

MVC Newsletter



MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

17 OCTOBER 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting week here at MVC. Our Year 7 students brought history to life with a fantastic re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings on the field — a wonderful way to deepen their understanding of this key event while having fun and working together. The activity also beautifully demonstrated our value of curiosity, as students explored history through questioning, creativity, and active learning.

Our Senior Team also had the pleasure of meeting prospective Year 6 students and their families during our School in Session tours. It was a proud moment for us to showcase our school community as families begin making the important decision about their child's journey to secondary school. I was especially proud of how our students embodied our core value of kindness, warmly welcoming visitors into their lessons and representing our school so positively.

This week also featured a highlight in our MVC Futures programme, with an inspiring visit from an Arsenal coach, which really engaged our students and sparked conversations about future pathways in sport and performance.

Looking ahead, next week we will be hosting interviews for our new Head of Sport and Performance. We're excited to involve some of our Sports Leaders in this process, giving them valuable experience and a voice in shaping the future of sport at MVC.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Mrs Spencer
Principal

KEY DATES

24 October

- Cross Trust Training Day
School closed to students

27 -31 October

- Half Term

5 November

- Pupil Flu Vaccinations
(session 2)

11 November

- Remembrance Service
Willow Lawn 11.00am

20 November

- Year 11 Parents' Evening
5.00pm- 7.00pm

2 December

- Year 7 Pantomime Trip

18 December

- MVC Christmas Concert
7.00pm - 9.00pm

22 January

- Year 7 Parents' Evening
5.00pm- 7.00pm

12 February

- Year 9 Parents' Evening
5.00pm- 7.00pm

5 March

- Year 8 Parents' Evening
5.00pm- 7.00pm

Year 7 Bring History to Life in Battle of Hastings Re-enactment



This week, our Year 7 History students stepped back nearly 1,000 years to re-enact one of the most significant moments in England's past, the Battle of Hastings. In honour of the anniversary of this historic event, students took their learning out of the classroom and onto the school field for a fun and educational re-creation of the famous 1066 battle.

After exploring the dramatic events leading up to the Norman conquest, including the death of Edward the Confessor, three rival claims to the throne, the Viking invasion, and the battles at Stamford Bridge and Hastings. Students were ready to put their knowledge into action. Equipped with homemade shields, tin-foil swords, and cardboard battle axes, they brought great enthusiasm and creativity to the day. Under the guidance of History teacher Mr Stuart, the Saxon and Norman armies lined up, re-enacting the tactics, drama, and famous moments of the battle that changed England forever.

Cries of "For England and the crown!" rang out from the Saxon lines, while the Normans responded with "God wills it! Normandy will rule!" In the end, just as it happened in 1066, William of Normandy's forces were victorious.

Mr Stuart said:

"This kind of activity helps students connect deeply with the past. It's not just about memorising facts — it's about understanding the people, the choices they made, and how those moments shaped our country."

The re-enactment was a highlight of the term, giving students the chance to work together, use their imaginations, and truly immerse themselves in history. It was a wonderful celebration of learning and a reminder that history can be both meaningful and great fun.

Mr Tobutt
Teacher of History



Exploring Future Paths: A Visit to the College of West Anglia

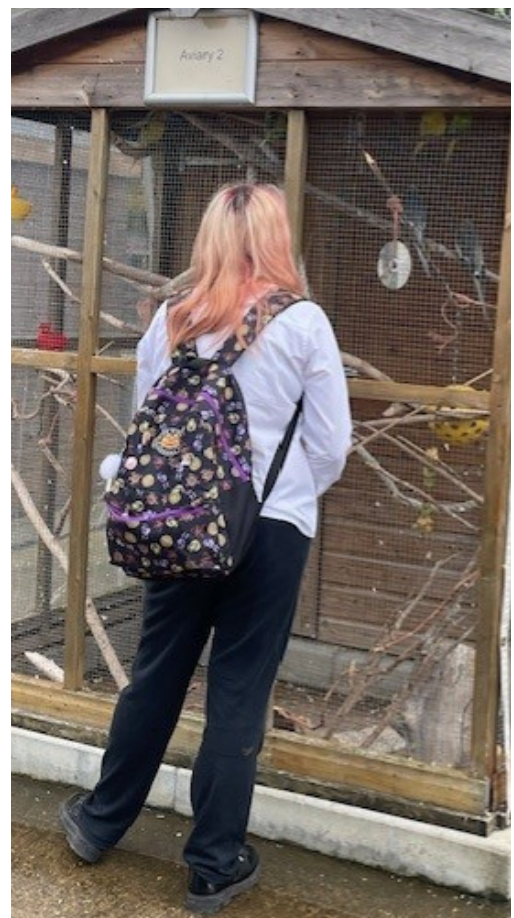


On Wednesday 15th October a group of students had the exciting opportunity to visit the College of West Anglia. This was an inspiring experience that offered a closer look at the wide range of courses and career pathways the college supports.

The visit included a guided tour of the impressive Equine Care and Management Centre, followed by time in the Animal Care department, where students met an array of animals including snakes, rabbits, mice, rats, and poison dart frogs. A particularly memorable moment was meeting a very large (and very calm) goat, much to the delight of the group.

Throughout the day, students explored the college's exceptional facilities and learned about progression routes from Level 1 courses through to degree-level study. It was a valuable opportunity to consider future options in animal care, veterinary science, and related fields.

The visit proved both informative and inspiring. Students left with a clearer sense of what further study could look like and many are now feeling more motivated about the paths that lie ahead.



Mrs Elvin
Assistant Principal



Key Stage 3 Science Club - Wednesday at 1.30pm

Sweet Science in Action! 🔍🧪

In this weeks Key Stage 3 Science Club our students mixed curiosity with creativity as they whipped up some delicious science experiments. Using hot water and a mountain of sugar, they created supersaturated solutions, the perfect recipe for growing sparkling sugar crystals. With lollipop sticks carefully placed in their sugary mixtures, we all eagerly waited to see the crystal magic unfold.

Who knew science could be this sweet?

Dr Wilson
Head of Science



Exploring Apprenticeships with 'Form the Future' and 'Atkins Réalis'

Our Year 11 students recently took part in an engaging and insightful presentation hosted by 'Form the Future', aimed at answering the key questions, such as **"What is an apprenticeship?"**

The session offered a clear, inspiring overview of how apprenticeships blend practical, hands-on experience with academic learning, presenting an exciting and viable alternative to traditional education routes.

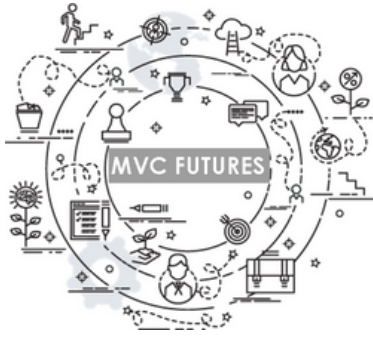


We were honoured to welcome Darren Douglas, Associate Director of Planning at Atkins Réalis, whose experience working on global superstructure projects brought the topic vividly to life. His insights highlighted the wide-ranging and dynamic opportunities available through apprenticeships at Atkins Réalis and within the wider industry.

The takeaway was powerful: earning while learning isn't just possible—it's a smart and empowering path to success. Students were encouraged to think boldly, pursue their passions, and approach their future careers with both confidence and curiosity.

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

Mr Luxton
Assistant Principal



Arsenal U21's Ladies Head Coach Inspires Students with Powerful Message of Perseverance



Students at MVC were both inspired and motivated following a recent visit from John, Head Coach of Arsenal's Under-21s Ladies football team.

John delivered a powerful and engaging talk, sharing his personal journey through the world of football coaching, a path marked by determination, resilience, and an unwavering passion for sport. His story began not on the pitch, but in the classroom, where he overcame the challenges of dyslexia. Rather than allowing this to limit him, John used it as fuel to drive his success, showing students that obstacles can be transformed into opportunities.

At just 18, he began coaching Under-5s and delivering PE and multi-sport sessions in schools. From these humble beginnings, his career progressed through dedication and consistent hard work. His coaching journey took him from voluntary roles at Royston Football Club to a position at MK Dons, before earning his current role at Arsenal.

Today, John leads the U21s Ladies team and has played a key part in the development of players who now represent their countries at international level.

John's message to the students at MVC was extended far beyond football. He emphasised the importance of positivity, perseverance, and making the most of every opportunity.

His visit served as a powerful reminder that success rarely happens overnight, but is built over time through passion, effort, and the right mindset. MVC was honoured to welcome such an inspiring figure, and students left with a renewed sense of ambition and belief in what they can achieve, both on and off the field.



Local business owner and mum raises over £1,400 to support Melbourn Sports Centre

Melbourn resident Sarah Tibbals has raised £1,477 to support recent improvements at Melbourn Sports Centre, helping to secure its future as a much-loved community hub. The centre is based at Melbourn Village College and facilities are enjoyed by the school and local primaries schools, as well as the local community.

Now managed by The CAM Academy Trust, a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status, the centre has recently undergone a major refurbishment, giving its facilities a fresh new look and ensuring it continues to serve local residents for years to come.

Recognising the centre's vital role in local life, Sarah launched a GoFundMe campaign to help the charity deliver the improvements.

Sarah said: "I got involved with the GoFundMe campaign simply because, as a local mum, and business owner, I really care about keeping the sports centre going," she explained. "It's such an important part of our village – somewhere that brings families, children, and people of all ages together."

The sports centre has long served as a hub for gym-goers, swimmers, and community events, making it a cornerstone of village life. With facilities in need of a refresh, Sarah's fundraising efforts have come at the perfect time.

"Places like this are at the heart of our community, and once we lose them, they're so hard to get back," she said.

The centre manager Graham Johnson-Mack said, *"Thanks to Sarah's determination, and the generosity of local donors we are now able to give the changing areas some much needed attention."*

Graham added "With Sarah's help, and with the investment from The CAM Academy Trust, I feel proud of the centre, and excited for its future. The refreshed gym and swimming pool look great; we have relaunched swimming lessons and aquafit classes and have lots more plans. We encourage the community to come and have a look and join up as members. It's great value, and a great place to be. We're planning an official open day in November – follow us on social media for further news about that."





COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE



Autumn Open Evening Tuesday 21st October 2025

6.00pm – 8.00pm

*No need to pre-book
Everyone welcome!
Parking on site*

The College that focuses on the individual



Courses for September 2026:

Applied Science
Applied Psychology
Art and Design
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Computing
Core Mathematics
Criminology
Digital Media (C-Tech)
Drama and Theatre
Economics
English Language and Literature
English Literature
Film Studies

Further Mathematics
Geography
Health and Social Care
History
Law
Mathematics
Photography
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
Sociology
Three-Dimensional Design



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