MVC Newsletter

MELBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE

18 DECEMBER 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see the email from MVC school post or MVC website for Mrs Spencer's end of term letter.

Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 6th January

KEY DATES

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

21 January
- Year 9 Enterprise Day
- Melbourn Host Primary Friendship games

22 January
- Year 7 Parents' Evening 5.00pm- 7.00pm

26 January - 6 February
- Year 11 Mocks

9 - 13 February
Children's Mental Heath Week

12 February
- Year 9 Parents Evening
- 5.00pm - 7.00pm

2 March
- Enterprise Day Year 9

5 March
- Year 8 Parent's Evening

9 March
- Primary School Bee Netball Tournament
- 9 -13 British Science Week

12 March
- Performance of Annie 7.00-9.00pm

13 March
- Performance of Annie 7.00-9.00pm

From Classroom to Culture: Year 10 & 11 Explore Valencia

After a long but unforgettable day, the students arrive in Valencia. Their behaviour was exemplary throughout, and we could not be more pleased with how confidently the students used their Spanish language at every opportunity. Today was packed with memorable experiences, starting with the students purchasing their own lunch in a local supermarket and enjoying this picnic-style in the park. The afternoon brought a real highlight: traditional churros and hot chocolate, followed by some souvenir shopping. The day ended with a well-earned buffet dinner, rounding off a brilliant day of culture, language, and adventure.

Day 2

We began the day in the beautiful Turia Gardens, where students enjoyed outdoor exercise and activities in this stunning green space that runs through the heart of the city. It was a wonderful way to start the day, keeping active while soaking up the atmosphere of Valencia. Next, we immersed ourselves in local culture at the Fallas Museum, learning about this famous Valencian festival and seeing the incredible, colourful sculptures up close. From there, we headed to the spectacular Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias, where students were amazed by the futuristic architecture and iconic landmarks , a real highlight and a perfect photo opportunity. The afternoon continued with a Spanish lesson, giving students the chance to put their language skills into practice and build confidence through real-life communication. Later, we visited the Cathedral, exploring its rich history and impressive interior, deepening our understanding of Valencia's cultural heritage. We finished the day in true Valencian style by enjoying a delicious traditional paella, a well-earned reward after such a busy and enriching day. Another outstanding day filled with culture, language, learning, and fun, the students continue to impress us with their curiosity, behaviour, and growing confidence in Spanish.

Mrs Stanley
Teacher of Spanish

A Taste of London: Year 11 Walk & Eat Tour

Year 10 and Year 11 food and nutrition students recently enjoyed an enriching London “Walk and Eat” tour, which brought their GCSE studies to life beyond the classroom.

As they explored Victorian London, Brick Lane and Spitalfields, students gained valuable insight into how food and culture have been shaped by generations of migrant communities. The experience offered a rich blend of history, culture and cuisine.

The students had the opportunity to sample a diverse range of foods, including Argentinian empanadas, Ghanaian chocolate truffles, Indian samosas and traditional English apple crumble, making the day both educational and enjoyable.

Throughout the visit, students demonstrated excellent enthusiasm, curiosity and conduct.

Mrs Millwood
Head of DT and Food Technology

Year 11 Bake Off: Festive Yule Log Challenge

Year 11 students took part in this year’s Bake Off technical challenge, where they created and decorated festive Yule logs. Students made their own ganache and used a variety of sweets, fondant icing, and plenty of imagination to design their final creations, showing great curiosity as they explored different techniques and ideas.

The finished Yule logs showcased an impressive range of designs, from traditional log-style creations to highly imaginative festive scenes. Highlights included Santa’s sleigh complete with chocolate reindeer, as well as a festive fireplace featuring Santa climbing down the chimney.

The challenge also highlighted students’ resilience as they worked through technical challenges and refined their designs. With each Yule log uniquely decorated, the activity was a wonderful opportunity for students to demonstrate both creativity and developing technical skills. Well done to all who took part – it was a fantastic way to end the term on a festive note.

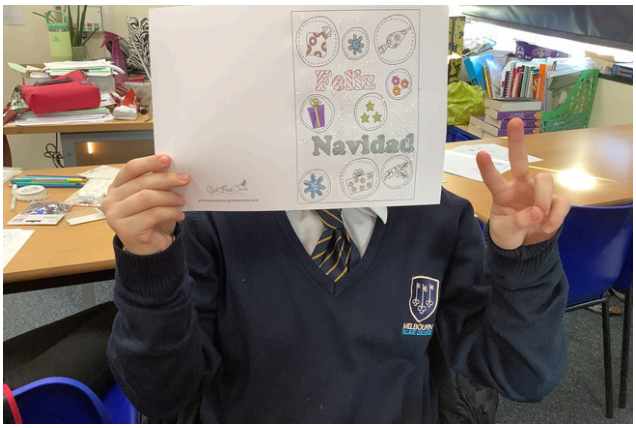
Mrs Millwood
Head of DT and Food Technology

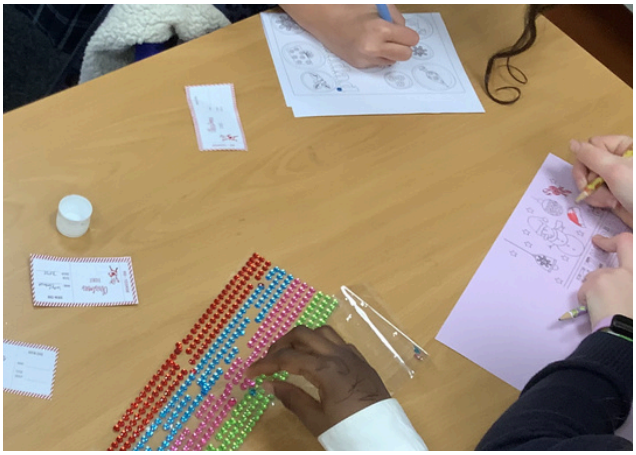
12 days to Christmas Count Down

Our Spanish students embraced the festive spirit by creating their own Christmas cards as part of our “12 Days to Christmas” programme.

Their Christmas cards truly demonstrated talent and creativity.

Mrs Stanley
Teacher of Spanish





As we count down to Christmas, our students have been enjoying a wonderful festive dinner shared with friends and their class tutors.
The dining room was filled with great food, laughter, and Christmas cheer, making it a truly special occasion for everyone involved.

A huge thank you to all the catering staff for their hard work and dedication in making this event so special, and delicious.

On Thursday 17th December Christmas Jumper Day provided a valuable opportunity to bring our school community together as we approach the end of the term.

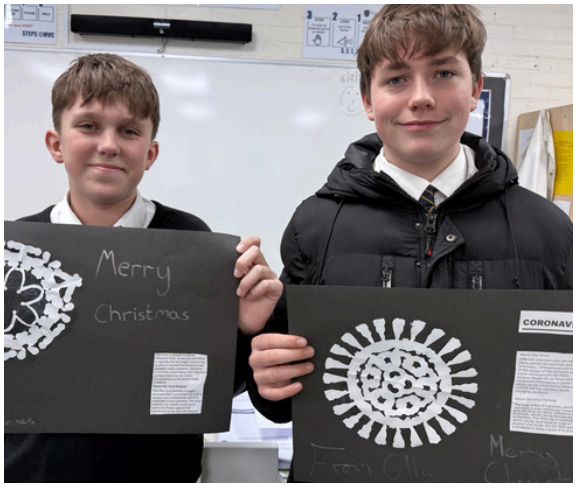
Students and staff participated enthusiastically, creating a positive and inclusive atmosphere across the school.

12 days to Christmas Count Down - Key Stage 3 Science Club

On the 9th day of Christmas, the students in Key Stage 3 Science Club created virus snowflakes!

A fantastic fine-motor challenge as students carefully cut and mounted their designs onto black paper. Educational, creative, and lots of fun.

Dr Wilson
Head of Science



MVC Christmas Concert

We were thrilled to welcome Year 5 and Year 6 students from Melbourn Primary and Meldreth Primary to the first performance of our Christmas concert.
The atmosphere was buzzing, and the feedback from our young audience was fantastic!

Visiting students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the music and performances and are already looking forward to joining us again in March for our musical ‘Annie’.

Mr Thomson
Head of Music

MVC Futures Talk with: Nico Schonken - Deputy Director of Performance and Analytics at HPFT

MVC students were delighted to welcome Nico Schonken, Deputy Director of Performance and Analytics at Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (HPFT), who delivered an insightful talk to our students on the role of data and analytics within the NHS.

Nico shared an overview of his work at HPFT, a leading mental health and community services NHS Trust in Hertfordshire. He explained how his role involves leading specialist teams responsible for data strategy, data engineering, and advanced analytics, supporting evidence-based decision-making across the organisation.

Students gained valuable insight into how artificial intelligence and machine learning are increasingly being used within the NHS to improve performance monitoring, service planning, and patient outcomes. Nico also highlighted the growing demand for data skills in healthcare and the real-world impact that data-driven innovation can have in supporting mental health services.

The session provided an engaging and practical perspective on careers in data, analytics, and digital transformation within the public sector.

Mrs Elvin
Assistant Principal

Update from the Maths Department

A huge well done to all students with their Maths this term. The students have worked really hard in lessons and on their Sparx Maths at home, as well as revision for their MFT tasks. Parents should be aware that in Year 8 to Year 10 there will be some very minimal changes to groups, with most students staying in the same classes. For Year 7 students, there will be more shifting around, where 7Ma2 and 7Ma3 will be mixed to be taught by Mr Stafford and Mr Willder, with both groups working at the same level.

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas from the Maths department.

Euan Willder
Assistant Principal and Acting Head of Maths

MVC Triumphs in Redrow South Midlands Community Fund 2025

We are thrilled to announce that MVC has been awarded a share of the prestigious Redrow South Midlands Community Fund 2025. With a record number of applications submitted this year, competition was tougher than ever, but that did not stop the enthusiasm and determination of Mr Barlow, who proudly entered our school into the running. On 3rd December, we received the fantastic news that Mr Barlow had secured an £850 grant for MVC. This win is not only a testament to Mr Barlow's dedication, but also a wonderful boost for our whole school community.

"This donation means every child can step onto the field with confidence, and a sense of belonging. Students who may have previously felt excluded due to lack of resources will now be able to join in with enthusiasm, knowing they are equally equipped to succeed.
Sport is about more than winning – it builds essential life skills such as teamwork, resilience, and leadership, and promotes physical health and mental wellbeing. We are deeply grateful for this support."

Mr Barlow
Head of Key Stage

Melbourn Sports and Performance - January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,
Please see below for the new extra curricula clubs available to students from the week beginning Monday 12th January. To book your child onto a club please use the MCAS app.

MELBOURN SPORT AND PERFORMANCE

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

	Lunch-time 1:25-1:55pm (Recreational)	Afterschool 3-4pm (Training/Exam Boosters)
MONDAY	**Come and Play Football** – Astro – All Years – RCA *Football boots MUST be worn. No food on the astro.*	**Girls Basketball** – Sports Hall – Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 – CBU/RCA *(Held in the Gymnasium during exam weeks)* **MVC Musical (Annie)** – Main Hall – All Years (INVITE ONLY) – JTH, GBU, KSW (3-5pm)
TUESDAY	**Come and Play Football** – Astro – Years 7, 8 & 9 – KCO *Football boots MUST be worn. No food on the astro.* **Come and Swim** – Swimming Pool – Years 9, 10 & 11 – RCA *Independent swimming time (lanes set up)*	**Netball** – Netball Courts – All Years – KCO/GHA **Sports Studies Booster** – IT 1 – Year 10&11 – RCA/CBU *Invite only, drop in session for selected students.* **MVC Musical (Annie)** – Main Hall – All Years (INVITE ONLY) – JTH, GBU, KSW (3-5pm) **Boys Basketball** – Sports Hall – Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 – RBA/RCA *(Held in the Gymnasium during exam weeks)*
WEDNESDAY	**Come and Play Football** – Astro - All Years – RCA *Football boots MUST be worn. No food on the astro.* **Come and Play Badminton** – Sports Hall – Years 7 & 8 – CBU *Club will not run during examination weeks.*	**Squash** – Squash Courts – All Years – external coach **GCSE Music Coursework Booster** – Music Department – Year 11 - JTH **GCSE Drama** – Drama Studio/Main Hall – Year 10/11 - CNI
THURSDAY	**Come and Play Football** – Astro - Years 10 & 11 – RBA *Football boots MUST be worn. No food on the astro.*	SPRING TERM 2026
FRIDAY	**MVC Musical (Annie – Band Rehearsals)** – Music Department – All Years (INVITE ONLY) - JTH	

"To inspire every student to discover joy, confidence and purpose through physical activity, fostering a lifelong love for movement, performance and healthy living."

Year 7 Parents Evening - Thursday 22nd January

We are delighted to welcome our Year 7 parents to attend Parents Evening on Thursday 22nd January in school.

Parents can book a time slot using the MCAS app only. **Please see instructions and link to the right of this page**.

Please note that appointments are on a first come first served basis. Appointments will go live on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 12.00pm. If you do not have the MCAS app, we urge you to do this without delay.

We will be offering some different and new after school and lunch time clubs from Monday 12th January, if your child would like to sign up to any of clubs on offer please do this via MCAS app.

Year 11 Mocks Examinations
Monday 26th January - Friday 5th February 2026

Year 11s will be sitting their full set of mocks between Monday 26th January and Friday 5th February.

A full mock timetable will be shared with students and parents before the Christmas break, but students will be sitting a paper for all their core and options subjects and should expect to sit two subject papers on some days.

Class teachers will be sharing revision information with students in the upcoming weeks. Access arrangement information will also be updated, following the core mocks in November, and will distributed to those students in receipt of them.

Please refer to the letter from Mr Barlow regarding intervention support for next half term.

Ms Cooke

Associate Assistant Principal

Year 11 Interventions - Mr Barlow

Dear Melbourn Village College,

We know that Christmas can be a challenging time for young carers, and we wanted to let you know about our opening hours over the festive period.

Centre 33 will be closed:
From Wednesday 24 December to Sunday 4 January

During this time, we will be taking a break and will not be able to respond to messages. However, you can still access resources and information on our website:
Young carers resource hub - Centre 33

Drop-ins for 13–25 year olds:

1. **Cambridge**: Last session Saturday 20 Dec, 10am–1pm; reopen Tuesday 6 Jan, 12pm–5pm
2. **Ely**: Last session Thursday 18 Dec, 1pm–5pm; reopen Thursday 8 Jan, 1pm–5pm
3. **Huntingdon**: Last session Tuesday 16 Dec, 1pm–5pm; reopen Tuesday 6 Jan, 1pm–5pm
4. **Peterborough**: Last session Monday 22 Dec, 12pm–5pm; reopen Monday 5 Jan, 12pm–5pm
5. **Wisbech**: Last session Thursday 18 Dec, 1pm–5pm; reopen Thursday 8 Jan, 1pm–5pm

If young people need immediate support, please visit our **Need Help Now page**.

For urgent mental health support, young people or family members should contact the First Response Service by calling 111 and choosing the mental health option.

Thank you for your support and understanding. We wish you a peaceful festive season and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Best wishes,
Becca Bryant
Senior Project Worker Young Carers Project

www.centre33.org.uk
Tel: 0333 4141 809
Mobile: 07549 213945

Join our winter appeal to give young carers a space

ADULT EDUCATION

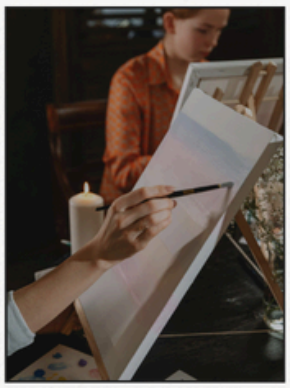
Melbourn Village College

THE CAM ACADEMY TRUST

JANUARY 2026

Hello from the adult education team.

We are delighted to announce our new courses running in the spring term from Melbourn.



Drawing & Painting

This is a 9 week, mixed ability course. You will be taught basic drawing and painting skills, whilst exploring different subjects and developing different techniques. A variety of mixed media materials will be used.

PRICE: £130

Cake Decorating the Next Steps

This 5 week course builds on from the beginners course and is designed for intermediate cake decorators. We will cover piping techniques, brush embroidery and creating a mirror glaze.

PRICE: £84

Pottery

- This 10 week mixed ability class covers a basic understanding of the ceramic processes whilst we explore, create and express ideas using the medium of clay.

PRICE: £230

FULL please email us to be added to the waiting list

For more information and to secure your space email us:
commed@combertonvc.org

Staff Discount Available

www.combertonadulted.org