

MVC Newsletter



MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been at Melbourn Village College. It has been such a joy to hear children excitedly talking about the decorations going up at home and the festive plans they are looking forward to. The excitement is truly starting to build!

Our budding astronomers had a magical evening stargazing this week—thank you so much to all the staff who gave up their evening to make this experience possible.

I have loved spending more time in lessons this week, especially in Maths and Spanish, seeing students engaged, asking thoughtful questions, and making excellent progress.

We are really looking forward to Christmas lunch day and have now finalised our menu for our celebration lunch! Please make sure to book your child onto this so we can celebrate together with a festive meal in our final week of term. Mrs Elvin is also busy planning festive fun in the last week of term!

Plans are also underway for our awards evening, where we will celebrate students who have shown exceptional excellence and lived our school values – a new event for us here at MVC that I hope to be an annual tradition.

We were delighted to host a Year 3 and 4 football tournament on site. Our Sports Leaders did a fantastic job supporting and encouraging the teams—it was wonderful to see their confidence and leadership in action.

A reminder to Year 11 parents: our Parent Talk will take place on Wednesday 3rd December to support your child with the revision ahead of mocks after Christmas. This is a great opportunity to hear important information and learn some helpful revision techniques to support your child.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. I am looking forward to more wonderful learning moments and festive fun in the weeks ahead.

Mrs Spencer
Principal

28 NOVEMBER 2025

KEY DATES

2 December

- Year 7 Pantomime Trip

10 December

- Pentathlon Foundation Swimming Gala
- Maths Inspiration Year 11 students

11 December

- Awards Evening (invite only)
6.00pm-8.00pm

11- 12 December

- Spanish Trip

12 December

- Year 11 Maths Inspiration

16 December

- GCSE Astronomy Observing Evening

17 December

- Christmas Lunch

18 December

- MVC Christmas Concert
7.00pm - 9.00pm

19 December

- Term Ends at 1.00pm

15 January

- Drama Trip to Cambridge Arts Theatre 12.00pm - 7.00pm

22 January

- Year 7 Parents' Evening
5.00pm- 7.00pm

A Heart-warming Moment of Kindness



Cadet Sergeant Pope

We are thrilled to celebrate an inspiring act of kindness from Thomas, who recently put his skills—and his big heart—into action!

While out in the community, Thomas came across an elderly gentleman who had taken a fall and cut his head. Without hesitation, Thomas stepped in, using the first aid expertise he gained through the Army Cadets and his First Aid at Work qualification.

Thomas calmly treated and dressed the wound, then teamed up with a helpful passer-by to get the man to a nearby garden centre where it was warm and safe. Thomas stayed by his side until the Ambulance Service arrived.

Thomas showed maturity, kindness, and quick thinking—everything we are so very proud to see in our MVC students.



Staffing Update



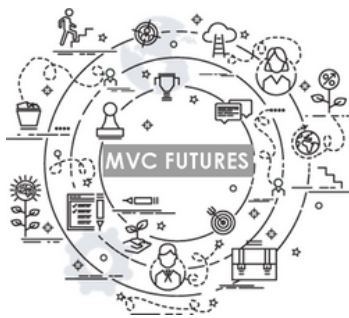
We are delighted to announce that Mr Carolan will be joining the MVC team in January as our new Head of Sport and Performance. Reflecting on his new role, Mr Carolan shared:

“Sport has always been a significant part of my life, and my vision for the faculty is simple: to inspire every student to discover joy, confidence, and purpose through physical activity, fostering a lifelong love for movement, performance, and healthy living.”

Prior to entering the sports community, Mr Carolan served as Head of Vocational Education and teacher in charge of Sports Studies. In these roles, he oversaw the Sports Studies curriculum and supported high-quality teaching and learning across the department, leading to exceptional outcomes. He also led on extra-curricular and enrichment initiatives, developing a wide range of clubs, teams, and opportunities that encouraged students to explore new activities and challenge themselves beyond the classroom. We are excited for him to bring these same valuable experiences to students at MVC.

Looking ahead, Mr Carolan added:

“I am really looking forward to building an inclusive and ambitious sporting and performance culture at MVC, one that encourages every student to strive for personal excellence. This year, I hope to broaden participation across all year groups and work closely with staff, parents, and, most importantly, our students to ensure sport and performance continue to thrive.”



Futures Talk Empowering Career Inspiration

This week, our students were treated to an incredible session with Emma, who shared her exciting career journey through the world of hairdressing and beauty.

From working in salons and styling for the BBC to becoming a professional trainer, Emma has truly done it all. Now, as a salon owner who also works remotely, she's created a career that gives her complete flexibility and control over her time. An amazing achievement!

Emma was open and honest as she reminded the students that hairdressing is not the “easy option” some imagine. It takes passion, determination, and a seriously strong work ethic. She talked about starting out with the small jobs—yes, even sweeping floors!—and how those early experiences build the skills and confidence needed to go far in the industry.

Her message was powerful and uplifting: find what you love, throw yourself into it, and great things will happen. Emma's journey showed students just how far dedication and enthusiasm can take you.

Next Week - A Career in Crime Fighting!

Next week, we are excited to welcome Tony, a recently retired Detective Superintendent from the Metropolitan Police. He will be giving students an insider's look into the world of policing, investigations, and life on the front line. It's set to be a fascinating session you will not want to miss!

Remember to sign your child up for this talk by using the MCAS app.

Mrs Elvin
Assistant Principal



Key Stage 3 Science Club: Diving into Pressure!



Key Stage 3 Science Club students were under pressure this week as they explored the science behind Cartesian divers.

Using the flexible end of a straw, a handful of paperclips and a hand-drawn diver, they constructed their own miniature “divers” before placing them into a completely full plastic bottle.

With a firm squeeze of the bottle, pupils watched as their creations drifted gracefully to the bottom—some even managed to make their divers hover mid-water! A fantastic hands-on investigation into forces and pressure.

Dr Wilson
Head of Science



Starry Skies for Our Young Astronomers

On Tuesday 25th November, our budding astronomers took to the outdoors once again for a night of stargazing. Although not as cold as the previous session, the celestial views were just as spectacular. Students enjoyed crystal-clear sights of the crescent moon and Jupiter, alongside the ever-impressive Saturn.

Mr Washbrook even demonstrated how our advanced telescope can automatically track objects across the night sky—a real showstopper for our young stargazers!

Mr Washbrook
Teacher of Science

MVC Safeguarding Updates

Safeguarding Alert: TikTok “Tap Out” Challenge

We have been made aware that the dangerous TikTok trend known as the “Tap Out” challenge is happening locally. This involves one child placing another in a chokehold until they “tap out,” which can cause serious harm, including brain injury or death, even if no immediate signs are visible. The challenge is presented in a way that downplays the risks, showing participants laughing or walking away unscathed.

Other names this challenge may be known as:

- Fainting Game
- Hangman
- Elevator
- Blackout

Advice for Parents:

- Talk to your child about the risks of these trends and why they are dangerous.
- Monitor their social media activity and encourage open conversations about what they see online.
- Look out for warning signs such as neck marks, bloodshot eyes, headaches, or confusion.
- Report any concerns to school immediately.
- Review further information here: [The TikTok Blackout Challenge: How to Protect Children](#)

Mrs Edwards
Vice Principal

Maths Department Update



With the countdown to Christmas upon us, we can now confirm some great opportunities for our students over the coming weeks!

- Wednesday 10th Dec – “Maths Inspiration” lecture at Cambridge University for up to 20 Year 11 students – we will very shortly send a letter to all Year 11 parents regarding this.
- Thursday 11th Dec – Christmas Maths Challenge at lunchtime, open to all year groups in room MB06. This event has been designed and run by our Year 11 prefects!

We would like to update our parents on our planning around Mrs Storey’s current absence. We have managed to secure Mr Brame (who taught Maths at MVC previously) who is available to teach Year 10 and Year 8 in Mrs Storey’s absence from next week. Year 11 and Year 9 classes are being overseen by Mr Willder and Mrs Mallet, with either an MVC Maths teacher teaching these lessons or appropriate work being set and delivered.

To reassure parents, over this week, all students have had a specialist Maths teacher.

We wish Mrs Storey a speedy recovery and hope that she will return before Christmas. We will keep parents updated accordingly.

Mr Willder
Assistant Principal and Acting Head of Maths

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 17th December

Join us for Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 17th December

**Roast Chicken and Gammon with
Stuffing Ball, Chipolata and Gravy**

Or

**Festive Parsnip and Sweet Potato
Bake with Stuffing Ball, Vegan
Chipolata and Gravy**

**Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Roast
Parship or Brussell Sprouts**

Christmas Pudding

Or

**Chocolate Orange & Cranberry
Brownie**

£3.00



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to confirm our Christmas lunch menu.

We would like to encourage every child to enjoy our Christmas lunch and will be co-ordinating the day to allow tutor groups to eat together.

If you would like your child to enjoy a lovely festive lunch on Wednesday the 17th December please can I ask that you pay the amount of £3.00 via parent pay by **Monday 8th December** at the very latest.

For students in receipt of Free School Meals, parents/ carers are not required to book a lunch as this has already be catered for and MVC are fully funding this.

Friday 19th December - School Term Ends at 1.00pm

As a reminder that MVC will close at 1pm on Friday 19th December for the Christmas holidays.

All school bus companies have been informed and will collect students from school at 1pm. For any students who take public transport (including the public Royston bus) please be aware of this so that you can make alternative arrangements. Mr French has contacted the taxi company's for Cabin students who use this service. These students will also be collected at 1.00pm.

There will be no lunch service on this day. However, if your child receives free school meals and you would like them to collect a packed lunch before they leave school, please indicate on link below before Friday 12th December to enable our catering team to arrange this provision.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ftXRkjMLSf>

Please also note that the school will be closed over the holiday period, and emails may not receive a response during this time.



Melbourn Village College Christmas Concert



Thursday 18 December 2025 - 19.00 in the Main Hall

Celebrating Christmas with musical performances featuring MVC Choir, Chamber Ensemble, Year 11 Band and more

TICKETS: £3 (Adult) £2 (Concession). Available via ParentPay or on the evening
Come along and invite friends!

FRIENDS
OF CVC TRUST FUND
Registered Charity No. 288773

**Friends Of CVC Trust Fund
And The School Council
Presents:**

CHRISTMAS
FAYRE

Saturday 29th November
From 11AM - 2PM
**Comberton Village
College Performance Hall**

Stalls available for local sellers
Contact: friends@combertonvc.org

ENTRY FEE:
ADULT 50P
CHILDREN
FREE

Refreshments.
Lunches, Gift
Stalls, Raffle.
Tombola and
much, much
more.