



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 37

January 2015



Message from the Head of College

I am pleased to announce that a recent full Ofsted inspection has resulted in Arthur Mellows Village College being awarded an Outstanding status. This is the second time the College has received Outstanding status (previous report November 2009) and reflects a lot of hard work and excellent examination results by students and staff at the College.

Ofsted visited the College on 3 and 4 December 2014 and made the judgement of Outstanding following a two day inspection. The report deems the College Outstanding in the following categories: Leadership and Management, Behaviour and Safety of Pupils, Quality of Teaching and Achievement of Pupils.

The report confirmed that the academy's ethos is to ensure that constant improvement provides students with outstanding opportunities to learn, achieve and develop their broader skills. It recognises that enthusiasm for learning is evidently strong and that students are unreservedly proud of their school. One student explained to inspectors: *"Aiming high and trying your best is what this school is about."*

As Head of College, this report represents a real team effort from both staff and students and reinforces the excellent examination results recorded in Summer 2014 where 79.4% of students obtained 5 or more GCSEs at A* to C including English and Maths. We are extremely pleased to retain Outstanding Ofsted status when the benchmark to achieve this award is even higher than previously. Please see below just some of the quotes taken from the Ofsted report.

M Sandeman, Head of College

Behaviour and Safety of Pupils is Outstanding

Leadership and Management is Outstanding

Excellent relationships with their teachers mean the atmosphere within lessons is purposeful and positive

Careful and constant monitoring of the impact of the academy's work quickly highlights any aspect that needs improvement

Students are confident, and highly articulate, when speaking

Students respond with enthusiasm to activities that engage and challenge them



Teachers have high expectations and expert subject knowledge

Disabled students and those who have Special Educational Needs make outstanding progress

The academy makes an outstanding contribution to students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

The school's work to keep students safe and secure is outstanding

Disadvantaged students make similar rates of progress to their peers and achieve more highly than other students nationally

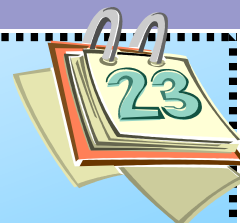
Quality of Teaching is Outstanding

Achievement of pupils is Outstanding

www.arthurmellows.org

Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS



KEY DATES

Year 11 Mock Results Day	Friday 9 January 2015
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Monday 19 January 2015
Year 9 Options Evening for Parents	Monday 26 January 2015
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Monday 2 February 2015
Intermediate Maths Challenge	Thursday 5 February 2015
Year 12 Parents' Evening	Monday 9 February 2015
School Drama Production	Thursday 12 February 2015 and Friday 13 February 2015
Ski trip	Saturday 14 February 2015 to Saturday 21 February 2015
Term Ends	Friday 13 February 2015

CYCLISTS: STAY SAFE AND HELP YOURSELF BE SEEN

It has been noted that students cycling to and from school do not have the lights on their bikes turned on; some students are also failing to wear a helmet.

As both nights and mornings are now dark and gloomy, it is important that students cycling to and from school can be seen.

We would like to remind Parents and students of the importance of wearing reflective clothing and/ or accessories (belt, arm or ankle bands) in the dark.



At night, cyclists **MUST** have white front and red rear lights lit. Bikes must also be fitted with a red rear reflector (and amber pedal reflectors.) White front reflectors and spoke reflectors will also help them to be seen.

Not only is it extremely dangerous to not have lights, it is also illegal.



IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER

* Please check our website in the first instance where College closure information will be posted to our homepage, if possible by 7.35 am. www.arthurmellows.org

* Listen to one of the following radio stations:

♪ Heart FM

♪ BBC Radio Cambridgeshire

♪ Connect FM (formerly Lite FM)

* The College will also communicate school closure via electronic mail.

Please note: Decisions on school transport and the buses are not made by the College. Please contact the provider directly if there are any queries.



EBOLA CRISIS APPEAL ON BEHALF OF SAVE THE CHILDREN



Thanks to the generosity of parents, students and staff, on Friday 19 December 2014, the college raised £1726.84 for the Ebola crisis appeal on behalf of 'Save the Children'.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On Friday, 12 December 2014, staff and students took part in the Christmas Jumper Day to support our global charity Save the Children. In total £307.41 was raised for the appeal.



EVOLUTION

The Tooth Fairy is make believe and Santa's just the same
 The Bible's just an ancient book and Jesus is just a name,
 Mary rode to Bethlehem on an old man's steed
 She stayed the night in a dampened building where the horses feed,

3,553 eggs are baked and brewed every single day
 Millions of cells morph into children in exactly the same way,

He never wanted children but he persisted all the more
 To have another beautiful child she was absolutely sure,

Meiosis made her possible meiosis made her real
 3 months passed which went so fast then kicking she could feel,

Before she knew it Christmas arrived and snow had covered the trees
 Although she worried labour would ruin the day her husband put her at ease,

On the 27th of December angel Gabriel returned
 For a delicate tightly folded bud awarded them with a girl,
 However, not everything appeared to be right something they soon learned
 Her eyes were scarlet red and were closed up like a pearl,

To say the doctors could see what was wrong is frightfully unkind
 Because soon they were informed their Christmas angel was born blind.

A healthily dividing embryo and they couldn't understand why
 Out of the trillions of cells that compose a body the fault laid in her eyes,

7 colours of the rainbow they recognised them all
 But the question still remained,
 Would she ever see them at all?

She held her Christmas angel, whose eyes were very frail
 With a burning question in her heart of how her eyes had failed,

Could she cope raising this girl whose sight was not yet stated?
 Was this occurring madness something blood related?

They poked and prodded and their will power was tested
 Eventually they realised that this problem shouldn't be messed with,

And so they raised their child as a normal human being
 With 206 bones, 37 trillion cells and 5 senses without the seeing

Their girl grew up rode horses, bikes and even climbed a mountain
 Now that girl who couldn't see's had 16 birthdays in counting,

Cells are a part of everyone whether they work or not
 And if they're broken you get up you smile and give it your best shot.

Poem by Charlee Jarvis, Year 12KCL

CHILDREN IN NEED 2014



Children in Need is a UK charity that helps to change the lives of disabled or disadvantaged young people in the UK for the better. Since 1980, the charity has raised over £600 million, this year raising a record £32,620,469! Once again, at Arthur Mellows we have had a successful week in November raising money for Children in Need, reaching an outstanding total of £2,370.42 which is £167.89 more than the previous year.

Kicking off the week was a Year 7 Pudsey themed bear hunt, to set the atmosphere for supporting Children in Need, followed the next day by a Year 8 and Year 9 Fete, involving a cake sale, chocolate tombola, guess Pudsey's cousin's name and a lucky dip, raising a total of £69.00. The Sixth Form Auction was the main event, with a variety of groups including: Toy Story, Loose Women, Hakuna Matata, Army Squad, Breakfast Club; The Jocks, Superheroes, The Real Superheroes and Wildcats. An excellent total of £475.65 was raised! To finish off the events, a non-uniform day was held for all years. Thank you to Bruce Campbell Year 9, who raised £60.02 for wearing uniform on 'Non-uniform day'.

A special thanks to the Sixth Form Charity team and the Charity Committee in younger years who got involved throughout the week! Outstanding efforts from all.

*By Emily Stevens, 13DLO
 (Sixth Form Charity Rep)*

Breast Cancer Awareness Day



Friday 24 October 2014 was Breast Cancer Awareness day for Arthur Mellows. As well as having a 'wear it pink' day for Sixth Formers and staff, there were 6 stalls down the main corridor: a photo booth, sweets and cake sale, sweep stake, guess the teacher (baby photos), leg waxing for a very hairy boy and guess how many sweets in the jar. In total £549.87 was raised for Breast Cancer Awareness; combined with the money raised from jeans for genes day a total of £855.72 was raised. What a great success to start a new term!



By Emily Stevens, 13DLO (Sixth Form Charity Rep)

COLLEGE NEWS



Artist of the Month - Joe Butler Year 9

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You are entitled to free school meals for your children if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, an annual income **below £16,190** and **no Working Tax Credit**.
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Please note: If you, or your partner, receive any working tax credit you will not be entitled to free school meals. This condition has been set by the Government and is outlined in the Education Act 2002.

The application form must be completed by the person who receives the qualifying benefit which can be requested from the Finance Department.

If your child is entitled to free school meals but you are reluctant to take advantage of this entitlement, talk to us about your concerns. We will try to put your mind at rest. If you still decide not to take the free school meals we still encourage you to apply. You don't have to accept the free school meals but you will show on our records as being entitled. The more children who are shown as being entitled to free school meals, the more funding the school will receive. This ultimately benefits your children.

Back by Popular Demand...



**KEEP
CALM
ITS
QUIZ
NIGHT!**

With Quiz Master Mr Clyde Banks

Arthur Mellows Association
Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm
at The Golden Pheasant in Etton

Tickets to be bought by 23rd Feb from School
Reception or at the Golden Pheasant
£4 per person or £20 per team (max 6 per team)
E-mail any enquiries to angus.welch@icloud.com

POLICY CONSULTATION

The following policies are currently out for consultation to all stakeholders:

- * Admissions (Main School and Sixth Form)
- * Assessment and Provision for Pupils with Special Educational Needs

These policies can be viewed on the College website (www.arthurmellows.org). Any queries should be addressed to Mrs D Sanderson, PA to Head of College, in the first instance.

LOST AND MISSING PERSONAL ITEMS

Unfortunately, we have been experiencing a spate of items going missing from students' bags, particularly during PE and Dance lessons, when they are left unattended.

As a school, we cannot take responsibility for items lost, damaged or stolen on the premises and would urge all parents to reinforce our messages regarding valuable items on the school site.

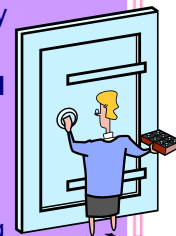
Ideally, do not bring valuable items into school.
Secure any items you may have in your locker.

It is extremely regrettable that students are experiencing the loss of their personal items, and we are looking into ways that we can further help keep items safe, but the sad truth is that we cannot guarantee that items left unattended will remain secure.

We will continue to be vigilant, and any students found to be taking the possessions of others will face College, and possibly Police sanctions.

Thank you for reading this and for reinforcing our messages regarding personal property,

MR M NORRIS, Assistant Headteacher



COLLEGE NEWS

NEW ONLINE PARENTS' EVENING BOOKING SYSTEM

Due to parental feedback over the past year, and a wish to improve our systems for all, we have introduced a new intuitive and easy to use online appointment booking system for Parents' Evenings. This system allows you to select your own appointment times with selected teachers and once confirmed, will send you an email to confirm all appointments made for the evening. We have just successfully trialled the new system with our Year 13 students and have received some very positive feedback.

Parents/carers of each Year Group will receive an email message and letter home, prior to each appropriate Parents Evening, detailing how to go about accessing the system and booking appointment slots. Should any parent/carer not have access to the internet, then details of who to contact to make appointments on your behalf will also be contained in the email and letter.

We hope that you find this new system to be easy to use and give you more control over which teachers you see, at a time convenient to you. As with any new system there may be a few teething issues and we welcome any feedback that you would like to make as the year progresses.



THIS ITEM BELONGS TO

Please remember to label all students' property, including shoes, trainers, school bags, pencil cases etc...

We have lots of missing bags/PE kits which we would like to return to the rightful owners but are unable to do so as they are not labelled.

Thank you

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Following the recent Ofsted inspection Behaviour at Arthur Mellows was rated as Outstanding:

'Students' behaviour is excellent, both in lessons and around the academy.

Students are keen to learn; their excellent relationships with their teachers mean the atmosphere within lessons is purposeful and positive.

Students are safe and well cared-for' (quote from Ofsted report December 2014). To view the schools Behaviour policy please go to the College website (www.arthurmellows.org).

YEAR 12/13 BURSARY INFORMATION A message from the Finance department 16-19 Bursary Fund

Is your household income less than £30,000 a year? If so, you could get extra financial support.

By applying to the 16-19 Bursary Fund you could get financial assistance towards the cost of: transport, books, educational trips, schools meals, exam re-sits etc.

If you think you are eligible for a bursary please complete the application form obtained from the Finance Office or Student Services.

Any questions, please see Mrs Griggs or Mrs Elworthy in confidence.

POLICE AND CRIME FORUM

We have now held two meetings of the Police and Crime Forum, which is run by Nicola Fenton, an outreach worker for the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime commissioner. Topics under discussion have varied from issues concerning cycling to school, to fear of crime and most recently the group has focused on the issue of hate crime. If any students are interested in joining this group, see Mrs Reilly.

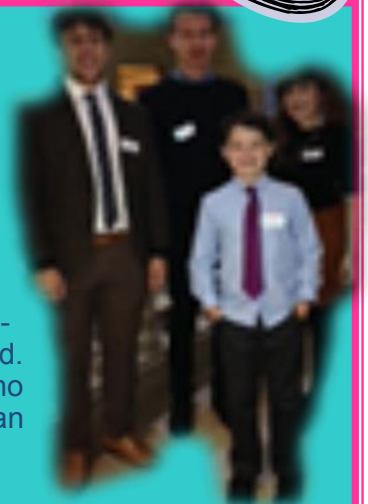


LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK

Students Ella Farrow, Lewis Selwyn, Josh Ferguson and Bryn Jones recently took part in a competition at Peterborough Town Hall.

The students presented a report to the council on an issue which they felt strongly about: 'Developing the role of young people in decision making on environmental issues'. The group argued that decisions on key issues such as developing alternative energies are often vetoed by older people and yet these decisions will ultimately affect the younger generation in the future. They wanted the opportunity to engage with the debate and to have an impact on the decision-making process and also proposed to the council how this could be achieved. They have since met with Gillian Beasley, CEO of Peterborough City Council, who has offered to take up their cause. One idea that has been proposed is to hold an environmental youth conference at the Key Theatre in March 2015.

By Mrs Reilly, Assistant Headteacher



COLLEGE NEWS

RECOMMENDING READING

YEAR 7



YEAR 8



PLEASE SPEAK TO EITHER MRS WRIGHT OR MRS HOPPE IN THE LIBRARY ABOUT BORROWING ANY OF THESE TITLES.

YEAR 9



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

On Tuesday 2 December 2014, 20 students jumped into taxis for a visit to Thorpe Hall, Sue Ryder Hospice. We were given a tour of the beautiful building where we met staff, volunteers and patients. We were fascinated to hear how the staff create a positive environment for the patients. The chapel, for example, was equipped with comfy chairs, beautiful bright paintings, candles and teddy bears. We had a great time in the charity shop on site too. All our coursework questions were answered in one short visit.

By Mrs Blackmore, Teacher of Health and Social Care

COLLEGE NEWS

Shakespeare Schools Festival

"Ban, 'Ban, Cacaliban, Has a new master - get a new man!"- Arthur

Mellows' production of *The Tempest* was in full swing, and the sold out audience were loving it. Clemmie, a fellow Sixth Form student, was dancing around in a circle, arms flailing, legs in what must have been the most uncomfortable position and a voice straining from weeks of rehearsal in which she had to growl almost every line - her interpretation of Caliban can only be described as abstract, and absolutely amazing.

With a predominantly Sixth Form cast, Caliban wasn't the only character brought to life by an incredibly talented actress. From Rosie Reynolds' soft, sweet portrayal of Miranda, to Ellie Simpson's wonderful adaptation of Ferdinand and Daisy Pickup's hilariously drunken Stephano, the cast wasn't short of talent.



This high standard was only furthered by Billie Hargreaves and Nathan Smith, playing Gonzalo and Alonso, both commanding attention from their presence on stage.

The fantastic characterisation is not only down to the cast, but the influence of student director and Year 13 student Ella Farrow. The chemistry between the cast and directors (including Mr Bold and Miss Clennett) was evident, both on and off stage. Everyone was working towards the same vision, and ideas rolled effortlessly. One thing Shakespeare Schools Festival never fails to create is the sense of family; the friendships made during rehearsals stay for years to come and are with

people you would never have met if you weren't involved.

Putting together a 30 minute production, especially when using the works of Shakespeare, required a lot of hard work, dedication and team work. However, after 6 weeks of intense rehearsal, performance night came, and I know I'm not just speaking for myself when I say emotions were running high. For many cast members, the fact that this was the last year we could perform for Shakespeare School Festival became very real, and this only added to the supportive, close nature of the cast. For the majority of members this was not their first year taking part, with members such as Rosie and Ellie having taken part every year the Festival had run.

Congratulations to my fellow cast members, directors and everyone involved in the performance. I have heard nothing but praise about our production, and that is not just because I was in it, I promise! We're trusting you younger years to continue on our legacy without us- and we're all planning on coming back for next year's performance, we couldn't possibly miss it!

By Charlotte Morris, Year 13

*Well done to Mr Bold, Miss Clennett and Ella Farrow for their wonderful direction of *The Tempest*, a great and enjoyable play. A special mention to some of the Year 13's who have been involved with the Festival since our production of *Measure For Measure* back when they were in Year 9! This is their last performance and deserve a special mention for all their hard work and effort, you know who you are.*

A massive well done to all Sixth Form students involved in the festival this year and in years gone by - keep supporting it.

By Miss Kavanagh, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

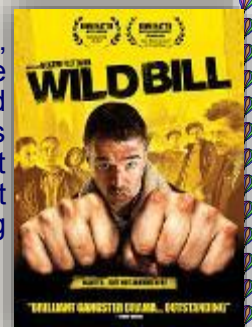
BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE TRIP



Forty-Five AS Media students went to the British Film Institute in London in November to attend a number of sessions with the OCR Chief Examiner, Pete Fraser, to help inspire them as they start their coursework, which is to create a film opening sequence. One session from a film trailer director helped students to appreciate the differences between trailers produced for British and American audiences, though the afternoon session with well known actor and director **Dexter Fletcher** was particularly helpful and insightful, both from a creative and practical perspective.

Using examples from his first feature film, '**Wild Bill**' starring Will Poulter, and the smash hit '**Sunshine on Leith**', students learned invaluable lessons about how to use music and sound effectively, the importance of locations and the key lessons in producing a visually stylish film on a tiny budget. Having said that, his idea of a tiny budget is half a million pounds, whereas our idea of a film budget is about £3.50. Despite the mind-numbing tedium of a 8 hour round trip by coach, and most students missing Pixie Lott in the neighbouring Starbucks, the trip was a great learning experience and we look forward to more fantastic coursework over the coming weeks.

By Mr Zaidi, Head of Media Studies



WW1 CENTENARY

REMEMBRANCE DAY—11 NOVEMBER 2014



100 years...the First World War remains an important part of our past to which many of us feel a close connection. This year, as well as wearing a poppy and showing respect with a minute's silence, students who are members of uniformed organisations were encouraged to attend school in their uniform.

OUR LIFE AS CADETS

We have been attending Cadets for 8 to 9 months and enjoy every minute of it. We attend camp where we learn survival techniques and how to cook from our ration packs. Our DC has taught us how we can help in the community and make a difference supporting people. At cadets, we do 2 lessons, which range from drill to the country code. Once the lessons are complete, we go on parade. We hope to carry on learning new skills,; we love our life as cadets as it is really fun.

By Paige Fowler and Chloe Crawford, 9JMF

WHO ARE WE: Whether at sea or on land, the Sea Cadets offers young people across the UK amazing opportunities for personal development, by learning new skills and working in teams, the sea cadets offers an environment where young people find new confidence and inspiration.

Sea Cadets started in 1856 by communities wanting to give young people (aged 10-18) instruction on a naval theme. Traditionally, old seafarers provided training while local businessmen funded the unit building. Today, 14,000 young people based in 400 units in towns, cities and ports across the UK are challenging themselves and developing new skills; including: sailing, boating and rock climbing, the sea cadets is supported by 9,000 volunteers

WHAT DO WE DO: Sea Cadets experience the most exhilarating and unique challenges, whether

it is hoisting the sail of a yacht, navigating waves in a powered craft, or racing down a river in a kayak, nothing compares to the feeling of being out on the water, right there in the elements. Taking on challenging nautical training onshore, on Britain's waterways and at sea, cadets learn teamwork by working together with other cadets to safely navigate Britain's coastline.

Cadets get the opportunity to take a yearly weekend unit trip to Thrapston, where they are given the choice of 4 activities: windsurfing, power boating, sailing or rowing.

JUNIOR CADETS 10-12: Cadets take part in lots of great events and exciting activities including sailing, canoeing and abseiling. Cadets also get to learn first aid, communications and other useful skills.

SEA CADETS 12-18: Sea Cadets meet once or twice a week, as well as during the summer when all the sailing and boating activity gets started, from rock climbing to kayaking, there are so many challenging and exciting opportunities.

Sea cadets take part in all kinds of competitions from music, power boating and sailing, to football and Drill, plus learning nautical skills as you complete your training. Not only is it fun, but your new skills will definitely give you a head start in life and boost your confidence - weekends will never be the same again!

ME: I joined sea cadets for new opportunities and to meet new people. Just recently, I took part in a Football competition between our district (Cams and Fens). my team won all of their matches, which took us through to the area competition.

By Charley Moore, 9MKE



COLLEGE NEWS

NORMANDY

Our annual trip to the D-Day landing beaches took place from Thursday 20 November to Sunday 23 November 2014. 24 Year 11 students, Mrs Price and Miss Kettering set off from school after a somewhat delayed start.

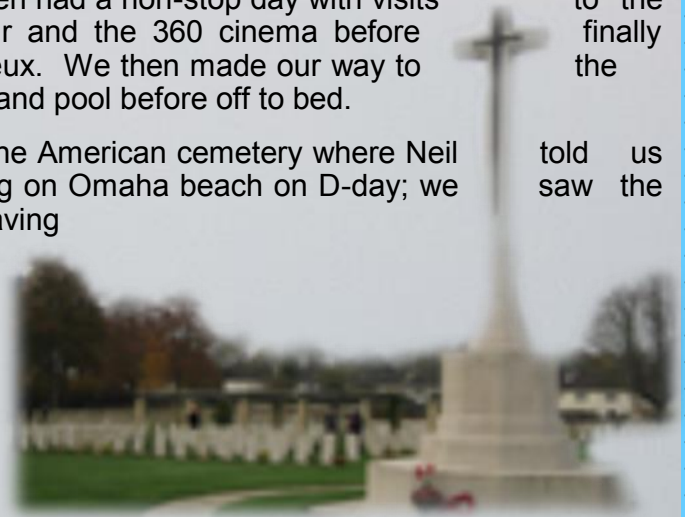
After sleeping in our cosy cabins on the ferry, we were up bright and early, and our first stop was Pegasus Bridge. We visited the actual spot where the first gliders came down on D-Day and were told the story of how the bridge was taken. We then had a non-stop day with visits to the Pegasus Bridge museum, the Mulberry Harbour and the 360 cinema before finally having some free time for a wander around Bayeux. We then made our way to the hotel for a three course meal, lots of card games and pool before off to bed.

The following day saw us at Omaha beach and the American cemetery where Neil told us some very moving stories about what went wrong on Omaha beach on D-day; we saw the graves that were the inspiration for the film 'Saving Private Ryan'. We then tried to figure out the mystery at the Vierville cemetery before making our way to Point du Hoc and the story of the American Rangers, before going for lunch at Grandcamp Maisy for some well earned pizza and chips. The afternoon was spent at St Mere Eglise and the German cemetery at La Cambe before the journey back to the hotel where we were treated to some excellent disco dancing by Lauren, Sasha and Sam amongst others.

Sunday saw us at the massive Peace museum in Caen before we held our remembrance ceremony and laid a wreath at the British cemetery at Bainville.

As always, I would like to thank Neil, our guide, who always brings the stories of the soldiers to life and to all of the Year 11 students who attended the trip. You are a credit to Arthur Mellows.

By Mrs Price, Head of History



COLLEGE NEWS

WW1 EVENING



Last summer marked the 100th year anniversary of the start of World War 1. To commemorate the occasion, Mrs Price and the Humanities department organised an evening of music, poetry, presentations, dance and displays, as an opportunity to remember the fallen soldiers and the impact of World War 1 that is still prevalent today.

The Main Hall was packed with staff, parents and members of the community who listened attentively to all the students' hard work. The display boards, by members of all Year Groups, were enjoyed by all. The displays included authentic war recipes, stories of Arthur Mellows staff relatives who fought in the war and even weaponry and aircraft information. Nearly £100 was raised for the British Legion who do fantastic work supporting veterans and their families.

A highlight for us was performing Ed Sheeran's 'I see fire' which we dedicated to the fallen soldiers, which was accompanied by Emily Newcombe on the violin.

Overall, it was a fantastic evening topped off by a one minute silence. It was a superb way to end the term and to do our bit to remember the war. Thank you to everyone who came and took part.

By Ella Farrow and Billie Hargreaves, Year 13.

MUSEUM

As part of the new Key Stage 3 curriculum, we are required to carry out a local study; therefore in October, we invited members of Peterborough Museum in to talk to all of our Year 7 students about what Peterborough was like in Roman times, and how the Romans treated various medical disorders.



After a short talk about what Peterborough, and the surrounding area, was like well over a thousand years ago, the students were then required to try and work out what a box of artefacts contained and what was the purpose of the materials. It was fascinating to see Roman writing tools and Roman toilet paper.



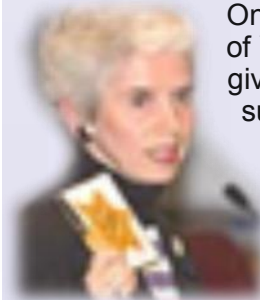
We then moved on to a discussion about what would happen in Roman times if you were taken ill. The students were required to

read several character cards and then try and work out how the Romans would have fixed the problem. An array of scary-looking instruments were shown to the students and some mock re-enactments of what would have happened were shown to our horror and disgust!

I think the Year 7's learnt a lot and we will certainly be inviting the museum in again next year.

By Mrs Price, Head of History

Holocaust Memorial Day



On Tuesday, 9 December 2014, all of Year 9 were invited to attend a talk given by a concentration camp survivor, Eva Clarke. Eva was 'The baby born in the concentration camp' and has now been a visitor to Arthur Mellows Village College for the last 4 years.

The students were told the story of Eva's mother and how after being moved around by the Nazis to various concentration camps she ended up in Auschwitz. However, Eva's mother was one of the lucky ones and was transferred to a work camp where she gave birth to Eva just as the camps were being liberated.

Some of the Year 9 students also spent time with a Holocaust Educator where they discussed the reasons behind the Holocaust and how the Jews were persecuted by the Nazi' from the minute they gained control of Germany.

Finally, my thanks go out to Mr Salt who ran an extended session after school on genocide in relation to the holocaust; this was very well received by all of the students who attended.

We hope to have Eva back into college next year to share her remarkable story again.

By Mrs Price, Head of History



COLLEGE NEWS



SOCIOLOGY TRIP TO THE CRIME AND DEVIANCE CONFERENCE

On the first day back, after half term, we went on a sociology trip to the New Bridge Youth Conference on Crime and Punishment in London. With speakers including Vicky Pryce, Sergeant Jack Rowlands, Bob Turney and Noel Smith, it covered some really interesting topics including the cost of prison, how you become involved in a life of criminality and women in prison. The trip was fascinating and really useful for our studies.

Thanks Mrs Reilly for organising the trip.

By Amy McEnroe , 13SAH

Following the fantastic trip to the Crime and Deviance Conference in London, Mrs Wright has bought the following books as recommended at the event:

1. Prisonomics – Vicky Pryce
2. Chavs – Owen Jones
3. Pain and Retribution – David Wilson
4. Innocence Betrayed – Silverman and Wilson
5. A Rusty Gun and A Few Kind Words and a Loaded Gun both by Noel “Razor” Smith

Connecting Classrooms

As part of our Connecting Classrooms project we recently had 2 visitors from our partner schools in Sudan and Kenya. Mr Ayub Nyota (a Biology teacher from Mianzini school, Kenya) and Mr Hamza Altom (an English teacher from Atbara, Sudan) were able to visit Arthur Mellows for one week between Friday 7 November and Saturday 15 November 2014.

They both arrived on Friday 7 November and were able to spend one day in London. They were tourists for the day and had a brilliant time exploring the city and got to see lots of the sights from an open-top bus. Highlights included seeing the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament.

Their visit to school started on Monday, 10 November 2014. During their time at Arthur Mellows they were able to watch school assemblies, observe lessons, talk to staff and students. This was a really valuable opportunity for all the schools as we were able to talk about similarities and differences between each of our countries.

One of the areas which we focused on during the visit was our projects for this academic year. These projects are undertaken by all 3 schools, and involve staff and students working together with the other schools.

This year our projects are:

- Issues and conflicts in school
- Recycling
- Creative writing
- Recipes and games.

During the visit students were able to talk to the visitors about the work they have done on recycling, including the new can recycling bins in the canteen. The visitors were also able to meet with the student council to talk about some of the issues the student council are discussing, for example cycling safety.

Throughout the visit, Arthur Mellows worked closely with Hampton College and Middleton Primary school who also had visitors from Sudan and Kenya. I know Mr Nyota and Mr Altom really enjoyed visiting these schools.

So far, 'Connecting Classrooms' has been a great success and we are grateful that we have been awarded the funding from the British Council to continue this project for another year. I know that as the year goes on there will be more news to report as we have the Year 7 collapsed day, Skype days and updates of our project work to follow. Finally, a big thank you to all the staff and students who made this visit such a success. I know it is something which Mr Nyota and Mr Altom will remember for a long time yet.





Christmas Concert 2014

On Tuesday, 16 December 2014, the Arthur Mellows Village College Christmas concert took place. Once again, students proved that they have a fantastic amount of musical talent and we were entertained by a large variety of groups. The standard seems to be getting higher every year and we were overwhelmed by the number of students who were keen to perform.

Some highlights included the Junior Choir who performed 'Somewhere only we know' and 'Hopeful'. The choir had some brilliant soloists including Vincent Hill, Amelia Glendinning, Georgia Kennedy and Jadeane Christian. This group, who have been working together for a number of years, produced some of their best performances. It has been brilliant to see this group continue to perform to a higher standard every year.

The string group played 2 pieces. This group have been committed to their weekly rehearsals which have been led by our strings teacher, Leon King. It has been brilliant to see this group grow and see older students supporting young students to learn their part.



The Junior Band has seen a new influx of Year 7 students who performed 2 pieces: 'Birdland' and 'White Christmas'. An excellent performance.

Solos were performed on a range of instruments and styles, all to a high standard. Congratulations to Saffy Smith, Geran Jackson, Dylan Elder, Ellie Seston, Charlotte Birch-James, Sam Harris, Megan Stainton-Roberts and Eleanor Morris.

The concert opened and closed with a performance from the orchestra. The concert closed with a performance of 'Walking in the air' conducted by Charlie Westbrook. Charlie was a fantastic conductor.

We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part. It is a tremendous achievement to perform on stage, and regularly attend all rehearsals. Thank you to all parents and staff who have supported the students involved.

By Mrs Gray, Music Teacher

