



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 51

April 2017



Message from the Head of College

I am pleased to announce that since the last edition of the Voice, Arthur Mellows Village College is now a school within the Four Cs MAT (Multi-Academy Trust). Also in the trust are Fulbridge Academy who we will be working very closely with over coming times. This process formalises the coming together of two outstanding schools, both who have very high expectations of the children with great results. We are all very excited about the partnership we have created and the collaborative work that we will be undertaking together.

In this edition I would also like to raise the current issue of school funding that has received a great deal of national press of late. It is not easy as a parent to fully comprehend the extent of the reductions that will affect Arthur Mellows. As the least well-funded school in Peterborough, the outcome of the proposed cuts will have a detrimental effect on the breadth of opportunities that Arthur Mellows can offer. A great deal of leadership time has been spent in trying to mitigate the projected reductions of income. You may have heard about the new national funding formula which will unfortunately bring in even less money to Arthur Mellows if it continues in its present form. The level of cutbacks is now expected to be so great that we can no longer maintain all the elements that this school has historically developed over time.

I will be sending a more detailed letter home early in the new term to explain the rationale and some of the areas under consideration for cost-saving but in the meantime I would urge parents to make contact with their local MPs and ask them to hold the national government to account over the provision of properly funded state education.

Whilst I am sure Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be using the time effectively in terms of their revision in the run-up to the external examinations taking place next term, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a restful Easter break.

M Sandeman, Head of College



KEY DATES

Summer Term Opens	Tuesday 25 April 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Launch Evening Year 9	Thursday 27 April 2017
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 May 2017
Year 12 - Ensemble Performance	Wednesday 3 May 2017
Sweat the Technique	Thursday 4 May 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award	Friday 5 May 2017
Year 13 - Ensemble Performance	Thursday 11 May 2017
Duke of Edinburgh Practice	Friday 12 May 2017
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Monday 15 May 2017
Year 10 Switzerland Trip	Friday 26 May 2017
Half term	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2017
Summer term resumes	Monday 5 June 2017

NOTICE: Due to issues being experienced in the village of Ginton connected with the 20mph speed limit, yellow lines and parking restrictions being ignored, we have been advised by the Parish Council that they are asking for Cambridgeshire Police to address the issues. Although it is appreciated that Helpston Road, at the start and end of the school day, is extremely congested with pedestrians, cars and buses, we would ask that drop-offs and pick-ups are always carried out with the utmost courtesy to the residents and that safety is at the forefront of everyone's minds. Your support in helping us retain good relationships with local residents is very much appreciated.



WORLD BOOK DAY

To celebrate 20 years of World Book Day, we decided to hold a party in the Resources Centre.

Year 7 students were invited along to have cakes, a drink and to join in the various activities around the Library. These were crosswords and word searches relating to books they have recently studied in English, namely *Private Peaceful* and *The Tempest*. We were surprised at just how competitive Year 7 students were with a Shakespeare-themed crossword!

We also ran a World Book Day competition open to all years. This was to write a book review on a book that had influenced their life or that had lingered in their memory long after reading it. Although we did not have many entries, the overall winner,

Alina Achandy in 9THO, blew us away with her unique and creative entry.

The Team at WBD have done a survey of young people and adults who nominated the books that have 'rocked their worlds'. They published the ultimate list of books they have created. If you would like a copy, please get in touch with Mrs Wright or Mrs Hoppe in the Library.

Mrs Wright, Resources Manager



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Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS

ARTHUR MELLOWS ASSOCIATION

We are very proud to be one of the few secondary schools in the Peterborough area that has an active Parent Teacher Association known as the Arthur Mellows Association (AMA). We are a group of parents who seek to support the college through fundraising and assisting the college where we can.

We have previously provided some funds for a school mini bus, outdoor seating and African drums. Last year we donated funds to the Media department to help provide a 'green screen' area, lighting and cameras.

We are currently donating funds to several departments including English, PE and Textiles.

The AMA also provides second hand uniform sales throughout the year.

The AMA are looking for new members to join our friendly group. We are a very small group. We really need your support to continue to



The poster features the AMA logo at the top left, with the text 'Arthur Mellows Association' below it. To the right, it says '2nd hand SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE'. A green starburst shape contains the text '4.00-5.00pm'. Below that, it says 'Wednesday 3rd July Beside the school reception'. At the bottom, it reads 'Great Quality FANTASTIC PRICES!' with a Facebook logo and the text 'Raising funds to support our school' and 'www.facebook.com/yourPTA'.

provide assistance to the school and to the parents by selling uniform at the Parents' Evenings and to serve refreshments at a few events during the school year. The commitment of time really is not too vast – we have meetings every couple of months starting at 7.15 pm.

We would love to meet you at our AGM in the autumn term; the date will be issued in September. We will be taking nominations for the positions of Chairperson and Treasurer as the current members are stepping down.

Mr Sandeman usually opens our meeting with a chance to quiz him on school issues.

New ideas are always welcome, so whether you have vast experience in PTA, or a novice you will be most welcome.

We look forward to welcoming you to the school in September.

Arthur Mellows Association

AMVC ADVENTURES ON THE WEST COAST

This was a real humdinger of a trip. The first Geography/ Media mega-trip, this was a fantastic experience for everyone, offering plentiful learning opportunities but also loads of fun, which is what a great school trip should be.

We started off in San Francisco, where a one-day protest strike by all Mexican workers prompted by President Trump's proposed wall set the tone for a new divided America in stark contrast to the wide-eyed optimism we experienced in New York 8 long years ago when Obama was first elected to high office. A coach tour allowed us to see the tourist highlights including the Golden Gate Bridge (not golden, in fact), the house in Haight-Ashbury where Jimi Hendrix lived in the 60's, Alcatraz jail and the awesome botanical gardens. En route, we were given an account of the social history and human geography of a city that lives precariously perched atop the San Andreas fault line, and the point at which the marbled mansions of the super-rich were dynamited in 1906 in the aftermath of the Big 'Quake to save the city from the fires that threatened to wipe it from the face of the earth.

We then headed to Yosemite National Park, which was quite beautiful despite the driving sleet. The promised views of El Capitan did not quite materialise, although the adverse weather did at least mean that the waterfalls were freely flowing. From there, we headed across Death Valley towards Vegas, which we used as a base to visit the Hoover Dam and the genuinely breath-taking Grand Canyon. Set in the midst of a native American reservation, we braved the Skywalk (*see photo*) a glass and steel structure abutted to the cliff face 4000 feet above the meandering Colorado River. A quick night-time visit to the Las Vegas strip ended an awesome day.

The next day we set off for Los Angeles, for the media part of the trip. First stop was Universal Studios which combined state-of-

the-art rides using immersive technologies with a back-lot tour of sound stages, used for countless films and TV shows. Watching Mrs Ward and Mrs Wright screaming and sacrificing Mr Pepper to the zombies on the 'Walking Dead' interactive experience was one of those moments that will live with me for a long time. We even managed to take in the fireworks at Downtown Disney before another great day came to a close, once we had dragged the girls and their poor boyfriends out of Sephora, which apparently sells make-up.

The next day we visited the Warner Bros Studios for a guided tour of more film and TV sets and soundstages, including Central Perk from 'Friends' and the outdoor set for 'Gilmour Girls' and 'Pretty Little Liars' (actually the same set!). To confirm that this was a working studio, some students got a close-up of Sheldon Cooper from 'Big Bang Theory' driving off in his Porsche. We then headed off to downtown LA, where we did a drive-by of the venue for the Oscars which were due to take place 4 days later.

As you can imagine, this was a 100mph tour of the West Coast, taking in diverse locations from golden beaches to arid deserts, ancient woodland and mega-cities, but there were no regrets as we took in 1300 miles in a mere 7 days and had an amazing time along the way.

It must be said that the students were all a great credit to the college, turning what could have been an arduous trip into a hugely enjoyable and unforgettable learning experience and for that the staff who ran the trip were immensely grateful.

The next mega-trip is due to take place in February 2018 and takes in Iceland and New York, and if it is half as good as this trip, it will be worth every cent.

Mr Zaidi, Head of Media



COLLEGE NEWS

GUILTY WIN

This year our school participated in the **Magistrate's Mock Trial** competition. Sixteen students were selected to compete in the local heats against other schools in a court case. The roles played by students included lawyers, legal advisors, witnesses, magistrates, court artists and court reporters.

To prepare for the competition, we looked over the roles to understand what was required of us. We made use of video resources and sample scripts and worked with Mrs Knight in four intense periods during school time. After this, we all had to work at home, give up some lunch times and after school to review the case notes, prepare speeches and practise our performances.

Finally, came the day of the local heats at Peterborough Crown and County Court. We were all searched before entering the building and had to be aware that a real trial was happening in one of the court

rooms. There were a total of four schools competing in the two additional courtrooms.

We had to do two versions of the case, one so our prosecution lawyers could go against another school's defence and then the other way around. We had practiced hard and tried our best. After our performances were over, we anxiously awaited the results.

We gathered in the waiting area and finally we made our way to the main reception. We heard a speech from one of the magistrates who explained how well the schools had performed and that the lawyers did as well, or even better, than some of the professional lawyers they had seen. Jokes were made about the announcement of the winner and how they weren't going to repeat the Oscar fail...

When the results were read, AMVC were declared the winners!

We were all so happy and proud of our results. This means we are heading to the regionals with a chance to work on another case. Who knows what might happen after that, but for now we will try our best.

Bradley Hack Year 9

Congratulations to all those who participated in the competition. It was so much fun working with you all and I am so proud of your achievements
Mrs Knight



A LEVEL BUSINESS DUNELM SPEAKER

On Tuesday, 7 March 2017, two employees from Dunelm came in to talk to our Year 12 Business Studies class. Mrs Turner, Head of Merchandising and Mrs Patel, Head of Technology explained how stock is brought into Dunelm, as well as the steps taken to ensure quality and safety for customers. We learnt about their critical path and stock control systems which were similar to the graphs we had learnt about in class, so it was fascinating to see these

processes in the real world. We learnt more about the relationships Dunelm has with its suppliers and the importance of this. Throughout the discussion many students asked questions about all the functions within Dunelm and it allowed us to understand the importance of ethics and culture in Business. We learnt they plan a year in advance and planning for the spring/summer range 2018 has already commenced. The discussion was a huge success, and as students, we felt enlightened on the inner-workings of the business world.

Liam Warden, Year 12

GOVERNOR VIEW - STUDENT AND SAFEGUARDING

The Student and Safeguarding Committee meets each term, and the Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Sludds presents an analysis of Pastoral data including attendance and behaviour. One element that is discussed is E-Safety incidents, which is particularly important as students have increased access to the internet than previous generations. Any E-Safety incidents reported to the College are taken very seriously and are dealt with accordingly.

The College encourages all incidents to be reported, and we would like to urge parents to be vigilant in this matter, ensuring that your children are keeping themselves safe in all matters relating to E-Safety. There are a number of measures that the College has in place to support students and Parents with E-Safety, these include an E-Safety Evening, held each autumn term for Year 7 Parents, Life Skills lessons, Assemblies and Collapsed days. There are also excellent resources and advice for Parents on the school website <http://www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk/page/?title=E%2DSafety&pid=170> which includes a copy of the E-Safety policy. The College is not complacent about E-Safety and regularly reviews its policies in this fast changing environment.



STAYING
SAFE
ONLINE



Sarah Humble, Arthur Mellows School Governor

PE NEWS

AMVC GIRLS LEAVE OTHER SCHOOLS STUMPED!

Congratulations to our Year 7/8 girls cricket team, who on their first outing, won the Peterborough and District Schools tournament at Ken Stimpson and progressed through to the County Finals at Kings School.

The girls have been attending after school coaching sessions every Monday night, coached by Tariq Aziz, who is a Portuguese international. From complete novices, we have watched them learn to bowl and bat but until this competition they had only been practising their skills.

Four schools took part in the Peterborough and District Schools tournament: Ken Stimpson, Ormiston Bushfield and Hampton College. To be fair, the first game each team played was a learning curve, understanding the scoring rules and applying them to a game situation was always going to take time. The ability to bowl was also essential as any wide ball gave the batting team 3 runs.

In the first game, we had a couple of extra players who had filled in and had never played before, meaning they had to learn on the job. As a result of the above factors, we ended up losing the first game 72 – 60. But after that the team gained momentum and confidence, fielding, bowling and batting very effectively.

After the first 2 games, all the teams had lost once so the result of the tournament came down to the final matches. We went into the final batting against Ken Stimpson knowing that we needed to beat 86 runs to win this game, which seemed a tall order. The girls

played with spirit and a new-found confidence and finished their final game with a creditable 105. Worthy champions!

Hampton	72 - 60	AMVC
Ormiston Bushfield	55-76	AMVC
Ken Stimpson	86 -105	AMVC



The team were a credit to our school and should be proud of this fantastic achievement.

- ✧ Amy Greenwood – Captain - (award for the best bowler)
- ✧ Elouise Porter - (award for best batter)
- ✧ Shelley Broadway - (award for best fielder)
- ✧ Jess Broadway
- ✧ Elizabeth Nunn
- ✧ Diana Omar
- ✧ Isabella Chaudhuri
- ✧ Maddie Hobbs



The girls played the final of the County Cricket Cup against St Ivo School and were runners up. I would like to congratulate all of the team for the commitment and effort they have put in this season and to be County Cup runners up in their first year of competitive cricket is a fantastic achievement.

Mrs Richardson, PE department

Year 7 and 8 City Netball Tournament

Schools Netball tournament was a great success yet again this year. Schools from all over the city travelled over to Arthur Mellows Village College, bringing teams of Year 7 and 8 girls to take part in the City Netball Tournament, organised by the Year 13 Higher Sports Leader Award students at AMVC. What started off as a bright sunny day turned into a cold dark one as the sun began to set over the Netball courts, however the girls battled on through the cold to produce some superb performances.



YEAR 7 RESULTS: From group A of the Year 7 girls, Hampton and the Arthur Mellows A team progressed into the semi-finals, along with The Peterborough School A team and Thomas Deacon Academy from group B. Arthur Mellows and The Peterborough School progressed to the Final of the tournament, whilst Thomas Deacon Academy and Hampton school battled it out for third place. The final was an incredibly close fought one, but **Arthur Mellows** managed to clinch a goal to go on and win the tournament 2-1, whilst Thomas Deacon Academy secured third place by winning their match 3-0.

YEAR 8 RESULTS: For the Year 8 tournament, the Peterborough School A team and Hampton from group A went onto the semi-finals, along with Kings and Arthur Mellows, from group B. The Peterborough School and Kings went on to secure their places in the final, whilst Arthur Mellows and Hampton played for third place. Both matches were very close, with Arthur Mellows and Hampton drawing their match 0-0, and The Peterborough School scoring one extra crucial goal to win the Year 8 tournament 5-4. Congratulations to the winners from each Year Group and the Sports Leaders who organised the tournament very efficiently. Well played to all the teams. The winners and runners up from both Year Groups received medals.



Congratulations to **Logan Noble** in Year 7; Logan has been selected to play for Northampton Saints DPP Rugby club Year 8 boys, a whole year above his age group.

Mrs Wilding, PE department