



THE VOICE of Arthur Mellows Village College

Issue 13

December 2010



Message from the Head of College

Welcome to this packed edition of The Voice which particularly focuses on various trips and activities that students have been involved in, and the sterling fund-raising efforts that the whole student body focused on during charity week for the Pakistan Flood Appeal.

You will also find an interesting article in this edition regarding the 'Sleeping Rough' night that A Level students, together with Mrs Blackmore, recently participated in, together with the results of our recent XMAS Factor finals competition.

I would like to inform staff that the College has two new staff joining us in January; Mr Bold who will be teaching Science, and Mr Davis who will be teaching in Humanities. I am sure they will both be useful additions to the College in the run-up to the external examination period.

Finally, may I express my best wishes for the season to all parents, students and the local community. I look forward to working with you all during 2011 and I thank you for your continued support.

Mr Sandeman
Head of College



IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER

* Please check our website in the first instance where College closure information will be posted to our homepage, if possible by 7.35 am. www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

* Listen to one of the following radio stations:

- ♪ Heart FM
- ♪ BBC Radio Cambridgeshire
- ♪ Connect FM (formely Lite FM)

* The College will also communicate school closure via Schoolcomms.

Please note:

Decisions on school transport and the buses are not made by the College. Please contact the provider directly if there are any queries.



Arthur Mellows Association Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who donated items or braved the weather to attend the Arthur Mellows Association Christmas Fair.

We raised £682.44 towards purchasing items to support the students at Arthur Mellows Village College.

On behalf of the Association I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas
Mrs V Missin

Key Dates next term

End of Term	Friday 17 December 2010
Term starts	Wednesday 5 January 2011
ICT Information Evening Year 7	Tuesday 11 January 2011
Y10 Parents' Evening	Monday 17 January 2011
Intermediate Maths Challenge	Thursday 3 February 2011
Gifted and Talented Meeting	Monday 7 February 2011
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Monday 14 February 2011
Fashion Show	Thursday 17 February 2011
Term Ends	Friday 18 February 2011



VACANCIES

Cleaning Staff required (part time, hours negotiable). For more details please refer to the College Website or phone to speak to Mr R Ymec



Absence Line Reminder: 01733 254020—please call this line if your child is absent

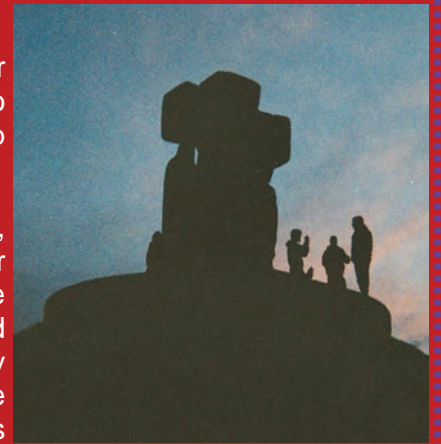
www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk
Delivering Learning for Life within an Aspirational Culture

COLLEGE NEWS

OUR TRIP TO NORMANDY

On 17 November 2010, some of the Year 11 History students set off for another great trip to Normandy. After a long journey on the coach to Portsmouth, we reached the ferry where we could enjoy half a night's sleep in a rolling cabin.

After our six hour ferry ride and very little sleep, we arrived in Ouistreham, France. It was straight from the ferry to Pegasus Bridge and our introduction to the D-Day landings. As the sun rose, we learnt of the five landing places and the first assault on Normandy which had happened where we sat: at Pegasus Bridge itself. The story of Pegasus Bridge, a story of precision landing from the glider pilots and an unbelievable ten minute capture of the bridge, played out like a fictional adventure story. It was hard to believe that all these characters and impossible tasks, were really carried out sixty-six years ago, where we sat.



The rest of the weekend was filled with these brilliant stories of individual triumph, mass catastrophes but ultimately, the success of the landings that changed the course of the war. Throughout, Neil Matthews, our guide, told us individual stories that he had picked up over the years. Each story helped give us a greater understanding of how D-Day landings had happened; for each place there was the story of one person giving their own perspective on a massive story.

Just some of the highlights of the trip were a visit to gold beach and the floating port, a huge German gun battery and the sheer cliff face at Pont du Hoc scaled by American commandos on a mission to knock out guns. On our second day, we visited Omaha beach, which we saw from the vantage point of a German gun looking over the beach and then we went down a steep hill to the beach itself. From these two vantage points, it was easy to see why there was such carnage during the American assault on the beach.

To read more on the Year 11 Normandy Trip please go to www.arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

By Beth Oliver, 11 LSA



SLEEPING ROUGH

The idea for participating in sleep rough came while the A Level students were researching homelessness as part of their Social Issues unit for A2. Actually I showed them the article on the website as a joke saying "you would never do this, would you girls?" They all decided that yes they would. The process started with a visit from the fundraiser for Peterborough Soup Kitchen, who explained that by far the biggest cause of homelessness is relationship breakdown. He reminded us of what I had heard before, you are never more than three missed salary payments away from homelessness. In other words, it can happen to anyone.

The evening arrived and it seemed great fun at the beginning, watching Michaela set up her cardboard box, meeting friends of Dani and Katie who came along to support and laugh at my woolly hat. There was a great jazz band for two hours, I had a chicken soup from the van, and then we actually had to lie down on the pavement. The worst bit? Looking at my watch to find that it was only 3.20 am.

It was cold, it was noisy, first chatting then snoring, it was too light. Michaela's box cut out quite a lot of light and noise I think, and she got a bit of sleep, but Dani, Katie and I got less than 2 hours.

Now that it is all over, I realise that homelessness is more than just having no roof over your head. You feel vulnerable, fragile, weak and depressed. It is great to hear how much is being done by volunteers in Peterborough. Oh yes, any suggestions for more cheerful Social Issues that we can study next year, gratefully received!!



Mrs S Blackmore

COLLEGE NEWS

YEAR 10 POETRY PERFORMANCE

Year 10 received a visit from award winning performance poet Adisa this term. They received a one hour interactive performance in which he read poems from his career and promoted his new book. He spoke about music, culture, history and relationships. The students were entertained by his engaging style and really enthused by this lively approach to poetry. Comments from students ranged from 'wicked' (Connor Gallagher-Johnson) to 'Really inspired me to write poetry.' (Michael Andrews)

Selected students also received a poetry writing workshop with the charismatic performer later that day and produced some fantastic work.

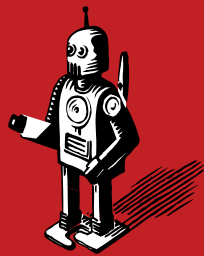
Miss K Lewis

AMTEC DAY – ARTHUR MELLOWS TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE DAY

On Wednesday 10 November 2010 five of our feeder primary schools each entered a team of 6 students to complete challenges in Technology, Science and Maths.

In Technology the teams designed their team robot and programmed our Mindstorm robot to complete a given course and then catapult their ammunition at the target. In Science students made a chemical clock with the challenge to see who could achieve the greatest accuracy and in Maths the competition was to see which team could answer questions based on robots correctly and the quickest. The final round using Qwizdom tested who had remembered most from each of the days challenges. Each school won at least one round, with the overall winners being Peakirk cum Glington. Well done to all participants.

Mrs E Watson



YEAR 9 GIFTED AND TALENTED—EXTENDED PROJECTS PRESENTATION EVENING

On Thursday 21 October 2010 the College held a Presentation Evening of research undertaken by 13 Year 9 students highlighted as Gifted and Talented at Arthur Mellows Village College.

The students were: Maia Reid, Connor Vintiner, Isaac Seekings, Isaak Brown, Bethanie Woods, Joseph Carter, Lydia Jordan, Nicola Evans-Reid, Daisy Pickup, Lewis Macinnes, Nadia McKnight, Charlotte Morris and Abbie Holley

The focus group worked on an 'Extended Project' investigating and researching a hypothesis of their choice. This was run following a similar format that is delivered to the Sixth Form, equivalent to half an A Level.

The focus of this project was to allow our high achieving students to develop valuable presentation skills, particularly:

- * Planning and writing their presentations
- * Using visual aids effectively
- * Overcoming presentation nerves and speaking aloud
- * Delivering their presentations confidently
- * Answering questions from a panel competently
- * As important as the above, that this process allowed parents to engage and support their son/daughter

Our objective was to prepare students for degree-level studies and for the world of work by allowing them to develop skills whilst pursuing their interests and investigating topics in more depth. Their projects were all relevant to educational or career aspirations and will support students when they are applying for competitive courses at top universities.

The evening was a huge success and thanks should go to the Governors, staff and parents who supported the event.

Miss R Lee/Mr A Jones

Forthcoming Parent Event

Year 7 Parents' ICT Information Evening

- Tuesday 11 January 2011
- Starts at 6.00 pm
- Particular focus on E-Safety and the College Web Portal

Short introduction by the Head of Faculty—
Mr I Dignall

Places limited to 40 adults—phone to book your place

“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.”

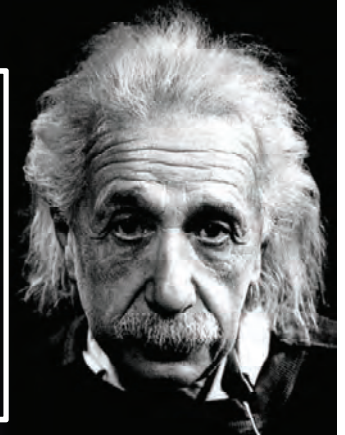
Albert Einstein

AS Physics Revision Sessions In S11 with Mr Otterwell

- ❖ Thursday 6 January
- ❖ Friday 7 January
- ❖ Monday 10 January
- ❖ Tuesday 11 January

All sessions are 12.45 pm to 1.15 pm

Come and get that extra help!



COLLEGE NEWS

BRITISH COUNCIL 2010—MOCK COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2010 AT LANCASTER HOUSE, LONDON

The politics of the European Union were brought to life for students from Arthur Mellows Village College recently when they took part in a Mock Council of the European Union.

Twenty-nine secondary schools and colleges from across England gathered in Lancaster House on Tuesday 16 November 2010 to debate and make decisions on the future of the Roma community and on the creation of an EU energy market for greater security of the gas supply. The event was organised by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the British Council and the European Commission and was held during International Education Week.



Each school represented one of the 27 EU Member States, the European Commission or the Secretariat-General of the Council. Arthur Mellows Village College represented Denmark

Student, Adam Dinatale said: "It was a really interesting day. I learned how decisions are made within the EU and how these affect each country differently. I now realise how difficult it can be to get certain policies passed so that every country agrees, as each country has different needs and responsibilities towards their citizens. We represented Denmark, who had fairly strong views on the treatment of the Roma and also specific needs relating to security of the Gas supply, as their own resources are depleting and they will soon require an alternative."

Emily Beales, also a Year 12 student said, "It was great to be treated as adults at such a prestigious event.



We learnt a lot about the processes involved in how a policy is passed. It was exciting to get help from the Danish Embassy, in presenting our case. Through researching the views of another country, and debating the topics at the conference, I realised how diverse the EU is, and how we need to take into account cultural differences. I had not realised that there are around 12 million Roma in the EU and how under-represented they are. I had not realised before how persecuted and socially marginalised they are. I was glad to be given the opportunity to take part in this debate. It has increased my confidence in talking to large groups in a formal setting. I would recommend other schools to apply!"

Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Reilly said: "This was a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about the politics of the European Union. I am very proud of the way they researched, debated and presented their case at the Mock Council. It is a fantastic event that truly brings learning to life for our students." Minister for Europe, David Lidington, who welcomed the students to the Mock Council, said: "The European Union is an institution that enables European countries to argue out their differences peacefully with respect for one another's positions. The Mock Council is an excellent way to show young people just how the big decisions are made at a European level."

British Council Chief Executive Martin Davidson said: "The way in which the students grasped the issues and debated them with such passion is commendable. The British Council works hard to build and ensure cultural understanding between the UK, Europe and countries around the world through initiatives such as the European Union's Comenius programme and is pleased to be able to offer events like the Mock Council to our up-and-coming young leaders.

Extract from British Council Press Office

COLLEGE NEWS

PAKISTAN FLOOD APPEAL—CHARITY WEEK MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2010 - FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 2010

The College decided to hold a charity week of events in order to fundraise for Pakistan, following the disastrous floods which devastated large areas of Pakistan during August. The Sixth Form charity reps, Chris Greenacre and Kourtney Haw led a series of Year Group assemblies to raise awareness of the disaster. In response to this, lots of students and staff came forward with ideas and offering to run a variety of events.



Hannah West (11MSL) and her friends wanted to soak the teachers with a sponge throwing event! She whizzed round and, to my surprise, got lots of staff to sign up for it. Mr Hall kindly made us some amazing stocks to put the teachers into. Students from 7JPO organised a cake sale along with Bethany McTrustery and her friends and raised over £200 together on the first day.

Across the week we held numerous events, including several cake sales, which went down very well. Hugh Boycott-Thurston (11LSA) and his friends organised a wellie-throwing competition and Jess Barraclough (9JKR) set up a cinema in the auditorium, showing the film “Up” across three lunchtimes.

A highlight of the week was a fete where lots of Form Groups ran games and stalls, including a tombola, bring and buy sale, raffle and even a chocolate fountain. My thanks for organising this event go especially to Mrs Wright and Mrs Hoppe in the Library and Mrs Steele, along with 10CPH and 11VST, who worked so hard to make it the success that it turned out to be. Also, to the following Form Groups for their involvement in running stalls, 7JTU, 8LED, 8GEL, 8MTU, 10KPR and 11SFL. Saiya Bhutiya (8GEL) and Kim Stott (8MTU) also deserve a special mention for selling raffle tickets throughout the week.

Finally, on the last day of term we held a non-uniform day, asking everyone to pay £1 for the privilege. Olivia Beesley and Oliver Aird, our Head Girl and Head Boy, organised the Sixth Form students to make and sell yet more cakes at break, while Mrs Warrington and Miss Lewis held a coffee morning for staff. At lunchtime “Indolent” and “October Again,” our two fabulous bands from Years 10 and 11, blasted us with extremely loud music in the School Hall!

Year 9 calendars have now been produced and are for sale at the College. The calendars contain photographs of Year 9 students, grouped according to the months of their birthdays. Thanks to Mrs Benton and the Year 9 students for arranging the production of the calendars.



To date (4 November 2010) we have raised £2779.95 but still have Year 9 calendars to add to this. All the money raised will go to UNICEF, in aid of the nine million children who have been affected by the floods. This really was a tremendous effort and my thanks also go to all of you parents for donating cakes, tombola prizes and toys and games for the bring and buy sale.

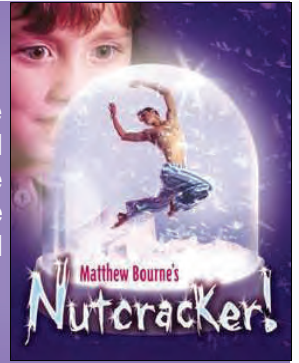
Mrs S Reilly

COLLEGE NEWS

Matthew Bourne's Dance Company visits Arthur Mellows Village College

Two professional dancers from Matthew Bourne's dance company came and gave A Level and GCSE students a two day intense workshop. The professional dancers worked the students incredibly hard, teaching them repertoire from the Nutcracker! for students to use for their exam pieces. Students were exceptionally well behaved and produced some fantastic work. Both students and staff had a brilliant two days.

Miss A Bugby



DANCE CLUBS

- * Tuesday lunchtime: All Years Break Dance
- * Tuesday after school: GCSE technique and Year 9 - 'By Invitation Only' Show rehearsals
- * Wednesday lunchtime: Year 7 Dance club
- * Wednesday after school: Boys Dance Company
- * Thursday after school: Year 8 Dance Company/'By Invitation Only' Show rehearsals

If you are interested in joining any clubs please see Miss Bugby or Miss Rowland for a letter.



BREAK DANCE UPDATE

Qualifying heats will be in February 2011. The Crew is hard at work training to battle it out for the 2011 title. Trinity Warriors are back in again testing the crew with new moves and creating a new showcase.

However..... Ironik Crew needs your help with ideas for fundraising to allow them to have more training sessions with Trinity Warriors. If anybody has any ideas that could help them out please come and see Miss Bugby.

Cashless Catering at Arthur Mellows

The Cashless Catering system has been working well for students and staff since September 2010. Students are very familiar with the system and long queues have been reduced in the Refectory.



The cash loading machines in Student Reception are particularly busy on a Monday morning and at lunch times. A good way to get ahead of the queue is to place a larger amount of money on a student's account mid week. The cash loaders take both notes and coins. Please note that we are unable to change money to smaller denominations as the College is cashless. The College has set a daily spend limit of £4.00 for each student which can be altered on written instruction from parents/carers.

An alternative method to top up your child's account is via ParentPay. The ParentPay facility allows parents to credit money electronically, eliminating the need for students to deposit money via the cash loader machines. From January 2011 ParentPay will be extended and used for paying for new trips and resources. Payments can be made, and balances can be checked, at any time. Parentpay can also be used to view a student's purchases. Cucina's weekly menus are displayed both on the College website and the ParentPay website.

If you have any questions or would like a further copy of your unique ParentPay activation code please e mail Sarah Schaffer on s.schaffer@arthurmellows.peterborough.sch.uk

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You are entitled to free school dinners for your children if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, an annual income below £16,190 and no Working Tax Credit.
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Please note: If you, or your partner, receive any working tax credit you will not be entitled to free school meals. This condition has been set by the Government and is outlined in the Education Act 2002.

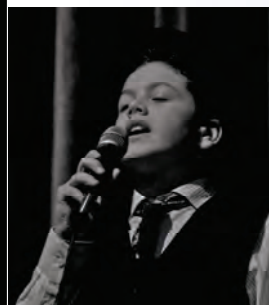
The application form must be completed by the person who receives the qualifying benefit which can be requested from the Finance Department.

If your child is entitled to free school dinners but you are reluctant to take advantage of this entitlement, talk to us about your concerns. We will try to put your mind at rest. If you still decide not to take the free school meals we still encourage you to apply. You don't have to accept the free school meals but you will show on our records as being entitled. The more children who are shown as being entitled to free school meals the more funding the school will receive. This ultimately benefits your children.





XMAS FACTOR!



On Tuesday 7 December 2010, the Music Department presented the finals of our “X-mas Factor” singing competition. Since September, students have been going through a series of auditions in order to take part in the finals.

Our Junior finalists were Megan and Georgina Parrett, Jack Hopkins, Ali Shah, James Venters, Jessica Ward, and Jasmin Donovan. Sadly, Jasmin was unwell on the day, and our reserve, Lewis Manning stepped in at the last minute! Lewis went on to wow the judges with his performance of “Don’t stop Believing” and took the junior prize.

The senior finalists were Callum Mackenzie, Gemma May, Emily Seaton, Bethany McTrustery, Luke Hepburn, Dominique Mallabar and the duo Greg Dunn and Harry Bladen. All the performances were outstanding, and our judging panel found it very difficult to make a decision! The winners were Harry and Greg for their performance of “Little Lion Man”.

Mrs Hammond and Miss Hope have been working with all students throughout this competition, and would like to pass on their congratulations to everyone for taking part!

Mrs T Hammond



LE THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS À ARTHUR MELLOWS VILLAGE COLLEGE

On the 30 September 2010, a group of Arthur Mellows students (consisting of Years 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form) attended a French play called ‘The Mysterious Package’, which was performed by a French theatre group. The play was performed well, and engaged the audience right from the start. The two characters, Vanessa and Lucas, were comical and enjoyable to watch. There are only a few scenes, but this kept the play concise and to the point.

Basically, the plot of the play was that Vanessa and Lucas found a ‘mysterious package’ in the kiosk where they worked. They had many suspicions about what was inside, one of which involved the mafia. They became even more worried when they found ‘blood’ (which turned out to be ketchup) spattered along the walls of the kiosk. Eventually, they decided to open the package and inside were two costumes, a gingerbread man and Mr Potato Head, which they then changed into and danced in.

The audience were very much involved. A few times Vanessa or Lucas would come off stage, where everyone was seated, and ask people to help them (whether that be acting out various suspicions or helping them in their little kiosk).

My class (9f1) spent the week before the performance studying some extracts from the play. Whilst doing this, we learnt words and phrases from the play, which helped us get better understanding of the play when it was performed. Also, when looking at the extracts, we got into pairs, and had to think of our own endings to the play. It was interesting to hear other people’s ideas on what the package could be.

All in all, I think the play was a great experience and was good fun to watch.

By Amber Vella 9CRO



PE NEWS

RESULTS OF THE CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country Results from the Peterborough Schools Cross Country event on Friday 3 December 2010 at Bretton Woods

Minor Girls Finish

7CCR	Charlie Beach	2
7CGE	Georgina Parrett	3
7VWA	Betty Porter	9
7THA	Kayleigh Pilbeam	12
7VWA	Eve Greenaway	13
7THA	Eloise Morgan	22
7JTU	Polly Cooper	23
7CGE	Esmae Bennett	29
7VWA	Elizabeth Snodgrass	54
7HMA	Isabelle Wilding	57
7CGE	Alice Moylan	66

Junior Girls

9SBL	Katie Hutchinson	2
9CCU	Megan Parrett	7
9EJA	Megan Haines-Eynon	11
8LMC	Aisling Ruff	15
8KLE	Alexandra Snodgrass	33
9EBE	Louise Bodily	38
8KLE	Charlotte Martin	39
8MTU	Philippa Hynes	41
8LED	Jo Newman	62
8KLE	Samantha Hayes	66

Inter Girls

11LSA	Charlotte Harris	5
10CPE	Emma Watts	6
10LMA	Shannon Ruff	7
10ECL	Grace Clarke	15
10KPR	Ellie Jaggard	18
10KPR	Georgia Lindley	30
10CPE	Eleanor Baker	31

Minor Boys

7THA	Sam Shields	5
7JTU	Matthew Richardson	9
7CCR	Robert Best	17
7JPO	Josh Mace	18
7HMA	Sol Rayment	21
7CCR	Callum Richardson	29
7CCR	Conor Millen	39
7CCR	Max Crowson	50
7HMA	Eligah Thorn	61

Junior Boys

9CCU	Steven Dovey	4
9ABU	Myles Philips	5
8ASH	Dylan Moles	6
8LED	Ashley Brumfield	7
8DWA	Damien Rutterford	16
9EBA	Ethan Cross	26
9SBL	Ryan Harris	33
8LMC	Thomas Moore	34
8KLE	Ryan Hunter	36

Inter Boys

10LHU	Grady Wing	8
10LHU	Daniel Richardson	12
11PMC	Greg Dunn	13
11KBR	Connor Pilbeam	15
10CPE	Adam Blick	18
10CPE	Connor Garratt	23
10MAR	Jack Yule	30
10CPE	Alex Whyte	31
10MAR	Matthew Carter	35
11MSL	Lewis Jackson	36

Overall Results

Minor Girls	1st
Minor Boys	2nd
Junior Girls	2nd
Junior Boys	1st
Inter Girls	2nd
Inter Boys	2nd

Well Done

to all that took part in the event.



YEAR 4 SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS

In early December, 200 Year 4 pupils came to Arthur Mellows Village College for an indoor athletics event which involved numerous running activities; relay, obstacle, hurdles and straight sprint events on the track. In the 'field event' room they took part in a variety of throwing, jumping and skipping events. The event was for the **whole class** and good teamwork and support, as well as skill and speed, was essential to success.

Community Sports Leaders were essential to the running of the event; many were managing teams, coaching and guiding youngsters through the morning. In addition to the Year 12 students, Year 10 pupils completing their Junior Sports Leader Award were chosen to contribute by leading activities and did a very competent job. Kourtney Haw and Olly Aird were excellent as comperes keeping the youngsters entertained with music and prompts.

Outstanding leading was noted by staff from attending schools, especially worthy; Hollie Speechley, Katie Nelson, Fraiyah Myers and Joey Obiri-Yeboah who were looking after Northborough school. Well done to all involved as the morning was a huge success.



Winners
2nd
3rd

Northborough
Glinton
Newborough

Mrs D Wilding

YEAR 5 TABLE-TENNIS FESTIVAL

In November John Clare, Eye, Duke of Bedford, Wittering, Northborough, Glinton and Newborough schools all brought a class of Year 5 pupils to the College Sports Hall to take part in a Table-tennis festival.

Over 200 pupils were active and engaged in table-tennis activities over the course of the day. Pupils were coached and led by Sixth Form pupils who are taking part in their 'Community Sports Leader Award'.

Pupils worked in groups of 4 or 5 to a table, received expert tuition and had lots of opportunity to play games and improve their own skills. They took with them lots of ideas of how to introduce or increase the table-tennis at their own schools by using existing tables and wood/card for nets.

Since the festival, Duke of Bedford School and Glinton have at least one designated lunchtime where pupils can play table-tennis inside. Great news.

Particular praise was given to Matt Knight, Megan Murray, Lauren Davies, Hannah Hibbins and Dan West who shone as table-tennis leaders and were noted as looking after their pupils with extra commitment. Well done to all.

Mrs D Wilding

