

MVC Newsletter

MELBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY

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Half-termly newsletter from Melbourn Village College

AUTUMN TERM, Issue 1: October 2024

Message from Head of School

It has been a very full half term and I hope that you enjoy reading about some of the many activities that have taken place over the past few weeks. This is our first half-termly newsletter and we hope, over the course of the year, that every pupil in our school will find themselves and some of their activities reported within it.



MVC welcomes new Principal

The CAM Academy Trust has announced that Rachel Spencer, currently deputy headteacher at Mark Rutherford School in Bedford, will take up the position of Principal at Melbourn Village College in the new year. With extensive experience in school improvement and raising standards, Rachel Spencer will bring a fresh approach to the leadership team.

The CAM Academy Trust believes that Rachel's leadership will be instrumental in continuing the school's improvement journey, as well as fostering a positive and inspiring learning environment for students.

Principal designate, Rachel Spencer said: "I am thrilled to be joining the CAM Academy Trust at this extremely exciting time. It's a privilege to join Melbourn Village

MVC says thank you to Mr Bennet

Mr Bennet kindly agreed to join us as Executive Headteacher in September 2022, combining working with MVC alongside St Peters School in Huntingdon.

We are very grateful for the leadership he has provided and, as he leaves us to return full-time to SPS, we wish him the very best and hope that he will remain a close friend of the school as we continue along the path to excellence upon which he has set the school.

College as principal and to work in partnership with staff, pupils, and parents as we go on a journey to excellence together."

CEO of CAM Academy Trust, Claire Heald said: "We are delighted to be welcoming Rachel to the Trust. Melbourn has been on a very positive improvement journey over the last year and Rachel will be able to build on that, leading the school forward so it becomes the exceptional school its community deserves."

Until Rachel Spencer takes up her role in January, Ms. Niki Smith will continue to act as interim Principal. Niki has played a key role in guiding the school through recent improvements, and will continue, in a senior leadership role as Head of School from January on, ensuring continuity and stability.

MVC and The CAM Academy Trust are confident that this exciting appointment will enable the school to provide the best educational opportunities for all its pupils.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 4 November:** Y10 /11 Flu Vaccinations
- 12 November:** Y10/11 Valencia Trip Meeting
- 13 November:** DofE Bronze training online
- 14 November:** Y10 Parents' Evening
- 17 November:** Wembley Trip
- 18-29 November:** Y11 Mock Exams
- 20 November:** DofE Silver training online
- 28 November:** Lion King Trip

DECEMBER

- 2 December:** School Closed Professional Day
- 6 December:** Y10 Walk & Eat Tour, London
- 10 December:** Carols at Kings
- 10-12 December:** Y10/11 Valencia Trip
- 11 December:** Y7-9 Flu Vaccinations
- 12 December:** Y9 Parents' Evening
- 18 December:** Christmas Lunch
- 19 December:** Christmas Concert
- 20 December:** Last day of Autumn Term

JANUARY

- 6 January:** School Closed, Professional Day
- 7 January:** Start of Spring Term

View the full School Calendar here:

www.melbournvc.org/news/calendar

Claire Heald meets staff & parents

On Tuesday 22nd October, Claire Heald, CEO of The Cam Academy Trust visited MVC to speak to MVC staff and parents.

Claire gave a very informative presentation to staff about her role at the Trust, and vision for the future direction of MVC. This

session was followed at 6pm by an evening presentation, attended by over 120 parents and carers of MVC students. Claire spoke about the plans to improve the school and the work to ensure Melbourn is a great school for its community.

Claire said, "We are keen to work in partnership with our parent community."



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Open evening

This years' Open Evening was a big success, with lots to see and do in all the departments. There were presentations from Christopher Bennet, Executive Head Teacher and Kelly Coghlan, Transition Lead. The catering team put on an amazing display of food for people to sample.



Our students learnt new skills in badminton, dodgeball, football and netball. They were also given their new sports leader kit!

We hope this opportunity will enhance their leadership skills and benefit them in their future leadership experiences.



Sports Leaders

On 7th October some of our new Year 10 Sports Leaders started their leadership journey at Comberton VC where local schools got together for the annual South Cambs Pupil Leadership conference.

Year 7s Football Success

Year 7s had their first school football match on 8th October at Linton Village College. They were joined by former MVC trainee teacher Alfie Oakman as this was also their first external fixture.

Mr Barlow said, "We have had a really healthy turnout to football enrichment and

have already organised the next match against the Stephen Perse school at home."

"If the pupils' sporting effort is anything like their first match then we have reason to be excited. The MVC team ran out a comfortable 5-0 winners against a committed Linton team. We started well in a 10 a-side 3-4-2 formation, playing three thirds in order to rotate players and coach

accordingly. Staggeringly we were 4-0 up inside the first third with an extravagant goal from Jack, athletically scoring an overhead kick from a Theo corner. Captain Jimmie scored a well-executed goal from range, drilling low into the corner and we were relentless!" Congratulations to Jimmie and Jack who ended on two goals each to Hugo for adding another. The team went home beaming. Well done everyone!



Geography Field Trip

Year 11 geography students visited Southwold on a bright and sunny Wednesday afternoon to complete the fieldwork element of their Geography GCSE course.

We enroled the help of the Geography Fieldwork Centre in Southwold and completed various fieldwork assignments including; measuring Longshore drift, measuring the width of the beach, and looking at the impact of tourism and second home ownership on the town.

Mr Barnes said, "The students were diligent throughout the day and all of them behaved impeccably."

An excellent day was finished off with a walk along the pier with fish and chips and ice cream.



Apprenticeship Assembly

Our Year 11 students attended a presentation by Form the Future, to find out more about apprenticeships'.

We were lucky enough to have an ambassador from PEM, the largest independent accountancy firm in Cambridge, offering a large range of apprenticeships, who explained to why

learning whilst earning money and gaining experience may be a good option to some.

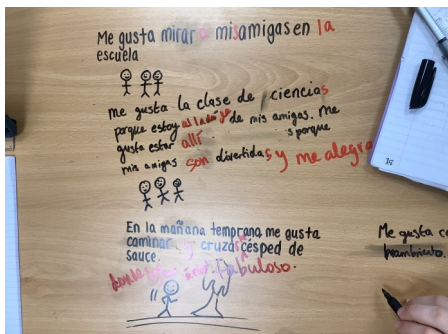
This event was an inspiration for all our students to think big and explore all the options for their chosen vocation.

For those students which may have an interest in considering an apprenticeship, more information can be found on www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship



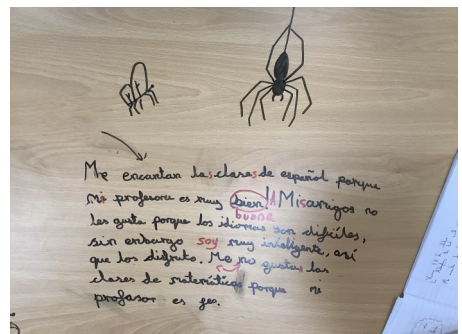
Post-16 Choices

In September we held a post-16 evening for Year 11 students and parents. The event began with a talk from Mr Willder, Assistant Head Teacher about post-16 options, followed by Heads of English, Maths and Science. Students and parents then had a chance to visit the post-16 providers' stands to find out more about what local colleges and apprenticeships have to offer.



Spanish Verbs

In Year 9 Spanish lessons we have been studying opinion verbs and practising using them to write imaginatively about school. They were allowed to write on the desks, which was also fun, and made it easy for Mrs Stanley to correct the work as she checked it. The students enjoyed this activity and did a very good job, including with cleaning the desks afterwards!



BMX and Scooter Challenge

On 18th October the PE department took a small group of Key Stage Three pupils to Comberton Village College for an Action Sports Experience. The event included an inspirational talk and trick display from BMX World Champion Mike Mullen and scooter champion Terry Price, after which the children took part in a BMX and scooter workshop.

On the way back to school, the students were keen to try out some of the scooter and BMX skills they had learnt at the workshop. They also practised other important skills such as how to persevere when faced with a challenge, as well as good team-working and social skills.

Head of PE, Kelly Coghlan gave a special thanks to Claire McDonnell, The Partnership Manager & School Games Organiser from the South Cambs School Sports Partnership (SCSSP) for organising this event.

Jack said "I normally prefer team sports like football and cricket, but it's been great to learn some new skills today. I think I preferred the BMX to the scooter, but I know how important it is to stick at it when you learn a new skill and it takes time."



MVC Loves to Read

Inspired by the Lexonics programme of literacy, Y10 Darwin have been leading the way by getting to grips with a good book during form time. "We enjoy talking about what we are reading" said one form member, "It's great to have such a good library in school".

Reading is at the heart of our learning, we love promoting reading at MVC.



Paired Reading

Our paired reading activity has been a great success this half term. Our friendly team of prefects have been working with younger students to boost their reading confidence by sharing the vast array of fiction and non-fiction in the Henry Morris Library.

Reading and engaging with a wide variety of texts allows our students to make swift

Halloween treats

The Henry Morris Library has been tempting readers this week with a special display of Halloween themed books.

Year 11 Food and Technology students have been busy baking cakes and other goodies for the Halloween Bake Sale. The sale took place on the last day of half term during break time and lunchtime to raise funds for the year 11 prom and leavers day in June 2025.



Clubs and Enrichment

After school clubs and activities run on a Monday– Wednesday each week and there are also lots of different lunchtime activities for students to get involved including Drama, Science club, sports as well as the Mandarin Excellence Programme. You can see what clubs are on offer on our website: www.melbournvc.org





Drama teamworking

Year 10 drama students have been taking part in activities aimed to build trust and collaboration in order to understand what is needed for successful group work.

Mrs Nicholls said "The students were excellent, and very trustworthy!"



Art and Design

Year 7 students are working on developing observational drawing in 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.

Meanwhile Year 8 have been creating decorative mehndi hands and arm designs with intricate nature patterns, detailing and colour work.

