



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 17

July 2011



Message from the Head of College

At the end of the academic year there is time to reflect on everything that has happened in the preceding months. The last year has been another successful year in many respects, with the College celebrating the first year as an Academy—has anyone noticed? Apart from greater freedom with regard to overall control and budgeting, there has been very little change.

This term the College says goodbye to the following teachers: Mrs Cruise, Mr Edwards and Mrs Diver. The College wishes everyone who is leaving us, both teaching and support staff, all the very best for the future.

I would like to conclude the year by wishing everyone a great Summer break and a plea to everyone to 'stay safe' and avoid leg or ankle injuries. Those who know me will understand that I am able to 'share the pain'!

M Sandeman

Key Dates next term

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Term starts (Years 7-11) | Wednesday 7 September 2011 |
| Term starts (Sixth Form) | Monday 12 September 2011 |
| Year 7 Photos | Monday 12 September 2011 |
| European Day | Monday 26 September 2011 |
| Training Day (College closed) | Wednesday 5 October 2011 |
| Prospective Parents' Evening | Wednesday 5 October 2011 |
| Cucina Bistro Evening | Wednesday 12 October 2011 |
| Year 10 Information Evening | Monday 17 October 2011 |
| Half Term | Friday 21 October 2011 |



SUMMER 2011 EXAMINATION RESULTS DAYS

A Level Thursday 18 August 2011

GCSE Thursday 25 August 2011

From: 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

Arthur Mellows Village College
Main Hall



Message from Head Boy and Head Girl

We were nominated by our peers as candidates for the positions of Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputies. The selection process involved three parts: a speech to our Year Group followed a student vote, an application form followed by a teacher vote and an interview with Miss Reid and Mrs Duncliffe who represented the Sixth Form team along with Mr Sandeman and Mr McLaren, the Chair of Governors.

Our interview comprised of a presentation about an idea we wanted to implement for the College, as well as answering several questions about ourselves and our suitability for the role.

From the morning of being informed of our success, we have been very busy! We interviewed applicants for the Sixth Form Committee, which took all day as there were so many of them! Soon after the reps and teams were appointed, we had our first Committee Meeting and it was clear what a great team we will all be, with many exciting ideas being suggested.

When we were given our roles, we were also given specific areas to oversee. This was so that we each had a main focus and specific teams to work with. The roles are as follows:

Head Girl, Emily Beales: Year 13 prom, events team and charity team.

Head Boy, Adam Dinatale: Year 13 last day, oversee social spaces team and resources.

Deputy Head Girl, Emily Ostler: Year 13 Hoodies, Year 12 Council Rep, oversee integration.

Deputy Head Boy, Chris Lightfoot: Year 13 Yearbook, oversee press releases, admin team and Year 9 Council Rep.

We look forward to a successful year, working closely with all students, staff and parents.

By Adam Dinatale, Emily Beales, Emily Ostler and Chris Lightfoot

www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS

Charity Week in aid of the Friends of the Children of Chernobyl (FOCC)

Following an assembly to Year 8 about the FOCC, our students were inspired to raise money towards sponsoring a child called Sasha, to come over to the UK this summer. Their initial target was to raise £500, which was the cost of his flight, but they have surpassed this amount, raising £680 so far, with more sponsorship money still to come in.



The FOCC are a nationwide charity, set up in 1994, that brings children from the Mogilev region of Belarus in Russia, to the UK each year, to improve their health. Local families from the Helpston and Ginton area, voluntarily "host" children for one month a year, over three years.

In 1986 the reactor at the Chernobyl nuclear power station went into melt down, releasing highly radioactive material into the atmosphere. Mogilev was badly affected as the winds carried the waste material to this area and this continues to cause serious health problems. The water and ground in this region remain highly contaminated. Families continue to live in very basic conditions, experiencing high unemployment, with little support or money from the government.



There has been an increase of 800% in levels of cancer among children and 90% of the children suffer from vitamin deficiency with many dying as a result. By bringing children over to the UK for one month, this increases life expectancy and they return home with supplies of vitamins, essential medicines, warm clothing and money for food. As part of their fundraising initiative the Year 8 students ran a whole range of events, including a Bring and Buy Sale, Chocolate tombola, Smoothies and Cake sale and "Soak the Teacher!" Needless to say, Mr Foxtton, Head of Year 8, was a very popular victim in the stocks! A number of children also raised money through various sponsored activities, with one group even persuading their tutor to shave off his beard for charity!

Following on from our charity fundraising week, we finally got to meet some of the children from Chernobyl, who came into the College. Fifteen of our best fundraisers were each invited to act as a buddy to a child. Sasha, the child whom Year 8 students have sponsored, was presented with football boots and a Posh football shirt. A keen footballer, he was absolutely delighted with his present. This was followed by lunch for all in the canteen, where nearly everyone opted for pizza, proving that children are the same the world over!

By the time they departed everyone was great friends and we are looking forward to seeing them again next year.

Mrs S Reilly, Assistant Headteacher



DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS

Strange Face Theatre Company returning to Arthur Mellows



The Drama department are delighted to announce that 'Strange Face Theatre' will be once again performing at Arthur Mellows Village College on 27 September 2011 with their latest production

"A Rakes Progress"

An extraordinary evening of rousing songs, eccentric masks and rumbustious puppets. Inspired by William Hogarth's satirical etchings, 'A Rake's Progress' is the wild and astonishing tale of Tom Rakewell. After their sell-out tour of 'A Christmas Carol', StrangeFace present a very theatrical tale of youthful abandon and strange redemption. *Tickets will go on sale in September and will be priced at just £7.00. Tickets are limited to just 160 on a first come, first served basis.*



2012 Whole School Production 2 – 4 February 2012

Arthur Mellows Village College

Main Hall

"We Will Rock You"

Following on from the success of 'Our House', auditions will be held in September for this fantastic musical featuring the music of Queen and the words of Ben Elton. So if you are a budding Galileo, Figaro or Scaramouche or want to be a member of the chorus singing Killer Queen or see yourself as a Ga Ga kid, watch out for audition dates in September.

Mr R Wentworth, Head of Performing Arts

COLLEGE NEWS



"Prison Me No Way!"

The "Prison Me No Way!" charitable trust came into College recently and ran a Collapsed Day for our Year 9 students. The students were involved in a number of activities and presentations across the day, which were aimed at safety awareness, as well as looking at the causes and consequences of anti-social behaviour.

Visiting speakers included ex Prison Officers, Magistrates, the Fire and Ambulance service, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Police and Transport Police. Students were given the opportunity to act out a scenario, where the consequences of seemingly minor delinquency were seen to escalate and quickly get out of control. They were also shown the inside of an actual prison cell during a talk about prison. The Transport Police highlighted the dangers of level crossings, whilst the Police gave a talk about knife crime. ASTRA presented on the risks associated with young drivers, including speeding and drink driving. All of the speakers had personal experiences of dealing with accidents, which made it all the more relevant and poignant for our students. Students were made aware of the law through talks by the Youth Offending team, the Police and the Magistrates. Alcoholics Anonymous included ex alcoholics who shared their personal life stories with the students.

When asked what they had learnt from the day, the students commented:

"I learnt that a knife does not actually defend you." "Some of the workshops were very hard hitting, but it got the message across." "The transport police and ASTRA were very interesting and provided a real view of life. I learnt that people can do the stupidest things to save time."



For more information about the trust 'Prison Me! No way!' go to <http://www.pmnw.co.uk/>

Choir of the Year 2011

On Thursday 7 July students in Year 7 took part in a singing event in which every Form Group became a Choir, led by their music teacher. The class selected a song, and over the last 6 weeks rehearsed their song in order to compete against the other Form Groups in an informal competition.

Students worked very hard, and all classes achieved an excellent outcome. Our panel of judges made the following decisions. Best Choir:

- ♫ 1st Place 7CGE;
- ♫ 2nd Place 7VWA;
- ♫ 3rd Place 7EHO

If you wish to read about other awards please visit the College website: www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

Mrs T Hammond, Head of Music



Arthur Mellows Village College - Summer Music Evening 2011

On Tuesday 28 June we held our Summer Music evening at Arthur Mellows Village College. It was an evening of high standards and a wide range of musical styles. I have had so many lovely comments about the evening, and what I have found is that so many people found a different part of the evening stood out to them. Some said that their highlight was the amazing and moving sax playing of Matt Smith.



Some said that it was the technical accomplishment of Aileen Baird and others said the Junior Choir's rendition of "Firework". More than anything, parents liked our collaboration with William Law Primary School. To see such young students performing alongside our senior students was a very lovely sight, valued by both William Law students and Arthur Mellows students alike.

I am again impressed by the commitment of our students, and their willingness to give up their time in pursuit of excellence.

A recording of the evening and more photographs will shortly be available on our school website.

Mrs T Hammond, Head of Music



COLLEGE NEWS

Sporting Achievement

Alex McNally 12ECH qualified for the 100m sprint at the English Schools Track and Field Championships this year. He was one of 25 athletes across Cambridgeshire to go to the Championships held in Gateshead on 1 and 2 July 2011.



Alex has achieved the National entry standard of 10.9 which is a fantastic time and we are very proud of him. He also ran the first leg in the Senior Boys' relay team, winning a Bronze medal. With all the points tallied, Cambridgeshire Schools won 'The Rotary Trophy'.

Congratulations go to all the athletes, team managers and coaches for a successful weekend.

Mrs Burke, LSA

Arthur Mellows Staff XI vs Ginton Village

This might sound like some kind of lame, genteel excuse for eating cucumber sandwiches and drinking real ale on a balmy summer's evening, but this was in fact a fiercely competitive and ultimately epic sporting encounter. Missing the blistering pace attack of Sandeman and the batting prowess of Norris, on paper this looked a weakened Arthur Mellows team, with the numbers made up by an assortment of ex-staff, rugby-playing members of the PE department and in Tom Neaverson, a former student.

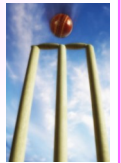


Captain Mr Steele lost the toss and our opening bowlers soon found themselves being hammered around Ginton by some big-hitting villagers. A particular stand-out moment to illustrate the competitive nature of this match occurred when Mr Gilligan's fearsome pace attack left one of their star batsmen holding a shattered bat, one he had apparently been given as an 18 year-old which – without wishing to be unkind – looked like it was a few decades ago.

I should probably mention at this point that the village team all came out in immaculate whites, with helmets and 21st century kit. The AMVC team, by comparison, were reduced to using school kit, most of which looked like WG Grace cast-offs. Their bowlers were fast; Phillips and Gilligan were soon back in the Pavilion whilst our remaining batsmen could be heard counting down the numbers of balls their faster bowlers had left before the lesser bowlers came on. Fortunately, Mr Walls put in a decent Boycottesque innings, well supported by new Deputy Head Boy Chris Lightfoot. The total started to creep up. Six overs passed without another wicket being lost. Briefly, hope flickered.

**If you would like to know the final score please go to:
www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk**

Mr Zaidi, Media Studies



READATHON



The school are delighted to have launched 'Readathon', a sponsored reading event that aims to get young people reading, whilst also raising money for charities.

By the time you read this, every student in Year 7 and Year 8 will have been given a sponsorship card and hopefully will have selected a few books that they will read over the summer. In return for their commitment to this reading, we hope that parents, extended family and friends will sponsor our students, with all funds raised going to CLIC Sargent and The Roald Dahl Foundation, both of which support seriously ill young people in this country.



If your son or daughter is in Year 7 or 8, please do support them in this undertaking; students benefit from reading more widely and developing their vocabulary, charities benefit from the funds raised, and parents benefit from a bit of peace and quiet!

Although mainly aimed at Year 7 and 8, if any other students are keen to partake then there are extra sponsorship forms available from Mrs Wright in the library.

Mr Norris, Head of English

MATHS CHALLENGE

On Monday 11 July 2011, 33 Year 7 and Year 8 students battled it out in the AMVC Maths team challenge.



8 teams puzzled their way through 4 intense rounds of challenges in a bid to become the AMVC winners for 2011.

The 4 students who shone the most go forward to the regional final next year and will be up against the best and brightest mathematicians in this area. The students had to work together as a team, solving problems and even running a mathematical relay race in order to become victorious. By the second round the three top teams were extremely close with Pythagoras just itching in front. Fermat and Fibonacci were very close behind. After a nail biting finish to the relay race the points were in. 3rd place went to Euclid, 2nd was team Fibonacci and in 1st place team Pythagoras.

All the students involved were absolutely fantastic. They worked well in their teams and were a credit to the College, well done! I would also like to thank all the Year 12 students who helped out throughout the morning. Without their help, this challenge would not have been possible.

Mrs Flowers, Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Maths