

Melton Vale Sixth Form College Newsletter

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear MV parents and carers,

Half-term has sneaked up on me already, not only is the weather confused as to where we are in the year but I am also getting used to the Leicestershire term dates! Our year 12 students are no longer new and have settled into College life brilliantly. Our year 13s are full speed ahead with their onward progression plans and many personal statements have been written and redrafted in the past few weeks. A huge thank you to staff for the highly individualised support that they have been providing to ensure that our students are making the best choices.

Wishing everyone a happy and restful half-term; below is just a snapshot of what has been happening at MV over the past few weeks.

With warm wishes
Nicki Dartnell
Headteacher



ALUMNI GAP YEAR TALK

Sam and Sophie inspired our Year 13 students with their presentations on their gap years. Both former students saw the benefits of travel and employment before embarking on their university courses/careers. Support is available for any student who wishes to take a gap year as we will help them once they have left MV with both university and apprenticeship applications.



ANTHONY NOLAN CHARITY

On Wednesday 27th September Melton Vale hosted representatives from the Anthony Nolan charity, who presented an assembly to our year 12 students on the reasons for and ways to become a stem cell donor. This moving and thought-provoking assembly was followed up the following Wednesday, when the Anthony Nolan team returned to Melton Vale to give students the opportunity to sign up as donors as part of our annual Health Fair. By the end of the day 87 students had registered, the highest figure ever, and hopefully at least one of them will go on one day to donate and help save a life, as four of our previous students have already.



PARENT GOVERNOR NEEDED!

We are currently looking for a new parent governor to join our friendly governing body. The role of a Governor is to:

- Help to set and review the College's strategic direction and agree targets for improvement
- Hold the head teacher and College senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the College and its students
- Oversee the financial performance of the College and make sure public money is well spent

Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the students in our College. If you have an enquiring mind, the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school and can consider matters objectively to make informed judgements, then we would love to hear from you. Please email our Business Manager, SNewark@mv16.org.uk for more information. We look forward to hearing from you.



MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

On Friday 29th September Melton Vale and Birch Wood students took part in their first inter form competition and at the same time raised money for MacMillan Cancer support by joining in with the MacMillan Coffee Morning. Students from every tutor group baked a range of delicious cakes, from vegan cupcakes to a panda themed chocolate cake which were judged for their appearance before being sold at break and lunch time. In addition, Ms Kuczynska also prepared and sold to staff apple and blackberry crumble kits. The students and staff together raised £276, an excellent start to our community events across the academic year.



OPEN DAY

With our year 12 students settled it is time to turn our attention to the admissions round for September 2024. On Saturday 7th October we hosted our Open Day, a departure from the evening event that has run in the past few years. It was a resounding success; we welcomed many families from across Leicestershire and Rutland and were overwhelmed with the positive comments received. Thank you to our lovely band of volunteer students who did us proud and were excellent ambassadors in demonstrating the friendly and vibrant community here at MV. If you know anyone who missed the day please direct them to our website, where they can book on to one of the College tours taking place in the coming weeks.



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

This week the Year 13 Geographers went on their residential field trip to Watchet, Somerset to gather evidence for their Non-Examined Assessment. They have been lucky enough to have good weather whilst visiting Minehead and evaluating the town's coastal defences. They have also had the opportunity to present geospatial data using a Geographic Information System. As they collect their primary data they have been planning and designing their final coursework project, and have also had some time to relax in the evening and compete over table football!



UK UNIVERSITY FAIR

Over 60 Year 13 students visited the King Power Stadium this week, where universities from across the UK were available to provide advice and guidance as students finalise their UCAS applications. Students are allowed to choose up to 5 universities when they apply through UCAS and we strongly encourage visiting open days to get a feel of both the locations and to speak to experts for their chosen courses.

APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOP

A growing number of MV students are keen to apply for apprenticeships during Year 13 so they can 'earn as they learn', through the higher and degree apprenticeship route. At the end of September, LEBC hosted our annual apprenticeship workshop to provide expert advice as students embark on their applications and select their preferred pathways. We encourage students to continue to access support from Grace Ladkin who visits MV every Wednesday as our careers advisor. Appointments can be booked through Shanice at reception and are available for all students.

