

# MVC Newsletter



MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

07 MARCH 2025

Dear parents and carers,

As we move into the second half of the spring term, it's been delightful to see some sunshine this week! With the warmer weather, students are eager to return to the school field during lunchtime. We will be working on a plan to safely reopen the field, with duty staff in place, once the weather becomes more stable.

I had the pleasure of visiting Thriplow Primary School this week, where I had the opportunity to meet some of the enthusiastic Year 5 students. They were eager to learn more about the lessons we offer here at MVC – and, of course, were particularly curious about our school dinners!

A big thank you to all the staff who attended our Year 8 parents' evening this week. We hope you found the evening valuable and that you had the chance to meet with a variety of your child's teachers.

This half term, our theme of Community and Culture continues to be a focus as we work together with students on making positive behaviour choices. To support this, the senior team has increased our presence in classrooms, and staff are now wearing high-viz jackets around the school site. These steps help ensure that students feel safe and supported. On a personal note, I had the enjoyable experience of teaching a Year 9 Spanish lesson on Monday as part of this initiative!

Thank you for your continued support as we work to make this a productive and positive term for all of our students.

Kind regards

Mrs Spencer, Principal

## KEY DATES

**10th - 14th Mar**

National Science Week

**10th Mar**

Primary Netball Tournament

**12th Mar**

DofE Bronze Online Training

**13th Mar**

Year 9 Star Gazing session

**17th Mar**

Year 8 Football Fixture

**20th Mar**

Year 11 'Boost a Grade Day'

**20th Mar**

Speed Stacking SSP Event  
Year 7 Football Tournament

**26th Mar**

DofE Bronze outdoor training

**27th Mar**

Year 9 Football Fixture  
Spring Concert

**28th Mar**

Year 7 Laser Tag Event

**2nd Apr**

DofE Silver outdoor training

**4th Apr**

Last day of Spring Term



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

## YOU SAID: WE DID

During the parent sessions I was asked about 'Progress 8' and what this means to parents. Progress 8 is a government measure used in secondary schools in England to track the progress students make between the end of primary school and the end of Year 11 in their best 8 GCSE subjects, comparing actual GCSE results to expected results based on their SATs at Primary School. 'Attainment 8' is the attainment of the best 8 GCSE grades for students. As our current Year 11 and 10 students did not sit their SATs at Primary School, the CAT 4 assessment scores from Year 7 have been used as our KS2 data to benchmark our target grades for students. As a result the main focus of performance tables for schools will be Attainment 8 and outcomes in English and Maths. We recognise our outcomes from previous years are below expected and we are continuing to drive up outcomes for students; Mr Luxton is working incredibly hard on our 'Raising Achievement' programme for Year 10 and 11 to ensure that we continue to drive outcomes for students.

## MOBILE PHONES

Our current policy on mobile phones is that phones should be out of sight when on site. However, we are increasingly concerned about students using mobile phones during the school day and this is creating a distraction to their learning. We have a duty to create an environment that is calm, safe and free from distraction so all pupils, whatever their background, can learn and thrive. We would greatly value your input on this important topic. To gather your thoughts, I have attached a link to a parent survey and would appreciate your participation. [Link here.](#)

## CAREERS ASSEMBLIES

Year 11 and year 8 pupils received a careers related assembly this week. For year 11s we will be offering further independent careers advice to them over the coming weeks to ensure they are secure with their post 16 options choices and future plans. This compliments the guidance they have had through mock interviews, college taster days and work experience in year 10, along with post 16 guidance, an apprenticeship event and a talk from a local Head of Sixth Form. Year 8s had an assembly about the importance of hard and soft skills, with the latter being something they practice everyday in their choices and interactions with others!

## TUTEES OF THE WEEK

Our tutees of the week receive hot chocolate and marshmallows (of course optional!) on Thursday morning as a reward for having a great week last week. This will happen every week for all year groups with students receiving a certificate to take home.

First Name	Year Group
Lexi	7
Megan	7
Frankie	7
Evan	7
Emily	7
Ema	8
Isobel	8
David	8
Florence	8
Faith	8
Eloisa-Mai	8
Oisin	8
Elle	9
Eleanor	9
Liam	9
Neo	9
Ryleigh	10
Jude	10
Laura	11
Annabel	11
Isabel	11
Elke	11
Jake	11

# 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](#).



## DISCOVERING CODE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE



Think of computer science lessons and you probably imagine a class of students sat in front of screens. However, in a change of pace, Mr Richardson's Year 8 pupils found themselves out on the field this week. They were challenged to send messages using Morse Code – or a code they devised themselves – using a variety of methods including drums, bells and coloured paper.

Mr Richardson said “This hands-on experience not only made learning fun but also provided valuable insights into the complexities of encoding information. It's crucial for students to understand why we use specific symbols to represent data. Next lesson, we'll dive into the fascinating world of binary numbers and explore how computers store and represent information.”

*Mr J Richardson, Teacher of Computer Science*





## SPORTS ROUNDUP

This week saw a busy time for the PE department. On Monday, the year 10 boys football team travelled to Linton VC for a friendly. The team put in a good effort and ended up drawing 3-3. The year 7 and 8/9 netball teams also hosted Bassingbourn on Monday, with the year 7s winning their game.



On Wednesday a group of students visited Comberton Village College to take part in The Cam Academy Games. Pupils were placed into teams to try different sports such as climbing, pickle ball, korfbal and nerf wars. MVC students had a great day competing against other trust schools and learning some new sports.

Ms A Dowell-McGrillan, *Teacher of PE*

## YEAR 10 PATH TO SUCCESS PARENT EVENT

The raising achievement programme at Melbourn Village College has a strong focus on ensuring that all pupils are supported to achieve their best outcomes by using data from assessments, mock examinations and attendance to provide appropriate support where it is most needed and in a timely manner. The Path to Success programme also focuses on communicating effectively as we recognise that children achieve the very best outcomes when parents and schools work powerfully together.

On Thursday this week we held our first Path to Success - Learning to Learn event for parents/carers. It was fantastic to see so many parents in attendance to hear the messages about how the school and parents can work together to achieve excellent outcomes for Melbourn Village College pupils.

*Mr S Luxton,*

*Associate Assistant Principal - Raising Achievement*

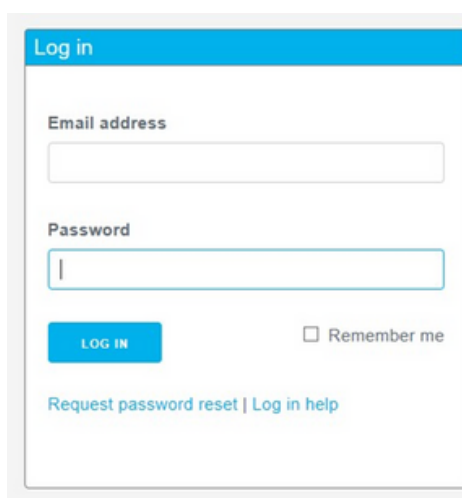


## MVC SCHOOL POST

Did you know that you can check if you have missed any school emails via your SchoolPost mailbox. Our non-urgent parent/carer emails are sent out at the end of each day at 4pm as a single email. Please do always scroll down as there may be multiple messages. If you think you might have missed an email you can check your SchoolPost mailbox via the instructions below:

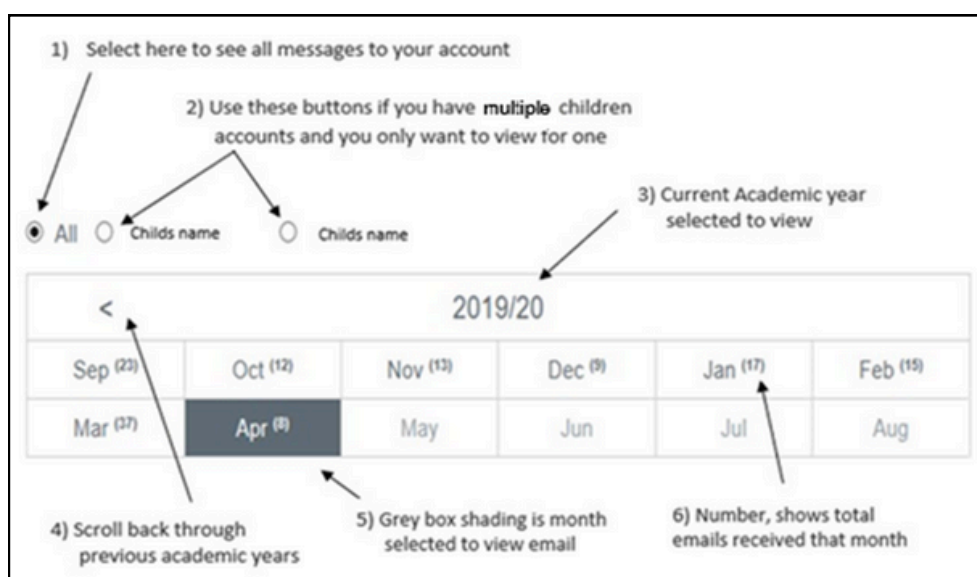
### Accessing your SchoolPost Mailbox

- Click on 'MVC SchoolPost mailbox' in Quick Links at the bottom of any SchoolPost email you have received.
- Use your email address and password to log in
- For first time users, please request password reset to set up your password.
- If the reset email does not come through, please check your spam/junk folder.



The screenshot shows a 'Log in' form with a blue header. It contains two input fields: 'Email address' and 'Password'. Below the password field is a blue 'LOG IN' button and a checkbox labeled 'Remember me'. At the bottom, there are two links: 'Request password reset' and 'Log in help'.

- Once in your mailbox, you will be able to access any communication sent from SchoolPost to the email address we hold for you in school.
- The default view for your mailbox will be the current academic year and the current month.
- Use the mailbox overview to search for older emails.



The screenshot shows the mailbox overview interface with several numbered annotations:

- 1) Select here to see all messages to your account (points to the 'All' radio button)
- 2) Use these buttons if you have **multiple** children accounts and you only want to view for one (points to the 'Childs name' radio buttons)
- 3) Current Academic year selected to view (points to the '2019/20' year selector)
- 4) Scroll back through previous academic years (points to the left arrow)
- 5) Grey box shading is month selected to view email (points to the 'Apr' month box)
- 6) Number, shows total emails received that month (points to the number '17' next to 'Jan')

2019/20					
Sep (22)	Oct (12)	Nov (13)	Dec (9)	Jan (17)	Feb (15)
Mar (27)	Apr (8)	May	Jun	Jul	Aug

## SCIENCE WEEK

We are advertising the exciting activities we have planned next week in Science for British Science Week – Space theme!

There will be activities in lessons such as designing a Rover to land on Mars, a quiz, a debate about landing on Mars, 'Ask a Scientist' for Year 8 and Stargazing for Year 9 after school.



## FUNDRAISING CAKE SALE/RAFFLE FOR STAFF

Science technician Dr Dyer would like to thank everyone who supported her last Friday lunchtime at her cake sale and raffle in aid of the charity Contact who provide support for families with disabled children. It was an enjoyable event and a chance for people to get together. Prefects, Hannah, Grace, Laura and Jayden assisted and were also very helpful and enthusiastic. Dr Dyer will be running the London Marathon for Contact later in the year. The event raised £122 which will go towards Dr Dyer's target of £1800!

Dr Dyer would be grateful for your support.

Please scan the QR code or visit the website link below - <https://2025tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/jeanette-louis> to follow her training journey and donate.



Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes, kindly donated by local businesses:

Mrs Millwood - Hamper of wine, chocolates, diffuser, candle (Donated by Tesco, Royston and Co-op, Melbourn).

Mrs Butcher - Food voucher (Leech and Sons, Melbourn)

Mrs Stewart - Foot pampering set

Mrs Woolf - Nivea pampering set

