

MVC Newsletter



MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

21 MARCH 2025

Dear parents and carers

As we reach the end of another busy week at school, it's hard to ignore the fact that the weather is starting to warm up, which is always a welcome sign as we move closer to spring! There's been plenty happening at school this week, and I wanted to take a moment to share some highlights with you.

This week, we held a special day for our Year 11 students focused on core boosters and maths events. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to concentrate on their revision and strengthen their skills in key subjects ahead of the upcoming exams. We were pleased to see so many students engaging with the sessions, and I'm confident these extra sessions will help to boost their confidence and results.

We're also pleased to see so much happening with careers at school, providing students with a wide variety of opportunities to explore different career pathways. Whether through talks, trips, or hands-on experiences, we are committed to helping students make informed decisions about their futures.

On Friday, we hosted an informative apprenticeship talk from representatives at Nissan. Year 9, 10 and interested Year 11 students learned about the wide range of apprenticeship opportunities available in industries such as engineering, business, and more. This session provided valuable insight into how students can take their first steps into the world of work, and we encourage any students interested in apprenticeship pathways to follow up on the information shared.

Also this week, our Year 11 students had the chance to visit Cambridge Regional College to explore further education options. The trip was a great success, allowing students to see the opportunities available to them post-16 and get a feel for the college environment. We hope this experience has sparked some inspiration for the next stage of their educational journey.

We were delighted to welcome prospective Year 7 parents and students for school tours this week. It's always a pleasure to showcase what makes our school special, and we hope these tours have given families a clear insight into the exciting improvements here at Melbourn Village College. Enjoy the warmer weather this weekend, and we look forward to welcoming students back for another productive week!

Warm regards,

Mrs Spencer, Principal

KEY DATES

26th Mar

Year 10 visit from Jamie Shackleton from CRC

27th Mar

Panathlon at St Ivo College and
Year 9 Football Fixture
Spring Concert

28th Mar

Year 7 Laser Tag Event

31st Mar

Year 9 DTP and MenACWY vaccinations

4th Apr

Last day of Spring Term

22nd Apr

Staff Development Day
(school closed to pupils)

23rd Apr

First day of Summer Term

28th Apr

Clubs and Activities start

23rd May

Year 11 Leavers' Celebration Day



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www.facebook.com/MelbournVillageCollege



[@Melbourn_VC](https://twitter.com/Melbourn_VC)

APPRENTICESHIP TALK

On Friday, Year 9 and 10 pupils welcomed a representative from Nissan Design Europe into school to give a talk about apprenticeships and career pathways. Pupils found the presentation very interesting and informative.

*Mr E Willder,
Assistant Principal – Teaching and learning*



PET-XI AND CORE GRAB A GRADE DAY

We were delighted to welcome the Pet-Xi team in to Melbourn Village College on Thursday 20th March to work with our students on our 'Grab a Core Grade Day' for Year 11. The atmosphere in all the classrooms as pupils worked on their English, maths and science knowledge, revision and skills was amazing, with pupils making excellent progress throughout the day.



The Pet-Xi facilitators have already written to the school, saying that Melbourn Village College had 'brilliant students' and that the pupils they worked with were a 'great bunch of kids'. This day will help our Year 11 pupils feel more confident in preparation for their final exams and complements the revision sessions with Kevin Hayes earlier this term. Well done to all the Year 11 students for their fantastic attitude and dedication to their studies.

Mr S Luxton, Associate Assistant Principal - Raising Achievement



READING CURRICULUM & READING CHALLENGES

From the start of the Summer term we will be introducing a new exciting reading curriculum at Melbourn Village College. This will take place in tutor times and aims to support pupils in gaining a love for reading by encouraging reading for pleasure. Research shows that reading for pleasure helps pupils improve grades at school but also, just as importantly, is one of the single biggest factors in helping young people with their mental health. The choice of books aims to enhance knowledge or different cultures and perspectives through high-quality literature.

Alongside this, we will be launching a reading challenge for all pupils from the start of the summer term. This will involve pupils receiving achievement points for successful completion of books read. There will be more information coming out on this as soon as we return after the Easter holidays; so please do keep a lookout!

Mr S Luxton, Associate Assistant Principal - Raising Achievement



Melbourn Village College is a Reading School

We want all pupils to be confident readers
who read for pleasure and find their own path
in enjoyment of genre and text.

The reading curriculum that every pupil follows in form time is:

Year 7
Fiction: *The Boy at the Back of the Class* – Onjali Q. Raúf
Private Peaceful – Michael Morpurgo
Non-fiction: *You are a Champion* – Marcus Rashford

Year 8
Fiction: *Noughts and Crosses* – Malorie Blackman
Face – Benjamin Zephaniah
Non-fiction: *I am Malala* – Malala Yousafzai

Year 9
Fiction: *To Kill a Mockingbird* – Harper Lee
The Remains of the Day – Kazuo Ishiguro
Non-fiction: *The Reason I Jump* – Naoki Higashida

Year 10
Fiction: *I Capture the Castle* – Dodie Smith
Cider with Rosie – Laurie Lee
Non-fiction: *Long Walk to Freedom* – Nelson Mandela

Year 11
Fiction: *The Time Machine* – H.G. Wells
The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini



FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Congratulations to the Year 8 boys football team who progressed to the quarter finals of the District Cup on Monday. We are fortunate to have lots of pupils who play football outside of school and have now used over a 100 players this academic year over various year groups.

The Year 7 team also performed admirably, defeating Stephen Perse and Bassingbourn VC on route to a final against Comberton VC this week.

Next Thursday it is the turn of our Year 9 team who have a tough draw against St. Bedes. Year 8 will play their next round on Thursday 3rd April and Year 10 have another chance to impress against CAST on Wednesday 2nd April.

Mr R Barlow, Teacher of PE



YEAR 11 GCSE COOKING EXAM

I'm so proud of both Year 11 groups for their outstanding work in the GCSE cooking exam. They created well executed dishes that were both technically impressive and well-presented. Their hard work really paid off, and I'm excited to see what next week's groups will create!

Mrs Z Millwood, Head of Food, Art & Technology



YOU SAID: WE DID

We have received feedback from parents on how to approach the issue of vaping/smoking with your child. As a society we are seeing increasing numbers of young people trying vaping. We are aware this is happening with children as low down in the school as Year 8 so the earlier we can talk about this to our children the better. Vapes, also known as e-cigarettes, are electronic devices. People use them to inhale nicotine in the form of an aerosol. It is illegal in the UK to sell nicotine vaping products to anyone under the age of 18 or for adults to buy them on behalf of under-18s. Vapes are a prohibited item at MVC. We would like to signpost to parents a toolkit here that you may find useful to open up the conversation with your child:

<https://healthyschoolscp.org.uk/pshe/smoking-and-vaping-local-offer/>

FORMER MVC STUDENT WINS MIDDLEMASS SCIENCE PRIZE

Congratulations to former student, Isla who has been awarded the Middlemass Science Prize.

The prize is given to a student from Melbourn Village College who has done exceptionally well in the sciences and aims to encourage students to continue studying science when they leave for further education. As well as receiving a trophy, the prizewinner is given a financial bursary to support their ongoing study in sciences. Isla achieved grade 9 in all of her three science subjects and was a brilliant scientist throughout her time at MVC.

The family of the late John Middlemass have established a fund for Science Bursaries to be awarded to students of Melbourn Village College. Mr Middlemass was a governor of the College, a local businessman and his three children were students at the College. In his lifetime, he was keen to support science education and research. The Bursary is to support students who study science at Sixth Form College and at university: science in a way that will develop knowledge and understanding of chemistry, physics and biology and the application of science to medical research.

Dr D Wilson, Head of Science

Melbourn Village College Spring Concert 2025

Thursday 27 March
19.00 – 20.00
Main Hall



***TICKETS: £3 (Adult) £2 (Concession)**

*Available via Parent Pay or Reception (card payment only)

Cash cannot be accepted

PARENTAL LETTERS



Key letters that have been sent to parents and carers are available to download from our website [here](#).

TUTEES OF THE WEEK

Our tutees of the week receive hot chocolate and marshmallows on Thursday morning as a reward for having a great week. All pupils receive a certificate to take home.

First Name	Year Group
Toby	7
Ayla-Iris	7
Angus	7
Martha	7
George	7
Lily	8
Adyan	8
Kara	8
Luke	9
Mark	9
Alex	9
Freya	9
Johnnie	9
Marco	10
Kate	10
Rianna	10
Kya	11
Emma	11
Jim	11
Jake	11

RED NOSE DAY

Friday was Red Nose Day and the community of Melbourn Village College have been raising money in support of BBC's Red Nose Day and Melbourn Village Food Bank by holding a non-uniform day.



Pupils had the opportunity to wear non-uniform, with a voluntary donation of £2. We are delighted to have raised £580 for these charities.

Mr S Pollock, Assistant Principal

HARVEY - CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

Congratulations to Harvey who came 13th out of 245 county level junior boys runners from all over England at the English Schools Cross Country Championships on 15th March. He was close to finishing in the top 10 which would have earned him an England vest to compete at International level! MVC is extremely proud of his achievement.



YEAR 9: DTP/MEN IMMUNISATION SESSION

On Monday 31st March the school immunisation nurses will be visiting to administer the Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) and Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccinations to Year 9 students. Year 9 parents who have not already done so can say yes or no to this vaccine by clicking on this link: [Immunisation Form](#) to complete the form. For further information about vaccines, click [here](#)