

MELBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

Key Notes

MVC Newsletter

17th October 2022

An Academy of



The Moor, Melbourn, Royston, Herts SG8 6EF
(01763) 223400

office@melbournvc.org
www.melbournvc.org

Head Teacher: Christopher Bennet
BSc (Hons), MA, PGCE, NPQH, NPQEL,
Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching

Teaching and Learning

Over the last few weeks, teachers have been embedding retrieval practice (to remember information in a low-stakes way) at the start of all lessons. Some of the strategies used include:

- Questions from the last lesson, last week, last term
- Choosing a keyword from a previous lesson and using it appropriately in a variety of ways
- Picture prompts – how much can you describe from the picture linking to prior learning
- Draw what is described, eg a wave
- Keyword bingo
- Study something (based on prior learning), then try to reproduce it from memory

Please do speak to your child about strategies to remember information – [here](#) is the video that was sent out earlier, about how the brain remembers information. Students then need to be able to apply this information to new and different situations. The importance of 'extended talk' in full sentences and trying to use subject-specific language at school and home can really support this.

Language Skills

On Wednesday we welcomed David Binns of Sanako UK who gave a very thought-provoking and inspiring talk to our year 9 students about how useful basic foreign language skills are at work. He employs many staff who have STEM qualifications but also needs them to have some language skills so that products can be sold abroad as well as in the UK. His presentation was very informative and will help our students to think about choosing a language as one of their options later in the year.



Forthcoming Events

- 19th October: Deadline for Y11 personal statement to be handed to tutors
- 19th – 20th October: Practical GCSE Drama Exam
- 24th – 28th October: Half Term

Physical Education

On Monday we were delighted to see one of our largest turnouts at PE enrichment clubs for some time. We had over 60 students for football and hockey on the AstroTurf pitch.

The year 8 mixed hockey team went to Cambourne on Wednesday night for a fixture. The students played some excellent hockey and came away with a well-deserved 2-0 win. Look out for some great Key Stage 3 football fixtures coming soon!



Year 11 students Emma, Olivia and Thomas represented MVC in the badminton fixture at Cambourne on Wednesday. They played a range of singles and doubles matches, developing skills in preparation for their GCSE PE qualification.

Well done to our new crop of Sports Leaders who did an amazing job officiating at the BEE Primary Netball Tournament on Monday.



Sporting Achievement

Congratulations to Ellie (Y8) who came second in an U12 grade 4 tennis tournament at Huntingdon Tennis Club on Sunday 9th October. She had to overcome the 2nd seed in the 2nd round to get to the final. She trains regularly at Royston Tennis Club and has started playing for the Ladies' 3rd Team.



Girls' Rugby

If you are interested in rugby, the Shelford Girls Rugby Club are looking for new and seasoned players for their U12s, U14s and U16s teams. For more information contact James Hall, Head of Girls Rugby at rdo@shelfordrugby.co.uk or visit www.shelfordrugbyclub.co.uk

Football Activators

Our Year 10 and Year 11 Football Activators achieved their Youth Sports Trust Award in girls' football this week. They started the award last year to develop life skills and leadership through football, volunteering their time to run after-school sessions for younger students. The FA wants to give every girl equal access to football by 2024, and our Football Activators have been a vital part of this mission. Those involved should be very proud of what they have achieved and what they plan to accomplish moving forward.



School Building Work

Improvements to the canteen are continuing, and over the half term holiday it will be equipped with a new ventilation system and a new roof.



The ongoing work to improve the classrooms on the lower floor of the George Edward block, (English) should be finished over half term when the new external doors will be installed together with some additional furniture and furnishings.

The Food Technology practical room and classroom are starting to take shape. The kitchen units are being installed this week (see photo) and we are on track to complete these facilities by the end of November.

Maintenance of the all-weather AstroTurf pitch will also be taking place during half term.

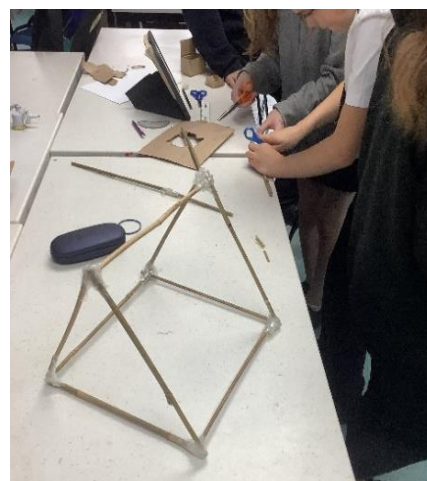
Enrichment Activities

Students are enjoying the autumn enrichment clubs that are taking place after school from 3-4pm. There are lots of options to choose from on Monday – Wednesday each week and spaces are still available. Here are some photos of golf, gardening, art, science, hockey, football and sewing.



Science Club

Science club goes from strength to strength with a fantastic turnout each week. At the last session we started a two-week project inspired by NASA's recent DART mission to alter the course of an asteroid. Students were set the challenge of designing and creating a device that can launch projectiles not only as far as they can but also, as a second challenge, to hit targets! This coming week they will be testing to see how well their devices can throw anti-asteroid devices (conkers) at their intended targets! The challenge has been set; will they defend the earth in time from incoming asteroids?



Co-curricular Music

Students have made an excellent start to the cocurricular music programme at MVC. Show Band now features instruments from all four families of the orchestra as well as keyboards, bass, drums and of course singers. So far, band members have enjoyed learning repertoire by Bob Marley, The Police and Bill Withers. Christmas Concert rehearsals will commence w/c 31st October. The Christmas Concert is scheduled to take place in the Main Hall on Monday 19th December at 19.00.



Wellbeing

This month's Centre 33 Wellbeing talk is on the topic of 'Sleep'. It would be suitable for any young person aged 13-25 who is experiencing difficulties with sleep, such as finding it hard to get to sleep at night, waking during the night, or feeling very tired during the day. When you sign up for the talk you will get access to two pre-recorded talks, and an invitation to a live Q&A session on 25th October at 5.30pm. All wellbeing talks and recordings will be made available on the Centre 33 YouTube channel and website afterwards. More information [here](#).

SCDC Wellbeing Week Events

South Cambridgeshire District Council invites you to come along to one of their free events to find out what support and services are available in your local area to look after your health and wellbeing. This includes sport and activity services, community groups and health checks. You can also talk to the service providers about what would benefit you in the area.

- Monday 24th October at Harston Village Hall: 1:30pm to 4pm
- Wednesday 26th October at Bar Hill Octagon Building: 1pm to 4pm
- Thursday 27th October at Linton Sports Centre: 1pm to 4pm

All ages welcome. No booking required. For more information email: ben.truett@scambs.gov.uk



CENTRE 33 TALKS ABOUT: SLEEP 33

Do you have trouble getting to sleep? Or staying asleep?

Have you got into unhelpful habits that affect your sleep?

Do you have low energy during the day and just want to nap?

If you can relate to some of these problems, then we can help! Sign up below to get a copy of our sleep talks, and access to a live question and answer session.

In the talks we explore the importance of sleep, discuss the impact of routines, environments and mental health, and share lots of tips to make positive changes.

TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER- We will email you recordings of the talks to watch in your own time over that week.

TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER- Online question and answer session with our wellbeing practitioners, based on the content from the recordings- 5.30-6pm.

Free to access!

Suitable for anyone age 13-25

HOW TO SIGN UP: Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to get a link to register. Or go to the events page on our website - www.centre33.org.uk/events

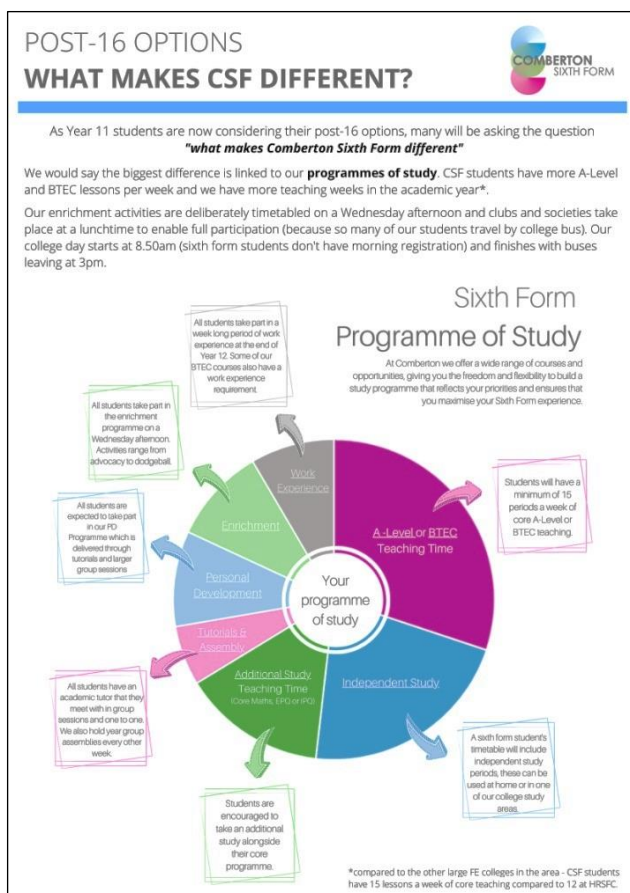
You can join the Q&A anonymously - we ask everyone to use an anonymous name, and keep their cameras and microphones off.

Post-16 Information

The deadline for Y11 personal statements to be typed up and sent to tutors is Wednesday 19th October. Students have been working on these in tutor time. Support is available at lunchtime and after school in IT2 on Wednesday 19th October.

Students will soon receive their login details and have a lesson with Mr Willder on how to apply online for courses.

Check out the ['Get the Jump' Skills for Life campaign](#) which provides information to make young people aware of all their post-16 choices and help them decide on their best next step.



To support a student's programme of study, **all** sixth form students at Comberton have access to:

- An **academic tutor** who will meet with them one-to-one to support their academic progress.
- A **specialist counsellor** to support with mental health, anxiety and the challenges associated with sixth form study and wider life.
- Specialist teachers** who focus on outstanding teaching and learning and subject based support.
- A **support team** who promote progress for those with additional needs.
- Senior staff** in the Sixth Form Team that lead intervention.
- Access to **careers advisors** to help navigate post-18 options.

The support that you have access to at Comberton Sixth Form is amazing! Whether it is struggling with your school work, managing your time, stress or more personal issues, there is always someone who will listen and help you find the best way forward. As someone who accessed the support on a number of occasions throughout my time at the sixth form, I can say with confidence that the support really helped to make my time at Comberton much easier!

Gemma - A-Level Dance, A-Level Psychology, A-Level Geography, Core Maths



Upcoming Careers Events

Year 9 and year 11 students will be having a careers talk by staff from the University of Hertfordshire on Tuesday 1st November.

Year 9 students will then have an opportunity to take part in an Enterprise Day on Wednesday 9th November – this will last all day instead of lessons and will end with a Dragons Den style finale!

Photo from 2021-22 Enterprise Day.

Personal Social Health Education

This week our year 10 students had a PSHE session about: transition from KS3-KS4; GCSEs; time management; being positive; pressure, influence and friends; and different types of relationships.



River Mel Restoration

Last year, the MVC Eco Group did their bit to improve the environment by litter picking in the River Mel that borders the school grounds.

We are delighted to learn that the Wild Trout Trust has been successful in securing a grant of £10K from Cambridge Water to take forward the next phase of river restoration for the River Mel involving scrub and tree thinning and channel re-building with gravel. See the poster board below for more information.

Mending the Mel (Melbourn Recreation Ground)

Before - a silty channel with existing ledges not performing properly due to shade suppressing vegetation growth. Poor trout and water vole habitat.

After (1yr) - the riverbed has been lined with mixed-grade gravel and some chalk, to provide new trout spawning habitat. The margins have been stabilised to aid plant rooting and growth. Pieces of wood have been fixed in place to provide cover. Yellow flag iris have been planted and water crowfoot grows.

Before - the over-shaded river offered little to sustain water voles and the lack of flow diversity limited the river's ability to cleanse silt from its bed.

After - by raising the riverbed and through careful narrowing, the flow velocity has been increased which enhances the river's ability to transport fine sediment preventing it from smothering the riverbed. The presence of clean gravel will increase the river's invertebrate population (food for fish and birds).

Key facts:
Length - ~100m
Duration - 5 days
Cost - ~£6500

Wild Trout Trust in partnership with the River Mel Restoration Group & Melbourn Science Park Ltd. Cambridge Water Company part funded through their PEBBLE fund (~£2.5K).

Due to COVID19 restrictions (in spring 2020) community volunteers could not be used for delivery. Instead a team was formed from a local landscape company (Meldreth Landscapes) and gravel was crudely delivered by grab lorry.

A ST excavator was used to place gravel into tight locations. The labourer (upstream in shot) had the role of raking out gravel under careful instruction.

WILD TROUT TRUST
wildtrout.org

Cambridge Water

River Mel Restoration Group



The Willow and the Walnut

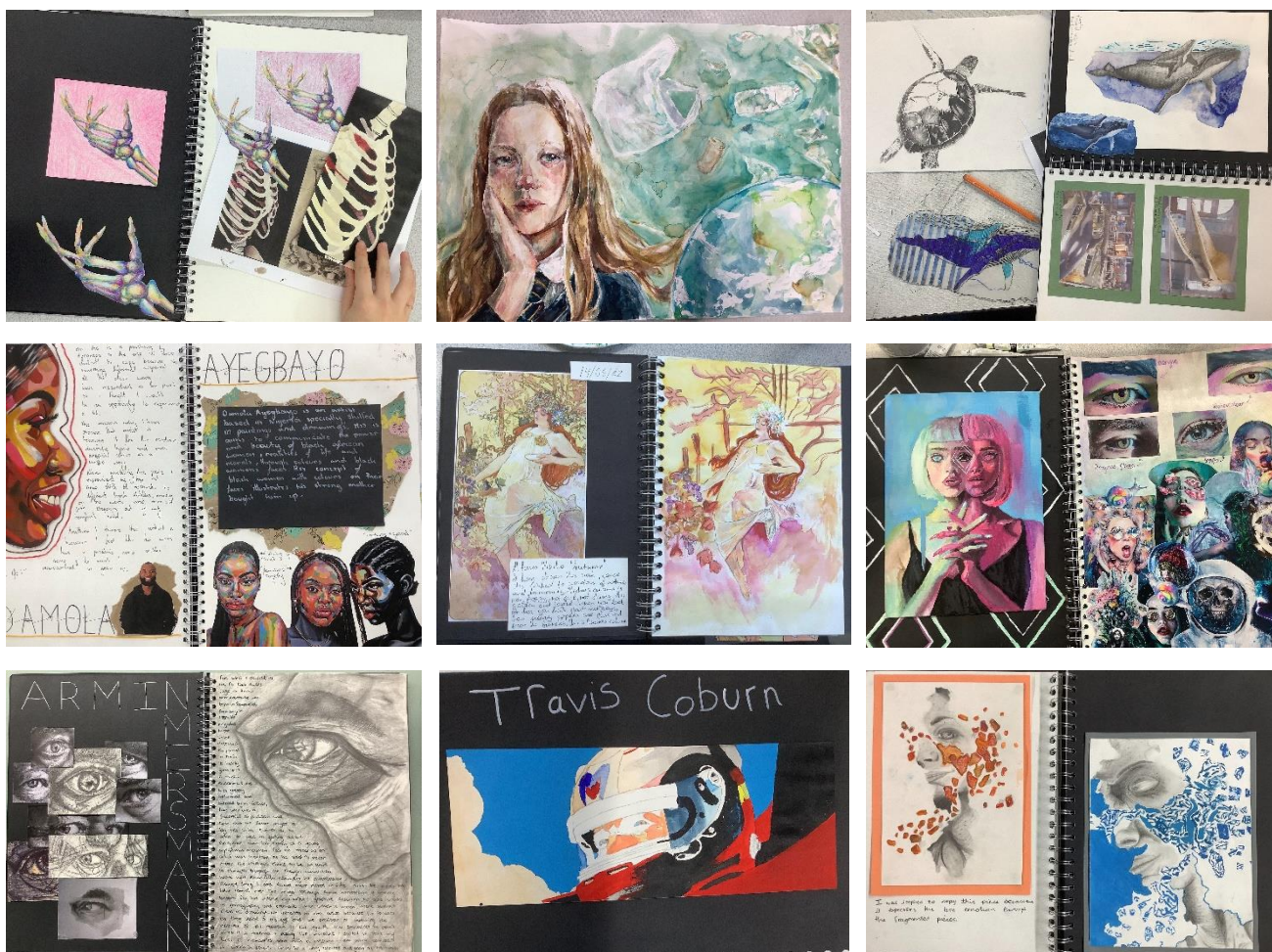
At MVC we are very fortunate to be in such a beautiful country setting. Our grounds include many trees including a willow and a walnut tree that were planted when the college was built. These two trees symbolise important values that are still just as relevant today:

- Willow: flexibility & adaptability
- Walnut: wisdom & discernment

Student Showcase: Y11 Art

Year 11 MVC art students are busy preparing for their forthcoming practise exam which will take place in December. They have been working on artist research and response pieces in relation to the artists they have studied, using a range of media.

Mrs Ward and Mrs Heeks are very impressed with the detail and quality of artwork that has been produced so far.



Vacancies

Our partner contractors are seeking to recruit cleaning staff, catering staff and a relief school crossing patrol. See below for details:



Cambridgeshire County Council

Could this be you?

Could you spare half an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon?

We are looking for reliable **School Crossing Patrol Officers** to assist children and adults in crossing the road before school safety. The hours are between 8.30 - 9.00am and 3.00 - 4.00pm Monday - Friday. Term Time only. Hourly rate of £7.20.

If you are interested please contact:

Andy Swallow School Crossing Patrol Service Manager
Tel: 07788 545505
e-mail: Andy.Swallow@cccambridgeshire.gov.uk

Please note: applications for positions that involve working with children are subject to a full enhanced DBS check.

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk



WE ARE NOW HIRING!

Cleaning positions available at Melbourn Village College

- ✓ £10.00 per hour (4 weekly Pay by BACS)
- ✓ Mon-Fri / 3pm-6pm / 3 hours per day / 15 hours per week
- ✓ Pro-rata Holiday Pay
- ✓ Uniform and Training provided
- ✓ 43-week contract

Opportunity to work with a flexible, friendly and local employer. Positions contracted to term time plus additional non-term time deep cleaning. All up to date ID and proof of entitlement to work in UK required as a fully enhanced DBS will be processed for successful applicants.

APPLY NOW!
enquiries@reef-cleaning.co.uk
01480 470110
www.reef-cleaning.co.uk

REEF



We are hiring! Join Us!

caterlink
feeding the imagination

We love food and hope you will join our team providing healthy great food at Melbourn Village College

Great Work Life Balance!

Are you our next Chef Manager £16ph / kitchen assistant £10.50 ph?

Dynamic Individuals are required to work in a fabulous team - Term Time only. Monday to Friday

For an informal chat please contact Danielle below.
All successful applicants will be subjected to a full enhanced DBS Check.

Team Work!

Are you Passionate?

Join a fantastic Team! Good Luck we look forward to hearing from you.

Contact Danielle
dharrison@caterlinkltd.co.uk
07341 869482

With best wishes

Christopher Bennet

Christopher Bennet
Head Teacher