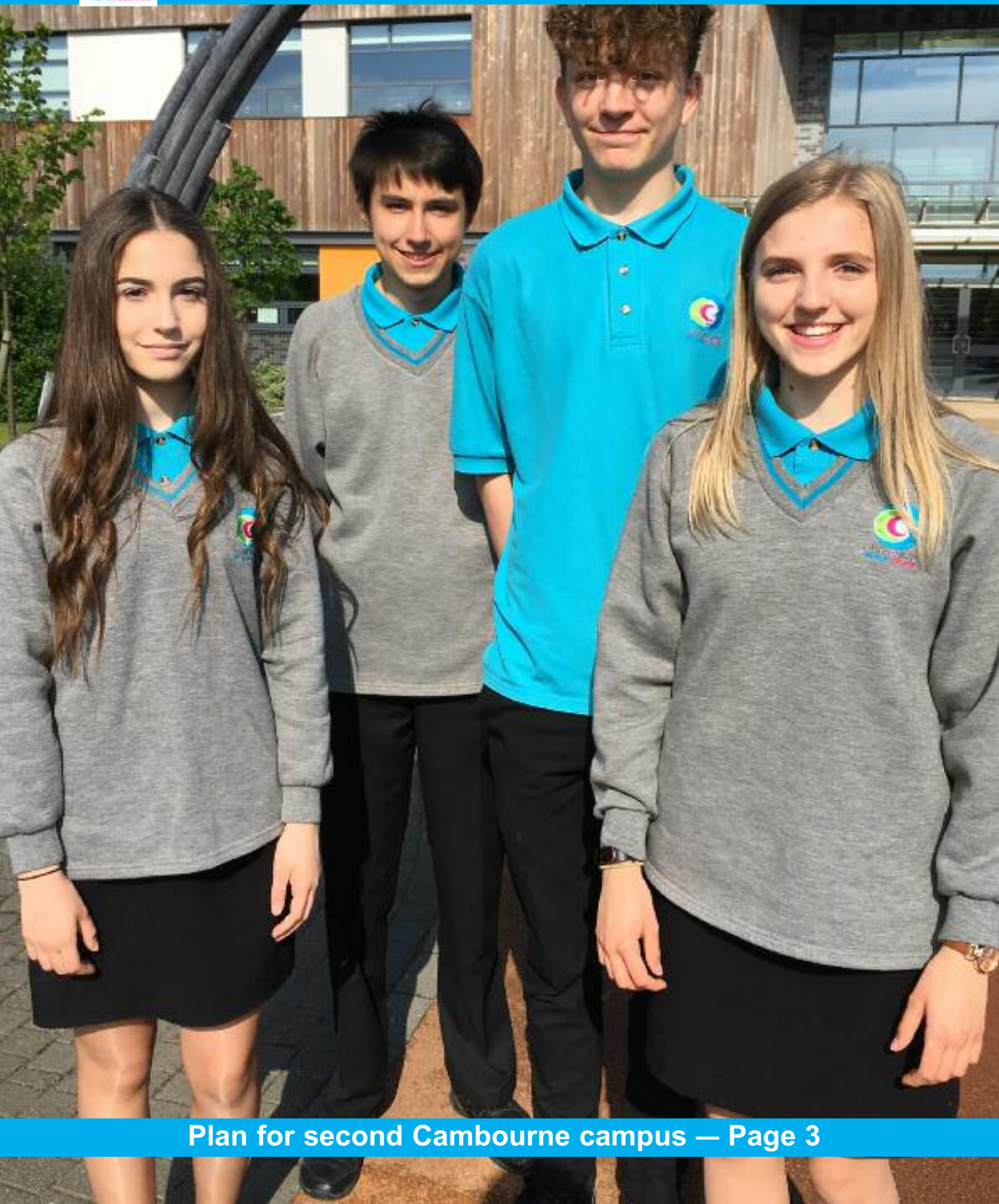


NEWS @ CAM



The Magazine of Cambourne Village College

ISSUE 12, SUMMER 2017





TRAILBLAZERS: *Cambourne's first head prefects have been appointed.*

First prefects chosen

Cambourne's first team of prefects are already undertaking some of their duties, even before the start of Year 11.

The four head prefects, Fleur, Ivan, Harry and Izabella, have played a part in the preliminary work on the extension and this term have been busy organising elections for the school council.

They said: "We are the first head prefect team of Cambourne Village College and we feel honoured to be such an important part of the school community, especially as the first people to take on this role at Cambourne."

"To get this position we had to go through an application process, and, after being selected for a shortlist, we were interviewed.

"Once we received a letter of acceptance the work began — our first task was to select a quote for the new school wing that is currently under construction.

"We are also currently in the process of organising elections for the school council.

"Overall we found the whole process very enjoyable and we think it's an amazing experience to be part of the prefect team."

World of choice

Cambourne Crescent's Family Fun Day at Cambourne Village College was a great day for the whole community of all ages. More than 500 people from Cambourne and the surrounding villages enjoyed a variety of world artefacts and cultural art and displays and mouth-watering food from around the world sold out quickly.

With almost 30 varied stall holders, on display were Middle Eastern rugs, lamps and traditional seating, organic makeup and creams, samosas, onion bajis, coconut curries, plantain, freshly baked pizza, traditional English ice cream, shawerma, biriyani, Kashmiri tea and lots of Eastern jewellery and clothing including Kurtas and sarees.

The two henna artists had a very busy day drawing amazing designs, as did the fabulous face painter and live entertainer. A percentage of the sales, which totalled nearly £3,500, will be donated towards local and international charitable causes. A special thank you to the college, including the school administrator and caretaker, as well as all the stall holders and families who attended.

A special mention also to the volunteers, who helped set up and clean the hall at the end.

Asad Rana



IN DISCUSSION: *Cambourne students join the Carnegie celebrations at Cottenham Village College.*

Carnegie group want more

Having shadowed the Carnegie book awards from late March, Monday 19th June finally saw the announcement of the winner, both of the Cilip Carnegie Medal and the Amnesty Honour (for a book which highlights Human Rights). This group of reading enthusiasts from Cambourne VC was the largest ever, with 17 turning up to meetings weekly to discuss their books, likes and dislikes.

The group travelled to Cottenham VC to take part in Carnegie celebrations and watch the announcement live from London.

The various school groups had all voted for their favourites for both the Awards, and 'Beck', written by Mal Peet and Meg Rosoff, won our group's votes for both the Carnegie and the Amnesty Honour. The actual winner of the Cilip Carnegie Medal was 'Salt to the Sea' by Ruta Sepetys and the winner of the Amnesty Honour was 'Bone Sparrow' by Zana Fraillon.

The Cilip Kate Greenaway Medal for illustrated book was announced at the same time and was won by Lane Smith for 'There is a Tribe of Kids'.

The winner of the Amnesty Honour within the Kate Greenaway shortlist was 'The Journey' by Francesca Sanna.

Both of the Amnesty Honour winners tell the stories of displaced peoples, which was a fitting start to Refugee Week.

The CILIP Carnegie Medal is awarded annually by CILIP (the professional body of Librarians) for an outstanding book for children and young people.

This year 114 titles were nominated for this award, and they were read by judges (all youth librarians) who then reduced it to the longlist of 20. shadowing with the long list, and for the first time felt the pain and elation as their favourites did or didn't make it through to the shortlist.

This produced a lot of discussion, and this is sure to continue through to next year, when the group have said they want to trial a year-long Carnegie group — starting by reading books which could be nominated, and then following the nominations through.

Their appetite for the process is really positive, and hopefully a start in producing thoughtful, effective critiques of books, as well as justifying their own opinions and thoughts.

Alison Tarrant, Librarian

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Second campus plan

A new campus for secondary school students could open in Cambourne in 2019.

A month-long consultation over proposed future secondary school provision in Cambourne has just finished with a meeting for all interested parties. The results will help shape on-going developments.

The Cam Academy Trust, which oversees Cambourne Village College, wants to expand provision by creating a second campus to replicate the outstanding provision that currently exists for secondary-aged pupils in the new settlement. They are working with the Local Authority to meet the need for more school places in Cambourne and from the proposed new housing development, Cambourne West, which seeks to create an additional 2,350 homes by 2030.

Local Authority forecasts show a need for an additional 48 Year 7 places from 2019, rising to 108 places by 2023.

To meet this likely demand — and historically in Cambourne demand for school places has exceeded supply — The Trust are planning a new campus on a parcel of land, adjacent to the existing college, provided by the developers Bovis-Wimpey.

The planned provision would start in September 2019 with three forms of entry at Year 7 (up to 90 pupils), rising to a possible six forms of entry and a maximum of 900 students as the development progresses.

Funding for the new campus will come from the Local Authority capital programme and by developers' contributions as part of their planning obligations (so-called S106 funding).



GOOD PROGRESS: The Music block is finished externally (above) and the first piano is in (below), while the 'Orange' Wing takes shape (right).



Building work hot's up

Work continues at a swift pace to ensure Cambourne's new buildings are finished and ready for September when the school has a full complement of more than 930 students across all five year groups.

The separate music block is the first of the new areas to be completed and handed over, and is already in use by classes. With a large recital room, a music technology room and eight practice rooms of various sizes, this a wonderful new resource for the school.

The previous music rooms are being adapted to form the new Centre and offices will be created from the existing practice rooms. The library has been emptied and Mrs Coates, Mr Sumner and Mrs Jenkins are all moving into temporary office spaces while the new library is completed. Internal work is now taking place on the new science labs and DT workshops that have been added to the Green Wing, so that these can all be

finished, furnished and equipped ready for September.

A new Textiles room is being equipped, and outside will be a covered area with brazing hearth for teaching BTEC Construction.

The new 'Orange' wing, at the far end of the school will also open in September, housing upstairs the Humanities subjects — Geography, History and RPE — while four new IT rooms downstairs, and additional PE changing rooms, will add much-needed capacity in these areas. The large new hall will be the final phase of the project, and is due to be completed before October.

Principal Mrs Coates said: "The construction teams are working incredibly hard to get this finished for September.

"We're all looking forward to working in these fantastic new facilities."

For the love of maths!

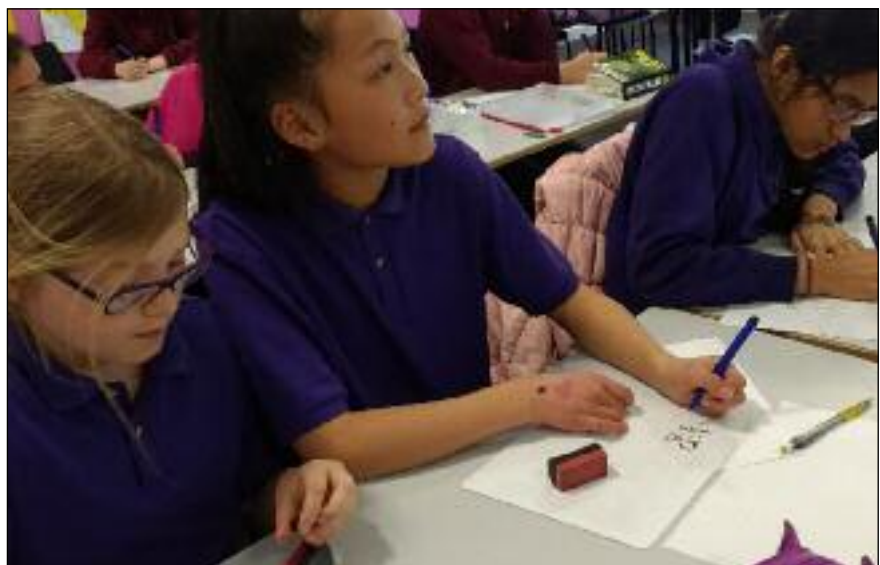
Since the beginning of the year, students from some of the primary schools in Cambourne were specially chosen to attend the amazing CamVC Year 6 maths club, where we could share our love of maths.

When we first started, we were generously welcomed by a few Year 8 pupils from CamVC and had an interesting first lesson.

During our time here, we have increased our knowledge and worked our brains hard, finding the solutions of problems involving binary and hexadecimal systems, handling money in history, shapes and patterns and even counting like a three-toed sloth!

Also, we discussed in teams how to approach problems and worked together to find a final solution. CamVC Year 6 Maths Club has been a gratifying experience and we would be ecstatic if it didn't have to end!

Melissa, JiKay and Aarushi



EVERYONE COUNTS: At the Year 6 maths club held at Cambourne Village College.

DANCING TOGETHER:
Cambourne and Spanish students are taught a dance to perform together.



Students get connected

Spanish and English are some of the most spoken languages throughout the world. Connecting with others is vital in the modern day.

So Cambourne Village College decided to put the two together. A handful of students from Year 8 were given the task to connect and learn with exchange students from Spain.

It was an interesting way to practise Spanish and the exchange students could practise English. As students who experienced the event, we can say it

was a good day and a positive change. Cambourne students were tasked with showing the Spanish students around and completing tasks with them, like translation competitions and dance-offs. The day started at period 2 for the exchange students and until break we got to know each other 1-to-1 or in small groups. Unfortunately our team did not win as we were not the fastest, but it was fun to participate.

For periods 3 and 4, we were in groups and had a translation competition. We had to write in both Spanish and English then, for periods 5 and 6 we

went on a treasure hunt around school, with questions in both Spanish and English, testing translation and communication. The prize was sweets and some reading books!

From 3.00 to 5.00 we went to the sports hall where we learned a dance and performed.

Then we had some time to choose from a selection of sports. In basketball we saw Mr Fernandez's skills when shooting hoops.

We would do this again.

Avril, Antonio and Kira 8B

Sharing home languages

Students from Cambourne Village College, who can speak foreign languages, went to Monkfield Park for their International Languages Week.

We taught the primary pupils the traditions of our native country and basic phrases in our language. We were three of the many students and taught Hindi, the dominant language in our native country, India.

We started by making a PowerPoint with numbers up to 20 and basic phrases. We then choreographed a Bollywood dance that was a unique and fun experience for all the year groups. After some technical difficulties, we started with a brief introduction to the Year 1 pupils.

Many of the students were thoroughly enthusiastic and always raising their hands to answer questions. We continued by teaching them basic phrases and questions in Hindi, including some numbers to help them answer their age.

To end we taught the students some easy dance moves to the song 'O gujariya', and gave them some freedom to create their own dance moves later, which we rewarded with stickers.

We moved on to teach the two Year 6 classes later. After the informative PowerPoint, we taught some more complex moves, fusing Bollywood and western styles like hip hop. To conclude we asked the classes to divide into the genders to participate in a dance battle which we, as mentors, also thoroughly enjoyed.

We certainly enjoyed International Languages Week. The two Year 1 classes we taught were really enthusiastic and pronounced the words perfectly.

Both the Year 6 classes were quite nervous at first, but when we started the dance they warmed up and were very excited to have a dance-off at the end. Without our languages teacher Mr Fernandez we would not have had to have such a good opportunity to teach our native language.

Isha 8B, Shravani and Arushi 8M



INTERACTION: Cambourne students' presentation to their Spanish counterparts during a day of working together.

Surprise questions add to the mix

Just before half-term saw the culmination of Year 9's 'Have Your Say' Competition.

Year 9 pupils studying German had to compete in pairs or small teams, learning a range of conversations on different topics which were then performed in front of the whole class.

We had to perform without notes and were judged on memory, fluency, pronunciation and complexity.

We were unable to travel to Ipswich for the regional competition, so we did it in college, and involved all Year 9 pupils studying German.

To add to the excitement, all contestants had some surprise questions to add into the mix as well once they had finished the conversations they had learnt.

Many pupils were pleasantly surprised by how well they were able to speak German on the spot even if they had forgotten something. There were many great performances and we were elated to be chosen as the overall winners.

Jess and Lily

Penpals meet in person!

In May we were lucky enough to be visited by 27 pupils from Sophie-Scholl-Realschule, Karlsruhe, south-west Germany.

All pupils studying German at Cambourne VC had an email penpal link with SSR; many had links specifically with pupils who visited us.

This meant that it was an opportunity for both sets of pupils to meet in person; the German school made a special point of visiting us as part of their trip to England.

The visitors were keen to practise their English despite the fact that our Year 8 pupils had prepared to

give them a tour of the College using their German!

Year 9 pupils created a questionnaire which ensured a lively discussion of common interests and differences between the two school systems.

After lunch, the visitors were joined by our Year 10 pupils, who worked with our guests to understand and break down stereotypical views of each other's countries.

Finally, before our guests spent time in Cambridge, our Year 10 students spoke to them about what to see and do in the city from a teenager's point of view.

Happy times in Spain!



A group of enthusiastic Year 7 Spanish students spent five days in Comillas, experiencing Spanish life and culture.

This was the fourth time Cambourne Village College had organised this trip, and what a success it was!

Immersion trips such as this greatly enhance linguistic confidence as well as the achievement of our students, and so we departed after Period 5 on a Wednesday looking forward to what awaited us.



After a long trip by plane and coach, we managed to catch some sleep in our hotel.

The breakfast buffet at the hotel was absolutely delicious! Every morning and early afternoon, we had a variety of Spanish lessons. On the first day, shortly after our lessons were over, we had the opportunity to take part in a linguistic immersion with students from a local school.

This was a fantastic experience for everyone involved to practise their Spanish. Some of the activities offered were Flamenco and football, and as a bonus we got to see Mrs Priddle, Mrs Durant and Mr Waldock showcasing their fantastic dancing skills!

We had the opportunity to stop at a shopping centre and try chocolate con churros for the first time — how yummy!

Students from the same school visited us on the second day; this opportunity allowed us to work together on a project about Cantabria and its culture. This was followed by a visit to El Soplao cave, where we had the chance to learn about stalactites, stalagmites and eccentric forms. It was truly astonishing!

On the third day we headed to our Spanish lessons and started getting ready for the treasure hunt that was going to happen in the afternoon. Students were split into groups and we had so much fun! Those who won were treated to a scrumptious ice-cream; what a perfect way to fight the Spanish heat!

The next day, we went to visit Altamira cave, located near the historic town of Santillana del Mar, a beautiful and traditional Castilian village.

Inside the cave we were shown paintings of contemporary local fauna and human hands, created between 18,500 and 14,000 years ago during the Upper Paleolithic period by human settlers.

We then had some free time to visit the town and do some shopping. One of the highlights of the trip was when we put our pre-historic hunting skills to the test. We learned how to use a propeller, and we were then shown how our ancestors made fire.

Sadly, the day came when we had to leave, but not before visiting an amazing wildlife reserve called Cabarceno Natural Park.

There were about a 100 animal species from five continents distributed in large enclosures and living in semi-free conditions.

They have recently opened a cable car to enjoy the aerial views. The bears were so feisty, they kept fighting all the time!

This was a truly outstanding experience for everyone involved, and will remain a fond memory for years to come.



NATIONAL FINALIST: The climax of the Spelling Bee competition was held at the University of Cambridge.

Maja shines in final

On June 30th the Routes into Languages Spelling Bee National Final took place at The University of Cambridge.

On that day there were 104 finalists who had qualified in either Spanish, French or German from a competition which started with 62,000 students involved in class rounds back in September.

Cambourne Village College was brilliantly represented in the Spanish final by Maja Drazkowiak, whose journey through the Spelling Bee competition has been a great achievement as she convincingly and enthusiastically went through all the stages of the competition — the class round, school round and regional round.

She has worked really hard over this year, attending the Spelling Bee Club once a week, where a fantastic group of Spelling Bee leaders helped her and others to develop and prepare very well for the various stages of the competition.

In the actual final, Maja performed to a very high standard and was among very strong contestants, coming close to the new national champion.



SPANISH EXPERIENCES: On the beach (top left), working with Spanish students (top right) and enjoying sport (above).

Seeing how the forces of

May half-term saw Cambourne Village College's Geography Department embark on an adventure to Iceland.

Twenty students took part in the department's first international trip to a wild and rugged country, where the very forces of nature that have shaped the planet can be seen up close.

Breathtaking views were experienced on arrival at the Reykjanes Peninsula. This area is home to many important geological formations, some of which are utterly unique, including numerous types of volcanoes and hundreds of open fissures and faults.

Lava fields and scenic views were experienced before a short walk to the vigorously bubbling Gunnuhver, Iceland's largest mud pool, with a diameter of 20m.

Around us, the surrounding craggy, black volcanoes appeared menacing. The threat of a volcanic eruption always looms and in 2010, Eyjafjallajökull, one of the biggest volcanoes in the country, erupted for the first time in 200 years.

We heard stories of those caught up in the 2010 eruption and students were able to see and touch the volcanic ash that still remains.

Icy glaciers surround this volcano and one afternoon gave plenty of time to complete an adventurous walk on a glacier.

Armed with crampons, ice axes and harnesses, students snaked their way over the

glacier, seeing crevasses, ice tunnels and caves.

While the glacier seemed like a fairly calm giant, the thunderous roar from several waterfalls reminded us that Iceland is anything but calm.

One of Iceland's most famous waterfalls, Seljalandsfoss, is 60m high and is the only known waterfall of its kind where it is possible to walk behind it (and get rather wet, as our students found out!)

While Seljalandsfoss was impressive for its height and its walk behind the waterfall, Gullfoss was equally impressive in size. The enormous white glacial cascade drops 32 metres into a narrow canyon which is 70 metres deep and 2.5 kilometres long.

It is easy to see how ice and water shapes the Icelandic landscape.

Iceland is known as the land of fire and ice — and for good reason. A day trip to Heimaey, a volcanic island off the south coast, allowed us to get an important glimpse into people's lives on Heimaey before, during and after the explosive 1973 eruption that would change lives forever.

In extraordinary winds, a hike was completed to the top of Eldfell volcano that in 1973 forced people to leave their homes in the middle of the night and evacuate the island.

Many of these people never saw their homes or belongings ever again; the volcano caused ash and lava to engulf one third of the houses on the island of Heimaey and most buildings were destroyed by lava, ash and fire.



GLACIAL CASCADE: It is easy to see how ice and water shapes the Icelandic landscape as students stand in front of Gullfoss.



BREATHTAKING VIEWS: Of the Reykjanes Peninsula which includes unique geological formations.

nature shape our planet

Other highlights of the trip included a short visit to Iceland's dramatic coastline, seeing the Mid-Atlantic ridge where it is possible to see the rift between the European and North American tectonic plates and visiting Strokkur Geyser, where boiling water from the ground shoots skywards every five minutes.

While the trip provided some stunning examples of physical geography, students also learned how people can live successfully in such an inhospitable landscape.

A visit to the Fridheimar farm, a huge family-run greenhouse, showed us that food production is possible all year round.

Despite Iceland's long, dark winters, an abundance of geothermal energy and sophisticated greenhouse technology makes growing anything possible!

In fact, the use of renewable energy is so high that it puts Reykjavik (the world's northernmost capital city) among the cleanest, greenest, and safest cities in the world. Students enjoyed free time in this small city, before heading to the Perlan (or the 'Pearl' in English) for a glorious view of the city from the observation deck. This rounded off what was described by one student as 'a trip of a lifetime'.

The Geography Department is currently looking at offering an international trip every two years, with the next trip open to students who will be in Year 9 and Year 10 in 2018/2019.



HIGH WATER: The Seljalandsfoss waterfall is 60m high and visitors can walk behind the waterfall.



GLACIER WALKING: A chance to see crevasses, ice tunnels and caves.



GIANT GREENHOUSE: Allows for year-round food production.



ERUPTION: The Strokkur Geyser shoots boiling water every five minutes.

Field trips with a difference

Tech giant Google visited Cambourne's Geography Department to run their Google Expeditions programme, which allows teachers to take their students on immersive, virtual journeys all over the world using virtual reality headsets.

Using the free Google Expeditions app, a smartphone and a sturdy cardboard headset, learning was brought to life by visiting environments that are far away and usually inaccessible.

The experience differs from photos or videos by requiring students to turn their heads and eyes to view 360° scenes from different angles. The classroom all but disappears!

Students took virtual fieldtrips to The Great Barrier Reef, Machu Picchu and Rio de Janeiro, while others got up close to exploding volcanoes, climbed Mount Everest, dived underwater with sharks and even visited outer space!

Mr Burgess and Mrs Durrant enhanced the experience with a Geography lesson of facts and information along the way.

It was a completely new experience for most students to engage with this technology and students thoroughly enjoyed the Google Expedition sessions. Year 9 student Charlie said: "I liked everything, just looking at places no human



WHERE IN THE WORLD?: Virtual reality allows students to 'travel' across the globe without leaving the classroom.

can go, it feels like you are actually there."

Fellow Year 9 student Beatriz commented: "It felt like we were truly experiencing what we were learning about in class!"

Head of Geography Mr Burgess said: "We were delighted to secure a visit from Google Expeditions as the technology they use is so innovative. Some students couldn't believe what they were seeing!"

"It allowed the department to deliver a completely new lesson experience and both staff and students had a thoroughly insightful and enjoyable introduction to virtual reality expeditions."

While virtual reality will never replace the sights, sounds and smells of real-life experiences, this new technology looks promising.

The Geography Department is planning to invest in a couple of devices and offer virtual reality field trips to enhance lessons and fieldwork experiences across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. As virtual reality is only set to improve over the next few years, it could be the start of an amazing journey. Watch this space!

Understanding an Olympic legacy



LONDON NEW AND OLD: Students investigate the effects of the 2012 Olympics on Stratford.

The London Olympics of 2012 was a fantastic sporting spectacle and put the spotlight of the world on our capital city.

One of the aims of the Olympic Games was to transform the heart of East London and provide largescale change and regeneration — through a combination of new infrastructure, housing and sporting facilities.

In May, Cambourne's GCSE geography students were able to visit Stratford and experience for themselves the enormous transformation that has taken place.

The effects of regeneration were immediately obvious. East Village, once a contaminated and disused site, is now home to several thousand people and contains a number of vibrant shops, restaurants and cafes. Yet a few minutes' walk away is an area of Stratford which has remained relatively unchanged in the last decade, the Carpenters Estate.

The 1960s housing estate is located in the centre of Stratford, but has become well-known for the number of flats and houses that are currently unoccupied and boarded up.

In both locations, Year 10 collected data on environmental quality, crime, housing areas and house prices. Students also got the chance to interview some local people to find out about their opinions about quality of life.

Back in school, students analysed the data and communicated their findings. This experience of urban fieldwork brought classroom geography to life and deepened students' understanding of London and its challenges and opportunities.

Trio taste Fame

A group of students travelled to Bedford to watch a production of 'Fame' by Stageworks Studios, which featured three students from Cambourne Village College.

Fame is a musical that follows the turbulent journey of pupils' experiences at a performing arts school.

The students in the performance showed their talents through singing, dancing and acting. It was a very enjoyable, lively performance and it was clear to see how much work the students had put into it with faultless singing and well-delivered lines.

I particularly enjoyed the music and the energetic dancing. It was a great evening and we were all really proud of Katie, Esther and Rosie.

Ella (100)



DATE WITH FAME: Students in Bedford to watch their friends perform.

Schools in the spotlight

Two schools in The Cam Academy Trust have been nationally recognised for their exceptional 2016 performances by the Schools, Students and Teachers network (SSAT).

Educational Outcomes data analysis from SSAT has shown that both Comberton Village College and Melbourn Village College are in the top 10% of schools nationally for progress at Key Stage 4.

Additionally Comberton, where a Sixth Form opened in 2011, was in the top 4% for progress at Key Stage 5.

SSAT Educational Outcomes awards were presented at a regional celebration event in May, which is held annually to draw attention to the work of high-achieving, improving and innovating schools and teachers.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, said: "It's my great pleasure to commend Comberton Village College and Melbourn Village College on their

excellent 2016 performance, and to have the opportunity to highlight and share their great work at an SSAT Educational Outcomes celebration event.

"We know how hard teachers work to ensure the success of every child.

"SSAT's Educational Outcomes award recognises the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at both Colleges. A big thank you and well done to the pupils, staff and governors."

St Peter's, the newest secondary school in the Trust after joining last September, has been shortlisted for a prestigious award for exceptional progress in the past year.

This is in recognition of the school's remarkable achievement in moving from a 'Special Measures' judgement by Ofsted last summer through to a 'Good' judgement by March this year.

The school has been invited to a special awards event in London in July when the category winners will be announced.



RECOGNITION: Melbourn Principal Simon Holmes and Comberton Deputy Head Sean Sycamore receive their awards from SSAT Chief Executive Sue Williamson.

New IT strategy to help fulfill aim

Work is currently under way to move forward with a significant new IT strategy across all the schools in our Trust.

Final decisions have to be made regarding which particular organisation and devices we will seek to use across all of our schools, but we are committed to a more significant use of IT in all schools by September 2018.

It is hoped this will involve moving to a model of individual devices for all of our secondary pupils and strong access to devices for our primary pupils. Staff will also have access to the same devices. The coming year will see significant piloting of this

approach, coupled with appropriate staff professional development.

The essence of our approach and the reason for seeking to move forward is summed up with some simple aims the Trust has stated for our use of technology.

We aim for technology to help us to:

- Learn powerfully
- Learn from each other
- Learn for life

Through this, the Trust intends to pursue its aim of 'Excellence for All' even more effectively.

All change in Gamlingay

The Trust continues to press ahead with the re-organisation of schooling and the school structure in Gamlingay to ensure excellent and sustainable schooling for the community.

The proposal for the First School to become a full Primary School was formally accepted by the Regional School Commissioner's office on 20 April. This will apply from September 2017 when the school will also formally join the catchment area of Comberton Village College.

Accommodation will be secured on the current site to enable this to happen. In the meantime, the current Middle School (Gamlingay Village College) is due to transfer to our Trust from Stratton Education Trust in September 2017.

We will then oversee the school in the coming year for a small number of pupils to enable transition to their future educational route. During this time, very significant building work will take place at the Village College site to convert it to a high-quality Primary facility, suitable for 3 to 11-year olds. In summer 2018 the Middle School will then be formally closed and the First (now Primary) School will relocate to a new permanent base on the Village College site. There is a lot of work in all this, but the prize at the end of it is a great one. It will be an excellent school facility, providing great primary education for the Gamlingay community.

New school joins Trust

After much hard work and organisation behind the scenes, Jeavons Wood Primary School in Cambourne converted to Academy status as part of The Cam Academy Trust on 1 July.

It is great to have Jeavons Wood formally on board, having worked in increasingly strong partnership with the school in recent months.

The school became the fourth primary



phase school in our Trust, joining Gamlingay First School, Hartford Infant and Junior Schools alongside the secondary schools of Comberton, Melbourn and

Cambourne Village Colleges and St Peter's School in Huntingdon.

Chief Executive Stephen Munday said: "We very much look forward to the benefit of being a truly cross-phase Trust as we move forward."

Ensuring places for all

The Cam Academy Trust is totally committed to ensuring that there is excellent school education available to all in the community of Cambourne. It was for this reason that we submitted Free School applications earlier this year to open the new schools that will be required due to the proposed expansion of Cambourne West.

We now know that the Department for Education was not prepared to grant these new schools to us because they did not believe that they were required as soon as Cambridgeshire Local Authority believed to be the case.

Given this, we are now working with the Local Authority to ensure that there will be quality school places available to all Cambourne young people when they are needed.

What this means most immediately is seeking now to develop a second secondary campus of Cambourne Village College ready for September 2019 when further secondary school places will clearly be needed. The Trust is consulting on this proposal and is seeking to gain formal approval for this development as soon as possible so the places are available when needed.

More than just sport!

Sports days are all about cheering, supporting and motivating your form. They are about having fun with friends while scoring points for your tutor group.

This year did not disappoint. Pupils were louder than ever before, the chants were longer and sung with more energy and the face paint, flags, banners and posters representing each tutor group's countries were bigger, brighter and flashier than ever. This year the pupils and their form tutors really went to town with everything and the PE department were

so impressed.

There was also the slight element of competition to focus on, with every pupil competing in 10 athletics events to gain as many points as possible to help their tutor group be crowned 'Top Sporting Form'. The effort, determination and talent that we saw was immense. Pupils were running, jumping and throwing as fast and as far as they could, and their forms were there to support them, to cheer them on, to motivate them to run that bit faster, jump that bit higher and throw that bit further.

This is the exact purpose of Sports Day and is celebrated by the Endeavour Award.

In Year 7 it was M who dominated, taking the victory

and the Endeavour Award, while Clark and Winnie took the top boy and girl accolades.

In Year 8, U were the winners, with B taking Endeavour and Aaron and Alexandra shining individually. For Year 9, in their final sports day, C were the winners while R's endeavour was recognised, as were the achievements of Romeo and joint girls' winners Neha and Molly. Well done to every pupil involved in sports day and to all those who participated in every event. A special mention must be made to the staff, volunteers, music tech leaders, maths leaders and sports leaders: without them the days just could not run.

Hannah Curtis, Head of PE



SUPER SUPPORT: A theme of this year's sports days.



CHAMPIONS: M celebrating winning the Year 7 title.

Students storm to Olympic successes

Cambourne athletes turned in some strong performances to help their team finish a close fourth in the annual Olympic Cup at the University track in Cambridge.

Nine schools and more than 800 youngsters across four year groups — 7-10

— took part and Cambourne got off to a flying start with Oliver winning the Year 7 800m.

He was following by success for Clark in the long jump and Kieron in the shot putt with Leon taking second in the javelin. The boys also won their relay with the girls finishing third, which was also the relay finishing position for the Year 9 girls and both Year 10 teams.

For the Year 9 boys Deschawn



won the triple jump with an unofficial national standard and English Schools qualifying standard distance of 12.95m. Ben was a strong second in the 800m, while Tom took runners-up spot in the javelin.

Year 8 girls Zara and Olivia were second in their respective events, the

300m and shot putt, while for Year 9 Jess won the triple jump and was second in the 1,500m, Rosie was second in the shot as was Molly in her 800m race.

For Year 10 Richard was a close second in the triple jump, as was Jack in the 800m.

TEAMWORK: Cambourne's Olympic Cup squad who finished fourth overall.

Brilliant bounce!

There were many choices of what to do for the Year 9 social, but once Bounce was mentioned all the other options were immediately forgotten. Bounce is an indoor trampoline park with more than 100 connected indoor trampolines. And for our trip we were the only ones there.

We were given special trampolining socks with rubber grippy parts on them — wearing them made me feel like a spider monkey or something. Once the safety slideshow was over, the floodgates opened and everyone poured out of the café and into the bouncing area. I was overwhelmed; there was so much to do.

First I went over to the foam pit, because that was what I had heard the most about. You were supposed to jump off a trampoline into a pit of foam pieces, and people used it to do tricks and flips because it was forbidden anywhere else.

When I actually jumped into the pit, I was basically



drowning in foam pieces. The person behind me in the line jumped in as soon as I approached the ladder.

I could see the immediate change in his expression as soon as he realised he was stuck; it's way funnier when you're safely out of the pit's reach!

After the pit I really had a look around and I realised how many trampolines there actually were: even some of the walls were lined with trampolines. Even though people were freely bouncing, the place was teeming with unused trampolines.

While we bounced, employees nonchalantly stepped on to the trampolines and did the most ridiculous



FUN TIMES: The Year 9 Bounce social.

trampoline moves I have ever seen without even skipping a beat, showing the trampolines' true potential

There was a volleyball court floored with trampolines that was really sought after. Opposite the volleyball court were basketball hoops with trampolines underneath so you could flawlessly dunk the perfect basket and feel like a basketball all-star.

I'd definitely recommend Bounce to anyone. Thank you to Miss Vote, Dr Kueh, Mr Jenner, Miss Atkins, Miss Anderson and Mrs Filby for organising and accompanying us on our social.

Asande (9M)

Up for the Cup!

A group of Year 7, 8 and 9 female 'football fanatics' from Cambourne VC went to Wembley to watch Manchester City take on Birmingham in the Women's FA Cup final.

The majority of girls had never been to a professional women's match before, so Wembley (a 90,000-seater stadium) was an eye-opener! The girls sat in a record crowd of 35,271 and they thoroughly immersed themselves into the football atmosphere by chanting, singing and participating in the ever so popular Mexican wave.

Favourites Manchester City completely dominated the game (they had a number of England internationals in their team) and won 4-1, to the disappointment of avid Manchester United fan Mr Ruddy!

Mr Ruddy said: "Overall, the trip was a brilliant success, the girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves and represented Cambourne VC extremely positively. Their behaviour throughout the trip was exemplary and I can assure girls interested in this, that it will definitely be a trip that will be running again next year — I just hope there is a different winning team."

FINALISTS:
The
Cambourne
under-15
team.



Girls enjoy run to final

Little did we know that when the girls Under-15 football team played in the first match of the County Cup they would go on to win all their matches all the way to the final.

Their run included notable victories against Swavesey and Parkside, where they played superb football and scored copious amounts of goals.

However, the final was a slightly different matter and the girls came up against the tough and very physical St Ivo School team.

The first half saw the girls getting used to this different style of physical football on a very steep learning curve. With heads drooping and tempers starting to fly, they rallied round at half time and went out fighting (not literally!) in the second half.

This new positivity and battling attitude helped fire them up and led to a fabulous goal from Heather, who wrong-footed the goalkeeper to slot the ball into the back of the net. Sadly this goal did not dent St Ivo's spirits, who continued to dominate for victory.

The Under-15 team should feel so proud of their achievement and, with a bit more dedication to school training, they could find themselves in the final next year as well.

Special mention goes to Kaycee, who was unbelievable in goal and earned plenty of compliments for her shot-stopping from spectators at the final, as well as in the preceding matches.

Team: Molly (C), Beatriz, Izzy, Rosie, Grace, Naomi, Heather, Mariana, Kaycee and Ellie.



WEMBLEY EXPERIENCE: For Cambourne students.

Sports students' busy year

This year has been a very productive year where our first cohort of students taking BTEC Sport Level 2 have been working on two units, one



of which culminates in an on-screen exam, testing their knowledge and understanding of fitness components and testing.

The other unit which the Year 10 students have focused on looks at designing and implementing a six-week training programme to improve a particular weakness in their own fitness.

Next year the students will be embarking on some leadership training through one of their units and will be working with local primary schools, leading sports sessions.



Learning to triumph through adversity

Former professional footballer Alistair Patrick-Heselton returned to Cambourne to lead a workshop with a selection of pupils who primarily are based in the Centre.

Alistair knows all about overcoming adversity, having to battle hard in life after he was catapulted from a car and landed on his head in the road, fracturing his skull.

After a couple of months in a coma, and being told he may never walk again, he thought his footballing days were over. But four years later he was contacted by The FA and given details of CP football, for Cerebral Palsy or brain injury sufferers.

Since then Alistair has played in the CPISRA World Championships for England (scoring on his debut) and in the Paralympics GB team at London 2012.

The messages of the workshop were all about communication, confidence and teamwork and was a great success, with all pupils involved developing in confidence throughout the session.

Games using ropes, cards and balls were all used to get the pupils to work together and bond, but also to empathise with each other and build on their communication and teamwork skills. Students are starting to appreciate just how important these are, not only in sport but in everyday activities.

All pupils were given a signed and personalised postcard from Alistair in recognition of their hard work throughout the workshop.



DEVELOPING
CONFIDENCE: From a
workshop with
Paralympian Alistair
Patrick-Heselton..



SNOWSPORTS ALBUM: The tour party (right), on the slopes (top right) and sporting the special helmet covers (top).

Bring on the next trip!

On April 1, 37 pupils and staff headed off on an 18-hour coach journey to the mountains and sunshine of Pila, Northern Italy.

What lay in store was a fabulous week of even more sunshine, skiing, boarding and plenty of pizza. All pupils spent the week in lessons with fully qualified instructors. We had a range of abilities on this trip, but everyone made amazing progress from their starting point; the beginners moving on from the baby slopes to tackling blues and reds, the intermediates taking on black runs for the first time and succeeding with the minimum of falls, and the

advanced group developing their technique and carving skills to rival the pros.

As well as all the ski groups, we also had one boarding group of mixed ability; this group not only developed their own boarding skills, but also their leadership skills, with many of the advanced pupils supporting and guiding the novice boarders to success.

However, as with every snowsports trip, we did have our embarrassing moments which were captured on camera or were rewarded with a comedy helmet cover to be worn on the slopes the next day.

Many pupils wore these with pride and we had a wide range of categories from melon to jester, lion to

bunny, star to muppet.

As well as all the skiing and boarding, we had a full timetable of après ski, including an extreme mountain hike led by Mrs Coates, pizza night, bowling, ice cream, games night, disco and then a presentation evening, where all pupils were rewarded with their well-deserved levels and certificates from their instructors.

It was a fabulous week on the slopes and we are already counting down the months, days and hours until the next trip, which departs for Courmayeur in France on Saturday March 31 2018.

Leadership skills firmly in spotlight

Year 9 students were given the opportunity to apply to become Sports Leaders early this term.

This requires pupils to show their commitment to sport, PE lessons and clubs, as well as the qualities expected as a potential role model to both CamVC pupils and primary school pupils.

Organisation, motivation, dedication, hard work, good communication skills and patience are all characteristics required in a successful sports leader.

Four weeks later we had whittled it down to the top 16 pupils, who have been spending the rest of this term proving that they deserve to become a Sports Leader in Year 10.

So far these pupils have been amazing in the events where they have volunteered. They have supported, motivated and cheered on Year 7 and 8 pupils at sports day; often running the 800m and 400m numerous times to support members of the form they were assigned to.

Since sports days, the most dedicated sports leaders have really shown their enthusiasm for volunteering and have been involved in community events such as Year 5 and 6 mini tennis and the Quadkids athletics run by the South Cambs School Sports Partnership.

Additionally, with school, all sports leaders have been further involved in events such as the Outdoor Plus Athletics Event, Year 4 Mini Olympics, New Intake Day and Kwik Cricket.

A massive thank you to our current Year 10 sports leaders, who stayed involved where possible including on sports days and community events, although it has become that bit harder as they had to juggle sports leadership with their GCSE studies.



SHOWING LEADERSHIP: Cambourne students were involved at the South Cambs Partnership's Mini Olympics for Year 4 pupils.

Well done to James Orrell who continues to help out in as many community events as possible. What a great sports leader and role model! Congratulations too to all those sports leaders who are volunteering at their local sports and dance clubs making the difference and inspiring local children.