



# THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 7

October 2009



## Message from the Head of College

The first half term has gone very quickly and the new Year 7 students are already a very big part of the College. The way they have integrated themselves into College life is to be commended.

You will have read in my 'Welcome Back' letter in September about the record breaking examination results this year. I was extremely proud to be the Head of this College on the two days in August when our young people celebrated outstanding achievement, with the majority of our Sixth Form being successful with their University choices. The Year 11 students achieved record breaking results (90% 5 A\* to C grades and 63% 5 A\* to C grades including Maths and English) and many of them have now settled into their studies in the new Year 12.

We have just held an extremely successful Open Evening for prospective admissions next September, with approximately 1000 visitors on site for presentations and to look around. The students who took part in showcasing the College and it's facilities should be congratulated on the way they conducted themselves. The College goes from strength to strength and I look forward to another very successful year at Arthur Mellows.

## ACADEMIC DAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009

By now all parents will have received a letter notifying them of their appointment time on Academic Day. At this meeting parents receive and discuss academic data which the College is using to track student progress and set students' targets for the future.

This is a reminder that students are not in College on this day for normal timetabled lessons.

**J Oakley**



## A visit from the BBC

Former student **Anthony Bartram** (he left 20 years ago!) came into College to talk to BTEC Media students about careers in the media as part of their unit on Media Industries. Having achieved a decent set of A Levels, Anthony moved from local newspapers to a job as a reporter on Hereward FM, before finally moving to the BBC, where he has carved out a successful career in the East Midlands. In fact, you have almost certainly seen him on the six or ten o'clock news - he did a lot of national reporting about the floods last year.

As well as talking about the different skills and experience needed to become a successful reporter, Anthony also showed an interesting film explaining a typical day in the life of a busy BBC office. It was lovely to hear from a former student who has been able to use what he learned in school to such good effect, and hopefully an inspiration to our current crop of media students that pursuing a career in the media is not just a dream, but a realistic ambition, as long as they are prepared to work hard!

## Key Dates next term

Term re-starts	2 November 2009
Academic Day	11 November 2009
Sixth Form Open Evening	19 November 2009
Year 13 Parents' Evening	14 December 2009
Carol Concert	17 December 2009
Term closes	18 December 2009
Spring term opens	4 January 2010
Year 10 Parents' Evening	18 January 2010
Half term	15-19 February 2010
Spring Term re-starts	22 February 2010



*Delivering Learning for Life within an Inspirational Culture*

# COLLEGE NEWS



## The European Day of Languages at AMVC Friday 25 September 2009

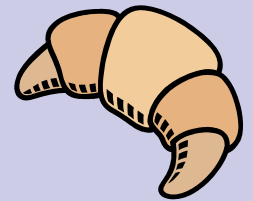


**Sveiki / Jo Napot / Tere / Hellow / Labas / Dobry Den /  
Zdravo / Buongiorno / Bonjour / Buenos**

There are over 6000 languages spoken in the world, and behind each and every one of them lies a rich and diverse culture. That's what the European Day of Languages aims to celebrate - by showing people across Europe how important languages are, and what fun can be had learning them.

Here at the College the Languages Department was visited by Years 5 and 6 pupils from Barnack, Glinton and Northborough primary schools, who enjoyed taster sessions in both French and German. The children participated in interactive games, activities and quizzes and in just one morning could name items of clothing, animals and numbers in two different languages. The language teachers were very lucky to be assisted by some helpful Sixth Form students, who received payment in pain au chocolat! As well as all the fantastic language learning, the primary pupils also had time for a quick break in the Refectory with a Danish pastry. For many, this was their first experience of language learning and of AMVC, both of which they all found very positive and enjoyable.

All around the College both staff and pupils were encouraged to take pride in their linguistic skills and greeted each other in different languages. Some teachers incorporated a European theme into their lessons and pupils whose families speak foreign languages at home (such as Mandarin and Shona) taught them to others. At lunchtime, rather than the usual Friday serving of fish and chips, the Refectory served up a continental feast of French onion soup, Coq au Vin, Bratwurst hotdogs and Belgian waffles. A great day was had by all and we are looking forward to next year.



**Dias / Bore Da / Moi moi / Hej / Hallo / Dia duit ar maiden /  
Goeiedag / Dobar dan / Guten Tag**

## Competition to shadow a member of the Council

Two students, one from the Voyager and **Bethany McTrustery** (Year 10) from Arthur Mellows, recently won a competition to shadow Marco Cereste (Leader of the Peterborough City Council).



Bethany's application to the competition included the following quote: *"Life is all about opportunities and grasping it with both hands. I am a blank canvas when it comes to politics and I wish to learn"*. This is her account of the time she spent with Mr Cereste:

I was introduced to Mr Cereste who was really nice. Then I went to an unofficial meeting to discuss the agenda for the official meeting. I was honoured to see how the Council runs 'behind closed doors'.

I met all the councillors on the Cabinet. They were all really friendly and made me feel important. They were looking at a Media Pack to update the public on recent activities. One item which I found particularly interesting was a discussion on landfill sites where a number of councillors debated on where it should go.

I was shocked that another decision on the local Gas service, to cut costs, had taken 4 years to come to a final decision, due to the number of people involved in deciding upon this issue and the number of processes it had to go through.

I learnt that it takes a lot of people to make something happen, for example 'The Great Eastern Run' on Sunday caused discussion of policing, litter control, whose responsibility it was, and who was to get paid.

The experience has made me interested in Politics, possibly applying to be the next Youth MP.

# PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



Ludus Dance Company spent two hard working days running workshops with Year 11 GCSE Dance students based on their new work "ID me". They created dance material to be used for their exam 'performance in duo or group'.

The students worked with Ludus' 4 dancers and produced some amazing work. During the two days, students were put through their paces, learning professional dance repertoire and building technique for performance.

Students were also given the opportunity to watch Ludus' most current touring work "ID me". Students watched an hour long performance, recognising movement they had been taught from the workshops.



**ID me, dares to peer into the lives of strangers and observes what happens when their world collides.**

**4 different doors, 4 different lives. Behind their own front doors, each dancer moves to their unique rhythm, each has a distinct identity and their own view of the world.**

## BreakDance Championships February 2010

Our Breakdance Crew are heading off to the National Championships in February to compete to become the **UK Schools National Champions**.

For a chance to be in the crew and win this amazing opportunity come along on Tuesday lunch times.

ALSO.....The crew are getting exclusive training from a professional B-boy to take this crew to the top.

It's time to Battle.... If you don't want to miss out come to the dance studio on Tuesday lunch times!

## Dance Clubs

Monday	Lunch	Yr 7/8 Dance Club	Miss Owen
Tuesday	Lunch After School	Breakdance Yr 9 Dance Company Yr 11 GCSE Technique	Miss Bugby Miss Rowland Miss Bugby
Wednesday	Lunch After School	Yr 11 Theory Revision GCSE Technique	Miss Bugby Miss Bugby
Thursday	Lunch After School	Boys Dance G&T Dance Company	Miss Rowland Miss Bugby and Miss Rowland

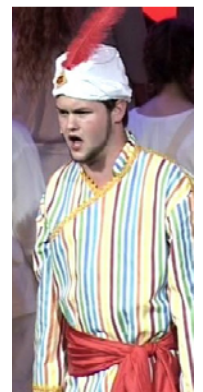


**Arabian Nights comes to The Key Theatre March 2010**

On 3, 4, and 6 March the wonderfully talented students of Arthur Mellows Village College will be bringing their version of 'Arabian Nights' to the Key Theatre.

The team of talented actors, singers and dancers will bring to life the 1001 tales [well some of them], in a visually spectacular show that gives us Sheherazade and her sister outwitting the cruel King to live another day by telling us of 'Ali Baba and his forty rather dim thieves', the accident prone 'Little Beggar', the gullible 'Ass and his ass' and many more magical stories.

Details of when and where you can get your tickets, for what will be a memorable production, will be in the next edition of Voice.



# COLLEGE NEWS

## Congratulations to: Steven Dovey, Year 8



On 5 September 2009 Steven Dovey competed in the Tang Soo Do European Championships in Cambridge. Steven competed in the following categories and achieved the following results for Black Belt First Dan:

- ◆ Weapons 1st (set moves)
- ◆ Forms 1st (set moves)
- ◆ Sparring (2nd)

This gave Steven a total score of 28 points which resulted in him achieving joint 'Junior Black Belt European Grand Champion'. He has also now qualified to compete in the World Championships next year that are to be held in North Carolina USA.

## Year 7 Team Building Days

*"I didn't think I could do it but I did it!"* This feeling was echoed by many of the Year 7 students who took part in the Year 7 Team Building Activity at Mepal at the beginning of October. They were accompanied by their Head of Year, Tutors and Pastoral staff. They had a great time making new friends whilst learning new skills. They took part in a variety of activities – archery, fencing, rock climbing, high ropes, sailing, kayaking and raft building. Through team work some of them overcame their fear of heights and became more confident in water. It was a very positive experience and great fun.



The following comments from students hopefully convey what a rewarding experience this was for everyone involved. Beth Smith in 7EKA wrote: *"after lunch I had the high ropes...I was shaking like mad but I got to the top of both of them...I was so proud. I really enjoyed the day."* Chloe Bellamy was initially worried about going because she wasn't used to any of the activities. *"But I made loads of new friends at Mepal and it was an amazing experience!"*

**Mrs Deasy**



## A message from your local Policeman

Dear Students....Some of you may have seen me walking around the College at the start and end of the day and wondered why the Police are needed? Part of my role as your local bobby on the beat is to ensure the safety of everyone going about their daily business.

This includes those who travel to and from the College on the buses provided. They are now all fitted with seatbelts and therefore they must be worn by law. I have jumped on a few buses as you leave at the end of the day and generally most students are not wearing their seatbelts. You really must get into the habit of doing so, they are there to save your life and that of the person in front of you. If the driver has to stop suddenly it will keep you in your seat and prevent you from flying forwards at great speed and hitting the person sitting in front of you. Seatbelts save lives, they must be worn. The penalty for not wearing a seatbelt has been increased now to a £60 fine! I will continue to keep randomly checking as you leave the College and persistent offenders will be notified to staff and risk a possible fine.

It will also soon be getting darker as the seasons change. For those that cycle into College please can you ensure that you have safety lights fitted when having to cycle in the dark or in poor visibility. Consider wearing something that is bright so motorists can clearly see you. You can also buy fluorescent items that stick onto rucksacks so you can be clearly seen when cycling in the Winter. I have also noticed many students tend to cycle with their safety helmets attached to their handlebars rather than wearing them! Please wear your cycle helmet, they really do keep you safe. Again they are there for your safety and I do not like having to go to serious injury accidents involving students that I know and having to watch the ambulance crew trying to piece you back together!

I enjoy policing AMVC and if I am not busy checking seatbelts or cycle helmets then I am more than willing to chat to you as you come and go from College. If you have any issues that you feel I can help you with please ask your Head of Year to get a message to me. Please stay safe! Thank you  
**PC1213 Norm McCallum**

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

**Billy Zaidi, Teacher of English/Media,  
Debbie Sanderson, PA to Head of College and  
Amanda Palmer, Reprographics**