

Autumn 2017

MCA

6

Newsletter

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Mildenhall College
ACADEMY

MCA⁶ have 38 different courses to choose from...



A-Level Results



Coffee Morning



NEW Prefect Team

MCA⁶ is in the top 10% nationally for PROGRESS



Welcome to the first dedicated MCA⁶ Newsletter

Welcome to the first MCA⁶ newsletter, an opportunity for us to share the experiences of our Sixth Form students. In this edition, we bring you news of our students summer exam results, as well as the educational visits and extra curricular activities so far this term.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



On the 29th September the MCA⁶ prefect team held a coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support.

The morning was organised by the charity ambassador, Charlie Mears, and the prefects raised a total of £105.

All prefects participated by bringing cakes in or assisting in selling them.

As the Director of Sixth Form, I have had the pleasure this month of touring other local schools and talking to their Year 11 students about the courses we have on offer at MCA⁶. We offer a broad range of Level 3 subjects from traditional A levels to modern Applied General options in subjects such as Health & Social Care, Sport Studies and Business Studies. We also offer a range of Level 2 pathways for those learners who want to develop their

skills before moving onto a Level 3 course. To discover MCA⁶ for yourself, please come along to our Open Evening on Wednesday 1st November from 6.30pm or contact the academy for a personal tour. We look forward to welcoming you to MCA⁶ soon.

Katie Sanders-Pope
Director of Sixth Form



Mildenhall College Academy
DEDICATED SIXTH FORM CENTRE BASED IN MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK

MCA⁶

Open Evening

Wednesday 1st November 2017
From 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Come and find out what we have to offer.
With 38 courses to choose from there will be one for YOU!

Mildenhall College Academy Sixth Form Centre
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A Level Results Day

Students are celebrating their achievements as A-Level and vocational studies results were revealed.

99 students took A-Level and/or Applied General qualifications at Mildenhall College Academy, with the pass rate increasing to 99% from 98% in 2016. Students taking Applied General courses achieved an average grade of Distinction Plus, which, once again, is well above the national average.

The academy maintained good A-Level results, with an average grade of C minus for the first cohort to sit the new reformed and more difficult A-Level examinations.

Susan Byles, Principal at Mildenhall College Academy commented:

“I am exceptionally pleased with the results from our Sixth Form students. This year sees a further improvement on our overall pass rate, which has risen successively over the past three years. The students who have taken Applied General courses have once again surpassed themselves and our A-level cohort has done extremely well especially as they are the first year group to sit the new reformed examinations. I would like to congratulate all of our students who are so deserving of this excellent set of results and I wish them the very best in the future.”



Antigone: A Level English Theatre Trip



On Thursday 28th September, a group of A level English Literature students attended a performance of ‘Antigone’ at the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds. The aim of the trip was to widen our understanding of literary tragedy.

Despite being first written in around 441BC, the production was brought to life with modern twists. Re-imagined in a dystopian Thebes complete with drones, artificial intelligence and imaginative visual and audible effects the actors created a production with drama, tragedy and hints of humour which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Hannah Kanharn, Year 13

Magistrates Court Visit



On the 6th July 2017, students from MCA⁶, studying a range of subjects, including criminology, psychology and sociology, had the chance to visit the Magistrates and Crown courts of Norwich.

They had the pleasure of meeting two serving Judicial Officers (Justice of the Peace) named Lindsey Hook and Stan Chapman who gave a talk about how they came to serve in the Magistrates Court, how the court system works and how much their salary is; which is zero. Unbelievably they give up all of their free time but can only claim travel allowances. This is despite 97% of all criminal cases being dealt with to conclusion in the Magistrates court.

The students got to sit in on the Magistrates Court in session. In the Magistrates Court, a case can be held over video link. The students witnessed one case like this where the defendant was on video from a local PIC (Police Investigation Centre).

However, in the Crown Court was a very different atmosphere, similar to that shown on TV.

There was a judge and jurors, and it was a lot more formal. In the Crown Court students witnessed two cases, one of which was the jury giving their verdict (guilty) and the second being a sentencing.

It was a very interesting day combining the hustle and bustle of the Magistrates

Court with the sombre nature and serious manner seen in the Crown Court. Both court systems have public viewing galleries and I recommend that you pay a visit soon.

These very same students recently had the opportunity to visit the University of East Anglia in Norwich for a talk on media and criminal law. They also got the chance to carry out a mock trial, much like one that would have been carried out in the Crown Court in Norwich.

Alicia Drewry, Year 13

Parents Evening: Helping my Son or Daughter to Succeed



We were really pleased with the large turnout for our evening event to which Year 11 and Year 12 students and their parents / carers were invited. Two university representatives gave talks and were on hand to answer questions about reaching goals and future aspirations. Three workshops were run: Stress Management and Mindfulness, Time Management and Study Skills for University. These topics were chosen as they are seen to be the most vital for success in both Sixth Form and beyond.

“I enjoyed the evening and found it really helpful. There were three different workshops available each with a different purpose and each one was very helpful. I received lots of good advice.”

Ellie, Year 12

“My parents were keen for me to attend the evening and although apprehensive at first it was really good and I enjoyed it! I found it both informative and beneficial.”

Daisy, Year 12



Girls Night Out



On Saturday 9th September 2017, four of the MCA6 staff took part in the Girls Night Out walk through Bury St Edmunds in aid of St Nicholas Hospice Care. The annual event is an important fundraiser for a local charity close to many peoples' hearts and is the third time they have walked together. This year the ladies raised over £250.



New Prefect Team

Being a prefect is a very important role. Not only do our prefects arrange Sixth Form activities, they are also fully involved in supporting the younger students in the academy.

Our 2017/18 Prefect team have been selected and are ready for action!



I have followed professional cycling for many years and have watched The Tour of Britain grow to an important event on the professional calendar where many international cycling stars come to race on Britain's roads. When I heard that the peloton was riding through Mildenhall I was keen to have our Sixth Form experience the excitement. Fortunately our Director of Sixth Form extended our break to coincide with the expected arrival of the cyclists.

On the morning it was raining really hard but that didn't dampen our enthusiasm and armed with umbrellas we gathered just after a sharp corner on the high street to give us the maximum chance to see the cyclists as they slowed to navigate the corner. It was thrilling – from the first police motorbike to the last support van. We cheered all the cyclists as they whizzed past and then waved and cheered the support teams, getting many toots of horns and waves back. It was all over in ten minutes but so worth it.

Here are some of our student's reactions:

"I wanted to go out because it was a once in a life time opportunity and I was amazed at how fast they were cycling in the wet!"

Beth, Year 13

"It was interesting to see what goes into the event. What impressed me was how the community of Mildenhall came out together on the high street in the rain to cheer them on"

Maryna, Year 13

"I only went out to hold Ms Cooper's broly so she could take photos – but I'm glad I went as it was amazing and also televised live so seeing the helicopter and camera motorbikes was cool!"

Maddy, Year 13

"Even though it was wet and they passed by very quickly I'm glad I went out as I don't think they will pass through Mildenhall again so it was a once in a life time opportunity. My greatest memory is how fast they flew through the town!"

Ms Cooper



Pictured:
Mark Cavendish and Bernie Eisel

A Level Biology Field Trip: Wells Next the Sea



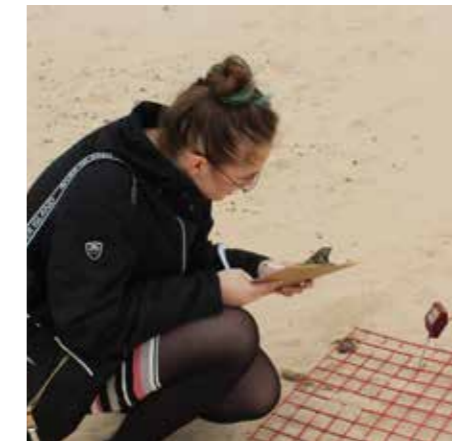
As part of the A level Biology course Year 12 and 13 students visited Wells Next the Sea. They took part in field work in which they had to discover how an abiotic factor affected the distribution and diversity of plant species.

Our students enjoyed being able to produce transects that were so large in distance and had creative ways to research their individual practical hypotheses. They also practised basic identification of different plant species and students used this to calculate percentage cover along the shore.

Students also saw succession in action on this trip because of the various seral stages on Wells beach.

This means they could see both pioneer plants such as sea rocket and trees within a climax community in a very short distance.

The data used from this field trip will be used in a full write up to help students to gain a CPAC award for their practical skills. The Common Practical Assessment Certificate is designed to give students the skills they need in order to further study any of the Science disciplines.



The award gives them a certificate if they are successful at meeting the criteria which is separate from their A level.



"I was really surprised that there were so many different grass species and so much grass growing on the dunes. Also I didn't expect there to be a gap between the first dunes and the forest which I think could have been because of the wind. It was good to do an outdoor experiment on location"

Maddy King, Year 13



MCA ⁶

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