



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 50

February 2017



Message from the Head of College

The highlight of this half term has most definitely been the College Production – Hairspray. I was privileged to attend the opening night and felt rightfully proud to be Headteacher of Arthur Mellows and the amazing wealth of talent that presented on stage. I cannot single out one individual performance – you were all truly wonderful and an absolute credit to the College. It goes without saying that the production could not have gone ahead without the hard work of the staff at the College in many different areas. Special mention must go to the Expressive Arts department who gave their all in additional rehearsals at weekends, after school and at lunchtimes as well as carrying out their normal ‘day jobs’. Thank you for your hard work and commitment – the show would not be possible without you.

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The College’s transfer to Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) continues and by the time of the next Voice newsletter, Arthur Mellows and Fulbridge Academy should be the lead schools in the Four Cs MAT. The relationship of two outstanding schools coming together so as to influence education further afield within the City will continue to advance and I will keep parents informed of developments as they happen. Parents should be rest assured that the high standards of Arthur Mellows will in no way be compromised by the transfer to MAT status; if anything student learning will be enhanced.

May I wish everyone a very well deserved half term.

M Sandeman, Head of College

KEY DATES

Term resumes	Monday 27 February 2017
EPQ Presentation Evening	Thursday 2 March 2017
Year 12 Geography Trip	Wednesday 8 March 2017
Student Photo’s Year 11, 12 and 13	Wednesday 8 March 2017
Year 8 Collapsed Day	Friday 10 March 2017
Intermediate UKMT Maths Challenge	Thursday 16 March 2017
Year 9 Battlefields trip	Friday 17 March 2017
Presentation Evening	Wednesday 5 April 2017
G&T Cross Curricular Project KS3/4	Friday 7 April 2017
Spring Term Ends	Friday 7 April 2017
Summer Term Opens	Tuesday 25 April 2017



ACCESS TO THE COLLEGE PREMISES



In order to prevent accidents, Parents are reminded that they should not drive onto the College premises to drop off and/ or collect their children. This includes the third entrance that gains access to the Sixth Form and the Staff Car Parks. All drop-offs and collections should take place away from the main entrances to the College. Your assistance is appreciated.

The College only operates a certificated First Aid service. We do not have any fully qualified health professionals on site.



An increasing number of students are presenting themselves at the First Aid room saying they feel unwell first thing in the morning. This is becoming increasingly difficult for the College to manage as sickness bugs, coughs and colds are an inherent part of our daily lives. There is very little a First Aider can offer for **general ‘cold’ symptoms other than ask students to return to lessons.** If you believe your child is ill, then the best place for them is to be kept at home and/or referred to the appropriate external health professional.

When students present themselves, as with all First Aid provision, the staff provide a triage service that makes an immediate assessment as to which of the following is appropriate: either to send back to lesson, call parents / carers to collect, or in the case of a perceived emergency, an ambulance would be called. Please rest assured that First Aid staff will always contact the parent should they be concerned that your child is not well enough to be in school.

Your support in helping the College with this matter is very much appreciated.

COLLEGE NEWS

CYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS



On Tuesday, 31 January, a whole day Cycle Awareness Event took place for all Key Stage 3 students. It was a very worthwhile event, allowing students to get up close and personal with the various exhibits that included heavy duty trucks, and speaking with the drivers of such vehicles. It gave students the opportunity to fully understand the dangers and risks when cycling with such vehicles on the road, to take greater care and be extra vigilant when cycling. AMVC students also had the opportunity to climb into these vehicles and experience first-hand, how difficult it was for drivers to see cyclists on the road from various angles.

Overall, a worthwhile experience for all.

Mrs Harrison, Head of Year 8



Year 8 Charity Peterborough Streets



This year, we were asked to sponsor one charity of our choice to help fundraise for. We were delighted to work with Peterborough Streets, or more locally known as

Peterborough Soup Kitchen. In the run-up to the Christmas holidays, the Year 8 team and their Tutor Groups focused on food fundraising, as this is what the charity specifically said would help the clients most on Christmas morning. The support for this worthy cause was overwhelming, with food donations coming in, not just from the Year 8 cohort of students but from the whole school student and staff body. Donations were generous, both in quality and quantity. I would like to say a massive thank you to the Year 8 students for collating such food donations, to all parents who so kindly and generously donated and to Mrs Wright in the Library who manned the food fundraiser postal box.

**Mrs Harrison and
Miss Sumner - Year 8**



STUDENT SUCCESSES

AMVC would like to congratulate Jenny Donaldson in her tremendous achievement in securing a prestigious place for the grand finale of a national competition. Jenny will be competing in the grand final in March 2017 in Lancashire with girls from all over the country.

To help secure her finalist place in the competition, Jenny has had to **fundraise and show support for 'The Christie NHS Foundation Trust'** in Manchester, which is the largest cancer treatment Centre in Europe. She arranged a Cake Sale at Peterborough City Council which was held on Thursday 16 February 2017. There will be a coffee morning at The Green Dragon in Ryhall on Friday 23 February, and a sponsored walk at Tallington Lakes on Sunday 25 February. Furthermore, Jenny has been visiting her local primary school to read to the children so as to strengthen her community links with her village.

This is an incredible opportunity for Jenny, offering her the chance to travel, compete on an international stage and engage with other contestants of various cultures and ethnicities.

CAREERS

Do you need help with:

- Applying for Jobs or Apprenticeships
- Completing Application Forms
- Career Advice and Guidance
- Local Employer Information
- Any career related problem

Then make an appointment to see Mrs Dawson (opposite S11)

Please note:
Mrs Dawson's working days are Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays



Mrs Dawson

FRIENDS OF CHERNOBYL'S CHILDREN (HELPSTON AND DISTRICT) THANKS ARTHUR MELLOWS VILLAGE COLLEGE FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Total raised £1,257.06

Thank you to all parents/carers and students who helped raise such a fantastic amount for this excellent charity.

The Children from Chernobyl will be joining us this summer at Arthur Mellows and this money will go a long way to making their trip enjoyable and rewarding.

Mr Jones, Head of Year 7



COLLEGE NEWS

Congratulations

Jaxon Simmons, Year 12.
Jaxon recently broke the British record for the 1500m Front Crawl. Jaxon is 15 seconds off the World record.



Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys and Girls Sports Hall Athletics Teams for taking part in the Inter School Tournament!!



ELLIE SIMPSON ACHIEVES HER GOLD DofE AWARD

On Tuesday, 29 November 2016, I collected my Gold Duke of Edinburgh award from the Palace after meeting the Duke of Edinburgh and Mary Berry. The Palace was bigger than I had imagined, with a string quartet band playing as we walked through doors big enough for a giant. The décor was magnificent, red and gold walls littered with paintings. Although I enjoyed every moment at the Palace, it was sad as it made it official that my Duke of Edinburgh experience was over, which honestly is a shame, because if given the chance to do it all again, I would in a heartbeat.

Signing up to the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award is definitely not something that I will regret, although at first I will admit that I signed up because my mum wanted to meet the Duke and I **knew it would 'be good for my CV' as all the teachers had seemed to drill into us.**

My first Bronze expedition was eventful: camping, being entirely self-sufficient, carrying a bag that felt heavier than myself, having to map-read! These were all things that I never thought I would see myself doing as a chubby little Year 7. Ever. But I managed **it. We managed it...a group of 6 clueless girls navigated our way** around the Stamford area without arguing, getting hurt, or even losing anyone, although I must admit we got lost more times than I could count. Even though the expedition was only 2 days, I felt a sense of achievement, a sense of pride that I had pushed myself and achieved something recognisable.

Then came the Silver award. The first evening we arrived at camp, we were putting our tent up when we realised we had a problem. A mouldy tent with no outer layer. Brilliant. Luckily, it was the practice expedition, so Mrs Ward was able to come to **the rescue...as always! The next evening, those in the year** above, who were doing their qualifying expedition soon started to teach us their pastimes for evenings at the campsite, such as **'flip-flop rounders' and 'tent tennis'. Great fun.**

Throughout the next few days all it seemed to do was rain. One memorable evening was trying to cook dinner; I had insisted **that I would cook quinoa for my group as it would be 'healthier and tastier'. But oh wow, I have never regretted something so** much. We were sitting outside in the pouring rain, freezing cold **waiting for it to cook for almost 2 hours. Thinking about it, that's probably a mistake you don't want to make. But again, at the end** of the expedition, I felt a sense of pride and satisfaction that we had managed to survive our adventure to Keswick.



Then came Gold, a week-long expedition around the Lake District. I knew that this was going to be tougher than the Bronze and Silver awards as I had to walk a longer distance whilst carrying a heavier bag. I was determined to complete it to prove to myself that I am capable of anything once I put my mind to it. Throughout the first day we had our radio on full-blast singing to the pretty awful Yorkshire radio as we walked through fields of cows, up hills and through quaint villages. By the third day the **batteries had run out so we turned to a capella...it's probably a** good job we were in the middle of nowhere as that was a skill we were still perfecting. On the fourth day we ended up having a very eventful afternoon getting lost in the biggest forest known to man. To this day, I am still not sure how we got so lost. I can remember climbing up the bank to the highest point to see if I was able to locate anything that looked even remotely similar to the map, and all I could see for miles was forest. However, we did finally make it out, after 3 hours of walking round in circles. The moment we made it to the final checkpoint I **couldn't have been happier, I, me, had completed the Gold Duke** of Edinburgh award.

You may perceive these stories as funny, scary or somewhat exciting, but what I am trying to convey is that the Duke of Edinburgh award has taught me so much. It has equipped me with so many skills, from teamwork to map-reading to problem solving. I also learnt to push myself, to be more resilient, to try new things. And on top of all of that was a trip to the palace to meet the Duke of Edinburgh. It has provided me with experiences that I will never forget.

By Ellie Simpson; Ellie is in her second year studying Environmental Science at Leeds University.

COLLEGE NEWS

WHO NEEDS LALALAND WHEN WE CAN HAVE ARTHUR MELLOWS HAIRSPRAY?

On Thursday 9, Friday, 10 and Thursday, 11 February, we staged our 2017 show *Hairspray*. Approximately 120 students from Year 7 all the way up to Year 13 have been hard at work since September in order to put on the polished and hilarious performance that was delivered. Students and teachers alike have dedicated time after school, during lunchtimes and even weekends to tackle this ambitious production.

A special thankyou goes out to the many staff at Arthur Mellows who made the show possible including colleagues from Technology, Science, Media, Textiles, Administration, Senior Leadership, Cover and Finance. An extended thank you also goes out to all those colleagues who supported in the audience.

As many audience members have confirmed, the students executed complex characterisation, difficult harmonies and challenging choreography. In role as the lead character Tracy Turnblad, Amelia Glendinning gave a truly stunning performance, evoking laughter whilst also bringing a tear to the eyes of many with her solo song. The audience were shocked to know that Amelia is a Year 9 student as she approached the part with such talent, professionalism and maturity.



including her 'unexpected adlib' and treatment of Link as her pet. Mpho Mazibeli (Seaweed) stunned the audience with his dance moves and developed a convincing love interest with Penny. Megan Stainton-Roberts (Motormouth Maybelle) ensured that there was not a dry eye in the auditorium for her beautiful solo which was soulfully sung. Her characterisation consistently captivated the audience and they were so quick to suspend their disbelief. Tariq Chahboun (Corny Collins) delivered some excellent vocals in his songs and managed to convince the audience that he was in fact Corny Collins. His comical lines were delivered fantastically, most memorably 'maybe not quite so free-wheeling!'

Along with the lead characters, the band managed to flawlessly play a highly complex score with the support of some of the music staff at Arthur Mellows and they were beautifully complemented by the Dynamites who sang a range of songs including sensitive and emotive harmonies, along with soulful belters! Likewise, the core Gifted and Talented dance troupe wowed the audience with their execution of such inventive and diverse choreography. A special mention must go out to Maisie Watson, who performed a tear-jerking solo which she choreographed herself!



Other principal characters were played by Jack Hopkins (Link) who delivered cheesy lines with such excellent comic timing and mastered some difficult harmonies in his songs with ease. Kiran Double (Edna) and the equally hilarious James Venters (Wilbur) performed one of the funniest moments with their song 'Timeless to Me' in which they created a comical and believable relationship – their stage kiss will go down in Arthur Mellows history. Cara Termine (Penny) managed to keep the audience giggling throughout with her exaggerated 'geeky' characterisation and infatuation with Seaweed! Scarlet Maher (Velma) managed to make the audience jump every night with her ground shaking screams. Her evil characterisation was hilariously funny and through only small head flicks and a 'sassy' walk, she managed to make the audience erupt with laughter. Maddie Glendinning (Amber) played a convincing 'bully' character with some lovely vocals and hilarious outbursts



It saddens the staff at AMVC to say goodbye to many of the committed cast at the end of this year and would like to thank them for their years of dedication to school productions. They really have been the key to making them the successes they are! It is great to see so much new talent coming through the school and we are excited to see those new to the productions blossom over the years.

Miss Clennett, Head of Drama

COLLEGE NEWS

In the words of one of our teachers, Mrs Blackmore who came on Thursday...

"WHO NEEDS LALALAND WHEN WE CAN HAVE ARTHUR MELLOWS HAIRSPRAY?"

It has been a long old winter and while most of us have been working away, well over 100 of us have been preparing the most amazing treat.



If the cast could have seen the faces on the audience, they would have seen nothing but smiles from start to finish. In fact, I am still grinning just thinking about the fun and sheer exuberance of the performance. What a stunning show...girls, you all looked wonderful...those 60's ladies knew a thing or two about beauty with their flared dresses and their pony tails.



It is impossible to know where to start in my praise of the main characters. You can sing, you can dance, you are hilarious. Mums and daughters? Husband and wife? Boyfriend and girlfriend? School detention? Prison cell? It's all there with a fabulous dance and a laugh. Wilbur and Edna, your dance should be available on prescription.

Oh...and there was a message loud and clear.



stage (wow girls, you can sing!) worked together as a whole.

Prejudice and small-minded obsession with weight? We have no time for you.

The whole performance... fabulous touch having The Dynamites on



The band are outstanding, the dancers are enchanting to watch and so skilled, the ensemble crew, we loved you.



It is because every single one of you is performing every second you are on stage, that we get such a wonderful overall experience.

And another teacher...

"I came to last night's production, and I am struggling to put into words what an excellent group of talented students we have at Arthur Mellows Village College



I loved every moment of the show, as did my daughter, who on the way home said, 'shall we go again?'"

Mr Auty - "If you missed it then you have my sincere sympathy. Amazing; a total treat for the senses from start to finish!

One of the best comments I heard was when my daughter asked me if the school was a specialist school for performing arts!"



GOVERNOR NEWS

WHAT DO GOVERNORS DO?

The Governors are appointed to oversee various different aspects of how the College is run. There are different committees that create, review and amend the policies which govern the College. We have a Curriculum and Standards Committee which looks in particular at what subjects are offered to the students. We have recently looked at the Homework Policy and also how achievement is monitored. There is a Personnel Committee that deals with staffing at the College and a Property Committee that deals with the physical condition of the site; this committee recently over saw the creation of the new Year 7/8 playground. There are also committees dedicated to Students and Safeguarding and the ever tightening Finance and Administrative running of the College. Each committee meets once a term with Full Governors meetings taking place four times a year.



It is at the Full Governors meeting that the College Accounts are presented and approved, and where the Head of College presents his report. Full Governors also approve the College Improvement Plan which agrees the area of focus for the College moving forward. Many of the policies can be found on the website and this should be the first stop for any parents who want to be aware of the policies governing issues.

In order to better communicate what we are doing, the Governors intend to produce regular short articles in future editions of the Voice detailing what policies a committee has been considering, so watch this space.

Sarah Humble, Arthur Mellows School Governor

PE NEWS

ANGLIAN SCHOOLS CROSS-COUNTRY

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to represent Cambridgeshire in the 'Anglian Schools Cross Country on Saturday, 4 February 2017.

Junior Girls

Chelsie Bole – 14th
Harriet Salisbury – 43rd

Inter Girls

Molly Jones – 30th

Inter Boys

Ben Roberts – 48th

Senior Boys

Denzil Mpofu



Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2017

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers again this year to collect free sports equipment for the College. Please can you bring in any vouchers and give these to the PE Department or place in the box in Main Reception.

YEAR 5 TABLE TENNIS FESTIVAL

On Wednesday, 1 February 2017, 210 students from our feeder primary schools, in the Soke cluster, came to Arthur Mellows to play table tennis. Each school brought a whole class, or Year Group, of Year 5 students. The students were split into groups of 4 and were coached by Sports Leaders and BTEC students in Year 12 and Year 10 respectively.



Barnack, Castor, Wittering, Duke of Bedford attended before Lunch, whilst Peakirk cum Glinton, Northborough and Newborough visited after Lunch. Arthur Mellows students had been spending lesson time, before the event, preparing and planning activities and games for the Year 5 students. Arthur Mellows Year 12 and Year 10 students will evaluate the sessions and will take their learning into consideration before planning for the Football and Netball competitions which are the next primary event in the calendar taking place on Tuesday, 21 March 2017.



Mrs Wilding, PE department

PE NEWS



Amazing win for our Year 8 Girls Football Team at the Area Finals

Following on from their win at the Peterborough United Girls Football tournament back in November 2016, our team went on to represent Peterborough United at the Area Finals held in Nottingham on Thursday, 12 January 2017.

We took a strong team of 8 girls by minibus to Notts County's training ground for the day. We were really lucky with the weather as the snow held off and we had good conditions for the tournament. The girls arrived and were met by Ethan, the representative POSH had sent to support the girls. We were shown to our own dressing room with a Peterborough United logo on!!

Ten teams had won through to the Area final; Nottingham Forest, Sheffield Wednesday, Rotherham United, Doncaster Rovers, Notts County, Mansfield Town, Sheffield United, Chesterfield Town, Derby County and our girls representing Peterborough United.

The games were short which made it all the more impressive when we scored 4 in the first game, Jess getting a hat trick. Our girls continued to play really well remaining unbeaten in our group, meaning we finished top of our group.

Sheffield Wednesday 0 – 4 Peterborough
Peterborough United 0 – 0 Nottingham Forest
Doncaster Rovers 0 – 1 Peterborough
Peterborough United 0 – 0 Rotherham

In the Semi Finals, we played against Chesterfield United. We felt we were actually the stronger team and could have scored more goals but we were thrilled when Shelley Broadway stepped up to score the decisive goal that sent us through to the final.

We were up against Derby County in the final, who had also won their group, but we had watched them play and although they had some very strong players, we were still confident. Our

girls had a great team talk beforehand (and were mistakenly told that if they won that they would be going to Wembley!!!)

All we can say is that they saved the best performance until last, starting brilliantly. Jess Broadway latched onto a great through ball in the first 2 minutes lashing home the shot. This was fantastic but meant that we had to hold on to this lead for the rest of the game. We kept pushing forwards but got caught on the break and with 2 minutes to go one of their players went down in our box: penalty! Lauren in goal did an amazing job, standing up tall and made the County player shoot wide. The girls took control of the game and deserved their win.

The team now progress to the Regional Finals in Sheffield, which will take place on Friday 3 March 2017.

We are looking forward to the challenge and know, for certain this time, a chance to play at Wembley is waiting for the winners.



The Team:

Jess Broadway	Lauren Mapleston
Shelley Broadway	Isabella Chaudhuri
Maddison Moore	Lucy Rowe
Lara Hunnybun	Zoe Bateman

We are very proud of the achievements of the team getting to this stage of a national tournament and also we would like to say a big thank you to James Ferris, our Sixth Form team manager, who has given up his time to coach them over the past few months and helped to manage the team on the day.

Mrs Griggs and Mrs Richardson, PE Department

YEAR 7 SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS



Once again AMVC athletes put on a winning display.

On Wednesday 18 January, we took our best Year 7 Boys and Girls to compete in the Inter School Sports Hall Athletics competition at Stanground School.

This is an introduction to Athletics for younger students which allows them to try out different indoor events such as Parlafs, speed bounce and shot put, to help them enjoy athletics and hopefully go on to compete in the summer months.

All our students had given up their time to attend trials in the previous weeks, and had proved themselves to be the strongest and fastest athletes in their Year Group at these events.

Arriving at Stanground, we were all excited to compete against the other athletes representing their schools.

Once again, our athletes excelled in both their field and track events, the majority of them winning their events. Both the girls

and boys team won their relay events. We were very proud when the results were announced that we were overall winners in both events.

A big congratulation to all the students who took part. You deserved your victories.

The Winning Boys Team

George Lomax
Billy Thorpe
Jack McKenzie
Sam Fielding
Myles Milne
Mekhi Underwood
Riley Taylor

The Winning Girls Team

Jolie Franks
Elouise Porter
Eve Evans
Harriet Salisbury
Grace Pye
Millie Ryan

Mrs Richardson, PE department

hairspray



HAIRSPRAY CAST - FEBRUARY 2017