



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 61

December 2018



Message from the Head of College

Welcome to this edition of the Voice which contains details of our recent Christmas Concert, a write up from one of our Year 7 students on his experience of the residential PGL trip he attended and much more.

Firstly, I can advise that the College is one of the lead schools in the Four Cs Multi-Academy Trust and is pleased that Hampton Vale Primary Academy will be joining the Trust on 1 January 2019. We welcome them into our family of schools and we will be working with them closely to share good practice going forwards.

Within this end of term message I would like to thank Mrs Sludds and her working party of staff who have been working tirelessly to promote Arthur Mellows being a mentally healthy school. As a College we are committed to providing the greatest level of care possible to our students and we are passionate about ensuring their mental well-being is a top priority. There is a lot of attention in the national media about this subject and it has been the focus of work with students and staff alike since September. The current theme has been that of 'giving' with students being set the challenge of taking part in tasks and activities linked to this area. A Mental Wellness Information Evening has also been held for Key Stage 4 parents with the purpose of providing parents and carers with vital information about the mental well-being of our students.

It has been a very busy first term and I hope all families take the time to rest over Christmas so that students come back refreshed and ready for the Spring term on Thursday 3 January 2019. Please accept my best wishes for a peaceful and Happy Christmas.

M Sandeman, Head of College

Key dates in Term 3

Term resumes	Thursday 3 January 2019
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Monday 7 January 2019
Year 10, 12 and 13 Drama Trip - Christmas Carol	Wednesday 9 January 2019
Year 9 Options Evening	Monday 14 January 2019
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Monday 21 January 2019
Year 10 Science Live Trip	Monday 4 February 2019
School Production: 'Legally Blonde'	Wednesday 6, Thursday 7 and Friday 8 February 2019
Sixth Form Trip to China	Wednesday 13 February 2019
End of Half Term	Friday 15 February 2019
Ski Trip 2019	Saturday 16 February 2019



REPORTING A STUDENT ABSENCE

If your son/daughter is unwell or absent for any reason, the College requests that parent/carers use the Student Absence Email Address:

absence@arthurmellows.org or use the dedicated absence form on the College website:

<http://www.arthurmellows.org/form/?pid=396&form=252>

Please provide the following information:

- ⇒ The date of call
- ⇒ Your son/daughter's name and Form Group
- ⇒ How long your son/daughter will be absent (of known)
- ⇒ The reason for the absence
- ⇒ Your relationship to the student

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

COLLEGE NEWS



Armed Services Cadets in Remembrance

A number of students and staff from Arthur Mellows Village College attended school either in their Armed Services, Cadet or Scout uniforms on Friday 9 November 2018 in order to commemorate Remembrance Day.

The students and staff were all incredibly proud to wear their uniform and also commented on their involvement on Remembrance Sunday when they represent their various organisations with wreath laying. The staff are very excited to be a part of the newly formed AMVC Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Army Section which will be launching in the New Year. The CCF will provide students with so many exciting opportunities, aid the community and will help them grow as individuals.

Mike Sandeman, Head of College, commented on how pleased he was to see so many students embrace their extra-curricular activity, 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 these respective organisations. He went on to further say he was looking forward to the launch of the CCF and the cadets playing an even greater role in ensuring that the College continues to support remembrance and the work of our Armed Services.

Mrs Debbage

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENT MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS



The correct procedure for Medical Appointments (such as dentist, doctors or orthodontist) is to write the appointment details in advance, in your son/daughter's Student Planner.

On the day of the appointment, students should show the parent/carer's note to Student Reception and to the Subject Teacher whom the appointment affects.

Use of the Student Planner alleviates the need to email the College separately.

Thank you in advance.

BEFRIENDING CONFERENCE

Year 12 students were invited to a 'Befriending Conference' in November, run by the Stamford Charity Evergreen Care Trust.

It was a training day for carers with the students having talks from Age Concern, local dementia charities and even a Tai Chi lesson to show the benefits of exercise.

They met carers from all over the area and had some very challenging conversations about loneliness and the elderly. They were all challenged to do their best to reduce loneliness, even if it was just to say hello to their neighbours.

Mrs Blackmore



YEAR 12 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE VISIT

Year 12 Health and Social Care students enjoyed a visit to Peterborough Hospital Sterile Services Department in November, where they learnt about infection control.

They were asked to dress up in scrubs and a cap, and were shown all the surgical equipment that had come in for cleaning. They were then shown the machines used for cleaning the equipment. This relates directly to one of their topics.

If anyone works in the NHS and would be prepared to come and talk to our students or show them round their work place, we would be so grateful.

Mrs Blackmore

CYCLING SAFETY

If students cycle to school, the College would like to remind you of the following:

- * Students are asked to ensure that they cycle to and from school in a responsible way, being mindful of not cycling two or three abreast and being courteous to other road users and pedestrians.
- * Students should cycle on the correct side of the road.
- * Please ensure your bicycle has front and back lights.
- * Please STOP at the pedestrian crossing before crossing.
- * It is highly recommended that cycle helmets are worn.



COLLEGE NEWS

Year 7 PGL Residential

As Friday approached, the long-lasting wait was over! The bus engine roared and the trip was well underway. Most people were mainly excited about who they were going to be sharing a room with, along with what activities they have in mind.

As we arrived we were welcomed by the enthusiastic team leaders who showed us around to make sure we knew where we were going. Eventually, we found out who else we were staying with in the room. For myself, I was in a room with Giovanni Potesta-Elliot, Fred Gibson and Oliver Belson.

From that point onwards, a whirlwind of events occurred. Some of these included: Raft Building, Archery, Orienteering, The Tunnel Trail, Problem Solving and my personal favourite, Quad Biking. The majority of them sounded like an adventure, so I was up for the challenge.

Archery: What I discovered about archery is that it is harder than it looks. There were a couple of different techniques and standing positions we could use with a lot more information about keeping your arm straight, put three fingers under the golden nugget (that's what they call it), pull your arm back so your thumb can just rub your chin and many more. As soon as we got into the games, I established that I wasn't as good as I thought I was, but after time and a bit more practice, I got better.

Quad Biking: What I loved so much about Quad Biking was the adrenalin. It was exhilarating to go around in circles as fast as you can and try and push the limits of the quad bike. I have been Quad Biking before, but it was a tiny circle and they held onto the back of you, so you couldn't go speeding off, laughing as you look behind your back. Overall it made you feel like a racer with the helmet, goggles and gloves. This was the most amazing activity in my opinion.

Problem Solving: This activity's job is to be hard and make your brain work and it certainly did that. Problem after problem after problem, some easy, some hard. Most of the problems were difficult to start off but once our team got the hang of them, they became easier and easier. The skill of teamwork was used quite a lot during Problem Solving, we needed each other in different activities to help on the balance beam and make team decisions on where to place the poles we had to stand on, to get across without touching the wall. In conclusion, this was a brilliant and fun challenge that I enjoyed.

Finishing off with the tunnel trail as my piece of A4 paper is slowly filling up, we were blindfolded and in a line with unknown obstacles ahead of us. The challenge was to hold on the rope on the left hand side and hold the person's shoulder in front of us.

We had to manoeuvre through tyres, go upstairs and down ramps, through structures and building and dangling ropes.

We got to look back after we had completed it to see what we went through and what we recognised from the positioning of it. This was a ton of fun and was a laugh, when I bumped into a tree blindfolded.

PGL was a ton of fun and there is no doubt that I would give a lot to experience it again.

Write up by Jude Cureton



COLLEGE NEWS

Can you help raise some Christmas cheer?

Here at Carers Trust Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, we cannot believe that Christmas is just around the corner. Whilst many of us are busy picking presents, deciding on decorations and enjoying the festive fun, we need your help.

Christmas can be a difficult time for everyone, especially if you are a family carer. Eight out of ten carers say that they feel lonely or isolated. This can feel worse at Christmas. This feeling doesn't only affect elderly carers. Family carers of all ages can feel the financial and practical pressures of the holiday season, with young carers hit particularly hard, saying that Christmas day is "tougher" or "sadder" than the rest of the year.

It isn't something that most people understand unless you have been there yourself. We know that a lot of people who are looking after someone don't always think of themselves as a family carer. If someone is caring for someone who couldn't cope without their support, odds on that they are.

The Big Christmas Cheer is all about spreading the word. We want family carers to recognise their vital role and, more importantly, be able to get the help that they need, when they need it. We are a charity that help family carers and their families by providing support, advice and guidance, as well as opportunities for respite from their caring role.

To find out more about how you can get involved, please read the full article on the College website/ School Information/Young Carers.



AMVC PROUDLY PRESENTS LEGALLY BLONDE *The Musical™*

Music and Lyrics by Laurence
O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin

Book by Heather
Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Wednesday 6th Thursday 7th Friday 8th

February 2019

7PM The Main Hall

Tickets on sale now from The Finance Office

£8 Adult £6 Concessions

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music
Theatre International (Europe). All authorised performance
materials are also supplied by MTI Europe

'Legally Blonde' Production

Sunday Rehearsal

Sunday 3 February 2019:

10.00am – 3.00pm in the Main Hall.

Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 5 February 2019:

during the school day.

Evening Performances

Wednesday 6, Thursday 7, Friday 8 February 2019:

Students will be expected to be at the college by 6.00pm
(for a 7.00pm start).

Tickets for this production are available now from the
Finance Office.

CHROMA

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(CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE, BOXING DAY AND NEW YEARS EVE)

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AVAILABLE IN STORE ONLY - SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY ON STOCK SCHOOLWEAR

LOST PROPERTY

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

Our lost property is located in the Admin Office but only kept for four weeks until being transferred to a secure location.

If students are missing items, please ask Admin at the beginning of next term.



COLLEGE NEWS

YEAR 11 NORMANDY HISTORY TRIP: NOVEMBER 2018

It was all going so well! We made it to Portsmouth, we got on the ferry, we had a short amount of sleep, the really annoying alarm went off, we made it to the bus and we were ready for our first day of super History! And then it all went wrong as the coach got stuck on the ferry. A minor setback and whilst the bus was fixed, we happily sat and watched a film and spent all our money in the vending machines.

And then we were off....all visits that we should have made were made (the big guns, the 360 cinema, Pegasus Bridge) and we arrived at the hotel ready for our dinner. I'm not going to re-live what happened over the rest of the weekend (I am still scarred) but Year 11, you were wonderful!

We visited the American cemetery, Omaha Beach, Les Longues, the German cemetery plus much more, we just needed to manoeuvre around French protesters!

Bowling was fun and on Sunday morning it was time to depart. The Big Peace Museum in Caen was exceptional and I was so glad that so many of you took the time to have a really good look round.

We laid our wreath, we held our minutes silence and we remembered all the reasons why we were there in the first place.

There was a slight delay on the way home (French protesters again!) but we all made it back in one piece after the most eventful trip I have ever taken.

Thank you to the students and wonderful staff members who accompanied me,.

And so we plan next year...



Mrs Price

SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ STUDENTS AT ARTHUR MELLOWS VILLAGE COLLEGE

Arthur Mellows Village College is committed to supporting students who identify as LGBTQ.

We are currently in the process of gaining the Rainbow Flag Award, run by the Kite Trust.

This will demonstrate our commitment to equality for all students and our commitment to combatting HBT (Homophobic Biphobic Transphobic) behaviour.

Should students and parents/carers wish to receive support, they can contact the Kite Trust <http://thekitetrust.org.uk/> who can offer further advice and support.

Support can also be sought from the Pastoral Team, LGBTQ+ Support Group and the HYPA Clinic.

COLLEGE NEWS

G OVERNORS REPORT



During our Autumn cycle of meetings there were many items on the agendas which promoted discussion and debate; here are a selection of them:

In Curriculum and Standards we focused on this year's exam results and the steps being taken to prepare for next year's GCSE and A Level Examinations.

At the Students and Safeguarding meeting, Mrs Sludds took us through the Audit of statutory duties and associated responsibilities for schools in relation to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. We also looked at Mental Health Provision as well as Pastoral Data Analysis covering areas such as attendance and behaviour.

At the Local Governing Committee meeting we kicked off with a presentation by the Head Boy and Head Girl, Ben Milner and Corrine Wilding who told us all about their experiences in the role so far and about the good work they and the Sixth Form Committee are doing. It was then business as usual, as we reviewed reports from the Four Cs MAT on Finance, Property and Personnel, reports from the Head of College and on the College Self Evaluation.

Mr Hannah updated us on the Sixth Form Presentation Evening and the CEIAG award that the College is working towards. Our new Governors, Mrs Tomaselli, Mrs Lamond and Mr Dewdney are now in place and have started to get involved at our meetings.

This term, some of the Governing Committee, along with employers brought in by the Skills Service, have been helping out during the school day with mock interviews for Year 11 students, giving them the valuable experience of an interview and the opportunity to develop their soft skills.

The LGC can be contacted via the clerk to the Governors at dsanderson@arthurmellows.org

Mr Jennings

HARRY POTTER STUDIO TOUR

The Year 11 Creative iMedia students have all been working hard, so to reinforce the vocational aspect of the course we took 48 students to the Warner Bros studio near Watford on Tuesday 11 December 2018.

If you haven't been, it's great, even if you are not a fan of the Harry Potter films. As well as the enjoyable tour of sets and props, the visit is intended to promote the huge range of jobs available in the Creative Media industries and hopefully inspire the new generation of talent, from actors to cinematographers, set designers to carpenters, the creative industries are the second biggest employers in the UK.

In fact, one in 11 people work in some capacity in this vital component of the UK employment sector.

As ever, the students were a credit to the College, enjoying all aspects of the tour and appreciating the skill with which the films were put together. It helped to learn that Gal Gadot (Wonder Woman), Taylor Swift and Sir Ian McKellen were all hard at work on the adjacent studio.

We already have former students doing amazing things in the TV and film industries, and judging by the excited faces of our students on the coach home, hopefully we may have a few more in the future.



Mr Zaidi

COLLEGE NEWS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Thursday 13 December 2018 the Arthur Mellows Village College Christmas Concert took place, as ever it was a jam packed concert full of festive favourites, popular hits and some all-time classics.

The pupils were fantastic in all performances with many performing for the very first time, it was lovely to see so many Key Stage 3 students taking part.



Highlights from regular groups such as Junior Choir included their performance of *'The Winner Takes It All'* and Jazz Band who performed a jazzed up version of *'Hark the Herald'* with improvised solos. Solo performances were played by flautist Grace and pianist Stanislaw who both performed recent exam pieces with such confidence.

It was also lovely to see new groups such as the Year 10 music group who made the concert feel all the more festive with their version of *'Merry Christmas Everyone'* and soloist Eliza Bowman who sang *'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'*.

A highlight with all at the concert was the performance of *'Let it Go'* by Emily and Hannah who I hope will become a more regular duo. Georgie's Christmas version of *'Hallelujah'* was beautifully performed and a brilliant addition to the concert.



It was lovely to see choir perform alongside Senior Band in the closing number *'Believe'*, they delivered a captivating and magical performance.

Every year pupils deliver performances which are something which they and Arthur Mellows Village College can be very proud of.

I thank everyone who came and wish you all a Merry Christmas.

Mrs Hammond

COLLEGE NEWS

SPORTS FIXTURES

U14 Netball

With a mix of Year 9's and Year 8's, we attended the County Netball Qualifiers Tournament on Saturday 10 November 2018 down at the Perse School, Cambridge. Students played incredibly well against a range of teams from across the county.

Students qualified after finishing as runners up in the Peterborough Schools Netball Tournament in September.

There were some outstanding performances, attacking/shooting from Harriet and Amy as well as centre court support from Megan and Diana.

Millie did an incredible job defending in the circle with support play by Elizabeth, Beth and Holly. Well done girls – a great effort by all!

Team included:

Millie Ryan, Amy Greenwood, Harriet Salisbury, Megan Sayer, Elizabeth Nunn, Diana Omar, Bella Knight and Holly Wills.



U16 Girls Football

Our mix of Year 10 and 11 girls have made it through the 4th round of the English Schools FA Cup, winning fixtures against: Neale Wade, Boston Grammar and Wellingborough.

They were unfortunately knocked out by the three times National Champions St Ivo on Wednesday 6 December 2018.

The girls have been coached and supported by Adam Barker and Sam Bloodworth.

Team included:

Lara Hunnybun, Lucy Rowe, Maddison Moore, Jess Camwell, Jess Broadway, Lauren Mapleston, Megan Mapleston, Sophie Ellen, Piper Poxon, Maddison Avery, Olivia Childs, Isabella Chaudhuri and Ruby Mathias.

Peterborough Schools Cross Country Championships

Arthur Mellows dominated the Peterborough Secondary Schools Cross Country Championships at Ferry Meadows, winning three out of eight races (Year 7 Girls, Year 10/11 Boys, Sixth Form Boys), and coming in 2nd in the Girls' Teams (Year 8/9, Year 10/11).

A number of students also got selected to represent Peterborough at the County Cross Country Championships in January at Netherhall;

Year 7 - Millie Butcher, Melissa Guest, Charlotte Fordham, Sophia Fidler, Abbie Peake, Cameron Cook

Year 8 - Alex Roberts, Will Robinson, Elena Rivetti, Niamh Hodgson

Year 9 - Ethan Nottle, Harriet Salisbury, Chelsie Bole, Curran Mangat, Elizabeth Nunn

Year 10 - Dylan Tomaselli, Holly Crosby, Hannah Campbell, Erin Treacy, Amy Coop

Year 11 - Ella Robinson, Sam Garner, Harvey Hancock, Ethan Reid

Year 12 - Amelia Monaghan

Year 13 - Clark McDonald, Will Gore, Luis Turner, Kieran Hale

Mrs McPartlin