

NEWS@CAM



ISSUE 19, WINTER 2019

The Magazine of Cambourne Village College

<https://www.facebook.com/CambourneVC>

www.cambournevc.org

@Cambournevc



BUILDING BLOCKS: The construction of the latest extension to the college was again completed using pre-built modules.

Students set to move in

Students will move into the latest addition to Cambourne Village College's facilities at the start of next term.

The stand-alone new £7m building, which is designed to form part of a new sixth form centre in the future, is due to be handed over to the College by builders Kier at the end of this week after a 35-week build programme which saw individual modules constructed off-site then put into position for internal mechanical and electrical works to be completed in situ.

The 44 separate units — 22 for each floor — were constructed in Hull over a two-month period in the spring and included windows and doors and some of the electrics. They then sat until the summer while arrangements were made to relocate the colony of protected Great Crested Newts, which were holding up the build.

All arrived within a week and were lifted into place by crane, bolted together and made waterproof before work on fitting them out began.

Although this sort of build is currently more expensive than traditional

construction, it halved the time needed to complete the building, which was critical after the newts caused delays in the planning process.

The new facility includes new science labs, specialist Business Studies, Design Technology, Photography and Art facilities as well as general teaching spaces. Classes will move gradually into the new facilities over the next terms; the temporary classrooms, which were put in during the summer holidays to cater for additional numbers, will no longer be needed from January.

The new building is black, in contrast to the rest of the college, for two reasons. Planners were keen to highlight a focal starting point for the new development of Cambourne West, and also to give it a separate identity when it becomes a Sixth Form facility.

Principal Claire Coates said: "The quality of the new build is very high; pupils and staff will be able to enjoy using this wing while we continue to engage in talks about future sixth form provision in Cambourne, and the expansion of our 11-16 facilities to meet the future needs of the Cambourne West population."

Generous donations benefit charities



ALL EARS: Raising money for Children in Need and (right) students arrive in their jeans on Jeans for Genes Day.

Generous students and staff at Cambourne have raised almost £2000 for charities this term from just two events.

Jeans for Genes is an annual event that aims to raise money for those born with a genetic condition.

And in September students were allowed to wear jeans for £1 and a team led by prefects Sam, Alex and Ellie boosted the total by organising other events.

They put on a cake sale and a staff against students dodgeball event. This helped take the total to an impressive £1017.46, almost 30% more than the previous year.

Then last month Cambourne were able to donate £910 to Children in Need through a non-uniform day combined with the

sale of Pudsey merchandise organised by the CAMnesty club.

Many thanks to everyone for their donations to both of these worthy causes.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 3 – High-Tech Conservation
 Page 3 – Jury Won Over
 Page 3 – Jazz Band Impress
 Page 5 – Highlight of Year 7
 Page 5 – Rain can't Dampen Students' Spirits

Page 6 – MFL round-up
 Page 7 – Telling Earth's Story
 Page 7 – App Encourages Reading
 Page 7 – Experts' Talks Inspire Students

Pages 8-9 – Spotlight on History
 Page 10 – Science Round-up
 Page 11 – A Different Way to Learn
 Page 12 – Gardens Special
 Pages 13-16 – Sport

High-tech conservation!

A group of Year 10 and 11 geography students attended a talk at the David Attenborough Centre in Cambridge.

The evening comprised a tour of the Centre, showing us examples of wildlife conservation organisations and 'The Living Wall'— a wall made of different plants from all over the world.

Some of the conservationists at the centre are responsible for updating the status of species and can tell the world if a species is becoming endangered.

Afterwards we went into a lecture theatre, where conservation experts gave speeches about how they and their teams are helping to stop poaching and protect their nation's animals using technology. The conservationists use trackers to know where the animals are at any time, so they can be one step ahead of the poachers.

Cameras with motion sensors are used to get an idea of how many animals are in the area at a certain time.

All the conservationists are connected via social media platforms, which means that if a group of conservationists need technology or data concerning animals in, for example, America, another group in Australia could help them and deliver what they need to protect them.



CONSERVATION TALK: For Year 10 and 11 geographers.

Overall, the trip was excellent and an amazing learning experience for everyone.

Finley (10M)

Jury won over but verdict goes against

Last month a group of 14-16-year-old students attended the Bar Mock Trial: a regional competition held at Cambridge Crown Court where KS4 and sixth form students prepare and present legal cases to a real judge in a bid to win over a jury.

After being notified of the competition in early September, a group of 10 students from Cambourne Village College volunteered, after showing interest particularly in law, English and the justice system. Two teams were required: one to present Case 1 (R v Acosta, where a man is accused of possessing drugs with intent to supply) and the other to present Case 2 (R v Wallace, where a fight breaks out at a bar and one man is accused of assault).

Each person in the team had to take on the role of one of two barristers or one of three witnesses, which included learning statements, writing questions and picking holes in the case which we could use to our advantage.

We spent two months preparing through a weekly lunchtime group where we were given helpful advice and an opportunity to role play. On the day of the competition, each school

confidence and persuasion skills, regardless of the jury result.

Having only been told a few days in advance if we were prosecuting or defending, we had to

adapt quickly and be ready to argue both sides of the case effectively.

We won all three initial cases and were put through to the final against Saffron Walden County High School which comprised an experienced team of students aged up to 17.

Case 2 was presented once more in the final (Saffron Walden prosecuting and Cambourne defending) and after a very tense case and despite us winning the jury over, Saffron Walden were awarded the trophy. However, "we were very proud after coming second and we all felt that this was an amazing opportunity" (Madi, Year 10) which "gave us more confidence in public speaking as well

as writing persuasive arguments" (Lizzie, Year 10) and "we would love to do it again!" (Molly, Year 10).



COURT-ING FAVOUR: Students and staff meet the judge.

presented their Case 1 twice and their Case 2 once against different schools — the judges marking us most on performance, delivery,

Jazz band make an impressive debut

Cambourne Village College's Jazz Band gave a fantastic performance last month at an event called 'Foundry Music', raising money for WCCYM, a local Christian charitable organisation.

It was their first external performance and they did a superb job at Comberton Sports & Arts, completely rising to the occasion to open the event with a performance that was described afterwards as slick, polished and of a high standard by members of the audience.

They played a mixture of jazz, funk and blues music by Stevie Wonder, Herbie Hancock and George Gershwin plus several original pieces written by their band leader and teacher, Ben Mulholland.

It was a high-energy, groove-heavy, toe-tapping musical extravaganza that showcased the impressive skills of these remarkably talented young musicians.



POLISHED PERFORMANCE: Cambourne's jazz band won plenty of plaudits after their first out-of-school show.

Attendance matters . . .



NEW WELFARE ROLE: For Kerry Puttock.

The Trust has appointed an Education Welfare lead for the first time.

Kerry Puttock will be working closely with our schools, helping them to achieve attendance figures above the national averages and have the highest possible levels of welfare for our students. She will provide advice on complex cases, complete EHAs to facilitate multi-agency support, evaluate procedures and assess our monitoring systems. Kerry will also meet students and families experiencing attendance issues.

She is well-placed for this new role with a background in Human Resources, where she

focused on improving adult attendance, as well as having worked in pastoral and SEN roles in education, including at Melbourn Village College.

She said: "The Cam Academy Trust is passionate about ensuring an excellent and comprehensive education for all students.

Unfortunately, some of our students inevitably have challenging circumstances which can lead to poor attendance. I will be working with each school to help improve the increasing absence rates and make sure we are doing everything we can to help students attend school and reach their potential.

"I will spend a day at each school,

working more so with secondary schools in the first instance, and supporting primaries where needed. I will be liaising with Headteachers and Attendance Officers to identify key attendance concerns and work out where I can best support them. I will provide advice on referral letters, penalties and how to manage different circumstances affecting attendance, such as medical or mental health reasons, as well as looking at how we can support these individuals.

"It is really important to me that I get to know the families of our students. Some families have had negative experiences of school which in turn can impact their child's view of attending school.

Although it can be challenging, if we can connect and gain support from the whole family, it can have a hugely positive impact on a student's attendance.

"We must work to break the historical patterns and cycles of negativity within a family regarding education. Already I have seen that in schools where the Attendance Officer and Family Officer work closely together, the attendance of these pupils is higher.

"Another of my aims for this role is to increase collaboration and sharing of best practice between schools.

"I also want to work towards removing barriers to education, especially for those suffering from poor mental health. Encouraging early intervention is very important as it increases the chances of turning a situation around."

Offord join Trust

We were delighted to welcome Offord Primary School, near Huntingdon, into our Trust in September.

Offord is the seventh primary phase school to join The Cam Academy Trust. From the outset, we have been able to provide leadership at the school with Kate Ruddock, Deputy at Hartford Junior School, taking on the role of Head of School.

In addition, Shelley Desborough, Head at Gamlingay Village Primary, is providing an Executive Head role to work closely with Kate to confirm strategic developments for the school, while the school's governing body, including its Chair, Liz Simpkin, a former headteacher, have formed the core of the school's Local Governing Body within the Trust.

The school is making positive strides and is rapidly integrating within the community of schools in our Trust. All of us look forward to working positively with everyone at the school.



DELIGHTED: Hartford Junior School staff and pupils after their Ofsted 'good' grading. *Picture: Hunts Post*

Thumbs up from Ofsted

Hartford Junior School in Huntingdon, which joined The Cam Academy Trust in January 2017, was inspected by Ofsted in October.

The inspection went very well and properly recognised the excellent progress made at the school in recent years.

The overall grade for the school was deemed to be 'Good'; the first time that the school has been judged as 'Good' by Ofsted inspectors for more than a decade (as acknowledged in the inspection report).

In the opening words of the report, the

school is "on its way up". The report goes on to confirm that: "This is as a result of the effective leadership provided by the headteacher, the deputy headteacher and other leaders."

We are all delighted at this great acknowledgement of the work done by everyone involved with the school. It is really good news for the local community that the school is providing high quality education for pupils and is determined to continue to improve further as it moves forward.

Working together to share good practice

At the beginning of November we received a visit from senior staff at the Red Kite Learning Trust. This Trust has primary and secondary schools located in Harrogate and Leeds as well as having an active Teaching School Alliance that, among other things, is involved in much teacher training work.

As such, the Trust has many similarities with The Cam Academy Trust. The visit was a reciprocal visit as staff from our Trust visited Yorkshire last summer.

The purpose of the exercise is to look at particular areas of work in each Trust, compare notes and make observations to help with future developments.

The focus for the visit of Red Kite Learning Trust was to look at how our schools work together for mutual benefit and to consider ways that this might be developed further and more effectively. Some very helpful insights were given following positive visits to several schools in the Trust and conversations with some staff.

We hope that this will help us as we consider how further we can make the most of being a group of local schools working together to support the best possible education for all pupils in all our schools.



SHARING IDEAS: Comberton Principal Peter Law with Red Kite leaders.

A highlight of Year 7

As they have done since the College opened, Year 7 took a trip to Beaumanor Hall in Leicestershire during Activities Week.

They spent the week doing various outdoor activities and camping in the grounds.

An average day at Beaumanor started off with Mr Sumner banging pots and pans to get the boys up, and Miss Boyns doing the same to wake the girls. One morning, the girls were 'treated' to Mr Page and his 'choir' singing scales very badly.

We would then get ready and go to breakfast in the hall. Everyone enjoyed the full English breakfasts — particularly the hash browns!

It was then time to grab our kit for the day and meet on the basketball court for our first activity. There were many fun activities, including orienteering, nightline, archery and code-breaking.

One particular favourite was the high ropes. This included three activities: the quick jump (where you jumped straight off the tall tower); the aerial trek (which challenged you to navigate an assault course 12m up in the air) and the zip line.

We also really enjoyed canoeing. Students took the minibus to the nearby canal and paddled down the

waterway, with the chance to jump in at the end. The real challenge was getting back in.

Lunch was a good time to meet with your friends and tell them what you had done that morning.

After lunch, we went to our last activity of the day.

We then ended with assembly, where we shared highlights of the day and celebrated each group's Star of the Day.

Next, we went to dinner in the hall and had free time, in which we could play games on the field with our friends or pop down to the shop.

One evening, we had the opportunity to do the Leap of Faith. This was where we had to climb up a

wobbly totem pole and then jump to grab the trapeze bar. It was really terrifying at first but so much fun!

On the last evening, we had a disco in the gym, and danced to the Macarena.

We had hot chocolate served by the teachers, accompanied by pop music, and then got ready for bed.

All in all, it was a really fun week, and we all enjoyed it. We all wished we'd stayed longer!

Keeley, Ruby, Ryan, Chloe, Holly, Vrishin, Temi, Kabir, Fred, Indi, Alex, Zara, Melissa, Megan, Frankie and Miss Clash



BRILLIANT BEAUMANOR: A week of camping and fun-filled activities for Year 7.



Rain can't dampen students' spirits

All the Year 11 students taking part in the assessed expedition this autumn have passed that part of the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.

The 43 teenagers braved poor weather and skilfully navigated their way around an unfamiliar part of Cambridgeshire, to finish with plenty of aches and pains — as well as some big smiles on their faces!

On the Saturday, the pupils walked from a location south of Grafham Water towards their campsite in Tilbrook, where they stayed overnight in the rain and cold but in great spirits.

They left the campsite in the early hours of Sunday morning, in groups of 4-7, and hiked through muddy fields and paths to eventually finish 16-23 km later at Grafham Water, where they were collected to be taken home to warm up and rest.

Despite testing conditions, students were very positive about their expedition experience.

Twenty-nine of the cohort have now completed all their sections to achieve the award, with others continuing to work on their physical, volunteering and skills challenges.

The current Year 10s will participate in their practice expedition in May, with their assessed expedition in September, while the Year 9s who have recently enrolled, are busy making a start on their skills, physical and volunteering sections.



WET BUT HAPPY: All 43 Year 11 students passed the assessed expedition section of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award.



LEARNING TO LEAD: Students at the Language Leaders training day at Murray Edwards College in Cambridge.



Languages lead the way

For a fourth consecutive year Cambourne Village College is running a Year 9 Language Leaders programme, which helps students learn to lead, using language teaching as the medium.

Throughout the year-long programme we develop their leadership skills, growing in confidence and enhancing their future careers.

Routes into Languages East oversees the award and students receive a logbook to record training,

activities and reflections during the year and a certificate and specially designed lapel pin on successful completion of the programme. The uptake has been incredibly positive this year with a total of 20 students. We had had the opportunity to spend a day at Murray Edwards College with students from across The Cam Academy Trust in October. After a quick introduction and tour of the beautiful college, students learnt all about the importance of languages in today's world and how important to learn other languages besides our own to help us gain an insight into different countries and cultures.

The language leaders meet every Wednesday in the computer room to become good teachers and to work on their presentation.

Students teach three separate lessons in Spanish with the first ones having taken place this month. The first lesson we taught at one of three primary schools around Cambourne was about sports and opinions.

Teamwork was important while doing this because it helped us to be prepared and organised.

Freya, Ani (9R) and Zoe (9O)

WORD MASTERY: Students tackle tongue twisters.



Fun way to practise

In French and German Year 7 learned tongue twisters as a challenge when we started the new languages.

We have found it really helpful with our pronunciation for these languages. It has been really fun to do and learn.

Then at lunchtime on the European Day of Languages we were challenged to say the tongue twisters with the chance to win a prize of stationery if we got them right, which was very exciting.

Alfie (7B)

Making 'friends' . . .

Soon after the beginning of term each Year 7 class was given a current pop song in Spanish. Once the children learned the lyrics by heart and we all knew we had to come up with some good actions to perform and compete at the Year 7 International Evening in October.

The song for our class, 7 Zaragoza, was the Spanish version of 'Friends' by Marshmello and Anne-Marie.

Eve, Summer, Charley and Tia offered to lead, and they thought of a whole range of movements that really fitted the content of the song. We practised the singing and movements in class, until everybody was confident.

A recording was done one afternoon in late September. As the International Evening approached, we felt ready for the challenge, the Year 7 Spanish Song Contest. On the actual evening, our class was represented by a very well-prepared and enthusiastic group of seven students, Eve, Summer, Charley, Tia, Ewan, Jacob and Jacob.

Here is what they wrote about their experience: "Spanglovision for us was exciting, an amazing opportunity. It gave us a chance to express ourselves



SINGING COMPETITION: Spanglovision at the International Talent Evening.

through Spanish music. When we got on stage we started to lose confidence but when the music started our confidence grew. On stage we felt scared and nervous but ready."

Year 7 ZGZ absolutely rose to the challenge and delivered a stunning performance.

Well done 7 Zaragoza!

Birgit Federle, MFL Department

Creating movies to help with Spanish

Year 8 students took part in a film-making project for their Spanish Curriculum Extension Day.

This included scriptwriting (in Spanish), filming and editing. First everyone began with either creating props, writing their script or making a poster for their movie. Then everyone decided on roles to act.

Using iPads, students filmed every scene of their

choice of genre — comedy, adventure, drama or even a horror.

Finally, after lunch, was the editing. The Year 8s downloaded the movie on to iMovie and stitched the scenes together. Some groups even made trailers for their movies, with fictitious production companies, and added the credits, which were real. At the end of

the day we all watched each other's movies, which was the best bit.

One student said, "I liked it because it was different to our usual MFL lessons and was creative and fun." Another student said that they liked it because of the editing and prop-making.

Will (8B) and Tia (8C)
● Curriculum Extension Days — Page 11

Telling Earth's story

This term, all of Year 7 were involved in a competition in geography.

The challenge was to create a piece of work that showed part of 'Earth's Story' — the theory of how Earth began, or the development of life, or the human journey out of Africa. Every year the standard seems to get higher and higher and this year was no different. The Geography Department received many exceptional entries — so many, in fact, that it is impossible to show them all!

The Geography Department would like to thank Year 7 students for the extraordinary levels of effort that went into these projects.

The winner was Gabby (70) with Sumayyah, Ailsa and Sreenidhi (7C) in second and Ashvika, Keren, Carlijn and Jimena (70) third.

Dion Burgess, Head of Geography



AMAZING ENTRIES: The winner (top left), runner-up (above) and the clock, which was one of those highly commended.

New app encourages even more reading!



PARTY TIME: Student library helpers enjoy their Christmas celebrations.

We have had a busy start to the new school year in the library. We introduced a new library management system, which has given us a more sophisticated system for our ever-growing library.

We have also introduced a new reading app available to all students. It can be accessed through iPads, and at home on phones and tablets.

The app is called SORA, by OverDrive, and provides students with a collection of 1,500 ebooks and audiobooks, including fiction, study guides and PSHE related titles.

Of course, it hasn't meant the library is any quieter, in fact, we're sure that pupils are just reading even more as a result and we're definitely not going to complain about that.

We also have a fantastic team of student library helpers, representing all year groups in the school.

Without them the library would not be the vibrant and engaging space we enjoy every day.

On Thursday 5th December we held our annual library helper party, as our way to say thanks for all their hard work. We decorated the library ready for Christmas, made wooden decoration to take home and watched a nice festive film.

Dominique Payne, Librarian

Experts' wide-ranging talks inspire students

CamVC has started its second year of Aspiration Fridays: bimonthly talks from outside speakers on a range of subjects we don't have time to explore in detail in the curriculum. We aim to inspire our students to take their interests beyond the classroom. It has been a pleasure to see so many students from across Years 7 to 11 coming along to hear about topics as diverse as Roman Emperors and Condensed Matter Physics!

We started off the term with a talk from our School Nurse, Julie Barker, who kindly shared her many years of experience working in A & E. Julie talked students through different routes into nursing and even brought along some example equipment to show to students. Her stories about working on the frontline of the NHS were particularly inspirational.

Our next talk on Economics was delivered by Mr Pike, who used to work for HM Treasury and the Bank of England. His session gave an overview of this complex topic, as well as questions and problems Mr Pike has been asked to explore over the years. We enjoyed hearing about his research into whether robots will ever take over the economy and were pleased to hear that human economists will still be needed for some time to come!

Students then heard from Henry Tang, a returning speaker from last year, who gave students a potted history of Roman Emperors. Students were given the

backstory of five of Rome's 'craziest emperors' and then asked to choose their own favourite. Although Nero's incestuous relationship with his mother was quite unsettling, Honorius and his chicken which he named 'Rome' and loved more than his empire won the day...

Louise Carey came in to deliver a talk on novel-writing and getting published. We have many aspiring novelists at CamVC, lots of whom attend our Creative Writing Club, and they enjoyed getting practical tips on the world of editing from a newly published novelist. Louise kindly gave us several copies of her books which can now be found in the school library.

Our final talk this term was from Dr Joseph Prentice on Condensed Matter Physics. Joe explained some of the most exciting developments in his field of research and shared how his own projects have explained why some diamonds are green and how some materials behave deep inside the earth. Students were particularly interested to hear about quantum computing and the supercomputers Joe uses, some of which are as big as a room!

Next term we will be finding out about Law and Piloting, among other topics.

If any students have any suggestions for a talk that they would like to hear, or if any parents know of someone who could deliver a presentation, then please do speak to Miss Clash.



ON SHOW:
The Black Germany exhibition at Cambourne Village College.

Untold stories revealed

During November the History Department hosted a travelling exhibition entitled **Black Germany, 1884-1945**.

The exhibition, based on ground-breaking research into the development of a Black community in a period of European colonialism up to the end of the Second World War, was loaned on behalf of Dr Robbie Aitken from Sheffield Hallam University. Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 attended workshops with Dr Aitken focusing on biographies and photographic images that introduced them to an exciting and important aspect of German history that remains almost entirely unknown, but which has real contemporary relevance.

Students learnt about how and why African men and women came to Germany pre-1914; how they created lives and families in Weimar; and about their experiences during the Nazi period. We were delighted that Dr Aitken's public lecture about his groundbreaking research was well attended by both staff, students, governors and members of the Cambourne community. We would love to host more events like this in the future — watch this space!



ALL THE DETAILS: *Students hear from Dr Robbie Aitken at a workshop. He also gave a public lecture.*

VIEW OF BERLIN: *Head of History Jessica Angell at the top of the Reichstag building in the German capital.*



Teacher's learning curve!

During the October half-term Head of History Jessica Angell was invited by the German Federal Foreign Office to be a guest of their Professional Tour of Germany for British History Teachers.

The invite enabled Miss Angell to visit Leipzig, Weimar and Berlin.

Throughout the trip Miss Angell was developing her subject knowledge with a focus on art and architecture in Germany post World War One, the rise of Hitler and the Nazis, the 30-year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, politics and migration into Germany up to present day.

Miss Angell also spent time visiting schools across Germany to discuss their History curriculum and some of the challenges they face there.

The trip concluded with lunch at the German Foreign Office followed by a visit to the Reichstag (German Parliament).

Miss Angell said: "It was an honour to be invited on the tour and it has deeply enriched my understanding of both German history and Germany today.

"I can't wait to revisit Berlin in March for the upcoming History, Art and Photography Year 10 trip to (hopefully) show off my new knowledge of the vibrant city.

"It has been a great opportunity that enabled me to not only meet other History teachers, but explore how a country, city and its people remember and commemorate its past."

Students' work is published

Calum and Iria both completed their Year 10 work experience with Citizens Project at Royal Holloway University.

As part of this, both students researched and wrote blogs about moments of protest and reform throughout British history.

The History team were so impressed with their work that they decided to publish it online.

This is an incredible achievement and both Calum and Iria should be very proud! Please do take some time to read their work:

Calum explored the reasons behind the 1819 Peterloo Massacre —

<https://www.citizens800.org/2019/10/11/the-peterloo-massacre-2/>

and 'What was the Great reform Act?' —

<https://www.citizens800.org/2019/10/18/what-was-the-great-reform-act-2/>

Iria looked the main political parties and their attitudes towards female suffrage —

<https://www.citizens800.org/2019/10/11/the-political-parties-and-votes-for-women/>

and 'The First Female MPs' —

<https://www.citizens800.org/2019/10/18/1768/>

The History department is looking forward to working closely with the Citizens Project at Royal Holloway University and will be posting updates on further outreach opportunities when they arise.

New trip is a success

Fifty-nine students from Years 9 and 10 met in the early hours of the morning to join the History Department for their new First World War Battlefields trip.

While in Ypres, Belgium, students learnt more about the devastating conflict and how it has been remembered and commemorated.

First, we visited the Lijssenthoek CWGC Cemetery where we discussed the causes of the Great War, the ethos of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the role of women in the Great War.

Our next stop was the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917, where our group explored the museum and discussed how the British army's uniform, equipment and weaponry were used — all modelled by Mr Furbank!

A real highlight was the reconstruction of a British bunker, which enabled our students to envisage what a Dug Out would have been like.

We continued to explore Trench warfare with a visit to

the Bayernwald trench system.

Max (Year 9) said: "It was really educational and I enjoyed reflecting upon the brave heroes that fought in WW1. I was really fascinated about the Commonwealth War Graves and the museum was really fun to wander in."

Our final stop was at Tyne Cot — Remembrance CWGC Cemetery. The sheer size of the cemetery shocked us, and we discussed how communities can remember those lost during the war.

Jas (Year 10) and Harry (Year 9) laid a Poppy wreath to the Cambridgeshire Regiment on behalf of CamVC and we took time to commemorate the war.

It is clear that all our students got a great deal from the day trip to Ypres: Becca (Year 10): "I just wished it could have gone on longer! It was really great." while Natalia, Maya, Yasmin and Ellen (Years 9 and 10) agreed: "This has been our favourite school trip!"

Which such positive feedback we will have to consider running this trip again next year!

Jessica Angell, Head of History



TRENCH WARFARE: Students explore the Bayernwald Trench system.



WHISTLESTOP TOUR: The trip included the Lijssenthoek CWGC Cemetery (above) and the Memorial Museum at Passchendaele.



FIRST-HAND TESTIMONY: From Holocaust survivor Paul Sved.



The Holocaust first-hand

Last week Year 9 students heard testimony from Holocaust survivor, Paul Sved, as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET).

Paul, who was born in February 1938, in Budapest, Hungary, shared his story and explained how he didn't realise that he was Jewish until he was affected by the increasing restrictions enforced on Jews by the Hungarian government.

Paul's testimony highlighted the increasing persecution of Jews in Europe and we are very grateful that he took the time to share his story with our students.

Many of our students were surprised to learn that even after the end of the Second World War, life continued to be difficult for Paul and his family. After 1947, they were considered class enemies by Hungary's Communist government.

His mother wanted him to have a better life and in 1956, Paul was able to leave the country. He left for England and continued his education here, studying at Leeds University.

Paul built a life for himself in the UK; he married, had a family and visited his mother frequently until her death in 1990. He shares his testimony regularly — which helps students like ours gain a better understanding of the Holocaust and its effects.

The visit was part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's extensive all year-round Outreach Programme, which is available to schools across the UK.

Karen Pollock MBE, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust said: "The Holocaust Educational Trust educates and engages students from across the UK, from all communities, about the Holocaust and there can be no better way than through the first-hand testimony of a survivor.

"Paul Sved's story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances and by hearing his testimony, students will have the opportunity to learn where prejudice and racism can ultimately lead.

"At the Trust, we impart the history of the Holocaust to young people, to ensure that we honour the memory of those whose lives were lost and take forward the lessons taught by those who survived."

For more information about the work that the HET do, refer to their website: <https://www.het.org.uk/>

Exploring burial mystery

Some 1,400 years ago, a young woman not yet out of her teens was laid to rest in spectacular style close to the River Cam.

Her grave, on the outskirts of a small Anglo-Saxon hamlet, was the final addition to a short row of Seventh Century burials, and the most elaborate.

Dressed in fine linens and beautifully crafted gold and garnet jewelry, she had been laid out on a wooden bed that was buried with her.

Not long afterwards, though, the community to which she had belonged shifted to the north, and the land where she had lived was given over to early medieval agriculture, never to be resettled — until now. . .

Fifteen students in Years 7-10 are taking part in a 12-week project with Cambridge's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology to learn more about the teenage girl and her mysterious bed burial and to explore that story through poetry and creative writing with a professional writer.

During the workshops students will be learning more about the History of the Trumpington Cross Project and burial as well as developing creative writing and curative skills.

We can't wait to see how this project unfolds and are looking forward to offering similar opportunities throughout the year!



A DAY AT THE MUSEUM: Students visited the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Girls win national prize

A number of Cambourne students entered a STEM competition: 'Something interesting under a microscope'

Two Year 11 students Shravani (11M) and Isha (11B), were named as national runners-up in the competition run by SciChem, who have been providing scientific and laboratory equipment to schools, universities and industry for over 60 years, and won some laboratory equipment for the school.

Their entry was of tissue paper which had been dyed by felt pens. Their description of their entry said: "Under the microscope, we put a tissue which we had dyed with colourful felt tip pens. We got our inspiration from the recent LGBTQ+ month and flag.

"On one of the pictures you can see the contrast between the plain white tissue and the coloured tissue. Our aim was to see the individual fibres and we even managed to see the holes in the tissue. We were very happy with the results and we hope you also find the results very interesting."

The girls also won themselves some STEM prizes.

You can view the winning entries here:

<https://www.scichem.com/news/winners-of-our-microscope-challenge-competition-announced/>



CLOSE-UP VIEW: Tissue paper dyed with felt pen and plain tissue paper seen under the microscope.

Food provides the building blocks



HELPING HAND: For KS2 pupils at The Vine.

Year 9 and 10 students were invited to join KS2 pupils at The Vine for a day of STEM challenges.

The visit, as part of the Primary School's STEM week, saw Cambourne students leading the activities and adapting the challenges to make them even more difficult.

Year 5 pupils were tasked with building the tallest possible towers using just spaghetti and marshmallows and making parachutes for eggs, which they then tested!

Cambourne students organised and ran the Year 5 competition and also helped out with the Year 6 event, where pupils built World War 2 periscopes.

The Cambourne students enjoyed their day but also had suggestions for improvements if they were to do it again.

"The experience was great and I like working with children. The best part for me was working with Year 5s," said Sujey. Katie (9C) commented: "I enjoyed the STEM trip because it was fun to help the younger children. It was also fun because they were very curious and eager to learn. They were also asking a lot about Cambourne VC, which was nice."

Henry said: "I really enjoyed working with the younger years and influencing their interests in STEM education. My favourite part was revisiting the school and being an older role model."



PRACTICAL WORK: At Swavesey.

Rising to challenge

Two students from each year group in KS3 represented Cambourne at the Swavesey Science Challenge.

They were tested on their practical and problem-solving skills in a series of challenges and were awarded points for each.

Cambourne finished fifth of the 22 competing schools.



IMPRESSIVE VENUE: Students at The Emmanuel Centre in London for 'STEM in Action'.

Exploring our world through STEM

In three incredible sessions, KS3 'STEM in Action' at the Emmanuel Centre in London brought the excitement of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths subjects to audiences using real world applications and future directions.

'Deep Ocean Lab', took us into the deepest darkest ocean, where we discovered the forces of physics that allow such exploration, the incredible biodiversity

of the ocean and uncovered the damage to the beating heart of our planet.

In 'Exploring the Elements', we celebrated the 150th birthday of the periodic table and discovered tales of romance, murder, greed and wonder. Which element will make us reek of garlic? Why do we love gold? What is the disgusting secret of antimony? 'What's not possible?' saw Mike Ford and his

companion, Robot "4D", take us on an interactive, exciting and entertaining journey, highlighting engineering challenges from Apollo space shuttle, SpaceX and, of course, land-speed record-breaking with Bloodhound SSC.

Students enjoyed a picnic by Westminster, completed STEM quizzes and one lucky youngster won a STEM prize.



SOMETHING DIFFERENT: Curriculum Extension Days included measuring using body lengths and problem-solving at Milton.

A different way to learn

Our recent annual Curriculum Extension Days at Cambourne Village College offered students enrichment beyond the 'normal' classroom curriculum, and were carefully planned to inspire and stretch students, as well as add to what they are learning in class.

In Year 7, the Maths Department focused on a number of problem-solving activities and will broaden the pupils' knowledge and understanding of how maths works in the world around us.

One activity was called 'Biggest Animal', where students had to measure the main corridor to see how many blue whales they could line up. However, apart from being able to measure a metre in the classroom, they had to use themselves to measure the corridor which resulted in them lying head-to-toe measuring and having fun at the same time.

The Science Day gave students the chance to gain a greater understanding of the natural world, through a trip to Colchester Zoo. This provided a fun and exciting way to gain a foundation for the later study of the living world.

Year 8 enjoyed a spot of 'foreign language film-making' during the MFL day (see Page 6). Students were asked to create a pitch, script, storyboard and final edit of a short film in either French, Spanish or German, complete with English subtitles.

The Year 8 Geography Day ran the traditional trip to the cliffs at Walton-on-the-Naze, a UK designated site of Special Scientific Interest, currently eroding at a rate of approximately two metres a year. It was a highly stimulating day; pupils investigating the conflict between conservation groups, who are fighting to save the Naze, and the local council, who are responsible for financing sea defences. This gave students an authentic understanding of real geographical and environmental issues affecting an area, and allowed students to develop their fieldwork enquiry skills.

The Year 9 Technology activity provided students with an opportunity to work on a real-life design brief, addressing an issue close to their hearts — how to improve the social area/time after the ban on mobile phones in social areas. Students worked in teams, 'The Apprentice' style, to produce a proposal to pitch to their classmates and teachers.

The winning proposals took into account the needs and interests of all students with varying activities, using reasonable budgets and importantly, being environmentally friendly. The winning teams received eco-friendly, school-made awards and chocolate!

Whether they were on the winning team or not, the activity allowed them to extend their knowledge of Design, Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

The PE Day was held at Milton Country Park, in conjunction with the Exploration Society, bringing together a range of Outdoor Activities to complete the Milton Barter Game.

This involved navigating around the park using a basic map, completing a range of team-building tasks and canoeing on to the lake to gain a range of different objects which could be bartered with different staff to create 'The Potion of Melancholy'.

Year 10 had the amazing opportunity to visit two of the following RPE related sites, developing their understanding of significant global faiths. At the Jewish Museum in London, they explored the history and diversity of Judaism,

both within the UK and around the world. They also gained more understanding of the atrocities of the Holocaust and the different responses of Jewish people, and the philosophical problem of evil.

A fascinating trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor, in Watford, gave pupils the opportunity to learn about the beliefs and practices associated with Eastern meditation practices and encounter a farm following Hindu ethics. It was fantastic to see so many pupils try and enjoy the delicious Paneer or vegan curries. All agreed that our students were made to feel incredibly welcome by the members of this Hare Krishna community — and I am certainly going to be trying, with my classes, some of the Karma-free recipes from their book!

The final option was to visit to the Central Cambridge Mosque, which has been newly constructed and completed in 2019. During a tour pupils received an explanation of the environmentally-friendly features which gave rise to its reputation as an 'Eco-mosque'. They were given the opportunity to question the local Imam and discover the features of the Muslim community of Cambridge and Cambourne.

Finally, Year 11 used the opportunity to focus, in departments, on a variety of their examination subjects: English, Art, music, or drama coursework; a valuable opportunity to make a real impact on their up-coming exams.

I'm sure you'd agree that the CE days offer pupils a fantastic set of diverse activities and opportunities; I'd like to thank all involved in making these days exceptionally interesting and well-organised.

Liz Taylor, CE Days Co-Ordinator



WILD AT WALTON: Students experienced first-hand the geographical and environmental issues affecting the area.

RPE VISITS: Year 10 developed their understanding of global faiths with a choice of three different trips.



Garden grows an award!



Budding gardeners from Cambourne have won an award in a competition run by the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Green It Challenge was a 10-week nationwide competition to encourage secondary school students to discover the world of plants and rethink the role of green spaces.

Cambourne entered two teams — Chilli Chickens and Green the World — made up of students who had signed up to be part of the college's sensory garden project.

Students were partnered with a volunteer horticultural mentor and challenged to research, plan and build a model of a garden that they'd like to see in their school or community.

It was an opportunity for students to consider community and environmental needs as well as understanding how plants and nature play a role in our lives.

In the regional competition against 11 other teams from the Essex region at Hyde Hall near Chelmsford, Green the World, made up of Year 8 students Emma, Harry, Grace and Sam, won the award for the most innovative garden.

William, from Year 8, said: "The students of CamVC who were taking part in the Green Plan It challenge went, for the second time, to Hyde Hall, for the celebration day.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: The judging panel quiz the Green the World team.

"First the Cambourne students had to present their garden, and what it was all about, to a panel of three judges.

"The students then took part in a plant/garden-related quiz, which involved trying to identify plants, garden tools and recycled items with a close-up picture.

"During the lunch break, everyone walked around the different presentations for all the different gardens, to decide which was their favourite and who they were voting for in the students' choice.

"After that every team took part in a card game. The teams had to imagine that there had been a zombie apocalypse, and they had to choose four plants they would bring with them, three gardening specialists and they also had to decide where they would move to.

"Finally came the awards. Green the World won the award for most innovative garden award and took home a trophy for the school."

Here is what the other participants thought: "I enjoyed working with new people and challenging my creativity. Go Chilli Chickens!" Jess, Year 9.

"I loved everything especially meeting new people and being creative with making the model and the presentation." Aqsa, Year 9.

"I loved being part of this challenge and working with new people. It was hard work but fun and a great



THE DESIGNS: From the two Cambourne teams.

opportunity to see how a garden is designed from ideas to the actual model." Emma, Year 8.

"I loved all of it, everything was amazing and all I can say is thank you." Grace, Year 8.

"I enjoyed working with new people and being part of the challenge." Daniel, Year 8

"I'm incredibly grateful that I had the chance to work with people like Emma, Sam, Grace and Aqsa."

Harry, Year 8

"I liked making new things and making the model."

Izzy, Year 8

"This was awesome! I learned so many new things."

Sophia, Year 8

Creating a space to engage all five senses

Work on a stimulating new sensory garden which will bring students together and promote positive wellbeing is under way.

After the success of its polytunnel and raised herb beds, the school won two grants, including one from Cambridgeshire Constabulary, and have begun work on their new garden.

When completed, the sensory garden will stimulate all five senses, with interesting visual designs, scented roses, edible herbs, windchimes and a variety of textured grasses and plants.

The aim of the garden is to break down barriers in the community, bring students of all ages together, promote positive wellbeing and behaviour, provide opportunities for fresh air and exercise, encourage biodiversity, support learning in the curriculum and provide an oasis from technology. More than 70 students have volunteered to help create the garden and have formed three committees comprising



construction, media and planting.

Thanks to the work of students and staff, the ground has already been rotavated, green manure laid, and many worms have arrived on site to aerate the soil. Builders Kier have also prepared the base for a shed.

The school has also received donations, including wood from the community of Romsey in Cambridge, which has been turned into a bench.

This term, students visited Hyde Hall in Chelmsford and the Cambridge

University Botanic Garden to learn more about plants.

Each student then used this as inspiration to create their own designs for the college garden.

This will inform a final plan.

The college also hopes that each new student will paint a pebble and place it in the garden, creating a sense of ownership and togetherness.

The community will also be able to enjoy the facilities through specially arranged projects.



HARD AT WORK: Creating Cambourne's sensory garden.

No stopping girl power!

In the past few months there have been so many amazing demonstrations of strong and fantastic women in sport.

This all kicked off back in October when Katarina Johnson Thompson won her long-awaited and well-deserved Gold medal in heptathlon during the World Athletics Championships. It was also there that Dina Asher Smith sprinted to glory and gold in the 200m.

However, more recently there has been the record-breaking football match between England Ladies and Germany at Wembley as well as an incredibly successful Women's Super League Weekend with more record-breaking attendances.

The England Ladies rugby team powered through Italy in late November to beat them 60-3 in a demonstration of strength and athleticism.

Continuing with the overawing power of women was Sophie Hah, who achieved T38 200m gold and a world record to add to her 100m success in Dubai's

ParaAthletics World Championships.

With so many female role models coming through it is no wonder that our own sportswomen at Cambourne Village College are shining. With female students participating nationally in swimming, dance, gymnastics, karate and so many more sports, as well as girls competing each week in netball, football, rugby, hockey, cross country and many more, we are always so proud and impressed to hear of their accomplishments.

Sport should be about building fitness and sporting skills but also about developing confidence, teamwork and problem solving.

We have so many sports clubs on offer and a student will struggle to find a night where there is not a club on aimed specifically at girls. So please come along, try something new and you never know within the year you could be a role model for someone else, inspiring them to take up a new sport, or to work harder, train longer and compete tirelessly to achieve something amazing.

Hannah Curtis, Head of PE



THE JOY OF SPORT: Cambourne girls enjoy participating and competing in a range of different sports.

A belting result . . .

Two Cambourne students have been awarded their 1st dan Black Belts in Karate.

Jack (Year 11) and Ellena (Year 9) both passed at the AKS Advanced Grading at The Hub in Cambourne last month, having previously had to achieve more than 70% in a written exam to demonstrate their knowledge of the World Karate Federation rules, Japanese Karate terminology, traditional karate, the awarding body's syllabus and general principles of the martial art.

A panel examiners then oversaw the physical grading which included a series of 'basics' — punches, kicks, strikes, blocks, sweeps and stances, four self-defence pair techniques and four sport fighting pair techniques and two of their own pair techniques which they devised in advance.

That was followed by three sport fighting bouts to the WKF rules against opponents of higher grades or physical stature to test their abilities to successfully score points at high level competition.

The grading concluded with a continuous sparring session with all the black belts present from the grading panel. This was a gruelling 15-minute test of the candidate's strength of character, stamina and determination to achieve their belt.

Both Jack and Ellena have been training up to five times a week since they were five-years-old and ahead of the grading were pushed both mentally and physically to help them focus for the test.



GRADED:
Two
Cambourne
students
have
achieved
karate black
belts.



**LEADERSHIP
EVENTS:**
Cambourne
students are
part of the
Young Event
Hosts
Programme.

Leading the way

The Sports Leaders at CamVC are continuing to do an amazing job. Since September alone they have logged more than 1000 hours between them of school sport and community sport volunteering.

Max Cooke leads the way for the Year 10s and Zara Wray closely pipping Ellie Thompson to the most hours completed in Year 11.

All these voluntary hours have included helping to organise and run the Year 7-9 interform competitions, helping out a wide range of extra-curricular sports clubs every day after school, attending and helping out with fixtures including refereeing and umpiring school cluster matches. Students have been helping in the community with the Bourn2Run and Hoohaah running events as well as their own club sport and several holiday and after school camps.

Special mention must go this term to Fernanda, Libby and Zara, who were interviewed and accepted on to the prestigious Youth Sports Trust's Young Event Hosts Programme.

This is an opportunity for young people across the country to develop their public speaking and share their passion for the role that PE, sport and physical activity can play in developing young people.

These three students have participated in a range of workshops across the country and a few weeks ago Zara and Libby had the opportunity to attend and host part of the National School Games Summit in Coventry, where they got to rub shoulders with previous Young Event hosts, athlete mentors as well as Phil Neville, the England Lionesses football manager.

Match of the day . . .

Students from all year groups had an unforgettable day visiting both Manchester's Premier League stadiums earlier this term.

First stop for the 50-strong group was Manchester United's stadium, which was an amazing sight! We had an interesting tour around the 'Theatre of Dreams', seeing the dressing rooms, sitting in the executive area, seeing the pitch from the managers' view and even walking out of the tunnel with the fans cheering us on. We ended our experience in the Manchester United megashop, where people bought souvenirs and kits.

From there we went to the Etihad Stadium (home of Manchester City), where we walked to Block L3, the newest part of the stadium as well as the highest, for the Premier League match against Watford.

We had amazing seats and saw the whole pitch clearly. Within 18 minutes the

Sky Blues scored five goals!

David Silva scored in 52 seconds, at that time the fastest goal this season (Tottenham's Harry Kane has since scored in 47 seconds). By half time City were 5-0 up! Goal scorers were Bernardo Silva, David Silva, Kun Agüero, Riyad Mahrez and Nicolas Otamendi.

It was an extraordinary first half and the atmosphere was electric! In the second half City bagged another three goals with Bernardo Silva scoring two to claim the match ball and his first Premier League hat-trick. Kevin De Bruyne scored the final goal to complete an 8-0 win.

The game was amazing and an excellent one to experience if it was your first time. We had excellent seats, amazing views and an amazing time!

Thank you to Prem Tours and the CamVC staff for an unforgettable day!

Max (10A)



DIFFERENT VIEWS: Students take a Grand Tour of Manchester United's Old Trafford stadium.

Mixed results but all teams improve

The Year 7 hockey team have been working hard in training to improve their skills as well as their knowledge and understanding of the rules to allow them to play in competitive matches.

They have had some tough games at the start of the year, but definitely improved in time for the Year 7 tournament where they finished eighth.

The Year 8 girls played a total of six matches in their District tournament.

They won four, drew one and lost one.

Throughout the day the girls showed teamwork, confidence and sportsmanship towards each other and other schools.

They were third in their pool overall so did not progress, but came away proud and excited to have been part of the team and represented the school in the best possible way.

Izzy, from year 9, reviewed her team's season:

"We've come so far in this term from September to December.

"We have not just grown into better hockey players individually, but we have grown as a team. We did well when we played our matches against other schools. We didn't lose many games and won a few.

"Training was every Monday after school, where we would practise — in particular — our strong passes and shooting.

"Unfortunately our tournament got cancelled, which meant we couldn't compete with other schools.

"As a result, in training we played mini tournaments against each other and played

big games altogether.

"However, some of us in our team stepped up to play for the Under-16s matches and tournaments. It was a great experience playing higher up and was very enjoyable to work with the Year 10 and 11s."

Renee and Isabella, from Year 10, reviewed the under-16 team's season: "This year's team played five matches including two tournaments. The team has shown great resilience and teamwork through all of those.

"Our team consisted mainly of Year 10 students and a few Year 11 and 9s and also included a Year 8 boy!

"The team was hugely grateful for the new members who fitted into the team nicely.

The team bonded throughout the sessions and matches which resulted in some great wins and some team losses.

"Our most memorable moments were playing against Parkside in our first game of the season where we won 4-1 and when we competed in a tough and testing District tournament, where overall we managed to secure third place."



MEET THE TEAMS: Year 7 (top), Year 8 (left) and under-16 tournament line-ups.

Sporting first for Cam VC

Cambourne VC hosted its first ever basketball game as our under-14 boys team took on Bassingbourn in their first league fixture.

The boys coped well with an extremely experienced and tall Bassingbourn side with some great team work leading to baskets by Victor and Albin. Training continues on Tuesdays after school with more league fixtures for both boys and girls.



CHAMPIONS: Year 8 (left) and Year 9 both won their age group titles at the Cambridge & District tournaments.

District title at double

Cambourne's rugby teams have completed an impressive title double as both the Year 8 and Year 9 teams won their Cambridge and District tournaments against local schools.

The Year 9s, who were last year named Cambourne's 'team of the year' for their outstanding performances and unbeaten performances which saw them share the District title, went one better and took the trophy outright in a second successive season without defeat.

While they played well all together, special mention must go to two players who really galvanised the team. Luca and Thales were both significant in the team's run to glory. Luca led the team from the front with his tackling, superb rugby awareness and near perfect goal-kicking, while Thales was an unstoppable force and the leading try-scorer for the season.

The Year 8 team emulated last season's team at that age group, playing with flare, control and passion in their pursuit of the District title. Last year they were knocked out in the semi-final and were bitterly disappointed.

The team reconvened in September, determined to be better and trained every week with one goal in mind — to be undefeated champions.

Over the season they worked hard towards their

goal, with good attendance at training and playing well in regular season matches (including convincing wins against Melbourn and Parkside). When it came to the day of the tournament, the team were unstoppable and did achieve their goal of becoming undefeated district champions. They barely conceded a try and were easily the highest scoring team. They were anything but a 'one-man team' — everyone contributed to their deserved title win.

For the first time, Cambourne entered the Year 11 Rugby 7s tournament and despite not taking any subs, ended up as runners-up.

Captained by Oliver, the team had an excellent mix of speed, brute strength and quality attacking rugby which combined into a force to be reckoned with. Player of the tournament was Clark, who was able to stop any opponent in their tracks, no matter their size or the fact he was a year younger than the other competitors. He was also one of the top try scorers!

Year 7 rugby has been extremely well supported with 22 regularly at training. The first two weeks the group were focussing on the main rules of rugby and then played Parkside in their first outing, losing 25-15 to Parkside in a touch game. It was a great experience for the group to learn the importance of running forward and being disciplined in defence. The second fixture was against Cottenham where we drew 15-15 and lost

15-5, but showed positive signs of improvement. Our third result was a 20-10 win against Melbourn, a reward for their hard work in training. The group continued to train, hungry to learn each week and benefiting from training on occasions with Year 8. The stand-out players from training and matches were Sam, Micah and George.



RUNNERS-UP: The Year 11 boys.

Great competition for teams in ESFA Cups

Autumn term has been an incredible term for football at Cambourne Village College, with Years 8-10 all competing in the annual English Schools' Football Association Cup (ESFA Cup).

The Under-13 Girls team kicked-off their tournament in style, with a 3-0 penalty shootout win over Robert Bloomfield Academy.

After two superb goals by Serena, there was nothing to separate the teams at full-time, but the girls overcame the pressure to progress into the second

round. Two weeks later the girls convincingly beat Ralph Sadleir School 5-1, with woman-of-the-match performance by Grace.

The girls' cup run ended against Lealands High School, who defeated them 3-1, despite a woman-of-the-match performance from Ciara.

The Year 9 boys team also made a superb start to their run in the competition, overcoming Freman College 7-1. Four goals from Jason, and a goal each for Brandon, Jordan and Jack put the game well beyond their

opponents. Their next round fixture saw them take on Beaumont School in St Albans where they lost 9-4. All boys were gracious in defeat and represented the school superbly.

The Year 10 boys also had success in their ESFA Cup, beating Manor School Sports College 4-3 earlier this month.

They had progressed to the third round of the cup, but then had to concede their match due to player unavailability.

It wasn't all success, however, as the Year 8 boys were defeated 6-2 at home to Arnold Academy. Despite an even game in the first half and a MOTM performance by Calum.



CUP LINE-UPS: The under-13 girls and the Year 10 boys teams.

Making a real difference

Cambourne student Calla has won a national award for her work in girls' PE.

The Year 11 student has been named 'Influencer of the Year' at the Youth Sport Trust's Girls Active Award 2019.

She collected the award at a glittering ceremony, hosted by Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, at the Houses of Parliament last month.

Head of PE Hannah Curtis nominated Calla for the award for her work in promoting girls' rugby at the college, running the Girls Active club for those who feel less confident in PE and sport, and working tirelessly to get girls involved in PE and extra-curricular sports clubs.

She said: "We're incredibly proud of Calla and all her efforts in promoting girls' rugby. She has gone above and beyond to ensure that girls are having the same opportunities as boys to play rugby and is fully deserving of this award."

Calla petitioned for an after-school girls rugby club and volunteered her time to make it happen. She has engaged and influenced other girls across the school and change the perceptions of rugby, now leading a club of more than 20. Miss Curtis added: "Calla has been an inspiration to girls at Cambourne. From when she joined in Year 7 to now, in Year 11, she has fought constantly to incorporate girls' rugby into the curriculum and as an extra-curricular club, including a petition to persuade staff of the interest.

"She has worked relentlessly at encouraging more and more girls to participate in rugby. From the first session where there were only four she never gave up and has persevered to build the club which has got bigger and bigger.

"This year alone she has grown our girls' rugby club to consistently 20-plus. The rugby team entered two local festivals and one national cup. She has started a club at the local primary school and has challenged the PE staff to be teaching rugby in our girls' PE classes."

Calla explained: "After being told by a coach that I wouldn't succeed at rugby because I was a girl, I was motivated to convince all girls to feel they have the strength to conquer anything they put their minds to. Since starting rugby, many



NATIONAL RECOGNITION: Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson presented the 'Influencer of the Year' Award.

girls have felt more confident not only in sport but also in themselves. I wish for all girls to know that they can succeed in anything, regardless of gender, race or age – which is why I want to continue this with primary schools to encourage the next generation of girls."

Former Cambourne student Izzy King was a finalist in the 'Leader of the Year' category.



NEW RECRUITS: Three new referees.

Boys take up whistle

Twenty-four boys from Years 9, 10 and 11 recently completed their FA Level 1 football refereeing course.

The course ran on Thursday after school for 2.5 hours a week. The boys worked extremely hard with Sam from Cambridgeshire FA and completed the course before October half term. The course exam will take place sometime in the new year, with the boys having to referee five games in the meantime. Some of the boys have been involved in refereeing games for the school and conducted themselves in an extremely mature and professional manner — they were an absolute credit to themselves and the school.

School wins national award

Cambourne has been named 'Secondary School of the Year' at the annual Chance to Shine Awards.

The awards are presented annually to those who have made notable contributions in 'spreading the power of cricket'.

Cambourne took part in a pilot programme run by Chance to Shine to get more girls involved and the Secondary School of the Year award criteria focused on schools which have developed leadership opportunities for students.

The programme was a six-week course, where 24 girls attended coaching and leadership sessions after school with a Cambridgeshire Cricket coach, building on basic cricket skills and games as well as developing communication, leadership and teamwork skills.

By the end of the six weeks they had started up their own girls' cricket club and had officiated at several primary cricket festivals as well as attended a few cricket competitions of their own.

Head of PE Hannah Curtis said: "We are excited to

announce that funding has been given for us to run the same course this year hoping to engage even more girls in cricket."

Some of the students involved joined Miss Curtis, fellow PE teacher Lindsey Gassner, who set up the CamVC programme, and coach Matt Morley at the prestigious ceremony, sponsored by long-time cricket backers NatWest, which took place at Lord's last month.

Renee, Isabella and Alice reported: "It was a very memorable night. We were lucky enough to have won the Secondary School of the Year award for our efforts in the girls' cricket leadership programme back in June. "This programme allowed us to improve our cricketing skills, confidence and communication. It was a fantastic opportunity to take part in as we could inspire younger generation join in with cricket inside and outside of school.

"The night was presented by Eleanor Oldroyd, who is a fantastic sports journalist and a two-time winner of the Sports Journalists' Association Broadcast Presenter of the Year.

"We also had the privilege of meeting Matt Prior, a former England wicketkeeper, who played 79 tests, 68 ODIs and was part of the England team who won three Ashes series home and away.

"We also met Ryan Sidebottom, a former England, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire fast bowler. During his career he took more than 1000 wickets and was part of the ICC World Twenty20 2010 tournament.

"It was a great night and we can't wait to continue our cricket and cricket leadership in the summer months!"



WINNERS: Cambourne is the Secondary School of the Year.