

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

21st April 2017



Message from the Principal

Summer is here. Firstly it was nice to see some sunshine over the Easter break and this week the afternoons at school have been punctuated with the sound of Leather on willow, hopefully this year the weather will allow for a complete, however brief cricket season.

Of course summertime brings the summer term and the final few weeks of preparation for external examinations has begun. Can I thank you in advance for supporting the College and your sons in their preparation in the during the Easter revision sessions and over the coming weeks. Revision at home should be in full swing with students focusing on what is required to achieve their potential.

This week we have interviews for Vice Principal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Arthur for his years of dedication and service to St Ambrose.

'Long stormy spring-time, wet contentious April, winter chilling the lap of very May; but at length the season of summer does come.'

Thomas Carlyle

For all of you preparing for and supporting students for exams:

'It is difficult to say what is impossible, for the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow.'

Robert H. Schuller

Mr J M Keulemans

Ski Trip 2017

The annual Ski Trip was once again a great success. This year the pupils travelled to the resort of Matri Kals to ski on Austria's highest mountain, the Grossglockner. Skiing in Eastertime, there is always a little doubt of how much snow would greet the 80 strong group once we arrived; but being 3,798 metres above the Adriatic, the group had the best of both worlds – shorts and t-shirts playing football at base camp in glorious sunshine and fresh powder at the top of the slope and enjoying a hot chocolate in the Adler Lounge 2621m high.

Fancy dress day continues to be a success; with the pupils vying to impress year in year out – Superheroes galore were in attendance; Deadpool, Ironman, Spidermen, Robin and the Flash to mention just a few– followed up by a quartet of animal onesies, who were in turn led by the great ghostbusting skier Oliver Dunne! The 4th year boys decided to show the classy side of being an Ambrosian and skied in full suit and tie! 1st Prize goes to Mr Roche, as Batman's nemesis Bane!

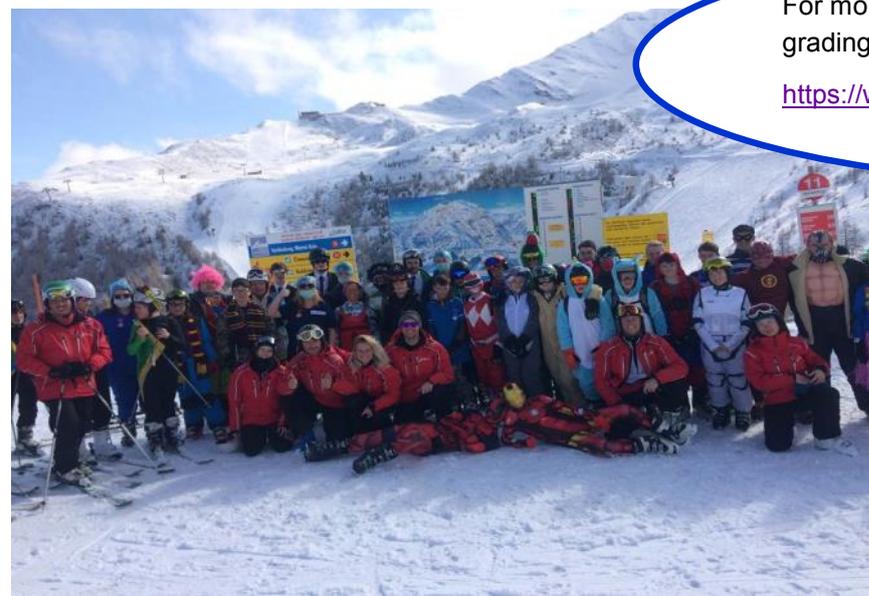
The pupils were one of the best behaved groups I have ever taken on a trip and I was amazed at how well all the groups improved their skills over the week, so full credit to them all.

All in all a fantastic trip, with only Mr Sweeney having a tumble and had to return early – we wish him a speedy recovery! Looking forward to planning next year – who knows what costumes the boys will come up with!

Mr P Anderson

For more information on the new government GCSE grading system please refer to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgZYx_fycrM



Dates for the diary

27th April—Golf day

2nd May — 4th Year Parents' Evening

13th May — SAPA Ball

Poetry By Heart

Public speaking, debating and participation in drama are all activities that augment the English curriculum here at St Ambrose. Poetry By Heart is an inspiring national competition for students in Years 10 to 13 to learn and to recite poems by heart while engaging young people in their personal discoveries of the pleasures of poetry.

To enter the competition, each student is challenged to memorise and recite two poems – one published before 1914 and one in or after 1914. The winner of our internal competition this year, E Gilmore in Year 5, chose to recite 'Invictus' by W.E. Henley as his pre-1914 poem and 'The Emigree' by C Rumens as his post-1914 poem.

We wish Eamonn all the best in the regional competition and thanks to each of the six boys who participated. Thanks also to Mr Roderick and Ms Haynes for their support.

Debating society takes place in Room 2505.

A. Corrigan

Design & Technology Lamp Design Project

Matthew Johnston recently completed his GCSE Design and Technology coursework – a particularly eye catching and innovative table lamp. The GCSE Design and Technology coursework deadline is now upon us and boys should ensure that they submit their completed products and folders to their respective Design and Technology teachers.

D. Krause



Brother Gerry Bownes

It was with sad and heavy hearts that the Brothers of Woodeaves gathered in the cold sunshine of a Manchester morning on Friday March 24th to bid farewell to Brother Gerry Bownes as he left for St Patrick's Care Home in Dublin. Brother Gerry's health has been slipping in recent months and it was on medical advice that Nurse Brenda decided that it was time for him to be cared for in a more structured way than could be expected in the community at Woodeaves. The night before his departure a past-pupil of the Brothers, Fr Tom Ryan SMA, came to Woodeaves to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving. Brother Gerry's niece and family, who live in Manchester also came to the Mass and high tea afterwards and Brother Gerry was finally prepared to return to his native Ireland after 70 years in England. The Provincial Leader, Brother Edmund Garvey, went to see Brother Gerry at his new care home last week and the good news is that already he has already begun to 'settle in' there.

D. Krause



News from Italy

Twenty boys have just returned from the combined History and Classics trip to Italy, the expedition already labelled a resounding success by all involved. In the fascinating six days we spent in this remarkable and historical land, we explored some of the most enduring and intriguing relics of its notable past. During the first four days of the trip, the focus was on exploring the atmospheric maze of streets that constitutes the great city of Rome. Our exploration of the eternal city continued with a tour of the Vatican, where we discovered the bustling centre of the Catholic faith and took in the splendid interior of the Sistine Chapel, not to mention the unique and impressive edifice of St. Peter's Basilica.

The remainder of our trip was spent in a fine hotel near Sorrento, where we had the pleasure of soaking in a truly wonderful view of the stunning and picturesque Bay of Naples. From there, we travelled further still, to the crater of Mount Vesuvius and the town which its ash and pumice once enveloped, Pompeii. Among the life-like frescoes and bright colours of the extant mosaics we walked, and delved still deeper into the mysteries of this extraordinary town, seeing all that lay within. Particularly poignant were the vivid pictorial depictions of every detail of life in the ancient town which businesses and establishments had painted on their walls for the benefit of customers.

We ended the day in the imposing temple of Venus, a focal point of communal life where Ancient Roman men would pray before engaging in many ancient socio-cultural practices. It was a truly thrilling and unforgettable look into the peculiarities of ancient life, and many of us found it one of the most memorable components of the trip. After finally surveying the plaster casts of many of the victims of the eruption, we returned to our hotel, knowing that it was to be our last night in the area. And hence we returned, now well-acquainted with the unique and enduring cultural heritage of this captivating region.

By Franek Bednarski



Sports News

The start of a new term brings lots of opportunities for boys to play new sports. Already we have started cricket, athletics and tennis lunchtime practices and played our first three fixtures against Altrincham G.S at Under 12,13 and 14 age groups. Our opponents have been traditionally very strong in recent years and this proved the case this year with three losses. We will have to get more boys involved in local cricket clubs if this is to improve, so please encourage them to try out at local teams. Cricket is one of those sports where you can never get enough practise with so many skills to develop. Fitness can also be lost as we play more sedate activities. For this reason we will be running extra sessions for winter games players to get involved in during the last three months of term.

All fixtures are posted on the Schools sports website and will be updated regularly when cup matches have been arranged. Please make sure your son is available to play in school teams, sport is not optional and is a very good excuse to relax from study in a very busy term. Exercise has been proven to help sleep and relaxations and if done properly will benefit all learners. Activities and clubs time tables will be out shortly to ensure boys have no excuse to miss their practices.

Raphael Quirke England Under 16 Selection

Kieran Dunne Ireland Clubs and Schools Under 18 Selection

We are delighted to report on the success of Raphael and Kieran who have been selected to play for their respective age groups. Kieran has already played twice in recent

internationals against the English Counties side and scored 2 tries in those appearances.

Raphael is the only Sale Academy player to be selected for the Under 16s and will start in the sides only international against Wales.

This is an outstanding achievement and follows recent successes of Tom Walsh and Connor Docherty who achieved international success in the same Under 16 age group last year. In recent years we have provided at least one international side with a St Ambrose player. Thank you to any members of staff, parents and Old Boys who have helped fund or support this success.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are still collecting Sainsbury's vouchers and looking for new members for our 200 club. Your support of our monthly draws has helped massively to provide the very basics required to ensure our sportsman get equal opportunities as many of our independent school opponents. All information on this is available on the school website. Thank you to all involved.

N Handy
Director of Sport.

Sport Fixtures/Scores

Www.schoolssport.com/
School??id=332

SAPA News

Greetings from Saint Ambrose Parents' Association!... We hope you had a wonderful and relaxing Easter. Now that the last term of the academic year is underway we ask for your help in helping us achieve our financial targets for the year and if you can contribute, donate or just take part in our events, please do. We look forward to seeing you!

SAPA website:
www.sapa.org.uk

May Ball Auction Donation request

The May Ball is only weeks away and we have been honoured to receive some amazing donations of sports memorabilia, VIP event tickets and holiday home rentals for the auction. We'd love to get some more exciting and valuable items to auction, so if you can offer us something to auction we would be overjoyed with your donation. In return for business donations we will mention your business on the night, in the auction program and list your business on the SAPA website as a 'friend of SAPA' and offer information about your business and a link to your business website. If you can help us please email chair@sapa.org.uk.

Thank You!

SAPA Facebook

www.facebook.com/SAPANews/

May Ball - 13th May

The May Ball is only weeks away! If you haven't got your table organised yet, please let us know as soon as possible to guarantee your place at what will be a fabulous night. Tickets are selling fast! The May Ball is held in the atrium of the College and this year we have delicious catering from Top Table and entertainment from the amazing Gillan Edgar (please visit <http://www.sapa.org.uk/may-ball-2017/> for full information and a short video of the entertainment). On the website you can also make your booking, or if you prefer, download a booking form and hand in to reception - booking

SAPA Twitter

[Twitter.com/StAmbrosePA](https://twitter.com/StAmbrosePA)

forms are also available separately from reception. Tables are being snapped up for the May Ball, so please do get your friends together and book your tickets soon! They are £45 per person with tables of 8, 10 and 12 available. The event will run from 7pm until 12.30am and the dress code is black tie.

Monthly Meetings

Our next meeting will be this coming Monday on the 24th April at 7pm in the College - lots to talk about this month including the May Ball! - please come along and join in! Our full calendar of meetings and events is available to view on our website. SAPA Chair



Saint Ambrose Parents' Association
2017
May Ball

Saturday May 13th 7.00pm
Drinks Reception - Fine Dining - Live Music and DJ
£45 per person
tables seat 8, 10 or 12 people
For full details and booking, visit sapa.org.uk

GILLAN EDGAR
SAPA Chair

If you would like to support Luke to raise funds for Teenage Cancer Trust, please visit his 'justgiving' page. Your support would be very much appreciated. Thank you.
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Luke-Stone3>

Congratulations to Luke Stone

We were delighted to welcome Sabina Ruta, the Regional Fundraiser for Teenage Cancer Trust to Saint Ambrose College who called in to school to thank Luke for all his fundraising efforts. Sabina wanted to thank the school, staff, students and parents for supporting Luke's fundraising efforts.



D. Krause

JOB SCOUTS

BRINGING EMPLOYMENT TO YOUTH



Jobscouts is a job website dedicated to matching young, motivated people with trusted employers. Our job listings are targeted for those from the age of 16. Together, we are comprised of a team of motivated, employed individuals of the age our employers target. Therefore, we have first hand experience and want to make it easier for students. As of 2016 we are part of 'Young-enterprise', a nationwide competition targeting young business minds. As part of this, we donate a percentage of our profits to charity.

If you are a student seeking employment or an employer please visit our website for further information and register now! www.jobscouts.co.uk

Jobscouts



Twitter;
 @jobscouts_

Instagram
 jobscoutsuk

Helpful links

School office: office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Pastoral concerns e-mail: Pastoralsupport@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Twitter: @StAmbroseColl

SAPA website: www.sapa.org.uk/

For St. Ambrose current vacancies please visit <http://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/1126/info/vacancies/>

