

Bassingbourn Village College

HERON Summer 2022



Review of the year

What a year we have had!

It has been wonderful to have so many extra-curricular activities taking place, from our Inter-house competitions, sporting fixtures, staff vs. students volley ball, trips such as Burwell House or Pompeii, our sponsored trek, to mentor time activities such as our Act of Kindness!

All of these experiences are at the core of our offering here at Bassingbourn Village College and an important aspect of how we bring the curriculum to life and we are delighted we have been able to reintroduce so many this year.



From the Principal

I want to start by saying what an amazing term we have had and what a fantastic range of extra-curricular activities our staff have run and organized for our students. It has been truly wonderful to see the return of our Creative Arts Showcase as well as our Sports Day in our penultimate week.



In addition, we have seen a large variety of trips and visits including OTG, Olympic Cup, Ballet Black, Pompeii and Walsingham, to name a few. All of these experiences ensures that we are bringing the curriculum to life for our students, something that sits at the heart of our offering here at Bassingbourn Village College.

In addition, it was a pleasure to be able to host the Year 5 & 6s once again and showcase all of these opportunities we provide for our students and I know from feedback they all had a wonderful time.

I hope you enjoy reading all about it all in this newsletter!

It is also a time where we have to say goodbye to a number of staff. Firstly we have to say farewell to Mrs Edwards who has been a valued member of our senior leadership team, our SENCO as well as a well-liked teacher and will be sorely missed. We also have to say goodbye to Mrs Cairns, Miss Parris and Mrs Collingwood. We wish them lots of luck their new jobs.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Mrs Gosnell who has been with us for over 18 years and is retiring. She has been an incredibly dedicated and valued member of staff during her time with us and while she certainly has earned a relaxing and peaceful retirement, we will miss her greatly.

I wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Summer.

Vickey Poulter

Principal

We are very proud of all our students' achievements and like to share them publically as often as we can.

To keep up to date with what's happening in college, please make sure you have subscribed to our Parentmail service.

The weekly student powerpoint and parent mailing keeps parents and students informed of events that have happened and calendar dates to look out for.

For a more 'instant fix', why not follow our news feed on Twitter (www.twitter.com/Bassingbournvc) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/bassingbournvc)?

Alumni can keep in touch by emailing

alumni@bassingbournvc.org

and asking to be added to our database.

Parents interested in helping with our Parents and Friends Association can email PFA@bassingbournvc.org

Spelling Bee

This term we saw the finals of our Year 7 MFL Spelling Bee. Our winners and finalists were:

French

1st Place—Elise
2nd Place—Rowan
3rd Place—Scarlett
Finalists— Fenya & Amelia

Spanish

1st Place—Toby
2nd Place—Henry
3rd Place—Thia
Finalists - Elaine & Anya

Well done to everyone that entered!



Our MFL students have been lucky enough to enjoy a number of visits into school this term.

Our Year 9 & 10 Latin students received a visit from Arelen Holmes-Henderson, a fellow in the Faculty of Classics at Oxford University.

In addition, our Year 9 MFL students had a visit from Setsuko Jerome from Hills Road Sixth Form College.



MFL visitors



Year 11 Prom

We were thrilled to have been able to hold our Year 11 Prom once again!

It was a wonderful evening for both the students and staff with lots of laughter, fun, dancing and mocktails!

All that is left to say is we wish our Year 11s the best of luck for their next chapters of their lives and cannot wait to hear all the successes we know they will have.

Enjoy the Summer Year 11!



Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders have been very busy this term, supporting the local primary schools. They did an amazing job running both the Year 3 & 4 Primary Cricket Festival as well as running Guilden Morden Primary School's sports day!

Well done you have been a real credit to the school!



Silk Screen Project

We have been very fortunate this term to have been joined by an artist in residence, Ricki Outis. Ricki has been working on a whole school silk screen project, with the images depicting life at Bassingbourn Village College.

Our students have thoroughly enjoyed the project and we cannot wait to display these beautiful school banners in our main hall in time for the start of our next year.



Olympic Cup

A number of our students from Years 7-10 were very fortunate to attend the Olympic Cup at Wilberforce Road Athletics Stadium, Cambridge.

For many it was the first time they had competed on an athletics track.

With 10 schools competing our students did amazingly well with the Year 9 girls team finishing in first place and our Year 7 & 10 girls team finishing in second place. Overall Bassingbourn Village College finished in third place.

Well done to all that took part!



Creative Arts Showcase

Wow, what a night!

For those that were able to attend our Creative Arts Showcase, you were treated to a night showcasing the exceptional talent within our student body! From the Brass Orchestra to an exceptional moving and poignant piece of drama highlighting the plight of refugees around the world!

To say we are proud of our performers is an understatement!

Congratulations to all those who took to the stage—we have some names to watch for future musicians, dancers and actors!

We hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did!





Sports Day

It was a delight to see the return of Sports Day thoroughly enjoyable day for everyone.

Well done to everyone that took part!

Our winners were:

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Year 7 Girls: | Keller | Year 7 Boys: | Luther King |
| Year 8 Girls: | Luther King | Year 8 Boys: | Luther King |
| Year 9 Girls: | Moore | Year 9 Boys: | Shakespeare |
| Year 10 Girls: | Keller | Year 10 Boys: | Keller |

OVERALL WINNERS.....LUTHER KING!!!!!!



Year 8 Enterprise

This term, the winners of our Year 8 Enterprise day were given the exciting opportunity to compete in the Astra Zeneca Deloitte "Pitch for the Prize " competition held at the Cambridgeshire County Day and our students were eager to take part!

Up against teams from Melbourn and Linton and pitching in front of over 100 strangers, our students did so well, and confidently pitched their allergy sensor idea. Once all 3 teams had presented, the audience voted on their favourite with Bassingbourn winning.

The winning team had the privilege of visiting Lucy Cavendish and enjoyed VIP treatment, with gifts and a private tour followed by lunch with entrepreneurial mentors from Lucy Cavendish and Apollo Therapeutics. These mentors discussed their careers, gave advice, explained elements of university, and took great interest in the students' progress. Following this, the students were escorted to Cambridge Judge Business School, where they were again given a private tour, met some entrepreneurs working on their ideas, and were allowed to pitch in the lecture theatres in the same way that members of the college would do.

We would like to thank Luther from the Business School and Hayley from the Lucy Cavendish Outreach department, Susanne Wright and Stephanie Hopley from Apollo Therapeutics and especially Rachael Burcher from Lucy Cavendish College who organised the whole day.

The Allergy Alert team have one more event to attend following their win at the Cambridgeshire County Day. They will attend a careers day held by Deloitte, alongside the students from Melbourn and Linton, with the day at the Deloitte Cambridge offices to be held in September.

Members of the Allergy Alert team are: Amber, Vienna, Lila-Belle, Maggie, Amy



Duke of Edinburgh



There are many Year 10s who have completed their volunteering, skills and physical sections of their DofE this year. They have taken on activities such as cooking, line dancing, running, sports leadership and sewing. On Wednesday 20th July Year 10 completed their Scaling Everest curriculum day. This included planning an expedition as team members, first aid training, team sports competitions, orienteering and team building activities. The students worked very hard as teams to complete challenges using "WhatThreeWords" around the school field and learning how to take care of a casualty.

We look forward to launching DofE Bronze to a new cohort in September.



Inter-House Competitions

Our Inter-house competitions run throughout the year and are an integral part of life here at Bassingbourn Village College.

Competitions ran this term included a Year 7 & 8 Bake Off where we had some amazing entries!

Well done to Shakespeare who are this year's winners!



Message from our Chair of Governors

The Local Governing Body has experienced change this year with the departure of the long-serving members Chris Roope, Dushy Chetty and Jess Lievesley. All three were instrumental in supporting Bassingbourn Village College through challenging times and helped to establish the culture of the strong, effective governance in place today. Their service is greatly appreciated and we wish them all the best for the future.

Sarah Anderson, Nic Cunniffe, Alison Maley and Charlotte Fernandes have joined the LGB this year and bring a huge amount of educational experience and passion in areas as diverse as finance, HR, data analysis and SEND. Michael Urquhart is the link Safeguarding Governor, shadowed from Dushy Chetty over the past year. Laura Sims is now the Deputy Chair of the LGB.

We have greatly enjoyed being able to be back around the school in person following the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions and have been hugely impressed with how all members of staff have been helping learners safely and happily progress.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer, the leavers happiness in their new destinations and look forward to supporting the School Leadership Team in the autumn.



PFA Update

Thank you for all your efforts this term in supporting the Parents & Friends in our Summer fundraising activities. Whether that be supplying chocolates and donations for the tombola at Bassingbourn's Jubilee Mayhem, indulging in a few doughnuts after school on Fridays, donating uniform for our second-hand sale or sipping a cold beer at the Creative Arts Showcase. It all counts (!) and we've raised a superb £1,500 this term!

We are using the funds to contribute to the school's new laser cutter for the Design & Technology department, as well as a number of other items from the Teachers summer term "wish list". Further details will be communicated, once these items are confirmed.

We'll shortly be launching our new Parent's & Friends Facebook page, where we'll be using the platform to sell second-hand uniform to parents. So keep an eye out for this over the summer holidays.

If you've not been receiving emails directly from us, please drop us a line to confirm you wish to opt-in—so you can hear the latest fundraising news, uniform sales and how your donations are being spent: pfa@bassingbournvc.org

Have a great summer!

The Parents & Friends of Bassingbourn Village College

Registered Charity 1116287

Alumni News - Luke Wells

When were you a pupil at Bassingbourn Village College?

1998-2003

Any stand-out memories of BVC?

It was a really happy time overall! Highlights looking back were:

- * The yearly drama festivals
- * Awards Day
- * Whole school production of The Tempest
- * History trips to Berlin and the Belgium World War 1 battlefields
- * The school nominating me to attend Holocaust Memorial Trust programme of learning which involved meeting amazing survivors, learning about contemporary relevance of the Holocaust, including meeting victims of the Rwandan genocide and culminating in a trip to Auschwitz—it was a huge honour for which I am still grateful for.

Memorable or inspirational teachers?

Mrs Witherington! She was our form tutor that guided form AW through from our arrival as 11 year olds to us leaving at 16. Also, being the Food Technology teacher it meant that our tutor time was in the food room so we have baked goods a lot!

Where did you go after BVC?

I went to do my A-levels (History, Politics, Economics & Geography) at Hills Road and then via a gap year working into Durham University where I read History & Politics.

Where do you live now?

I live in London with my Husband

What is your current career?

I am part of the Senior Civil Service. My current role is leading the Infrastructure & Energy Team in the Cabinet Office.



What led you to that?

I joined the Civil Service Fast Stream as a graduate after University. It was an area that has always interested me but also it was 2009 and the global financial crisis meant there were not a lot of options!

Have you travelled during your studies/career?

Yes lots of travel at both university and work.

Any advice you'd like to pass onto BVC students now?

It's tempting to over think it but I found that by going for subjects I was best at (History & Geography) and thought I would like most (Politics & Economics) at A-Level, I did well and it opened up options I could not have envisaged at BVC.

Enjoy the freedom to do a range of things, I miss foreign languages, sports, drama—I was never good but it was fun to have a go!