

The Marsh Mail

The spring term is always a key turning point in the year. There are the obvious physical signs; the days are very slowly getting lighter and buds are beginning to appear. The spring term is also a key time for our Year 11s with a tangible shift in attitudes. Students have sat their mock exams and have now completed their post 16 applications. Students' focus is now very clearly on finishing their courses and starting revision. It can be a bewildering and confusing time. At times like this I am always impressed by the care and dedication of the teachers and support staff in working with the students. When I have conversations with staff about students at this time of year it is so clear that teaching is a vocation for them as well as a profession. The concern of the staff for the students is genuinely touching to witness.

Anticipating the future, as far as one can, is also crucial in preparing younger students for life after LVC. The College tries to start this process well in advance. In January over 130 Year 9s participated in the 'Eyes on the Prize' event at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge where they explored post 16 education and career routes. This event, combined with the Year 9 core exams at the end of January, feeds into students and parents/carers discussing GCSE choices later in the term. It is interesting how the penny starts dropping for students that life after LVC is only a couple of years away.

On a lighter note, the College hosted a wonderful musical 'Jazz and Sparkle' get together on a mid-January, Saturday evening. The College main hall was packed as the audience enjoyed great performances by students, Linton Jazz and the Belles Choir. The final piece involved all the performers and provided a fantastic culmination to the night's events. All money raised went towards 'REACH' and the LVC Music Department. We are very grateful to the parents/carers for organising the event. It was another wonderful example of the Henry Morris ethos of the Village College being at the heart of the community.

Finally, I have received a few questions about my reference to Austria's favourite pensioner in the December newsletter. My apologies for any confusion, I was referring to Arnold Schwarzenegger and his famous 'I will be back' quote. I will endeavour to make my popular culture references less obscure and not quite so dated in the future!