



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 5

May 2009



Message from the Head of College

This issue of The Voice takes us into the final half term of the academic year which is always a busy one, particularly with both internal and external examinations. In some subjects examinations have already started but the majority are due to take place immediately after half term. I would ask for parental support in ensuring that students know the time and date of their examinations, if necessary referring to their own individual timetables and, of course, the College website which has up to date information. They should also ensure they arrive at College promptly for their examinations with the correct equipment.

We have recently said 'goodbye' and 'good luck' to our Year 11 students but would hope that the majority return to us in September to commence their Sixth Form studies. We are also shortly to say 'goodbye' to our Year 13 students who are off to 'pastures new'. We wish them all the very best in their exams and their future, wherever that may take them.

Finally I would like to say thank you to all parents, students and staff who have recently completed the survey questionnaires. The results of these will be externally assessed and used by the College to 'set the standards' and inform our College Improvement Plan for the next academic year.

Sir Alan Sugar—Sir Steve Redgrave—Dame Kelly Holmes—The Stereophonics—David Cameron MP—Keira Knightly—Guus Hiddink (Chelsea FC)—The entire Liverpool Football team...to name but a few

These plus many more have helped us form our **'WALL OF INSPIRATION'** for students as they enter their examinations this summer. Over the past few weeks the College has sent over 300 letters to celebrities asking for photos and good wishes for Year 11 as they take their exams....and we have been astounded by the response. If these words of inspiration help just one student attain a higher grade and have greater expectations then it will have been a worthwhile exercise.

If you are passing the College, ask to see our 'Wall of Inspiration'. **M Sandeman**



Even the best have to rest ...

When Mr Gary Wentworth, the Project Manager, showed the AMA around the building site two years ago, the Committee was adamant: the new courtyard needed extra seating to provide some much-needed comfort for socialising at breaktimes – and only the best would do for our hard-working students (and staff – when they get the chance!).



So with a massive thank you and well done to our supporters and helpers, the AMA is proud to donate the five stylish teak (sustainable!) benches, eucalyptus trees and guards that now complement the new block. So keep buying those raffle tickets, second-hand uniform items, refreshments and helping us to raise funds! It's great to make a difference to the quality of College life for all.

The AMA (Arthur Mellows Association)

Key Dates next term

Half term:	25 - 29 May 2009
Year 9 Reports home	5 June 2009
Year 8 Parents' Evening	8 June 2009
Year 10 Reports home	19 June 2009
Year 12 Reports home	26 June 2009
Year 6—7 Primary Day	1 July 2009
Year 7 Reports home	3 July 2009
Year 10 Work Experience	W/C 6 July and 13 July
Activity Days	15/16/17 July
Summer term closes	17 July 2009



EXAM RESULTS Days:

GCE A Level 20 August 2009
GCSE 27 August 2009

AMA Uniform Sale

The AMA will be selling second hand uniform items on 8 June 2009 at the Year 8 Parents' Evening!



Delivering Learning for Life within an Inspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS

$$\pi = 3.14159265358979323846264338327950$$

The Maths Challenge

The Maths Challenge took place on Wednesday 4 March at Thomas Deacon Academy. It was the first time many of us had been to the Academy and we were taken aback by how modern and high tech it appeared, both on the outside and the inside; in some ways it had a Science fiction feel about it.

For the challenge we were seated into groups and teachers were swapped to prevent cheating, and then came the questions... Well let's just say we were glad we'd brought Sophie. All was silent in the great domed entrance hall as we struggled with the ridiculously difficult question papers. Towards the end Sophie's caffeine rush ran out (we bought her coffee on the way), though smoke still rose from her pencil she was beginning to lose her astounding speed with the answers.

Then followed rounds similar to those you might see on countdown, where the numbers are picked at random and you are given a certain target to reach. Now everyone who sits at home watching quiz shows on their television will get them easily, and sit for the last 20 seconds wondering why one of the so called "clever groups" cannot get it. Personally those were my thoughts exactly, until trying it for myself. It's not so much the difficulty of the questions as it is the pressure you feel, your brain freezes up and you can't think.

As the challenge continued we quickly began to notice we didn't have much of a chance for 1st place, namely two brainy looking twins sat at the Kings table. Despite this we persevered, determined to do the best we could and make Mr Ladak proud.

Here is where our maths teacher would have wanted us to add at least two paragraphs about how wonderful he is. Rather than do this (sorry Mr Ladak) we will stick strictly to the designated subject, The Maths Challenge. Ok so as you will have probably guessed from the comment about the twins, we didn't win. Now instead of going with the cliché "it was a moral victory", we will say this: *we gave it a go, and we did pretty well. What more can you ask?*

Thank you to Mr Ladak, Mrs Gilligan and Mr Cradock who helped us out and gave up their time to take us. Especially to Mr Ladak, who taught us everything we needed to know!

The Year 10 Maths Team



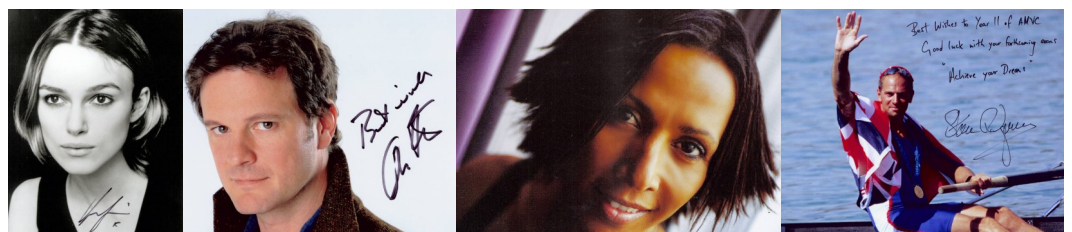
Intermediate Maths Challenge

Congratulations to all students who took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge recently. Students will shortly be receiving certificates if they achieved Gold, Silver or Bronze awards. Well done to Olga Turrall who achieved a gold certificate and also best in school.

Certificate winners were:

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Olga Turrall (Year 11) Tommy Huynh (Year 10)	Kezia Burkett (Year 11) Adam Butterwick (Year 11) Craig Talbot (Year 11) Ravi-Shyam Patel (Year 10) Samara McKnight (Year 9)	Elaine Yau (Year 11) Chris Lightfoot (Year 10) James Wood (Year 10) George Clements (Year 10) Catherine Threadgold (Year 10) Beth Oliver (Year 9) Aileen Baird (Year 9)

Further photos from the Wall of Inspiration (continued from page 1)



COLLEGE NEWS

Year 12 Geography Trip to Wales



It was Friday 3 April and we were on our way to sunny Wales. Rumours about sheep, foreign languages and the dark valleys were rife so this was a voyage of discovery, as well as a fieldtrip.

First stop was Hereford, with the novelty of parking in the football ground, followed by a good walk down to the riverside to see sandbags, raised walls and gates with rubber seals. The locals were generally positive about their flood defences and the

students had experienced the frustrations and joys of trying to do surveys on Friday lunchtime.

Once we ditched the sat nav that wanted to take a coach across a mountain pass, this was followed by a visit to a World Heritage Site – Blaenavon in the Welsh Valleys. The 36 Sixth Form students carried out their environmental surveys with great attention to detail, noticing scooters in the river alongside newly laid pavements and an excellent museum.

Saturday was Cardiff day. We were researching how successful its redevelopment had been. Luckily the local Cardiff-Swansea match was rescheduled to Sunday so we were able to take in Cardiff Bay and the city centre in relative peace. Tours of the bay with its fantastic Millennium Centre and five star hotel were contrasted with a trip up some of the less salubrious streets. In the city, we

had a tour of the Millenium Stadium, standing in the changing rooms and taking the vertigo test which consisted of leaning forward at the top of the stands. Once complete some students made a quick dash for Primark whilst the less obsessed got some more surveys done and partook of Cardiff's fine food.

On Sunday the weather was glorious. We headed for Brecon to find out why flash floods have occurred there. Each of the three groups headed up paths alongside a separate tributary to learn about how water gets into rivers and why it does this very quickly. There was a lot of walking and measurements but for many of the students this was their favourite task. This was followed by a quick visit to Tewkesbury to interview local residents about their memories of the 2007 floods. Some were understandably reticent to talk about this but others thought it was all an excuse for some street parties!!

Needless to say, everyone was now tired and glad to be heading home for their holidays but the experiences of the previous three days were invaluable for their examination in May and some even went home knowing that Wales really does have a lot of sheep, the Welsh really are a friendly English-speaking crowd and the valleys were quite normal.

Mr Barrett
Head of Humanities



Swine Flu Virus—Notice to parents

Although there are currently **NO** reported cases of the H1N1 flu virus (swine flu) affecting anyone associated with Arthur Mellows Village College I am, however, mindful of the extensive media coverage and would like to reassure you that a policy and linked procedures are in place at the College in the event of an outbreak. This policy is in line with recommendations from the Health Protection Agency, the Department of Children, Schools and Families and the Local Authority.

Health and Safety of our students remains our first priority whilst this risk remains, together with ensuring that the learning and teaching of students is maintained.

Should the current situation change we will take appropriate action and keep you updated by letter, Schoolcomms and the College website. Efforts will also be made to implement enhanced electronic communication with regards to teaching materials.

Mike Sandeman,
Head of College

SIXTH FORM TRANSPORT

Following concerns that post 16 students from Eye only have their transport to the College part subsidised, Governors took the matter up with the City Council.

Due to the current financial constraints and the fact that currently there is no statutory duty to provide post 16 transport, the City Council have unfortunately been unable to help.

I regret that there is no more we can do at this time however the situation will be constantly monitored.

Gilmour McLaren
Chairman of Governors



COLLEGE NEWS



Model Behaviour at College's Fashion Show

A fabric extravaganza was promised—and duly delivered—as catwalk couture came to the College. For the second time, students donned their gladrags in the name of charity and raised a total of £630 for Sue Ryder Care and Thorpe Hall. A big thank you, also, to everyone who donated items for the AMVC Fashion Show raffle and who came along on the night!

You may have also seen around Peterborough advertising for the 'Green Festival' in a couple of weeks with activities going on in and around town..... (it's the posters of a lad eating a strawberry that seem to be everywhere!)

Now, there are some very talented Year 10's who have been hard at work doing a project for Peterborough Council. They were given clothes and materials from Sue Ryder's new retro store in town (the bright pink shop that used to be Millett/scout shop near Charters) and were set the brief to turn them into fashionable items that would be paraded in an Eco-fashion show held in Queengate in the evening of Thursday 28 May.

My class are almost local celebrities now, featuring in the Council's publicity material, Nene Living Magazine, ESP and will be on Lite FM during half term... Plus, Megan Bill, Cathy Threadgold, Eloise Evans, Jasmine Watt, Megan Crossland and Molly Page are going to be models along with ESP girls, so if you're in town on that night go and show your support and cheer them along!! Further details can be found at <http://www.pect.net/greenfestival/index.html>.

Miss Lee, Teacher of Textiles

Meet the new Head Boy— JOE BAINES

Main Responsibilities: The voice of the students; to make school life as enjoyable as possible for everyone!

Hobbies: Playing basketball and drums.

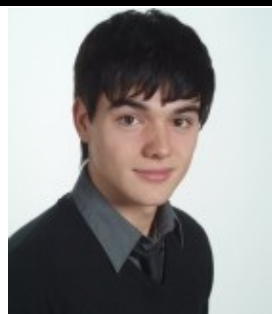
Favourite TV show: The Inbetweeners.

Favourite film: Lock stock and two smoking barrels.

What do you like about AMVC?: The friendly and fun environment and Steve, the Chef's quality food.

What would you like to change about AMVC? To give the younger years the support they need to reduce the stress of school life.

What would you like to be doing in 5 years time? Working in a career I enjoy after having been to University.



Meet the new Head Girl— ZOE CLARK

Main Responsibilities: To encourage a happy learning environment for the students.

Hobbies: White water kayaking.

Favourite book: Curious incident of the dog in the night time.

Favourite film: The Bodyguard.

What do you like about AMVC?: The friendly atmosphere.

What would you like to change about AMVC? To get Sixth Form involved with younger years.

What would you like to be doing in 5 years time? A children's nurse.



Calling all Musicians!

There are currently spaces for students who may wish to take individual music lessons in the following instruments; If you would like further details, please contact Mr Tudball in the Music department.



Drum Kit / Percussion



Bass Guitar



Piano



Electric Guitar



Classical Guitar



Singing



Acoustic Guitar

Cleaning Vacancies

The College currently has vacancies for cleaners. For further information on hours of work and salary please telephone Nadine Crowson on 01733 252235



Editorial Team: Billy Zaidi, Teacher of English/Media, Debbie Sanderson, PA to Head of College and Amanda Palmer, Reprographics, Arthur Mellows Village College, Helpston Road, Glington, Peterborough, PE6 7JX