world by making the garden look pretty. We decided to grow vegetables and plants, and we also made bird feeders and decorated plant pots to create a friendly environment. Hopefully, by September all our hard work will pay off and the vegetable patch should be fully grown and ready to pick and eat. We have decided that we will send the vegetables we have grown to the canteen, which will use them to provide healthy meals, and maybe some of those who don't eat regularly at the refectory will be encouraged to start eating more healthily. This should also save the school money, and the money we save can then be used to provide different resources around the school.

The aim is that even when we have left school, the eco-friendly garden will still be going strong. Everyone who has worked on this project has worked very hard, so please be careful if you are tempted to go and admire our work.

# COLLEGE NEWS

## YEAR 11 PROM 2010

The weather was glorious, the venue superb and the students looked amazing!

This year's Year 11 Prom happened on Friday 9 July 2010 and was a lovely evening. As in previous years, it was held at the Marriott Hotel and considering the record breaking temperatures we were really grateful for their beautiful gardens to sit in. There were around 180 students who



turned up in all manner of vehicles, my personal favourite being the beautiful red VW camper van. Our on-site photographer was kept busy all night, photographing arrivals and then group and individual portraits. The students' conduct was exemplary and it was a pleasure to be amongst them catching up on what they had been up to since the end of their exams.



I wish all Year 11 pupils well in whatever they go on to do, and I know they won't believe me but I have actually missed them since they left!

*Mrs Gilligan*  
*Head of Year 11*

## EXAMINATION RESULTS DAY 2010

**GCE AS and A Level - Thursday 19 August**  
**(10.00 am – 12.00 noon in the Main Hall)**

**GCSE - Tuesday 24 August**  
**(10.00 am – 12.00 noon in the Main Hall)**

If you cannot collect your results, please leave a stamped addressed envelope with Mrs Pickering in the Exams Office, so they can be posted out to you. If you wish to have them collected on your behalf, then you must give the person collecting the results written authority to do so.

If you wish to request a Priority Remark of Exam Script for GCE, please do so during the times stated below:

- 19 August 12.00 noon – 1.30 pm
- 23 August 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
- 24 August 12.00 noon – 1.30 pm

The deadline is 24 August

*Mrs Pickering*

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Ex Arthur Mellows student, John Rostron who has just graduated from St Andrews University with a First Class Masters Degree in Astro Physics and is being sponsored to do a PhD at Warwick starting in September.

*Mrs Wright*



## YEAR 8 TRIP TO BOULOGNE— MAY



We arrived at school at near enough midnight, already tired. We drove through the night before arriving at Dover about 3 hours early. Despite it being so early it was still almost completely light. From the top of the ferry you could see the white cliffs of Dover and as the journey went on you could even see France. The Ferry crossing took about 90 minutes before we got back on the coach and continued on our way to Boulogne.

When we arrived in Boulogne the first thing we did was to go to the sea life centre, Nausicaa. There were many species of sea life there including seals, penguins and ray fish among other animals. We were all very impressed, particularly with being able to touch the ray fish which felt surprisingly rough to touch, as we had all expected them to be slimy. The sharks were also very popular as there were glass tunnels that went underneath the sharks' habitat so you could see them swimming all around you.

For lunch, we went into the old town. We were pretty much free to roam around the main street and practice using our French when ordering food or buying hats. A few of us chose to eat at a pizzeria on the street and managed to put our French into practice when ordering our meals. Others chose to go to the sweet shop or have a look at the few stalls on the street. The crepe shop was a particular hit as it offered crepes (pancakes) with just about every topping you could imagine.

Before leaving France, we visited a traditional French boulangerie (bakers.) At the boulangerie, we were told how the different breads are made and we were surprised to find out how long it took. We were even treated to a sample of their work which was a particularly good end to our trip.

*By Joseph Carter 8CRO*



# SPORTS NEWS

## ANOTHER VERY BUSY SUMMER FOR THE PE DEPARTMENT!

### SPORTS DAY YEAR 10 AND YEAR 9

We had lovely weather and some excellent races and a good time was had by every one.

#### Results Year 10

1st PCR  
2nd KBR  
3rd RWA

#### Results Year 9

1st MAR  
2nd ECH  
3rd LHU

Big thank you to all the tutors, cover supervisors and LSAs who helped the days go so well, and had some great individual performance themselves. It just shows age is no barrier to competition!

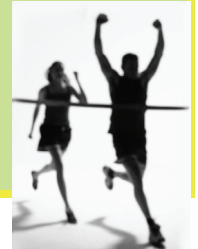


### YEAR 7 SPORTS DAY

We had a great morning with again everyone working really well together to get the most points for their form. This format with every student doing all 9 events makes every point really important to the team as a whole. Unfortunately the weather closed in for the afternoon and so we had to retreat in side and finish with sports quiz.

#### Results

1st SWA  
2nd GEL  
3rd LMC



### English Schools Athletics

We were very proud of Alex McNally this year who qualified to run the 100m event in the English Schools competition held in Birmingham. Janice Burke, who was team manager for Cambridgeshire, said he ran a fantastic time of 11.3 seconds coming in 5<sup>th</sup> overall and was a credit to the school; particularly as he has achieved this without out the aid of a sprint coach. She is going to help resolve this, so we will watch his progress with interest.

### YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 SWIMMING GALA

The sun shone brightly for the swimming gala and it was one of the most competitive we have had. This shows what strong swimmers we have in these Year Groups. We broke 4 records one of which had stood since 1987.

#### YEAR 7

Well done particularly to Joshua Chan new record of 19.02 in Year 7 Breaststroke. LMC girls who smashed the freestyle relay by 3 seconds to 52.08 Aisling Ruff, Zoe Fisher and Hannah Reilly.

Aisling and Zoe were both very close to records in their individual events as well

#### Results

1st LMC  
2nd GDA  
3rd SWA



#### YEAR 8

Kelda McKnight had a fantastic Gala breaking two records. The one she enjoyed most was backstroke as she broke her sisters record, for good measure she lowered the individual medley record that had stood since 1987 by a second to 57.24.

It was a team event and the results were

#### Results

1st JPE  
2nd EBE  
3rd SBL



### PETERBOROUGH CITY SPORTS

We competed in all the events again this year and continued with our winning ways. We had some outstanding performances and good team efforts with Years 10, 9 and 8 all finishing in the top 3 which is a tremendous achievement.

Year 9 Individual honours go to Sophie Gwilliam for winning the high jump, Matt Carter 400m, Daniel Richardson 1500m, Jordan Bunch Triple Jumps and Year 10 James Berry winning the 400m.

#### YEAR 10

Boys Winners  
Girls 3rd Place

#### YEAR 8

Boys 3rd  
Girls 2nd

#### YEAR 9

Boys Winners  
Girls 3rd Place

#### YEAR 7

Boys 7th  
Girls 6th

### PE KIT

Just a reminder about correct and safe PE kit.

Trainers must be worn in PE. These should be fit for purpose and not a fashion canvas shoe as these are unsafe and do not protect pupils' feet, ankles and knees.

**Only BLACK** shorts, skort, tracksuit bottoms or leggings are allowed. NO other colour is permitted.

Boys Green top must be worn in Key Stages 3 and 4 for outdoor lessons, girls may wear this if they choose.

Please name kit as we can then ensure it is returned to the rightful owner.

# SPORTS NEWS

## PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS EVENT AT ARTHUR MELLOWS

Soke Sports is held annually at Arthur Mellows Village College for 14 local primary schools.

Each school brings their elite athletes from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Students take part in sprinting, relay and obstacle races, shuttle runs, throwing events and much more.

The event was a resounding success. The weather in July did not let us down—a superb morning was had by all involved.

John Clare Primary School, Sports Leaders and PE staff at Arthur Mellows did an excellent job and were invaluable in ensuring the smooth running of the morning.



This year in preparation for London 2012, Soke Sports took on an Olympic theme...

Chloe Jones, (pictured) our local National Judo Champion and Olympic 2012 hopeful, supported us on the morning by leading the Olympic procession, encouraging competitors and handing out medals to the winning athletes.



Each school chose 2 Sports Ambassadors who have been working to promote sports in their individual primary schools to hold the flag of their chosen country in an impressive procession.

### Results

Winners—Werrington Primary School  
Runners up—William Law Primary School  
3<sup>rd</sup> place—Northborough Primary School

### YEAR 2 MULTI-SKILLS FESTIVAL

Year 2 students from our feeder primary schools joined us at the end of June for a Festival for the whole class.

Year 10 and 12 Sports Leaders did a fantastic job of leading all the events and ensuring the youngsters had a great sporting experience at Arthur Mellows Village College.

The Year 2 pupils were full of praise for their new 'friends', who led them around the circuit of events and taught them many new skills to go back to their primary schools with.



### WORLD RECORD HOOPING ATTEMPT

On 29 June, pupils from Arthur Mellows joined in a country-wide event to try to break the World Record for the number of pupils hooping continuously for 2 minutes.

Schools around the country had huge numbers of pupils hooping at exactly 12.00 noon.

67 of the 100 pupils selected were successful in hooping continuously. We wait to hear if we have been successful in breaking the World Record.



*By Debbie Wilding  
School Sports Co-ordinator  
at Arthur Mellows*