

NEWS@CAM



The Magazine of Cambourne Village College

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Superheroes answer the call — Page 2

Success opens new doors . . .

At the end of the summer holiday, I received a rather grand-looking email from 10 Downing Street, inviting me to attend an event for leaders of successful schools.

At first I thought it might be a scam — it's not the sort of email that arrives every day! — but it turned out to be genuine: the Prime Minister was hosting a celebration of the Free Schools programme, and following our 'Outstanding' rating by Ofsted, CamVC had received an invite. I presented myself at the gates of the Whitehall entrance on the afternoon of 2 September, and after a series of security checks, joined the long line of guests wandering along Downing Street and in through the famous black door of Number 10.

Inside was imposing and tardis-like: it's much

bigger inside than it appears from outside. We made our way up the famous yellow 'Grand Staircase' lined with the portraits of Prime Ministers, past the Cabinet Room and into the elegant state rooms full of original pictures by famous artists, and quirky items such as copies of all the medals awarded in the 2012 Olympics. Finding myself in the same room as the PM, I managed to get into a group conversing with him to try a bit of lobbying about the Fairer Funding Formula for Schools question.

I got a typical politician's answer: "You're not the only person today to have asked me that!" — but, hey, I tried!

After the reception, the guests were allowed to take selfies outside the front door, before heading off to the Westminster Tube. It certainly made an unusual start to the new school year!



Claire Coates, Principal **FAMOUS DOOR: Principal Claire Coates at No 10.**



HEROES EVERYWHERE: Staff and students dressed up for Children in Need.



Superheroes' flying visit

Cambourne Village Collage was visited by an Interesting group of superheroes, and two suffragettes, for Children in Need. The secondary school raised an amazing £946 to give to the charity.

Over the course of the day, students collected their very impressive total by coming in dressed as superheroes or in non-school uniform. Additionally, the library had been selling Pudsey accessories all week to raise that little bit more. Over lunch, a photo-shoot took place to showcase the school's Pudsey spirit.

As well as this, there was a magnificent competition to see who had the best costume.

The winner of this was Sam Cruickshank who had invented his own superhero and wore the British flag, the Union Jack.

Sam said: "I'm glad I won but I hope the children receiving the money will have a better life."

There was also a competition to design a superhero and Fallen Snow (or Hope), who has lots of snow and ice-related powers, was the winner. She was the brainchild of Kayleigh Taylor (9U).

The Site Manager was asked why he wasn't in a superhero costume and he said he was always in his superhero costume because he always gets called out to fix things!

Elli Thompson (7A), Erin Williams (7A), Zara Wray (7B)

A very n-ice first social

Year 9 beat the festive rush and enjoyed their first social of the year at the end of last month.

They went ice skating at Planet Ice in Peterborough, where a great time was had by all 86 students and six staff.

Organiser Charlotte Fenn-Goode, the Deputy Head of Year, said: "The students were an asset to the school, as usual, with the security guard

saying that they were more than welcome to come back again since they are so well behaved."

9M's Fleur Dear said: "The whole trip was amazing.

"But the experience of seeing the teachers ice skate for the first time was the best part.

"We all give a huge thank you to the teachers and Ms Fenn-Goode for organising the fantastic social."



SKATES ON: Students poised to hit the ice.

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Lest we forget . . .

"They gave their tomorrows so we could have our todays." Cambourne Village College remembered those who gave their lives in war, fighting for our country or innocently slaughtered.

On the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour, throughout the country the chimes of Big Ben were the only sounds to be heard as the nation fell silent for two special minutes.

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of an event that would change the world, the beginning of World War I. This year is the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. These two events have changed our world forever and we must remember the bravery that the citizens of the UK



showed to fight for their countries. We commemorated these people by tuning into BBC Radio 4 and listening to the national broadcast while showing our respect in silence.

"I felt thankful for the people who sacrificed their lives for us" said Miles White (7A). He also said he hopes for peace and no war in the future.

We will never forget those who braved war, and in assemblies that week, we reflected on the disasters caused to the lives of all in the world affected by the current refugee crisis.

Aaron Peck (7C), Tom Hanley (7M), Will Beckwith-Elliott (7C) and Ben Saich (7A)

That's really grand . . .

Cambourne Village College has welcomed a grand new resident.

The college has taken possession of a brand new £20,000 concert grand piano after receiving a generous donation from the Cambourne Crier's charity fund.

The Yamaha piano has been placed in the Main Hall where it will be used not only by staff and students at

the school, but also by members of the local community.

Geoff Page, Head of Music, said: "It is so exciting to have such a fantastic grand piano at Cambourne Village College and it will be in constant use by the school and the community.

"We are extremely grateful to the Cambourne Crier for their very generous donation.

"We chose this Yamaha because it is a high-quality

concert piano, which will be in regular use in a hall rather than a home.

"We have some very talented pianists at the school and having a new piano is something they are all very excited about."

Cambourne has a series of events planned for January to officially welcome the new piano but its first public appearance was at the school's Christmas concert on December 7th.



TINKLING THE IVORIES: Students and Head of Music Geoff Page have a first go on Cambourne's new concert grand piano.

Being placed was a bonus

Live and Amped is a talent competition which was held last month at Comberton Sports and Arts. Young people from across Cambridgeshire were given the opportunity to audition for a place in the final and a chance to win prizes up to £100.

Ms Fenn-Goode first let me know about it in October and asked if I would like to send in a recorded audition. I spent a few days thinking about what song to sing, then one day after school, Mrs Fenn-Goode recorded me singing and sent it off.

During the October half term (the day after my birthday) I received an email telling me I had got through to the live final! I was so shocked, but really excited.

I was told that I have an eight-minute set. I finally came up with a set and spent many hours rehearsing, sorting out backing tracks, lighting and practising with a microphone.

Ms Fenn-Goode and my mum helped me, as did Fleur Dear (who filmed a dance that was projected behind me during one of my songs).

I was very apprehensive about the final, but also really excited. As well as the talent show there were other artists performing, a football cage and a Parkour run; it was a really fun evening!

On the Saturday morning I woke up really quite nervous, not knowing how the day would end.

I had a sound check in the afternoon, then stayed at Comberton to get ready. When the doors opened I started to get extremely nervous, but as the night continued I got less and less scared.

At 8:01 it was my turn to go on stage and as soon as I stepped out, I was ready to give all I had and make the audience dance and sing along. The reaction I got from the audience really gave me a confidence push, so for my final song I really did give it all I had!

As they were announcing the top three, all the contestants came and lined up on stage. Then Adrian said "And in third place..." At this point I thought I knew I wasn't going to be placed but then all I heard was my name and the audience screaming.

I was so excited I couldn't even believe it. I received a certificate and was told that I was allowed to choose vouchers for a shop of my choice worth £40.

Overall it was such an amazing experience and to come third was just a great bonus!

Libbi Taplin (8C)



SOUND CHECK: Getting it right before the big night.



SURPRISE: At a top three placing.

Finals performance was fantastic experience

When I found out I had got into Live and Amped I was ecstatic. It was amazing knowing that I was going to be taking part in a competition that I watched last year.

It took awhile to find the right songs. Once I'd found them (with the help of my drama teacher), I needed the backing for the songs — my music teacher helped with that. It was all quite last-minute, but we managed and everything was sent in on time.

I practised with the backing tracks every day to make sure I knew the lyrics well and I knew exactly when to come in. I didn't listen to the original versions very much so that I didn't completely copy the way they sing it. I honestly couldn't wait to perform, but I was also quite nervous.

I had my sound check not long after arriving at Comberton. It went quite well. Once I had done it, I had to wait until around for Live and Amped to start. In that time I made new friends and went over the songs I was performing. Before going on stage (I was the second act) I was quite nervous, but once I'd started I felt better.

It was really fun performing and I was actually happy with my performance.

I spent most of the night either with my friends or in the Green Room.

All the acts were called back on stage and we found out the winners. I didn't place in the top three, but I had a great night. There's always next year!

Caitlin Groves (90)

Two exciting days allow



TREASURE HUNT: Students take to the water in search of diamonds.
Year 9 Physical Education

This year, the year 9s went to Milton Country Park. They were tasked with swapping a small diamond for a big diamond. Think this sounds simple enough — think again! Pupils worked in groups of 6-7 and, using only a map of the park, had to navigate to different trading stations to find out what they could exchange.

To complete a trade not only did they have to find the correct trading station but they also had to have the correct item and often complete a task.

Tasks included canoeing to an island to find a diamond, solving a Rubik's cube safe to find a Doubleloon inside, making a balloon animal from balloons they had exchanged for a Doubleloon, putting on a clown show with face paint and jokes to get a safe code which would ultimately unlock the safe with the big diamond inside.

All the staff, were incredibly impressed with the collaboration, communication, determination and map-reading skills of the Year 9s, who never gave up and navigated Milton Country Park like professionals!

Year 9 English & Art

One of our topics for Curriculum Extension Days was Shakespeare. Admittedly, I wasn't too happy with this. In primary school, we had learned a small about him; from what I knew, he was quite boring. (I was wrong — I know that now.)

Throughout periods 1 and 2, we did many activities such as using Aurasma (an iPad app), which basically lets you create videos over photos, and managing a photography shoot where we tried to create mood with lighting, symbolism and simple props like flowers and skulls.

This was my favourite part of the day because it informed you about Shakespeare in a very fun yet memorable way. We had to do some detective work: who killed whom, who is in love with whom...

After correctly working this out, we watched a clip telling us about Act 3 of Hamlet, but only up to a certain part, so as not to reveal too much. We discussed what we thought about

Shakespeare and the play we were studying. I think this helped us learn about Shakespeare. After lunch, we got into small groups and had to choose lines to learn in just an hour for the performance to our year half.

For one period, we rehearsed and rehearsed even more. When it was time to perform, we were led to the drama room. We watched other groups perform an act each, performing ourselves in the middle. Somehow I managed to forget all my lines completely and I had to improvise!

After all the performances we watched a clip of the finale from the David Tennant film, which I thought was poorly performed compared to ours!

Once we went back to our original rooms, I was presented with a star prize along with my best friend.

During the course of that day, I learnt multiple things about Shakespeare, his life and his plays. He really wasn't that boring after all...

Rayhan Campbell (9M)

For the last two days before half-term, all usual lessons are suspended and all students have the chance to study two different aspects of the curriculum in a totally different way. It's a fun and popular end to a busy first half-term of the academic year.

Read the reports on these two pages to find out more.

Year 7 Science

Year 7 went to the Science Museum. First we went to the Space Exhibition. In this section of the museum they have a replica of the moon lander on show and three small rockets.

They also have lots of facts about space travel and what it would feel like travelling through space.

There are also lots of space objects and models to look at. It was very interesting to visit this part of the museum and learn about the science behind space travel.

Then we headed to lunch, but on the way we stopped off at a section of the museum that held exhibits about healthy eating!

After lunch we went to the IMAX cinema to see a documentary on small things the human eye cannot see.

This included information on how dragonflies are the best flyers of all the species, due to how they manoeuvre by individual wing movement, and how tiny head lice jump from head to head to gather blood.

We learnt about radio waves travelling through the air at the speed of sound and how a bat uses sound waves to navigate its way around.

The IMAX was really good because the screen was so immense and the documentary was shown in 3D, which meant some of the pictures appeared to jump out at you.

Sadly it was all-too-soon time to catch the coach home after a very exciting day in London. I would definitely recommend visiting this museum and would like to go again.

Samuel Bransbury (7B)



PLAY IN A DAY: Year 9s tackle Shakespeare's Hamlet.

'Flying' Finley has the touch for typing success

On Friday 25th September, Finley Richmond received a certificate in assembly from Mr Elhasbaoui, his Head of Year, for completing the whole of English Type Junior, a computer program that trains students to automatically reach for the correct key without looking down at the keyboard.

Many Year 8 and 9 students have been working on their touch typing skills last year either during literacy lessons or in tutor time. Year 7 will be starting the course very soon.

Finley can now touch type at about 20 words per minute, using all the letters, capitals, punctuation marks and numbers without looking down at his hands.

All his hard work is now paying off. He no longer needs to consciously think about the typing so he can concentrate on what he wants to write

and type it quickly. This will be a very useful skill for his exams and essays in Year 10 and 11 and, more generally, as a lifelong skill.

Finley's English teacher, Gemma Coe said, "This is an amazing achievement. Finley was not only the first in his class, but the first in the whole school. Hopefully the benefits will show in his English assessments. He'll be flying!"

Following his achievement, Finley's typing skills are continuing from strength to strength. He is now working on an online intermediate course and his typing speed is improving all the time. Helen Coutts, the teaching assistant working with Finley, said: "Finley should feel incredibly proud of his achievement. We are all very impressed by the hard work and commitment he has shown."



TOP TYPIST: The first student to complete the course.

different way of learning

Year 7 History

Year 7 students embarked on an educational, but nevertheless exciting, trip to delve into the archaeological side of history, deep in the countryside of Rampton. The first group left on the coach heading for Rampton church full of excitement and expectations for this archaeological site, which were satisfied in many ways. When we arrived, we looked at the effect our early ancestors had on the land. We were looking at ridges and platforms, which were made distinctive by the lowered parts of the ground. We also looked at farms that had been made distinctive by their ridges. The afternoon was even more action-packed than the morning. We enjoyed digging through piles of rubble trying to find artefacts and cleaning important pottery and rocks. We also got a chance to look at a 1,500-year-old skeleton called Eric, who had lived in the Anglo Saxon era! After an enjoyable day the pupils came back, their expectations fulfilled, while they excitedly recounted the events of the day to each other. Ethan Richards said that it was one of the best days of the half term and that if he could rewind time, he would do it again! **Sam Allen and Ethan Richards (7M)**



THE WORK CONTINUES AT SCHOOL: For Year 7 historians after their archaeology field trip.



UNA PELICULA DE HORROR: Year 8 film-makers.

Year 8 MFL

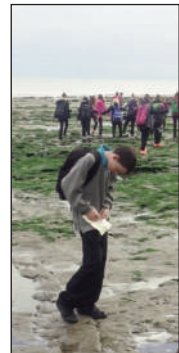
During Curriculum Extension Day, Year 8 students were involved in a Spanish film project where their filming and linguistic abilities were put to the test for a whole day of scripting, screening, acting and editing. A variety of genres were on offer (comedy, adventure, thriller, horror) and it certainly did not come as a surprise that most students went for horror movies, as Halloween was just around the corner. Groups set off to complete the task and impressed their teachers with their talent and ability to showcase the imagination and improvisation required to film such scenes in a school. Ben Tullet shared his views on the day: "We did a film project that was in a foreign language that we had been learning. In my case it was Spanish. While we were doing this we learnt lots of different things like how to construct, act and edit a film. "We also learnt lots of new words. Personally I think that it was an amazing day. In P1 and P2 we did the planning for the film, then in P3 and P4 we filmed it and in P5 and P6 we edited it. I thought it was a brilliant day and the MFL department should do it again."

Paco Fernandez, MFL Dept

Year 8 Geography

Curriculum Extension Days provide Geographers with a chance to do what they do best — getting out there and seeing the world! Walton-on-the-Naze in Essex was the destination this time for our Year 8 pupils, which provided some spectacular examples of coastal features and key processes of erosion and deposition. It was announced in the news just before we went that 12,500 more properties are at risk from coastal erosion and flooding. The National Trust has said it is no longer able to 'hold the line' and prevent rising sea levels destroying properties and parts of England's

coast. The enquiry question seemed pertinent — 'should the sea defences at Walton be removed'? At Walton-on-the-Naze the average rate of erosion is two metres per year. Pupils visited Walton beach, the famous Walton tower (built in 1720), walked through a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) and witnessed the effect of erosion, slumping and weathering on the soft cliffs on Walton beach. It was an excellent opportunity for pupils to contextualise their learning and bring to life what they had learnt in the classroom, as well as a chance for them to gain new skills in data collection, data analysis, map work and investigation skills. **Dion Burgess, Head of Geography**



BEACH WORK: Year 8 students carry out their investigations at Walton-on-the-Naze.



All students participate in world record attempt

Last month all Cambourne's pupils participated in a Guinness World Record attempt for the world's largest Maths and Science lesson. In total 13,243 learners from around the world joined in together to learn about the shape and structure of DNA and create a 3D model. Some Year 9 accounts are below: "DNA is what makes us, so it's important and interesting that we learn about it. In our Maths lesson we took part learning about the shape of DNA, along with every other student in the school. We structured a double helix out of paper, colour coding the letters C, A, T, G. After taking part in the lesson, we know that these letters come only in pairs and are part of forming DNA. Countries all around the world were taking part to try and take part in the largest Maths and Science class." **Katie.** "In the Maths lesson, our class was participating in

some very challenging but exciting paper craft! Our goal was for the entire class to create a paper model of a DNA strand. There were 18 different countries participating to break this record and each school did



RECORD ATTEMPT: Students build DNA models.

something different. While we did origami, a school in India made a DNA picture out of rice!" **Leia.** "We learnt about DNA. I learnt that the only letters there are, are C, G, T and A. We made paper DNA models to show us the shape, structure and the layout. We also learnt about the double helix." **Mahiya.** "Many people around the world participated in the same lesson at the same time to try and break the world record for the biggest lesson." **Yan-Kang.** "We are yet to hear if we broke this record but we are hopeful." **Josh.** Pupils will be learning more about DNA in Science, in preparation for their GCSE. Pupils will continue to develop their understanding of 2D and 3D geometry within Maths lessons.

United in leadership



Year 9 Language Leaders spent the day at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge participating in the first ever Comberton Academy Trust Language Leader Training Day.

Students from Comberton, Melbourn and The Voyager and Cambourne — with its first cohort of Year 9 students participating — attended the university day to help them develop their leadership and team-working skills before going into primary schools to deliver language lessons over the coming academic year. The Language Leader Award is a prestigious scheme that was created by CAT Director of International Education Dr Rachel Hawkes.

Students develop their language skills as well as their presentation and leadership skills by preparing and delivering at least three language lessons to younger students. Language leaders also assist with events such as Open Evening and the Foreign Language Spelling Bee Regional and National Finals, which this year will include the Regional Final at The Voyager, having previously been staged at



WORKING TOGETHER: Students from all four of the Trust's Academies at the Language Leader Training Day.

embedded when you have to know your material so well you can deliver it to others, and second, taking on a leadership role early develops a high level of self-reflection, building resilience, flexibility and the ability to work constructively with other people. "Our students really enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with students from other schools and they've already asked us to provide them with further opportunities to collaborate."

Comberton.

The day consisted of a series of workshops covering the value of language learning, personality and leadership skills testing and presentation skills, as well as exercises testing team-working and initiative skills.

After this fantastic start to their language learning careers, the leaders are now busy preparing, either at lunchtimes or after school, their lessons for pupils in feeder primary schools.

Dr Hawkes said: "The leadership day at Anglia Ruskin University, the home of Routes into Languages, a government-funded languages project that supports innovative ways to raise the profile of language learning in this country, was a fantastic start to the award programme.

"It provided us with an excellent opportunity to bring students from our four academies together with a common purpose.

"The Language Leader Award was created with two overriding principles: first, learning is more deeply

Amazing exchange is fantastic experience

I started off scared about taking part in the Spanish Exchange.

Flying to Zaragoza with only a couple friends and knowing I would have to spend a week with a completely new family that don't even speak English is not the easiest thing to do and I could understand why

more people didn't go.

However, the week I spent in Zaragoza really changed my opinion and I left with so many more friends (Spanish and English), loads of memories, and so much more confidence in speaking Spanish and meeting new people.

The best part of the week was spending time in the school and sitting in their lessons, seeing what their school life is like compared to ours.

I also really enjoyed visiting the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pilar which was a really beautiful church in Zaragoza.

By the end of the week, my partner felt like my sister and all of the family were so lovely and caring. They were always over-feeding me, including some traditional meals from Zaragoza, which were delicious! Spending the evenings with the families I thought would be the most awkward but it never was! They took us to theme parks, bowling; out for meals and shopping — usually with their friends which meant you were with someone English as well.

Overall the week was amazing and I will definitely be visiting Zaragoza again. I really do recommend the exchange to anyone considering going.

Everyone was crying as we left and we are all counting down the days until they come back to England.

Katie Exton Barnett (9R)

BUILDING MEMORIES: Out and about in Zaragoza and at a Spanish school.



Evening is a showcase for languages

Year 7 students gathered in the hall to share the songs in Spanish they had learnt for the International Talent Evening.

Each form had prepared a song to share with the parents. 7C performed Bad Blood by Taylor Swift; 7A performed Call Me Maybe by Carly Rae Jepsen; 7M performed Story of my Life by One Direction; 7B performed Shake it Off by Taylor Swift; 7O performed Elastic Heart by Sia; 7U performed Roar by Katy Perry and last but not least, 7R performed Best Song Ever by One Direction.

As well as the tutor groups singing, there were a number of students who chose to share songs, poems and dances from their countries.

We were treated to performances in Arabic, Dutch, Lithuanian, Portuguese, Spanish, Greek and Russian.

It was an amazing night and a great opportunity to have fun and to share

learning.

Three judges:, Mrs Coates, Mr Went and Miss Coe; seven forms; one trophy. And the winner was 7U! Year 7 were amazing, but 7U were the best, followed by 7R and 7A, who were runners up. Overall the night was a blast and one to remember.

Kai Byton (7R)



A FORM THAT ROARS: 7U won the judges' votes with their Spanish rendition of the Katy Perry hit.

Meeting the challenge

From 30th September-6th October, all students were asked to take part in the European Day of Languages Championship, where the school did very well overall.

This was done through Vocab Express, a site designed to help students with their spellings in foreign languages.

The students' own initiative was fantastic, with points mainly scored at home and only a minority of lesson time used for the Championship, supporting active, independent learning.

The MFL department found that students were keen to get involved, with a large number itching to get involved from the start.

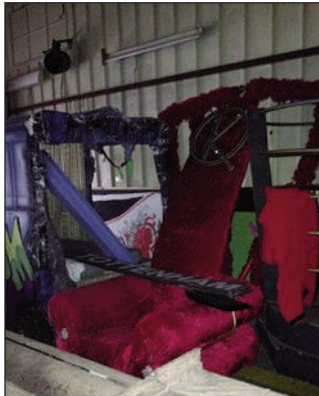
This is what Monika (named top Cambourne contributor) made of the event: "Taking part in the Vocab Express Championship of 2015 was an absolute honour for me.

"Not only did I learn more key words which enhanced my education but I ended up getting first place for Spanish at my school!

"Overall I just think it was a fun experience which also had the perk of teaching me new things and helped me in my Spanish lessons. I would love to compete again next year!"



PROPS: The van and the throne (right) which will appear in We Will Rock You.



Ready to rock

This academic year at Cambourne Village College we are performing the musical We Will Rock You.

We, as a cast, were very happy when we found out about this year's show. The whole cast has been working extremely hard with Director Ms Fenn-Goode and Musical Director Mr Page, to start blocking scenes and learning the songs. This year the cast has been split, with two people playing each role; to give as many as possible of the talented pupils in school an opportunity to perform. There are lots of new faces in the cast and a few old ones, but it is definitely a fresh start for everyone and a better play coming this year. On Saturday 7th November some of the cast and tech team members had the opportunity to go and see the set and props for this year's

play. It was an amazing experience being able to see our costumes and set because it means that now we understand what the script is meaning when it refers to things. For example 'Galileo enters sat in broken van.' Overall this show will be so much bigger, and, hopefully, better than Grease and as long as we keep working together and listening to our Director we will make it the best play to have ever been performed at Cambourne Village College. There are many well-known Queen Songs and lots of jokes added in to the lines for an extra bit of fun. Please come and see the show in the week commencing Tuesday 8th March-Saturday 12th March.

Joel Hunt (9U)

Rekindling the desire to dance

One Wednesday in November our drama lesson was replaced by a dance workshop. During the 50 minutes we were taught a short but fairly complex routine to Usher's 'Caught up'.



SOMETHING DIFFERENT: 9M in a dance workshop.

Not only was the routine tiring and very fun, it was also a chance for the whole form to be educated on something that was outside our normal school curriculum, which made us all even more excited.

We were taught by five very polite, advanced dancers from a professional dance crew and the form's response to the lesson was very positive; it would be a pleasure to be taught by them again. If there was anything I could change, however, it would be to have longer to fully adjust to the moves. Despite that they have inspired me, and others, to pick up dance again.

Rachel Tucker (9M)

Staying safe on the street

Streetwise performed at Cambourne on 18 November to show the students how important it is to be safe on the roads. They also did a quiz, gave us information and handed out a questionnaire for the pupils. The play began as the pupils in Years 7 and 8 went into the hall. It was about three children who had near misses with cars because they were messing around or not paying attention at road crossings. In the end, their friend got hit by a car. The actors explained that people take risks on the street because they don't look or are distracted when they're going to cross. Streetwise said that when you're crossing you mustn't text because this could distract you from the road. Listening to music might also mean that you can't hear a vehicle coming. They pointed out that road crossings are there so you should use them. Being late isn't an excuse for lack of unawareness: better late than nothing. They gave the children other advice and did a quiz about roads and their dangers. The company ended by saying how most accidents happen to children aged 10-13. An actor said "A second is all it takes". The students in Years 7 and 8 are now aware of the dangers on the streets.

Iria Rodriguez (7C)

Guests get in the swing



DANCING SHOES: On the floor at the annual tea dance.

On 1 November the annual tea dance took place at the College, organised and led by Diane Bagulay. It was a successful afternoon with 120 guests helping raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. They danced, sang, had a raffle, ate cakes and, most importantly, DRANK TEA! This event had more than 25 musicians playing swing music from the 1940's. RAF bands filled the stage along with 'Moon and Stars'. Everyone enjoyed their music and had a great time dancing. Mrs Bagulay said: "The best thing about the annual tea dance is that everyone always has a good time and we always have plenty of cakes left over. I also loved that the dishwasher took 1 minute, 20 seconds to wash the dishes!" Last year she did the washing up by hand and so it was a great relief to use the kitchen dishwasher! After the dancing and singing was over, it was announced that they had raised a staggering £829 for the charity! A massive well done and thank you to all those who attended.

Lou Edge and Katy Taylor (7M)

Youngsters through to county finals



Jeavons Wood are through to the county finals of a girls' football competition. The Cambourne youngsters were runners-up in the South Cambridgeshire round of the under-11 English Schools FA competition. With the top two going on to represent South Cambs in the county finals in February, Jeavons Wood will join winners Histon & Impington in the battle against the other districts' qualifiers to reach the regional finals. A record 12 teams battled it out in the girls' tournament, which was organised by the South Cambs School Sports Partnership and hosted by Impington Village College. Jeavons Wood finished top of their group unbeaten with four wins and a draw. But they were up against tough opposition, with the Histon girls having scored 20 goals in five wins in their group.

It turned out to be a close match, though, with last year's county champions Histon & Impington edging it to take the winners' shield and a place in the county final for the third year running.



FLYING HIGH: Jeavons Wood's girls' team.

The girls' competition ran alongside qualifiers for small schools (with fewer than 120 pupils in Key Stage 2) and an open event for bigger schools. Small schools winners were Meldreth, who beat Harston & Newton 5-4 in a dramatic penalty shoot-out after both teams topped their round robin groups. The 15-team open section was won by Over, who beat neighbours Willingham by a single goal. Claire McDonnell, Partnership Manager, said: "We were delighted to have almost 400 children involved. They represented their schools with pride, showed great respect and sportsmanship and left having had a really enjoyable day."

Students embrace clubs

This year we have seen more than 260 pupils attending sports clubs — which is a phenomenal number.

With such a wide range of activities on offer, the PE department is trying to cater for as many different sport enthusiasts as possible.

There is still time to join a club and get involved. Have a look at the Clubs Timetable to see what you can do.

At the start of this year, both Years 7 and 8 were pupils set a target of trying to attend at least one PE or dance club a week.

It has been great to see so many of them attending clubs and keeping physically active.

All pupils should be accumulating at least one hour of moderate to vigorous physical activity a day to feel the benefit, including the mental, social and physical benefits.

Attending a PE or dance club goes a long way to keeping you fitter and healthier and also is helping students make new friends, not just in their own year but in others as well.

Let's see if we can increase that number to see even more pupils in PE and dance clubs throughout the year.

Hannah Curtis, Head of PE



REPRESENTING: *Cambourne's Year 7 and 8 rugby teams and Year 9 hockey team.*

Sporting fixtures round-up

RUGBY

Year 7: We have seen a dedicated bunch of Year 7 boys regularly attend rugby club where they have developed their skills and game play.

This was shown off in their tournament where they finished second in their pool, and fourth out of nine District schools.

Well done to Ben M who has lead the team very maturely throughout the season, also running some of the practices at training — well done!

The team of Ben M (captain) Aidan C, Shivek S, Douwe A, Dylan C, Bayramham G, Rico B, Ben S, Constantinos C, James R, Jamil G, Ben G, Neil K, Leo P, Zacc C, Tom M, Maksim M, Malakai K have developed immensely well together.

Year 8: The team have continued to work hard on Thursdays at training and have built on the previous year with some good battles in their matches and a respectable second out of 10 at their district tournament. It's also been great to see many new players come out to train and play.

Team: Ben H (captain), Jack D, Dami A, Oli T, Ben C, Cameron D, James E, Joe M, Cam B, Tyler G M, Charlie T, Tomas C, Emmanuel B, Riley F, Riley P.

FOOTBALL

With only County Cup fixtures to get stuck into this term, **Year 7** started their campaign with a local derby against Camberton, which Cambourne won to set up a second round match against Longsands.

Year 8 will have only played their first match by the time this goes to Press, against Swavesey, but they are eager to continue the exuberant style of football they love to play.

Year 9 started in winning ways against Cambridge International School. Improving their French along the way they went on to win 8-1. Their next match is against St Peter's school, Huntingdon.

Squad: Harry P, Michael B, Adam D, Harry C L, Jack D, Tom B, Augustus V, Dylan H J, Jack L, Matt H, Oli A, Liam A, Alex H.

HOCKEY

Year 7: The team have gone from strength to strength due to their dedication at training and their ability to listen to tactics and apply them in the games.

They have had some great results against other schools, and are very strong in defence. They showed this in their recent district tournament when they kept clean sheets in all but one of their matches to finish eighth.

Well done to all those who have represented either the A team or B team this season and thank you to captains Lou and Katy for organising their teams.

A Team: Emme, Calla, Megan, Millie, Georgia A, Lou, Iria, Erin, Evie.

B Team: Fausta, Ruth, Mikaela, Isabella, Katy, Ellie, Emma A, Alison.

Year 8: This team started with some good battles where they really showed their spirit and determination. Having not given in after a tough few games, the girls showed excellent tenacity and built on their skills and performances to become a stronger attacking unit.

Well done to Ellie who captained the girls throughout the season and who supported and umpired the Year 7 B team in their match.

Team: Leni, Lizzie, Tristan, Caitlin, Karen, Megan, Jess, Ellie, Olivia, Monica,

Year 9: The girls moved from playing seven-a-side last year to 11-a-side. With the help of some Year 8 players, they really flourished on the full pitch, showing great stamina, passing and teamwork. Congratulations to Sydney and Kira, who captained the girls to joint first in their league in the district tournament — a great result.

It would be great to see more of you at training next year to really develop those skills and push for a first place finish overall.

Team: Lenli, Imogen R, Jephline E, Lizzie, Caitlin, Sydney, Ellie, Cerys, Molly, Kira, Tristan, Imogen M.

Countdown to first snowsports trip

The inaugural Cambourne VC snowsports will be heading to Italy during February half term.

Thirty-five students will join 51 from Comberton Village College plus staff for a fantastic week of action in Courmayeur in the Aosta Valley in northern Italy.

The trip is also open to family members and in the past a number have joined the school trip, as it allows all family members to find their own level and ski or snowboard at it in the lessons as well as enjoying family time on the slopes.

As Christmas is coming up it may be a perfect time to be buying some of those few extra supplies that you will need for the trip. Check your kit list in your booklet for ideas.



Mr Rogers is going to be asking for a new pair of gloves and I'm asking for some warm purple ski socks. What will you be asking for? If you have not yet returned all your paperwork

including your room allocations, please can you get this to me as soon as possible.

Finally, just to remind you that there is another important meeting for the Snowsports Trip on Monday 11th January at 7pm. This is the statutory Health and Safety meeting for the Foundation Trip at which we will be setting out the final arrangements including confirmed travel times, detailed daily plan, emergency contact numbers etc. It is essential to have an adult attend this meeting on behalf of each pupil participant to avoid any confusions or misunderstandings regarding how we will organise the trip and the care of the children. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Hannah Curtis, Head of PE