

THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 43 December 2015



Message from the Head of College

As the end of the first term approaches I would like to take this opportunity to pay particular thanks to all staff at the College. This edition of The Voice highlights the many events and extra-curricular activities that take place which would not be possible without the support and dedication of a committed staff, who very often give up their free time to ensure students get the best from their educational experience. The recent Christmas Concert and Holocaust Memorial Day are just two events of many when staff have invested a lot of time and energy that is in addition to their full teaching workload. I hope all staff have a very

restful break over the Christmas holidays, knowing that they have contributed significantly to the lives of the young people at the College.

This term we say goodbye to Mr Baker from the Science department who is moving onto pastures new at another school. We thank him for his vivacious and enthusiastic approach to the teaching of Science since he joined us; I am sure he will be missed by many. We wish him well.

With the dark nights well and truly on us, I would like to draw attention to Sixth Form student, Connor Smith, who has worked tirelessly this last half term, promoting the need for safe cycling and holding assemblies for all Year Groups (details on page 5). Students who cycle to school: please take heed of all advice given to ensure you STAY SAFE!

Finally, I hope all families have a peaceful and happy Christmas and that all students come back refreshed and ready for the Spring term on Tuesday 5 January 2016.

M Sandeman, Head of College

KEY DATES

Term Opens

Year 11 Mock Results Day

New York Trip

Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Year 10 Vaccinations

Year 11 Vaccinations

Year 12 Parents' Evening

School Production

Term Ends

Tuesday 5 January 2016

Friday 8 January 2016

Wednesday 27 January to Sunday 31 January 2016

Monday 25 January 2016

Monday 1 February 2016

Tuesday 2 February 2016

Wednesday 3 February 2016

Sixth Form Mock Results Day Friday 5 February 2016

Monday 8 February 2016

Thursday 11 February and Friday 12 February 2016

Friday 12 February 2016



The College operates a certificated First Aid service; we do not have any fully qualified healt professionals on site. health

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, 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.

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.

www.arthurmellows.org

Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

LITTER

Arthur Mellows Village College has recently been contacted by the local community requesting help with litter around the area, some of which they believe is caused by Arthur Mellows students. As a school, we take this issue of littering very seriously and we recognise our role in challenging anti-social behaviour of this kind. This is why we have used litter as the focus for our recent Student Council meeting.



It is not clear who is to blame for the litter problem in the local community, but we can all do our bit to ensure that the 'litter problem' is kept to a minimum. Before we throw our waste to the ground, it is important that we consider the consequences. Litter has a negative effect to our surroundings, our environment and wildlife.

Please dispose of your waste responsibly - either use the bins provided or take your litter home to dispose of. By helping to keep an area clean, you will be helping to discourage litter.

Thank you.

APPOINTMENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Please can we remind parents of the procedure for collecting students who have a dental/medical appointment during the school day.

Please write a note in your son/daughter's planner stating where they are going and what time you are collecting them. Students should show this note to their Form Tutor during morning registration who will initial it to confirm authenticity.

At the correct time, students should then show the note to their class teacher who will allow them to exit the class and proceed to Student Reception where a member of staff will sign them out and allow them to exit through the doors at Main Reception.

If this procedure is followed, there is **no need** to telephone or email the College.

Your assistance in this would be very much appreciated.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE - SCHOOL SITE CLOSING TIMES

I would like to remind all parents that the school site closes at 4.30 pm (4.00 pm on a Friday). Unless students are on an activity in school that is supervised by a member of staff, then for health and safety reasons, all students should have left by 4.30 pm (4.00 pm on a Friday) and be making their way home. The College is not able to supervise students on site after these times. This includes Sixth Form students.

Your support of this would be very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Mr M Sandeman, Head of College

ARTHUR MELLOWS VILLAGE COLLEGE REUNION

Are you from the class of 1975-80/82? Come to a reunion on Saturday 30 January 2016 email: amvc1975@outlook.com for more details.

Hope to see you there.

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.

YEAR 12 VISIT FROM SUE RYDER - BEREAVEMENT OFFICER

Year 12 students had a visit from the bereavement officer at Sue Ryder. Students were fascinated to hear about the care that goes into supporting patients who stay there and the support their families also receive.



Year 12 students heard about the way children are supported when they lose a loved one, and how they are encouraged to make memory boxes and explore their feelings through art and play. Students promised to sell cuddly toys to support Sue Ryder as they could see how valuable their services are at such difficult times in people's lives.

By Mrs Blackmore, Health and Social teacher

Children in Need 2015

CHARITY BAZAAR

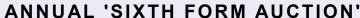
On Friday, 13 November 2015, it was Children in Need Day and lots of students offered to help out with the school's fundraising activities. The week before, Lucy and I were asked to round up Year 7 forms in pursuit of anyone willing to run a stall in order to raise money for the cause. We got most forms involved in some way or another, involving them coming up with creative ideas for fundraising and participating in table stalls. We were delighted with the enthusiasm that all the children had to bring to the table! There were various different activities set up and in total we raised £3045.99, a figure we as a school should be proud of. After all the hard work we all put into organising this and getting such a great turn at lunchtime,

we just want to say thank you to everyone who helped us achieve this huge total (Eleanor Morris and Lucy Somers 10JPD)

Also, thank you to all the students who completed a sponsored silence across the day. Top fundraisers were Sophie Galjaard, 8CCO - £65.00 and Millie Payne, 8CCO - £56.75

This year has been a record breaking total – well done everyone!

By Mrs Reilly, Assistant Headteacher



This year we held the annual 'Sixth Form Auction' on Thursday, 12 November 2015 in aid of Children in Need. Many wonderful Sixth Formers gave up their time (and a little bit of their dignity) to raise money for the cause. The groups consisted of the Old Age Pensioners, Stormzy (Mpho's rendition of 'Shut Up'), Naughty Nuns, Grease, Mad Scientists, The Popo (police) and the excitable hosts, Ashley and Ashley.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part by running a stall or taking part in the fun.

By Gemma Beales, Year 13 Charity Rep



On Wednesday, 9 December, the school had many special guests in to teach all of Year 9 about the dreadful event of the Holocaust. Throughout the day, classes were taught for one period by a man called Mike; Mike knew a lot about the Holocaust and told the classes information about it that not many of us knew. He covered a lot on the Holocaust and helped us to see from many perspectives. We had to try and think like the Germans, to see why they would do the things they did (this was very hard), and we also had to think like the Jews, so we tried to imagine the worry

and pain they had to go through, and it was truly horrible to picture anyone in this position. He told us about his, and his wife's, family and how they were affected too, which really showed us that the Holocaust destroyed and broke up families; just like our own at home. Mike showed us pictures of his family, not expecting what was to come. We got taught about a camp called Theresienstadt or Terezin which featured in another special guest's story, Eva, who we met later in the day: she was a Holocaust survivor. This camp had not been heard of a lot, but it was just as evil as the rest. The Holocaust day taught most of us a lot, as before this we had not been taught it; all this information was new to us, the stories told were shocking and everyone was affected by them.

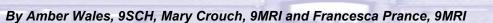
During Periods 3 and 4, all of Year 9 gathered in the Main Hall to listen to a Holocaust survivor; Eve Clarke. Eva told us about her and her mother's incredible experience of the Holocaust. This included information about what is was like to be a Jew under control of Hitler before, during and after the Holocaust.

After Eva had finished, we were allowed to ask her questions. This enabled us to find out extra details and interesting facts about her experience.

Wednesday's Holocaust day, with Eva Clarke's story, really gave us an insight into what the war was really like. The story of Eva's mother made

us feel how lucky we are, and how different life is now. Everybody took care to listen to the story of Eva's mother's heartache and struggle through her time in the concentration camps. A few found it so touching, tears were shed. Eva made us remember racism is a horrible, inhumane thing and what generations before us went through as a result of it.





RESOURCES NEWS

The Autumn term has been very busy in the Resources Centre. Year 7 students have been enthusiastic but well behaved in Library

lessons, and are speeding through their Library workbooks - so much so that we will be able to start reading from the Kindles in the New Year. The whole of Year 7 have read a book of their choice and then were asked to write a short review or draw an alternative front cover to enter into the first Year 7 competition of the year. So far entries are flooding in.

At the beginning of November, we held our annual Scholastic Book fair which created quite a buzz in the Library. A big thank you to everyone who supported this event. The 5 students pictured (Faith Coleman, Annie Gidney, Emily Songer, Levi Coleman and Anna-Sara Biasci) were the first to write about their favourite authors and won vouchers to spend at the fair.

At Arthur Mellows Library, everything we do is aimed at inspiring a love of reading in students because we know that reading can transform lives. Reading for pleasure has a dramatic impact on educational outcomes, well-being and social mobility. With this in mind, Arthur Mellows will be giving each Year 7 student a free Bookbuzz book of their choice to either read and keep or read and swap with a friend. Please encourage your child to read their book and talk about their selection. We need to keep their enthusiasm for reading going as long as possible.

Year 9 students are being encouraged to read more non-fiction so, as November was non-fiction month, the Library held a competition solely for Year 9. To enter, all they needed to do was read a page of non-fiction text, transfer it into their own words and then reference it at the bottom of the page – simple. This taught them a useful referencing skill; as they move up through the school, they will need this tool for coursework. There were some great prizes on offer.

Keep Calm and Carry on Reading in 2016, from Mrs Wright and Mrs Hoppe



RECOMMENDING WINTER READING



THE USE OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND PATHWAYS TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Please would students, both walking and cycling, be mindful of other pedestrians and road users. There have been times when the pathway is not passable as students cycling, and walking, are taking up the whole pathway

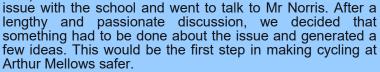


Please remind your son/daughter to always cycle safely. Cycling two or three abreast is unsafe; there have been reports of students cycling four abreast, with their hands off the handle bars and cutting across parked cars in a dangerous way. Whilst we appreciate this may be a minority of students, I would ask if you could raise this with your son / daughter to reinforce the message of safe behaviour, both for themselves and others.

Thank you for your continued support.

CYCLE SAFETY EVENT

During the middle of October, I witnessed some unsafe cycling outside the school (not for the first time) so I decided I would raise the



On Thursday, 22 October 2015, we hosted a 'Be Safe, Be Seen' event that involved handing out free reflective bag strap covers and key rings along with information about being safe and seen whilst cycling in and out of school. This initial step was a great success, but it was only the start.



On the week of Monday, 16 November 2015, I started giving assemblies about cycle safety to the lower school years. These focused on safe cycling, during both day and night but especially on the dangers of cycling around large vehicles with many blind spots and safe

cycling around stationary and slow moving traffic.

Whilst most of the lower school received an assembly, the Year 7 students had the experience of a theatrical production illustrating similar important points but in a fun and accessible way.

On Friday, 20 November 2015, I organised for 2 large Heavy Goods Vehicles to come onto the school playground, during the morning, for lower school classes to get in and have a look around. This opportunity was excellent for students, not only to look at the trucks up close, but also to get inside and see things from the driver's perspective, which is drastically different from a car driver's view point.

I hope that all involved enjoyed the experience, and I sincerely hope that everybody learned something about being safe when cycling.

By Connor Smith, 13EWT

ARMED SERVICES CADETS IN REMEMBRANCE

The following students attended Arthur Mellows Village College in their Armed Services Cadet uniform on Wednesday 11 November 2015 in order to commemorate Remembrance Day



Ash Burgess
Ashley Coulson
Mason Thompson
Reece Exton
Cody Taylor
Chloe Crawford
Paige Fowler
Henry Bird
Mpho Mazibeli
Ellen Russell
Katie Heywood
Cara Gartward-Clarke

The students were all incredibly proud to wear their uniform and also commented on their involvement on Remembrance Sunday when they represented their various organisations with wreath laying.

Mike Sandeman, Head of College, commented on how pleased he was to see so many students embrace their extra-curricular activity with the Cadet organisations, by attending school in full uniform and generally promoting the good work of the Royal British Legion and the Armed Services. They are to be congratulated on being such excellent ambassadors for the Armed Services.



CYCLISTS: HOW VISIBLE ARE YOU?

Now that the dark nights are here, we would like to take this opportunity to remind Parents and students of the importance of **wearing reflective clothing and having lights on bikes**. Recently, students have been leaving the college after attending after school clubs and returning home without these essential items. Not only is this extremely dangerous to them and motorists, but also **ILLEGAL**.





A Spotlight on Success...

This section of 'The Voice' is dedicated to celebrating the success of students who have achieved at the highest level, showing commitment, a strong work ethic and a determination to achieve above and beyond targets set. This edition focuses on excellence in the English department.

TAYLOR JACKSON, 13BZA

Taylor is currently working towards A*/A in her English Language A Level course. At AS Level, she achieved a grade A (one grade higher than her target) demonstrating that a hardworking and focused approach leads to academic success. This year, she is studying children and how they learn to speak and is showing A grade potential since she is able to analyse data in detail using an impressive range of technical terms. Furthermore, she is able to offer insightful comments about how the context may affect the language produced by children and link the data to a range of linguistic theorists. Taylor has focused on independent research/reading outside the classroom and this allows her to show a broader range of knowledge than other students. She is also completing coursework in which she exhibits a wide and sophisticated vocabulary and a real understanding of how to meet the needs of challenging audiences and purposes. Overall, she is committed to achieving the very best and her work ethic is second to none.

Mrs Lord, English teacher

ETHAN JONES, 8MTU

Ethan has shown his expertise in creative writing recently with a wonderful review of the classic film 'The Snowman'. Ethan has been able to master all elements of punctuation and use them effectively well in his writing.



use them effectively well in his writing, highlighting his abilities to achieve great results. Furthermore, he has an impressive vocabulary range and a clear understanding of how to adapt his writing for specific audiences. Ethan is also very articulate and confident sharing his ideas with other students; enabling them to use his ideas to shape their own work. Ethan is currently working well towards a Level 7, which is a fantastic achievement for a student in Year 8, and will hopefully carry him forwards to promising GCSE results.

Mr Slack, English teacher

JESS SNAPE, 11LBE

Jess is a promising A* student who works tirelessly to improve her work. In terms of writing, she adopts an original response to questions looking for an unusual angle/opinion to make her work stand out. Furthermore, she utilizes sophisticated vocabulary, and crafts



utilises sophisticated vocabulary and crafts her writing to include a variety of sentence lengths and types whilst simultaneously incorporating a full range of punctuation to create impact for the reader. Jess also skilfully crafts paragraphs using clear discourse markers and considers how she can link openings and endings, recently using metaphors. Her reading and analysing skills are also first rate. She is able to follow arguments and consider hidden meanings. She is also able to comment on the effect of language and structural choices and consider how this may be used in the context in which the text is written. Jess meets the requirements of A* because she offers perceptive ideas and is able to evaluate the effects of the writer.

Mrs Lord, English teacher

MADDI CHALLIS, 12EVE

Maddi has started Year 12 with a dedicated approach and shows a real attention to detail. When presented with a question, she really considers it before trying to write an answer looking for an original approach. She understands that exploring the subtleties of meaning within a question and planning exactly what she wants to say will give her response structure and ensure she addresses all elements required. As well as this, Maddi is working very hard to ensure that she knows the texts well; reading and re-reading, making notes as she goes along. This means that she will be able to thoroughly prepare ideas about character, theme, context and the craft of the author.

Mrs Norris, English teacher

JOE BUTLER YEAR 10

Joe is outstanding in English; he is bright, articulate and perceptive. In addition, he has demonstrated great skill in analysing and evaluating literary texts, providing considered comment and reflection of writer's craft. Joe is



also able to select precise quotations from a range of places within a text and offer perceptive interpretations. Furthermore, he is able to consider language choices within the context and discuss their effect. Joe is also a gifted writer and has produced outstandingly mature creative writing pieces. He demonstrates real flair and originality as well as an impressive range of vocabulary.

Miss Kavanagh, English teacher

ALI ISAEVA, 8LST/BHA

Ali is working towards securing a Level 7 this year and has already impressed with an enthusiastic approach to both English Language and Literature. We have been studying 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and she has engaged in a mature



Mockingbird' and she has engaged in a mature and empathetic way with the themes of racism and bravery. Ali has written an analytical essay about how tension is created and was able to employ the correct terminology when exploring the writer's language/ structural choices as well as comment on the effect they would have on the reader. She was also able to synthesise information from across the text and follow key themes. Overall, she shows a commitment to achieve her best and constantly seeks advice about how to improve.

Mrs Lord, English teacher

MAIA FAKOLUJO, 9JTR

Maia is an exceptional English student who consistently works hard to present the highest standard of work. Her creative writing is original, insightful and she writes with a confident flair. Maia's writing is showing huge potential of



Maia's writing is showing huge potential of reaching a Level 8 at the end of this year as she consciously crafts her language and vocabulary choices to suit a specific audience and purpose. Furthermore, her reading skills are also exceptional. Maia is able to make perceptive points, often explaining alternative interpretations of language and structural choices made by writers and she is beginning to evaluate their effectiveness.

Miss Betts, English teacher

Christmas Concert 2015

On Tuesday, 15 December 2015, we hosted our annual Christmas concert at Arthur Mellows Village College. As always students have worked very hard for this event, and it never ceases to amaze me how dedicated our students are, giving up lunchtimes and after school's to prepare the many items for the evening's entertainment.

It has been lovely this year to see such a mixture of old and new; our newest students in Year 7 have risen well to the challenges of musical life, playing in the school bands, choirs and one band have formed since the start of school; "Spirit" are a group of 4 Year 7 boys; Oliver Stockell, Jack Hutchinson, Taylor Wilson and Harry Shaw. They wrote the piece they performed themselves, and I can not wait to see what they do in years to come!



We have some of the most talented singers we have ever had at Arthur Mellows. The lovely voices of Megan Stainton-Roberts, Charlotte Birch-James, Geran Jackson and Saffy Smith were a pleasure to listen to, and the pieces they performed are for their GCSE music. George McDermott also made a couple of appearances, singing by himself and with his band. (Lewis and Nathan Taylor, and Charlie Westbrook) Towards the end of the concert Amelia Glendinning and Liliana Nieddu performed "When Christmas comes to town" from the film "Polar Express". It was a spine tingling performance. There are some new singers to the music department - Hannah Roberts and Anna-Sara Biacsi both had solo's in the pop choir performances, and proved that they will certainly be top singers of the future.

One of the highlights was the finale of "The Writing's on the Wall" from the recent Bond film "Spectre". Almost all the students involved in the evening participated, and the result was fantastic. Over 50 students were on stage in a performance that combined soloists, choir and orchestra. It was a fitting end to a fantastic evening of music.

Our Peripatetic teachers contribute a lot to the performance of our students, and I would like to thank in particular Mr Alex Moore who led the brass band at the concert, and Mr Leon King, who although could not be at the concert rehearsed the string group ready for the evening.

By Mrs Hammond, Head of Performing Arts

PE NEWS

Year 7 Boys



CROSS-COUNTRY NEWS

Following on from our success in the first 2 Fenland League Cross-Country races, on Friday, 4 December 2015 we took students to the Peterborough Inter-Schools Cross-Country Competition at Ferry Meadows; we are pleased to announce that our students were outstanding. We won 3 of the 8 team categories, and came 2nd in another 3.

Amelia Monaghan, Year 9, Sidney O'Connell, Year 7 and Ben Roberts, Year 9 all won their respective races.

Congratulations to all the students who represented Arthur Mellows, and especially to the students who came in the top 14. These students have now been selected to represent Peterborough in the County Schools Ely Kings Cross-Country at School. on Saturday January

2016.

We wish them all the best in this

competition.



Year 10 and Sixth Form Girls



Year 8 and 9 (Boys and Girls



Year 10 and Sixth Form Boys

RESULTS

BOYS TEAM GIRLS TEAM

Year 7 1st Year 7 1st Year 8/9 1st Years 8/9 2nd

Year 10/11 Year 10/11 2nd 4th

INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS

YEAR 7 BOYS

Sidney O'Connell 1st 3rd Cemal Korkmaz

14th Dylan Tomaseli

YEAR 8/9 BOYS

Ben Roberts 1st

2nd Harvey Hancock

3rd Isham Limbukhim

7th Ben McCann

8th Sam Garner

YEAR 10/11 BOYS

11th Josh Gibbons

SIXTH FORM BOYS

4th Ashley Brumfield

6th Ryan Hunter

7th Daniel Amps-Woodward

8th Jack Green

12th Sam Harris

YEAR 7 GIRLS

Jess Broadway 5th

6th **Maddison Moore**

7th Hannah Campbell

8th Zoe Bateman

9th Holly Wright

10th Eve Wright

YEAR 8/9 GIRLS

1st Amelia Monaghan

6th Katie Porter

11th Jess McKenzie

SIXTH FORM GIRLS

Lizzy Snodgrass 5th

Betty Porter 7th



BASKETBALL NEWS

The Boys Year 8/9 Basketball team achieved a draw in their match against the Peterborough School last week.



AMVC 20-20 The Peterborough School

Our team are new to this sport and have really enjoyed their training sessions and taking part in their first fixtures. Keep up the good work, lads.

We have had a successful second half term for all our Football Teams at Arthur Mellows Village College.

PETERBOROUGH SCHOOLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Year 7 AMVC

Nene Park Academy

Year 9 Thomas Clarkson

1-4 **AMVC**

Year 7 will now face Stanground Academy in the quarter finals of the Peterborough Schools Football League. Year 7 narrowly lost to Baston Academy in the English Schools Football Association Cup.

ESFA CUP

Year 7 AMVC 2-3 **Boston Academy**

Congratulations to the Year 7/8 Girls Football Team.

team has had an amazing start to the school year, winning Girls Football Community Cup Competition on Friday, 6 November 2015. It was a tense competition with the team winning both the Semi final and final through Penalties.

This win has taken them through to the next round to be held in Stevenage early in the New Year.

The team also won their County Regional finals match against Whittlesey 6-0.

future matches.



YEAR 7/8 GIRLS FOOTBALL



We have a very talented group of Girls and we look forward to hearing how they do in their

By Mrs Richardson, PE department