

NEWS@CAM



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Fun way to learn about erosion

Walton-On-The-Naze was an informative, yet enjoyable Geography trip, designed to teach the Cambourne Village College students about erosion in real life, thus setting ourselves up for our assessment.

I thought of it as an interesting place to learn about, combining entertaining activities with learning, first-hand, about erosion and how it affects people all around the UK, and indeed the world.

As the students, boys and girls alike, talked excitedly about the trip, I thought about how well it was planned, a really great way to end the half-term (you could have thought we were lining up for a theme park) sending us off for the holidays with an awesome trip.

After us students had piled off the coach, we were sent off thinking about how the rising levels of erosion were influencing the businesses and lives of the residents of Walton.

This led to a group discussion where we started to envisage what other effects the increasing sea levels could have on the coastline. The history, wildlife and recreational activities are just some of what we found out about on the trip.

After this delightful exercise of our minds, we were set to the task of drawing out the many sea defences laid out at Walton — I do not think highly of my art skills — before labelling the key features of how they work, their effectiveness and the obvious question ... are they aesthetically pleasing?

By this time we had been there for more than an hour, so we started to set off on our walk to the tower and beyond.

After foretelling the harrowing collapse of the tower (2022 was the year most people thought) we were allowed to buy sweets before we ate lunch.

After a gratifying lunch, we started off on our long slog to the nature reserve, stopping off to look at, and study, many effects of erosion, writing them down in the booklet we were issued before we set off.

Turning back from our walk, we visited the million pound Rock armour, viewing how it has stemmed the rate of erosion and many other similar questions.

Our last activity of the day was evaluating how the groynes worked, using our hands to show how effective they have been at the task of building up the beach.

Before getting on the coach I realised how much I had enjoyed this trip, having nothing but respect for the people who planned it out, from the beginning until the end.

Will Roberts



COLLAPSING CLIFFS: One of the erosion issues at Walton-on-the-Naze.



PRIDE OF PLACE: The glass sails hang in the foyer.

Sail on . . .

Last year we had a project where we each individually created our own glass work, which then all fit together to create one big display of all of Year 7s pieces. Before we started this project, we took a trip to Ely Cathedral where we studied, drew and talked about the history of the different stained glass windows. This project began with a visit from glass work professionals, who planned a small workshop for the whole year. They talked about their experiences and how to cut, glue and shape the different types of glass. Then we gave it a try on a spare piece of glass before creating our part of the display. This is now displayed in the front of the school as you walk into the front entrance. It took a lot of the teachers' time and effort, firstly letting the glass dry, putting all the pieces together, and hanging it up at the front of school to show off the hard work that has gone into this.

Adam Day (8R)

Making cubes into sponges!

On October 25 in the mathematics department we had an event where we had to create small cubes called a Menger sponge.

These are a type of a 3D fractal that can be made by cutting out a square section through the centre in each of the three directions of a cube; then each of the resulting smaller cubes is cut out in the same way, and so on until you've removed infinitely many pieces.

We were a part of an event that was to combine these small cubes into progressively larger Menger sponges until they built a Level 3 sponge.

So far, of the international Level 3 build sites, 12 have completely finished building a Level 3 Menger Sponge and a further nine are partly completed.

When they are finished they are configured in a certain way that they will make up a Level 4 sponge but at the moment the event is 89.43% complete.

Dane said: "I think that it was a great experience and it help expand our horizons."

Everyone had a great time and we hope that we can get involved with events like this in the future

For more information go to <http://www.megamenger.com/>

Alex Papworth

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College's Royal opening

Cambourne Village College was officially opened by the Duke of Gloucester on September 17 2014.

Pupils had been working hard to prepare for this. The teachers were setting up the current Year 8s' stained glass artwork in the foyer. Pupils knew exactly how everything was planned.

There were other important people who had arrived before the Duke.

They were given tours of the school and then after the tours they were taken back to the area upstairs to have some biscuits and tea and coffee.

At 2:00, Year 8 forms M, O, U & R lined up outside the school's main entrance to welcome the Duke.

The school council stood in the centre of the line so that the Duke could shake their hands. At 2:10 the Duke of Gloucester arrived and everybody clapped.

Alex Papworth said: " We were excited to meet the Duke of Gloucester. We felt quite proud of what we had achieved when the Duke walked through the doors of Cambourne Village College."

Mrs Coates joined the tour of the school with the Duke and executive Principal Mr Munday and later commented: " I am really proud of the pupils and how hard they worked to do their best and to make the Duke really proud."

The Duke joined in on some of the classes and looked about the school. The pupils really impressed him. After the tour the school council was given time to mingle with the rest of the people who had arrived before the Duke. We fetched tea and biscuits for them and we all had a great time.

The Duke gave a quick speech explaining how proud he was to be able to open the school officially.

Then he unveiled the plaque to commemorate the day. We all bade farewell to His Royal Highness. We had a great time and we were all very proud of ourselves.

Dane Collins



ROYAL VISIT: HRH The Duke of Gloucester looked around Cambourne Village College before unveiling a plaque.

Exciting first day for Year 7 newcomers

On September 3, 2014, 172 Year 7s started their new life at Cambourne Village College. Everyone was very excited as they flooded through the school gates and lined up by the arch outside the front of the school.

We started the day by lining up in our form groups, before we went through the arch and into school for assembly. We were given a lot of information about our first day, and what would be expected from us at CamVC.

Then, we went to our form rooms, where we spent the first two periods sorting out things like locker keys, planners and timetables. We also did activities that involved getting to know each other and our form tutors.

Then we had break, which was a chance for us to explore the school and see what was in store for the rest of the day.

After break, we had our first lessons at secondary school. There was definitely a buzz in the air as we tried to find our way to the various classrooms. It was fun to meet new teachers and try new subjects that we hadn't done before, as well as getting lots of new school books!

Once we had tackled periods 3 and 4, it was finally time for lunch. We'd had

Chef's delicious food before on the Intake Days, but it was way more exciting when we got to pay using our fingers! We had a huge variety to choose from compared to primary school, as we had wraps, pasta, jacket potatoes and, of course, the main meal of the day, as well as puddings and biscuits.

After lunch, we had our final two lessons. Everyone was especially excited when the bell went for the end of the day, as we all had a lot to talk about. All in all, it was a wonderful first day at Cambourne Village College.

Emma Cranston

Still smiling a year on

Thinking about this time last year we had a so-called assembly on how to make progress in school, but it turned out to be a play on Cinderella. First of all Mrs Coates came up on stage saying the assembly was going to be very boring and progressive then suddenly Mr Gladas came up on stage wearing pyjamas in proper panto style. Mrs Moody was Prince Charming and Miss Watkins was his best friend. Mrs Coates was the Fairy Godmother, Mrs Taylor was Cinderella, Mr Gladas was Buttons and Mrs Mallett was Cinderella's dad. The audience started laughing when the ugly stepsisters (Mr Patrick and Mr Jones) and the evil stepmother (Mr Sumner) came up on stage. Student Daniel said "It was a very funny experience and I hope they do it again."

All in all, the whole year group had a great time and it was a fantastic way to end our first term.



FILING IN: The new Year 7 students pass through the arch on their way in for the first day.

A symbol of identity

The Comberton Academy Trust has a new logo to start the new year.

It has been designed by Comberton's Head of Art and Design Greg Dean, who also designed the logo for Cambourne Village College, Comberton Sixth Form and Voyager Sixth Form as well as revamping Comberton's logo.

He explained: "When the Comberton Academy Trust began I received an email that asked me to stick the school logo next to the name. By lunchtime!

"This rather hasty logo stood for a while and was appropriate given that the first schools to become part of the Trust were very much 'Comberton'.

"As the Trust grew, however, it became clear that simply having the CVC logo next to the name was less appropriate due to the evolving relationship of the Trust and its schools.

"The new logo aims to provide a flavour of the Comberton brand while also projecting some different values. The three heads are now overlapped and re-shaped into crescents, hopefully reminiscent of both the Comberton Sixth Form and Cambourne logos.



COMBERTON
ACADEMY TRUST

"The position of this new shape is placed to suggest sails along the top of the logo. This provides the idea of the movement and direction that the Trust provides. The position also suggests the over-arching nature of the Trust.

"The logo has been through many designs over the last few weeks but we have finally ended up with something that everyone appears to be happy with. Luckily I hadn't agreed to finish this one by lunch!"

Working together

Students from all four schools have been part of a new way of working together.

It is designed to create the conditions for meaningful discussion and deep conversations, both by creating games to structure deep engagement in a marketplace of ideas and in the Space for Dialogue alternative to conference.

At a series of cross-Trust events facilitated by URock Arts practitioners (dance theatre and creativity) young people experienced partnership working, co-creating a sustainable model to allow them to work out what the meaningful questions are, as well as finding answers to the questions that are meaningful in their lives in school.

Implicit in that is improving their confidence and risk-taking as they are being challenged beyond their comfort zones in new settings.

This is being supported by Norfolk and Norwich Festival Bridge and the model is being used in schools across Norfolk. Students from the Trust are designing and running a student-led consultation event with health service, local authority and business leaders in Peterborough.

There will be a chance for students from Trust schools to also roll this out, inviting students from their primary schools to participate in their own event.

One participant said: "Head Teachers should know that students can take control of their learning and do it effectively. Seminars and conferences like this are useful for building teamwork, life skills that can be transferable in the rest of your life."

Another commented: "When we work together we can create 'life as a subject' – students writing the curriculum," while a third said: "Lessons with an octopus would be swimming, but how would you understand the teacher?"



TEAMWORK IS KEY:
Games with meaning for students from all the academies of the Trust.



NEW WHEELS: Cambourne's minibus

Driving a hard bargain

Two new top-of-the-range minibuses have just been delivered to the Comberton Academy Trust.

The 64-plate 16-seat Ford Transits have been given the livery of Cambourne and Melbourn Village Colleges after Finance Manager Mark Norman secured a very attractive two-year lease deal for the new model.

He even managed to get £1,500 for each of the old buses — Melbourn's 1997 vehicle and a Comberton hand-me-down which has served Cambourne since it opened in September 2013.

Moving on

Partnership Leader Rosalind Scott is leaving to pursue her political ambitions after four years in the Trust promoting inclusion and partnership working.

She will continue to work with all four schools, coordinating schools-led partnership for school improvement and leadership development with the CfBT Education Trust. Rosalind would like to thank all staff, students and their families and say how much she has enjoyed all the opportunities and the joy of working together. She said: "I firmly believe a school is at the heart of its community and now I am ready to take on a different role in my local community, as a politician."

Trust ideas go global

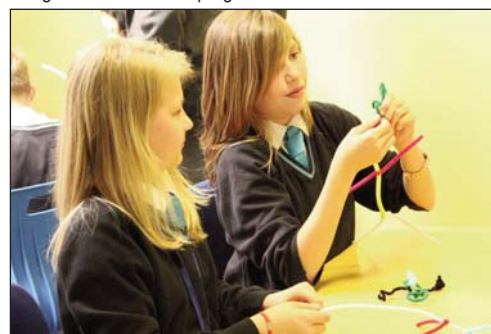
Rainbow Home and School is an anti-bullying initiative funded by the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme of the European Union. The best practice of Trust students in preventing bullying has been celebrated and acknowledged at a conference in Brussels.

Two films made by students were premiered to an audience of educators, activists and MEPs and the ideas are to be taken up across organisations from countries as varied as Bulgaria, Basque Country, Italy, Poland, Spain and the UK. Voyager Academy students have designed and started a programme

where students, families and school can really work together.

They are taking their film and programme into the primary schools before transition. As one student remembered: "The first day it was like you were an ant, something small, and walking around with giants!"

Comberton Village College shared their experience of Pupils' Equal Opportunities Means Learning for Everyone, PEOPLE People, in peer support and restorative practice. Students explained their passion for equality and respect for diversity and difference.



CENTRAL ROLE:
Using a pipe cleaner 'person' to help voice feelings.

Mutual support is key

The Comberton Academy Trust is one of only seven groups of schools nationally that have been working with educational experts at the Centre for British Teaching (CfBT) in co-creating and piloting a school-based peer review system.

CfBT have used their extensive experience of the educational sector and international research to develop a framework for reviews which schools will be able to purchase in the future.

The criteria used align with OFSTED where relevant, but extend beyond this in terms of the aspects which contribute to successful education.

As one of the original pilot organisations, CAT senior staff have contributed to that framework and received training as peer reviewers.

Over the past year, teams of Senior managers, each led by a Head of School, have visited each CAT school and conducted a review of various aspects of their practice.

Evidence has been gathered from a range of sources including exam data, lesson observations and meetings with staff and students.

OFSTED-standard criteria have been used to feed back findings to staff and Governors and the whole process has been extremely valuable in moving all the schools forward with schools offering support to each other in their own areas of expertise.

In addition to the benefits for the school being reviewed, the experience of finding out about how a school works has led to each team taking back ideas to their own school.

Cambourne Head of School Claire Coates led the team looking at Melbourn Village College, spending two days there with senior colleagues from Voyager and Comberton. Melbourn Principal Simon Holmes said: "The major difference for me between this review and an OFSTED visit is the feeling of co-operation and support.

"Difficult and challenging questions were, quite rightly, asked, but at the end of the process there is a willingness to work together to help move the college forwards.

"This sense of mutual support is one of the main benefits of joining the Trust."



CLAIRE COATES: Led the team visiting Melbourn.



FUN TRIP: To Bedford Oasis.

Wave after wave . . .

At the end of a busy half-term, Year 7 were treated to a swimming social at Bedford Oasis.

On the day of the social, the Year 7s could barely contain their excitement. Three coaches arrived to escort us to our destination. When we got there, we all had a talk about safety in the pool and then the leaders led us to the changing area.

In the pool there were loads of different places to go. There was a shallow area where the less confident swimmers could stay and there was a deeper area. There was also a rapid ride and two slides.

In the shallow area there was a fountain that you could sit under.

I also think that a lot of people secretly liked the bubbly part where bubbles of air would come up from the floor and completely engulf you. It was very relaxing.

However, by far the most popular thing was the wave machine that made waves about a foot and a half high. When we eventually got called out the pool, we all ran to the vending machines. On the coach home we were all very tired. Overall, Bedford Oasis was a very successful trip.

Ben Tullett (7C)

Sponges soak up all challenges

Last month seven intrepid teams gathered to tackle Ms Kesterton's Year 8 Quiz as part of Year 8s first social of the year.

There were sweeties aplenty and interesting team names galore. Highlights of the evening included the special guest appearance of 'Professor Dumbledore' to lead a Harry Potter-themed round and Ms Kesterton's attempt to hum tunes as part of the music round.

The teams worked really well together to answer each question, sometimes rather too loudly — giving the other teams a helping

hand!

While enjoying the quiz evening there was also a raffle to raise some money for Global's Make Some Noise, a charity that supports disadvantaged children in the UK.

Year 8 dug deep and motivated by some lovely home-made flapjacks and a big Toblerone bar, they managed to raise £20 for the charity.

The winning team in the end was 'Team Sponge' but there were only a few points in it, proving that Year 8s general knowledge is pretty good!

Always room for more friends

The Friends of Cambourne Village College are a group of parents dedicated to raising awareness in our community, with the goal of raising money for equipment as well as educational and entertainment programmes at the College.

All parents of children attending CamVC are welcome to join the group.

As our school grows, so will the need for funds to support things like after-school clubs and activities, school trips and sports equipment.

The Friends hold monthly meetings to plan fun (and fund-raising) events for students and parents, such as quiz nights, disco nights,

socials, the Christmas concert, and the summer BBQs.

The old adage, 'the more the merrier' definitely applies to our desire to have as many parents as are interested join the Friends group.

Every event needs volunteers to plan, set up, serve refreshments, etc., and on top of helping our students, the Friend have fun. Thank you to everyone who donated goods for the hamper raffle at the Christmas Concert.

If you are interested in joining the Friends of Cam VC please keep an eye on the website for dates of our next meeting.

Catering staff serve up — a tree

This glorious Christmas tree in the entrance lobby was donated by Pabulum, who do all of our wonderful catering here, and was decorated by Year 7 students under the supervision of Mrs Bagulay.

Our thanks to Pabulum for their generosity, and the wonderful Christmas lunch that they provided us with.

On the last day of term, the whole school sat down together and had the option of a Christmas lunch — with crackers! It is a lovely thing to do, and one that really binds us together as a community.

At the end of last term our Executive Chef, Robert Lipman, received the 'Best Newcomer' award from Pabulum, which recognises new employees who

stand out. We are very proud of the food that the team serve, and the length of the queues is a testament to the whole team's hard work.

Thank you to all the Pabulum team: Robert Lipman, Jo Owen, Emma Poole, Lorretta Peck, Janet Filby and Kelly Lindsay.



DONATED: Cambourne's Christmas tree.

First Patron steps down

Last year saw us find our first Patron of Reading, a scheme that has been found to increase interest in reading in other schools in the country.

Our first Patron of Reading was Marcus Sedgwick, and he made a definite impact on the students — the week after his first visit 18 out of 23 students in one class were reading his books!

We did lots of activities with Marcus throughout the year, but the highlight for me personally was the creative writing session during Book Week (to celebrate World Book Day during the beginning of March). The students invited worked really hard and the poems were of an impressive standard.

Unfortunately Marcus was unable to continue being our Patron of Reading for 2014/15, due to other commitments (including the launch of his first adult novel) but we are very grateful to him for kicking off the scheme with such dedication and showing us what can be achieved.

This opened the opportunity to find a new Patron of Reading, and someone who was very keen from when I first asked him was Bali Rai.

Born and brought up in Leicester, Bali was rare among his friends for being a reader, but now rallies behind the geeks in all schools.

Bali writes books that he thinks will appeal to his friends — even the ones who didn't see themselves as readers. Bali has won two book awards, and been nominated for many more; this year sees him nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Award as well.



AUTHOR WORKSHOP: Cambourne students with Marcus Sedgwick.

I look forward to planning more events with Bali, and have already got the next date booked in the calendar. More news will follow...

Alison Tarrant, Librarian



FESTIVE: Library helpers worked on a Christmas display, which included 'book angels'.



More than just helpers

In the library, we have a system of pupil library helpers.

These helpers have one shift a week, after school or at lunch time. Ms Tarrant, the librarian, finds us very useful as the school is growing so more people are coming into the library. We return books, tidy shelves, take out books and lend iPads.

Inside the system, we have a levels scheme. Most library helpers are Level 1 but a few have progressed to Level 2.

To become a Level 2 helper, you have to complete a checklist which includes understanding the role of the library, shelving books correctly, using the technology available and creating eye-catching displays.

One of the displays that we have created is the Christmas display. In a session after school on a Monday, we created angels out of books and decorated them; made snowflakes out of pages of old books and coloured paper; made a massive paper chain which hopefully will hang from the ceiling. Afterwards, Ms Tarrant put some of them up around the shelves, detectors and a big Christmas display near one of the windows.

In some of our shifts, we helped to put up snowflakes and tinsel.

The library now has a very festive feel which makes us look forward even more to spending time in there and helping out. Everyone in the team is very polite and helpful and all enjoy supporting the library.

Personally, I find that I like helping as I can make new friends with fellow helpers and talk to people who come into the library. Helping makes me feel as if I am doing something nice, so I would definitely apply again.

Catrina Lynn (8U)

Poems inspired by author

Here are some of the poems created by students who took part in the Creative Writing Workshop with Marcus Sedgwick as part of Book Week.

He led workshop where he went through a variety of activities, each focusing on a different aspect of writing. One looked at description, another on the senses, and one focused on word control. The students were invited because they had shown flair at creative writing, in lessons or in Creative Writing Club, or had won a library competition.

I can see light blue moon beams
I can hear a high pitched desolate scream
I feel cold from the blizzard snow
I see trees blending together
There are decimated corpses in the forest
I feel very terrified by the forest
I have to get out of here

Chris James

Door
After door
And another door
I trudge on endlessly
I can see almost nothing
I'm surrounded by an early silence
Suddenly the walls begin to shake dramatically
I see it racing towards me
I turn on my heels
Don't look behind you
Keep moving
run!

Ella Fox

The smell of dirt is very off putting. Luckily there is no sound of trains because the tracks have been abandoned for 10 years. Every so often I bump into the walls, they feel wet and mossy. I can't taste anything because I haven't eaten or drank anything for quite a while. My mind is telling me to stop, but my heart is telling me to keep searching for my sister. I won't give up, I promise.

Harry Collins

Stop
I think
I'm not sure
Should I carry on
Or should I go back
The corridor, it was so long
Darkness overpowered the light of the lanterns
The wind was blowing them out
I couldn't see my hands
I felt helpless, blind
I couldn't see,
I stopped...

Caitlin Groves

and new man comes in

When you think back three weeks ago, what springs to mind?

For me, it would be the Bali Rai visit. During it, he told

us about his life as a child, how he writes his books, why reading is so important as a child and lots more.

Bali Rai told us that he likes to base his books on

realistic events.

He ran a workshop with some children from another school where he told us that he wrote and published the ideas that came out of it.

One of the books he wrote was *Revenge of the Number 2*.

This is about (spoiler alert) a boy who is bullied because, when he went into the school's pool, he had an unexpected bowel movement.

He told us that reading is incredibly important as a child and gave us a strange analogy to help us understand: In the brain, there are lots of people all alone. When you read or work or anything that involves using your brain, some of those people link arms.

Foram said: "The Bali Rai visit was very inspirational and I look forward to future events." Dane said: "I think the Bali Rai experience was very interesting and it made the students and teachers realise how much reading can help you." Everyone at Cambourne Village College enjoyed his visit and looks forward to when he visits again.

Daniel Porter



FIRST MEETING:
Bali Raj,
CamVC's
new
Patron of
Reading
tells a
story to
students.

Darkness
Eternal Marauder
Always the foe
It can be broken
But it can't be destroyed
The ally of evil, darkness roams
Evil comes with it, a coiled viper
The perfect partners, both never ending
They have one more ally
It is ever approaching
A curious thing
The silencer
Death
Ivan Kudryavtsev

The wind whistles past my ears.
A fresh snowfall gently falls on my face.
The faint scent of pine trees travels on the wind.
Bitter air floods my mouth.
Catriona Lynn

Crash
So loud!
I see clouds
I smell fresh air
It's flooded with water in here
The steam from the waterfall rises
The beautiful rainbow shines through the waterfall
The land is surrounded by water.
Something is coming towards me.
But what is it?
My eyes close,
I fall...
Death.
Daniel Porter

I can hear birds chirping sweetly; wind whispering
I can touch the wet damp snow through my gloves
Sweet air flows through my tongue
I can feel the gentle wind in my white face
Afreen Asif

I can hear the calm, peaceful river.
I can smell the freshly baked pies.
I feel the sun hitting on the back of my head.
Haris Aftab

Exciting visit exhilarates pupils

Chris D'Lacey — a famous author — came to Cambourne Village College to visit us and tell us about his books.

Before he came I didn't even know who he was, but after his exhilarating and exciting visit I knew him off by heart.

He has written loads of books including ones with magical dragons and squirrels in.

I have recently read the first book of his dragon series which consists of six books all about mystical clay dragons!

At this very moment he will probably be busy spilling his ideas for his new series of books called 'The Unicorn Files' on to paper.

In the dragons series the first book is all about this girl called Lucy and her mum. One day a lodger

comes to stay and they help this squirrel called Conker, who has one eye, but unfortunately in the end he dies.

As all of this is happening in the house, the clay dragons come to life! At first the lodger does not believe that the dragon can come alive but when his special dragon cries a fire tear he has to catch it and return it to his clay dragon called Gadzooks, to save its life and keep it alive. This story is so creative and has so much detail that when you read it you do not want to put it down.

Ben said Chris D'Lacey's visit was "a very memorable moment" while Emma commented that she "especially enjoyed when he read from his new book, the Unicorn Files."

Megan Hughes



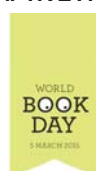
CAPTIVE AUDIENCE: Chris D'Lacey talks to Cambourne students earlier this term.

World Book Day countdown is on

After the runaway success of Book Week last year, the school will be celebrating World Book Day again in 2015. Book Week sees a week of activities guests,

competitions and activities.

More information will be released nearer the time, but Ms Tarrant is looking forward to it already!



New trip has F factor!

We are so excited about our brand new Year 8 'Brussels & Opal Coast' trip during Activities Week 2015.

This trip will be run jointly for pupils at Cambourne and Comberton Village Colleges and will definitely have the F Factor — food!

It has been designed to enhance the awareness of Francophone culture and countries within a European context, the various activities during the trip will be based on food, culture and European links.

We shall start off with Belgium: visiting the 'Mini Europe Park', enjoying a stroll taking in the typical atmosphere of the most beautiful European towns of the old continent with its 350 models.

Then we shall go to the European Parliament: a fierce

defender of Human Rights as well as democracy, freedom of speech and free and fair elections.

Finally let's not forget one of the most renowned Belgian products: chocolate! What a wonderful opportunity to learn all about chocolate and, of course, have a taste of the product!

Tasting, tasting, well... who will have a taste during our next visit in France to 'Les Escargots du Bocage'? A snail farm where will learn interesting facts about how the snails are farmed, prepared and cooked. The pupils (not the teachers!) will have the opportunity to try a snail along with a drink of lemonade. How lucky for them!

If this tasting session sounds rather peculiar, the others are really tempting and mouth-watering: sampling freshly-baked baguettes and croissants made by a

traditional baker family and enjoying our own pancake with jam or chocolate sauce with a glass of orange juice.

You are envious? Well, we promise, we will bring a marzipan souvenir to the school made by the French 'pâtissier'.

We'll finish off our five-day trip with a few hours on the Opal Coast beach and a morning in a typical French market, walking around the stands and soaking up the atmosphere of new foods and culture.

All these activities will offer us a fascinating insight into the Francophone world out there! Who's coming? I'll be there for sure!

Alexandra Jarry, Comberton MFL Department



VARIETY OF TREATS: Will be on offer during the new Activities Week trip next summer.



WINNING PERFORMANCE: Members of 7R sing Disney's 'Frozen' at the International Talent Evening.

Evening celebrate students' talents

The International Talent Evening is fundamentally a celebration of the cultural and linguistic diversity and talent that Cambourne Village College pupils have and are developing and a huge number of Year 7 students participated.

In addition to the annual Spanglovision performances, a large number of brave Year 7 students volunteered to share an insight into their own languages and cultures by performing a range of songs, poems, stories and dancing.

Thanks to Christian Ndjanda (7M), Vidarshi Siyambalapatiya, Alice Richmond, Dana Keyser, Jan Filipek, Staniskaw Drazkowiak (7O), Beatriz Perez-Gómez and Grace Clark, Eleanor Hedges, Oliver James, Daniel Johnson-Ikpe, Darius Fatemi-Ghomi, Colin Brunsting, Oliver Cox (7U), Nour Alberry, Maddison Povey (7A) and Gloria Joshy (7C).

It was fantastic to have such a contribution from 7U in particular; they were so enthusiastic about the Talent Evening that they all wanted to participate one way or another, so some of them had a fantastic idea of asking us if they could read the translation of the poems that their classmates were reading in a foreign language. The Languages teachers, together with their Year 7 classes, put in time, energy and enthusiasm in preparing their classes for the traditional Spanglovision competition.

This year the theme was Disney, which was tremendously enjoyed by the students. Mrs Coates and Dr Hawkes had the hard task of judging the winning tutor group, based on their pronunciation, memory of the lyrics and confidence in performance.

A huge thank you to everybody who was involved in the evening, in particular the Friends of Cambourne Village College, who once again provided a wonderful array of refreshments and the raffle. We are really looking forward to next year's Talent Evening Show being just as successful — if not more!

Spanglovision was a great experience for all of us. Each form prepared a Disney song in Spanish lessons before showing our parents and teachers what we had been learning on the International Talent Evening. Our form, 7R, was given Let it go from Frozen.

When the night came, it was very exciting. We all dressed up in black, white and blue. It was good because we all got to see other people's talents but then started to get very nervous as our time to perform approached.

However, when we eventually performed we had such fun! We waited patiently for the result and when our form was called out as the winner, everyone was ecstatic. We had a fantastic time and now have a trophy in our form room to show for it!

Emily, Paige and Louisa (7R)



INVENTORS: The pupils who created their own language.

Message in a bottle!

In June of the summer term a group of 10 enthusiastic Year 7 students took part in an after school project led by Mr Fernandez to take on the challenge of inventing a new language from scratch.

Having found themselves adrift on a remote island, the project involved collaboration with other students from the Comberton Academy Trust to ensure food and shelter would be provided as well as a way out of the island!

Once we had they had written their message they sent it (in a bottle!) to students at The Voyager Academy in Peterborough, and received one back from the language inventors there.

It was by no mean feat that they managed to

decode the message they received!

Here is a sample of the intriguing language Cambourne students created, translation included!

We need food, but we do not like fruit. We like chicken.

Summ bunta serafime, pei summ nite yendo hallum. Summ yendo crouse.

Our friend is missing on the island. He is white, tall, strong and dark-haired.

Summ olaf resh saleos fas atolon. Ra resh lun, fersht, lossey zen shlit-becken.

Please help us get out of the island!

Syndi mabzido summ aus atolon!

Bye!

Tao!



COMILLAS: Destination for the Year 7 trip to Spain

Getting set for Spain

Thirty-one lucky Year 7 students are very excited to have the opportunity to put the Spanish they have been learning into practice on the study visit to Comillas in May 2015.

Comillas is an extraordinary town located in the Cantabria region of Northern Spain. The trip will provide the opportunity to experience Spanish life and culture and to develop Spanish listening and speaking skills to enhance what they are learning in their Spanish lessons at Cambourne Village College. All pupils will take part in Spanish tuition during the week with a variety of morning and afternoon sessions. It won't be all work and no play though! We have a range of exciting visits planned to fully immerse students in Spanish history and culture. This starts off with a chance to put the Spanish they have been learning into practice with students at a local school. They will work in mixed teams choosing from sports competition or Flamenco lessons!

On one afternoon we will enjoy a visit to the Museum of Altamira — a pre-historic cave where we will see original cave paintings, see how the pre-historic people made fire, and try our hand at pre-historic hunting techniques with javelins! We will see some fascinating examples of Spanish architecture at the Capricho de Gaudí, a totally unique home built in the heart of Comillas. We end our trip with a visit to the Cabárceno National Park, the biggest wildlife park in the world!

Anna Hirst, Subject Leader MFL



VOCAB EXPRESS

Superb top four finish

Anyone who has ever tried learning a foreign language knows that, regardless of learning method, progress depends on retaining new words in the long term.

This is not an easy process. Even for higher ability learners, considerable work is required to fix words in memory and keep them there over the medium to longer term.

One way we offer to support our students in vocabulary learning is the online programme Vocab Express. For those students who consistently consolidate their classroom learning by accessing Vocab Express at home, the benefits are proving to be considerable.

This term, Cambourne Village College took part in the Vocab Express National Championship. We were exceptionally pleased with the way in which students applied themselves to learning vocabulary outside the classroom. We were delighted to have finished fourth nationally in the Challenge Cup Medio League in Spanish, which represents the total points amassed by all students who took part.

Special recognition goes to Joseph Hewson in 7C, who dedicated a phenomenal amount of time to the competition, finishing 27th on the National Student Leaderboard with an incredibly impressive score of 18,620! Roll on the next competition, which we hope to win!

regular top quality comedy nights

Custard Comedy



8:15pm
every 2nd Friday of the month



8:15pm
every 3rd Friday of the month



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**ADULT EDUCATION
COMBERTON & CAMBOURNE VILLAGE COLLEGES
2015**



Courses start week commencing 12th January 2015 unless indicated differently. Please contact the Community Education office on 01223 264721 or email commed@comberton.cambs.sch.uk

COMBERTON Village College

TITLE	DAY	TIME	WEEKS	COST
Drawing, Painting and iPad (Mixed Ability)	Mon	9.30 – 11.30 am	10	£78
Ballroom and Latin Dance, Beginners	Mon	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Weekly	£4 p.w.
Italian Improvers (term 2)	Mon	7.00 – 8.30 pm	10	£59
Chinese Cookery	Mon	7.00 – 9.00 pm	6	£46
Tai Chi (24 step Yang style)	Mon	7.15 – 8.45 pm	10	£59
Photography, Digital Improvers	Mon	7.15 – 9.15pm	10	£78
Pilates Intermediate	Mon	5.45 or 6.50 1 hour	10	£45
Pilates Beginners term 2	Mon	7.55 - 8.55pm	10	£45
Calligraphy Beginners & Improvers	Tue	10.00 – 12.00 noon	10	£78
Basic Book Keeping Part 1	Wed	6.00 – 8.00 pm	10	£80
Indian Cookery	Wed	7.00 – 9.00 pm	8	£56
Italian (term 2 of Beginners)	Wed	7.00 – 9.00 pm	10	£78
Sewing/Dressmaking Beginners	Wed	7.00 – 9.00 pm	10	£78
Stained Glass	Wed	7.00 – 9.00 pm	10	£78
Upholstery	Wed	7.00 – 9.00 pm	10	£78
Bee Keeping - starts 25.2.15	Wed	7.15 – 9.15 pm	7	£54
Pilates Advanced	Wed	8.05 – 9.05 pm	10	£45
Watercolours Beginners term 2	Thurs	11.30 – 1.30 pm	10	£78

SATURDAY DAY SCHOOLS

TITLE	DAY	TIME	COST
French Bistro Cookery	31 st January 2015	10.00 – 4.00	£32
First Aid Paediatric Certificate 2 day course	31 st January & 7 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£55
Computing and Networking for the Terrified	7 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Spreadsheets	28 th February	10.00 – 3.30	£27
Malaysian Cookery	28 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Cycle Maintenance	13 th June	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Indian Vegetarian Cookery	13 th June	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Writing Fiction for Children	13 th June	10.00 – 4.00	£27

CAMBOURNE Village College

TITLE	DAY	TIME	WEEKS	COST
Functional Skills Maths Level 1 & 2 – starts 24.2.15	Tue	9.30 – 11.30am	15	Free
Functional Skills English Level 1 & 2 – starts 24.2.15	Tue	12.30 – 2.30pm	15	Free
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	Tue	6.30 – 8.00pm	10	£40
Pottery	Tue	7.00 – 9.00pm	9	£88
Sewing Improvers	Tue	7.00 – 9.00pm	10	£78
Spanish Beginners (Term 2)	Tue	7.00 – 9.00pm	10	£78
French Beginners (Term 2)	Tue	7.30 – 9.00pm	9	£53
Over 65 Keep Fit to Music	Wed	11.00 – 12.00 noon	10	£39

SATURDAY DAY SCHOOLS

TITLE	DAY	TIME	COST
Calligraphy Introduction	7 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Mosaics Workshop	7 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Traditional Indian Cookery	7 th February	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Chinese Vegetarian Cookery	7 th March	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Stained Glass	7 th March	10.00 – 4.00	£27
Dressmaking (3 consecutive Saturdays)	7 th , 14 th & 21 st March	10.00 – 4.00	£81

Ace coaches' national call

Four teenagers have been chosen for the Youth Sport Trust National Talent Camp 2014 at Loughborough University from 19-22 December.

Liam Hunt, Harmony Hennessy and Laura Mott from Comberton Sixth Form and Jack Bevis, from Hills Road Sixth Form College, were chosen after being recognised as talented young coaches through their involvement in the County Young Coach Academy (CYCA) programme and the local Leadership academy programme before that.

They have shown huge commitments to their sports of swimming, athletics and football undertaking countless hours of voluntary coaching in community clubs and demonstrating the drive to push themselves further.

The National Talent Camp is a unique four-day residential, bringing together 350 of the most talented young athletes, coaches and officials from across England. The camp will see 200 coaches, 100 athletes, and 50 officials participate in a multi-sport, multi-role camp, to increase individual aspiration and ambition, and develop empathy.



CHOSEN: The Comberton Sixth Formers.

Through the camp, young people will be stretched and challenged to be ambitious and achieve their sporting best.

Claire McDonnell, Manager of the South Cambs SSP and the CYCA said, "I am absolutely delighted for them, it is such an exciting and unique opportunity. I would have loved to have had something like this when I was their age. They have

all put so much into their leadership, coaching and volunteering work over the last few years they utterly deserve this. I know they will have a great time, it will be four long and testing days but they will learn so much from it. It will definitely be worthwhile."

The Youth Sport Trust said: "Working with National Governing Bodies of Sport, sports coach UK and Sports Officials UK, the camp, which is funded by Sport England, and presented by Loughborough University, will offer our most promising young coaches, athletes and officials the opportunity to learn and share valuable experiences in their pursuit of sporting success.

"The seven NGBs who will each have a range of young coaches, athletes, and officials representing them at the camp include athletics, boccia, cycling, football, swimming, table tennis and volleyball. Throughout the camp, young people will be actively encouraged to dream and be ambitious on where their talent can take them, develop a holistic view of their own performance and understand how they will deliver when they are back in the environment of their own sport."



Coton top it

Coton Primary School claimed their place in the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sainsbury's School Games Spring Finals by winning the South Cambs SSP 'Small Schools' tag rugby competition in some style.

Their mixed team of Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils played five, and won five matches, scoring 18 tries along the way. More than 250 children took part in the event at Melbourn Village College with 10 schools competing in the new 'small schools' competition, open to schools with fewer than 120 pupils in Key Stage 2, and another 12 teams in the open competition. Both competitions were split into two pools with teams playing each other and the winners of each group progressing through to a final, which saw Coton edge Fowlmere 3-2. Both finalists will represent South Cambs at the Cambs and Peterborough Sainsbury's School Games Spring Finals. In the open competition Steeple Morden beat Harston & Newton 6-2 to reach the SSP finals on March 5 at Swavesey Village College. Organiser Claire McDonnell said: "It was a fantastic afternoon of rugby. Congratulations must go to all of the players who took part as well as the leaders from Melbourn Village College and Comberton Sixth Form who did a great job in officiating."



WINNERS: Coton pupils

On the mark

Schools in the South Cambs area are celebrating after being recognised for their commitment to PE and school sport.

Ten schools have received School Games Mark accreditation as part of a national scheme run by the Youth Sport Trust. Those schools that allocate two hours a week to curriculum PE, demonstrate a high level of involvement in inter-school competitions, develop young leaders and show a commitment to the development of school sport across their school and into the community are rewarded.

Comberton Village College and Harston and Newton Primary School achieved the gold standard, with Melbourn Village College among those recognised with silver accreditation.

Claire McDonnell, manager of the South Cambs School Sports Partnership, said "I'm delighted that these schools have been recognised and rewarded for the commitment to the development of PE and school sport and I hope they will inspire more to apply for similar awards in the future. It's fantastic that Harston & Newton have been able to maintain the gold standard they achieved last year; they are one of a handful of schools in the county to achieve this level of award."

Three teams win through to county round

A record number of primary schools from across South Cambridgeshire took part in the district round of the English



ON THE RUN: Action from Meridian (blue) against Jeavons Wood.

Schools FA under-11 football competition for small schools, girls' teams and an open 7-a-side.

The competition, organised by South Cambs School Sports Partnership, attracted 35 teams. In the small schools competition, last year's runners up Harston & Newton qualified from Pool 1 ahead of Meldreth and in the final they came up against Elsworth, who scored a 'golden goal' in extra-time to snatch victory.

Ten teams contested the girls' competition with Histon & Impington and Coton topping the groups. Last year's county champions from Histon edged a competitive final with a single goal to reach the county final for the second year running. Swavesey and Willingham made it to the final of the 13-team open event with the former winning 2-0.

The three winning schools now represent South Cambs in the County Finals in January where they will compete against the other districts' winners for the chance to reach the ESFA regional finals.

Change for good

The Change 4 Life club at Meridian Primary school is run before school on a Tuesday and has targeted a mix of children who lack a bit of self-confidence, who need help focusing, who can't access other out-of-school sports or who are learning about teamwork. A typical meeting sees the children gather in the hall in their school uniform and trainers to do a warm up, followed by some dynamic stretches to wake their bodies up. They then discuss what exercise they had done in the previous week to help them become healthier. A homework task might be to try and think of healthy food that they like.

Games follow to increase heart rates and boost teamwork before a cool down and discussion about the importance of stretching muscles after exercise. Participants are those who wouldn't necessarily mix in the classroom or playground. Asked what they liked best about C4L, one said: "working together with different children and becoming a team" All were smiling and succeeding and it set them up for a better day at school

If you would like to run a club in your school or would like to attend a deliverer's workshop on January 8 2015, 4-6:30pm at Comberton Village College, you can find further details here at www.scssp.co.uk

Girls march on in cup

Girls' football has been going from strength to strength this term, following the introduction of a coach on a Thursday 3-4pm.

The first fixture on the calendar was the Grand Prix at Comberton VC during Curriculum Extension days.

With many Year 8 students away on a trip, the Year 7 girls stepped up to the mark. After a round robin of games, we left with no losses. Cambourne are currently fifth in the league standings with two more competitions to play.

Then in November, we headed to a fixture at Sir Harry Smith (Peterborough) to play the first round of the County Cup.

Again, mostly filled with year 7 players, we showed persistence and determination to clinch a 1-0 victory with a superb strike by Cerys Richards. Notable performances came from Molly Blair, Aida Durrani, Tristan Milligan and Sherene Senior.

The next round of the County Cup will be played after Christmas against Comberton!

● The boys started their cup season off in style, with a 17-5 win over North Cambridge Academy. In their second round they faced tough opposition from St Ivo school, where they battled hard but lost out 2-1.

Their school friendly fixtures start after February half term, which we are all excited about.



LOOKING FORWARD: Cambourne's boys have more fixtures after February half-term after their cup exit



COLOURFUL: The Twickenham, Comberton and Cambourne teams' photo-call and (left) the Cambourne team.

Great day out at Twickenham

Cambourne boys' rugby team travelled to Twickenham Academy school to play a match before going on to the stadium to watch the 133rd Varsity Match between Cambridge and Oxford University.

The boys played exceptionally well and were unfortunate not to win, coming away with a draw.

They all enjoyed being in the stadium where 15,000 spectators, including students from Comberton as well, saw Cambridge lose to strong Oxford side.

All-in-all the boys had a fantastic day and we look forward to repeating it next year.

Earlier in the term the boys made a very promising start to their rugby at CamVC with a convincing win over Comberton. They also played North Cambridge Academy before the Twickenham match.

It has been a great season. Well done to all the boys who have trained and played.

Nathan Rogers



Ten brave cold to go on the run

Last week 10 students from Years 7 and 8 braved a very cold Netherhall School to compete in the District Cross-Country Championship.

Students worked hard in their races against some top competition, including some students a year above them!

After a very cold afternoon, students were extremely pleased to enjoy the comfort of the new minibus including music, heating and no

leaks!

A big thank you to Julie Pashley for all her help and support with the cross-country team this term.

Results: Minor Boys (Year 7) — 66 Keelan Purser, 98 Patrick Paenwong, 102 Charlie Fretwell. Minor Girls — 32 Jess Pennington, 89 Megan Hughes.

Junior Boys (Years 8 and 9) — 34 Tom Smith, 82 Liam Allen, 83 James Orrell, 99 Will Racher. Junior Girls — 24 Cerys Richards.



HARDY SOULS: The Cambourne cross-country team.

Dancers enjoy opportunity to showcase their efforts

Dance continues to be hugely popular at CamVC with three dance classes a week covering both street dance and contemporary dance styles.

The dancers have been working hard to produce routines for the Christmas Concert as well as the Intergenerational Event this month where the Year 7

contemporary group had a performing slot.

Thank you to Hayley and Rosie (Bodyworks) for providing these classes. Students will be able to sign up to the new rotation of classes after the holidays.

The full new extra-curricular timetable will be published in January, with hockey and rugby being replaced with

netball and football squad training.

We ask that students attending these clubs wear full PE kit.

In addition, we also ask for a small contribution of £10 per term if attending sports clubs to help with the upkeep of equipment.