

MELBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE

Key Notes

Principal's Newsletter

26th March 2021

An Academy of



The Moor, Melbourn
Royston, Herts SG8 6EF
(01763) 223400

office@melbournvc.org
www.melbournvc.org

Principal. Simon Holmes

Happy Easter!

It's been another unique term. I think we've said enough about lockdown – it's been great to see the school operating at full capacity again and we look forward to a full and successful Summer term.

Lockdown 1st Anniversary

Pupils and staff at MVC joined in the one minute silence on 23 March at 12 noon to mark one year since the start of the first lockdown. During the silence, pupils were asked to consider:

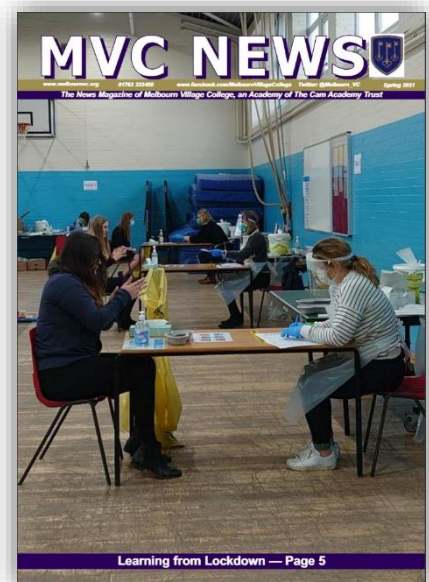
- The over 125,000 who have passed away in the UK over the past year as a result of the virus. This time last year the official death figures were 64.
- The sacrifices and hard work of key workers, particularly those in the NHS and Care homes.
- How important it has been for us all to follow rules – both in school (wearing masks, bubbles, hand cleaning) and outside (social distancing, not mixing/visiting friends/family) and how these have saved lives (and continue to do so).
- What they are looking forward to being able to do again once the lockdown is finally over (hopefully in the Summer).

MVC News – Spring 2021

The Spring 2021 edition of MVC News is now available on our website or to view by clicking [HERE](#).

In this issue:

- Leaving Screens Behind
- Year of Highs & Lows
- Covid Clichés
- Lockdown Reflections
- Learning from Lockdown
- 'Army of Testers' is Dream Team
- Cultural exploration through Art
- Focus on Mental Health
- Tailored Support Facility – Alternative Provision
- New Staff and Trust News



Lockdown Writing Competition



Students were invited to write about their experiences of lockdown for a competition run by the English Department.

Congratulations to the winner, Poppy (8N), and runners-up Jamie (9H) and Ben (11F). The quantity and quality of entries was very high. You can read their successful entries in the latest edition of MVC News.



Yr11 Update

Easter holidays for Yr11 are always misnamed – each year they use the time to revise for their upcoming GCSEs. All pupils will have been told what parts of each course they should be revising. Yr11 teachers have been planning assessment opportunities to collect the evidence for grades and once the exam board advice has been published we will be back in touch with you to finalise the details. We appreciate that this is a stressful time for all concerned; please be reassured that we will do all we can to provide pupils with the opportunities to show us what they are capable of.

Geography in Action



Year 11s have been out and about this week as part of their geography field work, measuring how the River Mel is changing over time as we move from the winter into the spring and summer. They have been taking measurement to



calculate the cross-sectional area, the velocity and ultimately the discharge of the river. We are getting some fantastic results and having a brilliant time to boot!

Neurodiversity Blog – Dyslexia

The Neurodiversity Blog is now up and running on Microsoft Sway. This is the first of a series of blogs about some common neuro differences and Special Educational Needs written by Mrs Ghale, SENCO/Skills Base Lead. The aim of this blog is to help families and carers develop an understanding about each difference or difficulty and look at ways to reduce barriers to learning.



Dyslexia: [Go to this Sway](#)

Staff runners

Well done to our intrepid group of staff runners who have now made it as far as Bordeaux in France, (1,064.3 km) and achieved their target to raise £500 in aid of The Edmund Trust.



Sports England Survey

This week some of the pupils from classes across KS3 and KS4 have been taking part in a survey for Sport England. The survey has been designed to look at pupils' physical activity levels over lockdown and on return to school. Numerous schools have been taking part over the country and the data will be used to identify areas where we can help improve physical activity levels for young people. Melbourn will also be able to use the school specific data to see all the excellent work pupils have done over lockdown and see what other activities we could offer. The PE department would like to thank all those pupils who have taken part.

Ultimate Frisbee

It's been great to see our students interacting in team games and various other physical activities since we have returned to school. Lockdown learning for PE had to be done as an individual or with the family at home, even if others were also taking part remotely! It has been great to see pupils finally being able to do PE together in person!



To finish this week we have done Ultimate

Frisbee with some of our classes.

Frisbee enthusiast Ms Evans is delighted pupils got to end the term with some team games, 'this activity has enabled us to do some team-building with our classes outside in the improving weather, and allowed us to continue to be creative with our curriculum.'



Enrichment Activities

We are pleased to announce that enrichment activities will start again after the Easter break and an enrichment brochure is being sent out with this Newsletter. To registers pupils wishing to take part in enrichment activities, please fill in the registration form [HERE](#). We have endeavoured to make all enrichment activities free of charge, however there is a cost attached to Golf. Once numbers for golf participants have been established, parents will be asked to pay through our ParentPay system. If you have any questions about the enrichment programme, email: lreeves@melbournvc.org

Gardening Group

Mrs Neville and other members of staff lent a hand on Thursday to put the last of the donated plants into the ground now that the weather is improving. A big thank you to everyone who kindly donated plants.



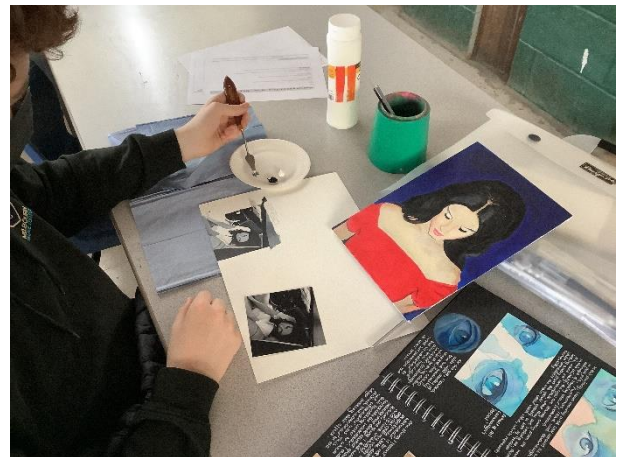
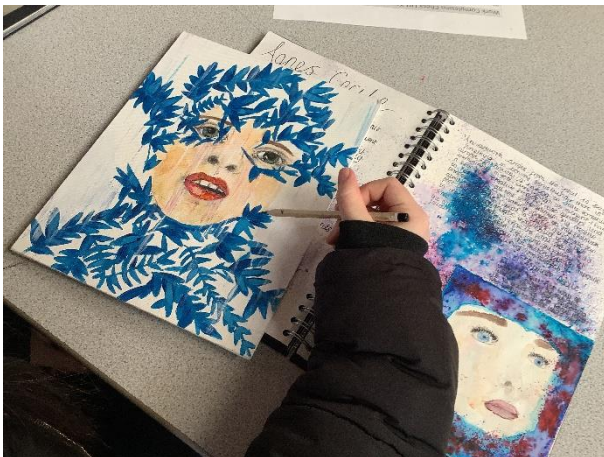
School Uniform Deliveries



We have been notified by our uniform suppliers, Schoolyard, that they will now only be offering either home delivery or delivery to the school. You will no longer be able to collect your order directly from the Schoolyard premises in Royston, or to try on uniform for sizing. However, clear size charts and guides on how to correctly measure your child can be found on the website for all uniform. Schoolyard are still offering free returns/exchanges on all orders, so if anything doesn't fit, you can drop off the items in the returns box which is located just inside the door of their premises in Jarman Way, Royston. Please clearly label the return package with your details, the order number and state if the items are to be refunded or exchanged. A member of Schoolyard staff will contact you once the exchanged items are ready to collect.

Pupil Showcase: Year 10

Year 10 pupils have enjoyed being back in the Art Studio this week finishing off some of the work in their sketchbooks.



Have a good Easter break, see you all again on Tuesday, 13th April.

Simon Holmes

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