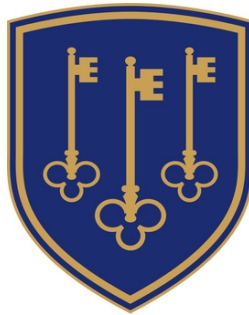


# MVC NEWSLETTER

MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

27 NOV 2024



Dear Parents and carers,

Every day in school is exciting – a fresh new day, working with the best and brightest young people, helping them to learn new skills and knowledge. As the winter approaches and the days get shorter, our time seems even more filled; there are lots of things going on in school – from art competitions, to preparations for Reading Week, to practising for our Christmas musical extravaganza!

But next Monday, please don't forget that the school is closed for a Staff Training Day.

Niki Smith  
Head of School/Acting Principal

## PARENT FORUM

On Tuesday 3rd December we will be holding another parent forum event – an opportunity for parents to come in and talk with us about how we are improving the school. The event will be held in the school hall from 6.00pm.

We are excited to announce that our new Principal, Rachel Spencer, will be coming along to meet with you all, as well.

In order to allow us to plan appropriately, please indicate your intent to attend here:

[forms.office.com/e/yx4etDj2Yc](https://forms.office.com/e/yx4etDj2Yc)



## KEY DATES

**Monday 2nd Dec**  
School Closed

**Monday 3rd Dec**  
Parents' Meeting with new Principal

**Friday 6th Dec**  
Year 11 Walk & Eat Tour

**9th - 13th Dec**  
Reading Week

**Tuesday 10th Dec**  
Carols at Kings

**10th - 12th Dec**  
Valencia Trip

**Wednesday 11th Dec**  
Flu Vaccinations (Y7-9)

**Thursday 12th Dec**  
Year 9 Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 18th Dec**  
Christmas Lunch & Year 11 Winter Party

**Thursday 19th Dec**  
Year 8 Reward Event and Christmas Concert

**Friday 20th Dec**  
Christmas Mystery Bag Extravaganza.  
Last day of Autumn Term



## SOCIAL MEDIA WARNING

It has come to our attention that there is a large year 7 WhatsApp group with lots of the year group as members.

The WhatsApp group has been used by some pupils to send inappropriate messages to one another that are very unkind and upsetting.

Mrs Coghlan has spoken to all of the pupils about the use of the WhatsApp group and explained that there is an age restriction of 16+ for the app. Please do refer back to Ms Smith's previous messages about social media and the use of smart phones. As a school, we will continue to educate pupils on the use of social media, but we would appreciate your support in talking to your child about the use of social media and monitoring their use of age-appropriate apps.

## YEAR 8 UPDATE

Well done to the girls football team for their performance against Bassingbourn in a recent friendly match, on a very cold day. The boys will also play Bassingbourn on Monday 9th December.

A reminder to parents that in the absence of a Year 8 Pastoral Support Officer your first port of call is your child's form tutor.

Please continue to check MyChildAtSchool App and support us in speaking to your child about any positive and / or negative points they receive at school.

## ART COMPETITION

The deadline for entries to the Art Competition is fast approaching on 9th December.

Pupils are asked to make an artwork of a scenic view of the school or any part of it. This can be in any medium, colour or black & white, in any artistic style and up to A3 in size. Entries will be displayed in school corridors.



## STAFF V STAFF BASKETBALL REMATCH

Following the first successful staff v staff basketball game last week, a rematch has been arranged for 4th December. There will be a small charge to watch this event to raise funds for Melbourn Foodbank ([melbournfoodbank.co.uk](http://melbournfoodbank.co.uk)).

## BEHAVIOUR AROUND SCHOOL

A vast majority of our pupils behave well around school – they are polite, they follow our rules and behave in safe ways. Unfortunately, there are a small number who choose not to follow our rules, not to wear the correct uniform, or to behave in ways that make things less safe for their peers.

We really welcome the support that parents can give us:

- Please encourage your child to wear the correct uniform (and no jewellery).
- Please help your child to pack their bag and include the things they need for the day.
- Please monitor your child's phone use (checking apps are age-appropriate etc).
- Please encourage your child to participate fully in their learning and to complete homework.
- Please encourage your child to do as requested by adults, when in school.

Over the coming weeks we will be stepping up the consequences for pupil misbehaviour or non-compliance in school; your help will be valuable in ensuring that your child is not one of the pupils suffering the consequences.

## ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

We know that pupils learn most when they are at school. All children catch germs or have accidents, and so may miss school. Last year, our year 11 pupils who attended school 90% or more of the time made progress greater than the national average. Children who miss school not only miss that day's learning but also find it harder to learn subsequent lessons due to the gaps in their understanding.

At MVC we have an attendance goal of 96%. Please encourage your children to attend school and, if they do miss school, to copy up the missed work from a friend's book.

## WHAT HAPPENS FOLLOWING REMOVAL FROM A LESSON

Last week we told you about our simple 3-step process to deal with unwelcome behaviours in the classroom. From next week, we are simplifying the behaviour system a little bit further.

- Following a removal, a pupil will be issued a detention to be completed after school and supervised by the department staff from where the removal occurred.
- These detentions replace the centralised lunchtime detention in GE02.
- We are removing the requirement for pupils to have had a restorative conversation before re-entering a classroom; this was acting as an unnecessary hurdle for some pupils.

We really appreciate the support from parents that enable their children to stay for after-school detentions. This clearly demonstrates to the pupils that school and home are working together to improve the behaviour for the benefit of everyone.

## OUTSTANDING HISTORY PROJECT ESSAY ON MENTAL HEALTH



Congratulations to Caitlin (Y10 Lewis) for the outstanding essay on the treatment of mental health that she submitted for her optional history project. The essay demonstrated a deep understanding of the history of psychiatric treatment and diagnosis, exploring not only the evolution of asylums over the past 200 years, but also the long-term impacts of key legislation, such as the Mental Deficiency Act of 1913. The essay engages critically with the material and conveys a nuanced understanding of how mental health treatment has developed, exploring the history of mental illness care with great sensitivity and professionalism, providing a balanced view of both the challenges and advancements in the field. You can read Caitlin's essay on our website [here](#).

### ART AND DESIGN

**Year 7** pupils are working on developing observational drawing skill and tonal colour fades in their seashore shell project. They have looked at mark making, and carbon transfer to help them improve their drawing. The teacher demonstrated how to use coloured pencil to create strong colour blends and the use of fine liner to show creative line work.

**Year 8** pupils are studying Mehndi motifs starting with mixed media observational drawings of leaves. They are learning to paint in washes, and adding detail afterwards. When they have completed this, they will then be taking their observations of leaf shapes into a Mehndi motif, incorporating a leaf pattern into a final painting, reflecting the patterns found in Mehndi designs.

### YEAR 7 ART



### YEAR 8 ART





## MVC CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Don't forget to sign your child up for a Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th December. This meal must be paid for in advance via ParentPay. The deadline for payment and menu choice is **Friday 6th December**.

Please note that on Wednesday 18th there will be no other food available at break, and no alternative meal at lunchtime. Only drinks will be on sale at break time. Students must either pay for Christmas lunch on ParentPay in advance to receive the festive meal, or they can bring in a packed lunch.

If your child requires the vegetarian option, please let us know via this [form](#) by Friday 6th December. If we are not notified, pupils will receive the meat option by default. If your child is in receipt of free school meals (FSM) they will automatically be provided with a Christmas lunch, but please complete this [form](#) if they require the vegetarian option.

Don't forget to book your child's

### Christmas Lunch

18<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Meat option:**

- Roast Turkey with Pigs in Blankets, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing Ball, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy
- Choice of Choc Yule Log, or Christmas Cookies, or Festive Krispy Cake

**Vegetarian option:**

- Roasted Winter Vegetable Wellington, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing Ball, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy
- Choice of Choc Yule Log, or Christmas Cookies, or Festive Krispy Cake



## 'UNWRAP THE MAGIC' CHRISTMAS MYSTERY BAG EXTRAVAGANZA!

On 20th December we will be holding an 'Unwrap the Magic' event in FN1 during break and lunchtime.

Pupils can bring in some money to purchase a mystery lucky dip bag with one item in it for £1 or a mystery bag with 3 items for £2. Cakes, cookies and fizzy drinks will also be available.

Proceeds will go towards the Year 11 Prom.

### Unwrap the Magic

JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS MYSTERY BAG EXTRAVAGANZA!

**BREAK AND LUNCH LUCKY DIP** £1 (1 ITEM)

**IN FN1** 20TH DECEMBER

**MYSTERY BAGS** £2 (3 ITEMS)

**ALSO AVAILABLE** CAKES, COOKIES AND FIZZY DRINKS!

