

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

12th May 2017



Message from the Principal

This week it has been a joy to see the sun shine and the students able to be out in our splendid grounds at break and lunchtime as well as during PE lessons, making the most of the opportunity.

Year 11s took part in Mass on Thursday morning to celebrate their time in school and to look forward to the upcoming GCSE exam season, which begins on Monday with Religious Studies. Good luck to all in their exams, remember to take advantage of the chance this affords you to shine.

Thanks to all the staff and parents who have supported the students in the build up to this key period.

Congratulations to the entrepreneurs in the Young Enterprise team who have reached the Regional Final. Hopefully they will have as much success as the inventor of the 'fidget spinner'. Can I ask that you support the school in insisting that these are not evident in class as they can prove a distraction from learning?

"Recipe for success: Study while others are sleeping; work while others are loafing; prepare while others are playing; and dream while others are wishing." William A. Ward

Mr J M Keulemans

Saint Ambrose College Teacher, Mr Toal is preparing to sing at Wembley

Mr Toal, specialist French teacher of modern foreign languages often leads a double life as one of the nation's top performers for major sporting occasions.

This Saturday will be no exception, as he will be singing the National Anthem live on SKY before the National Football League play off final. He has previously done the honours at five England matches and he says proudly: "To many in the world of sport, I am known known as the 'Winning Tenor' as I have sung five times for the England football team with the team winning all five games without conceding a single goal, including at Wembley for what was the team's first ever competitive international at the new stadium." He added: "It is always an honour to sing at such a wonderful stadium that has been part of my career since its opening back in 2007. The sense of pride I get from singing there is the same as when I first sang there for England." "It is always exciting, some might think nerve-racking, but having stood up in front of a class all my working life, I use that sense of performance to give my best, even though 90,000 eyes and millions on television is I suppose, different to 30 lads in a class room at St. Ambrose. Still, it works for me."

Mr Toal boasts a proud record of having sung on the pitch at all the major UK stadiums including Twickenham in London, the Principality Stadium in Cardiff, and both Old Trafford and the Etihad stadiums in Manchester. He has also played on the Wembley pitch in an England v Scotland charity football game alongside celebrities Angus Deayton, Gordon Ramsey and Ralph Liddle, although Mr Toal did not quite enjoy the success he does when singing, nearly scoring an own goal, prompting his son Jonathan advising him to "stick to singing"!

A recent St George's Day performance in London with England Rugby Soprano Laura Wright, plus an invitation by ex-England cricket captain Graham Gooch to sing on HMS Victory at the end of the month, along with a return to Wembley stadium shows that Mr Toal has heeded his son's advice.

An active charity worker, singing around the region at many high profile fundraisers, Mr Toal has recently released an album . He has also worked with local primary



schools to develop their choral skills and demonstrate both vocal and recording techniques. He concluded: "I love working with young people and I love singing, so what could be better than my double life."

Mr S. Carter

Dates for the diary

13th May—SAPA Ball

W/C 5th June —
Internal examinations for
1st — 4th Year students

26th June — Activities week

Young Enterprise Regional Final

Congratulations to the Saint Ambrose College Young Enterprise team (Jobscouts) who, with the support of Mrs McClements, Mrs Haynes and advisor Mr Cockx competed in the County Final at Manchester University on Wednesday.

The team competed against ten innovating teams from the region and successfully achieved promotion to the next round. Mrs Haynes said, "It's been a delight to see the boys thriving in a competitive business world, and we look forward to the next round."



Sixth form student and company managing director; Daniel Hetherington said he was delighted with their success, and is keen for the business to develop further. He hopes that more companies will register with Jobscouts to enable them to advertise their youth applicable jobs.

The Jobscouts team intend to contact more local schools to encourage 16-18 year old students to register with them at: www.jobscouts.co.uk to enhance their employment journey.

Raphael Quirke's outstanding England Rugby Performance

St. Ambrose College's rapier England scrum-half Raphael Quirke gave a man of the match performance in a classic encounter against Wales.

The Sale Sharks under-18 academy player scored two tries and set up more as the Red Rose dominated in a 41 – 22 points victory. Raphael, 15, from Chorlton, who has been playing rugby since the age of just five at Broughton Park,



and is a key man in the successful Ambrose colts side, controlled play from the base of the scrum using his lightning quick side step, fast pass and tactical acumen to create the space for a fluent 15 man running game. In blustery conditions at the Bridgewater and Albion club, he scored his first from close range taking a load off the hooker to crash over from five yards. His second, saw him give the Welsh defence a clean pair of heels as he chased down a grubber kick from the wing to collect and carry over the line. Raphael, who is taking 11 GCSEs this summer, wants to study sciences when he returns to Sixth Form and follow some of the modern greats including JPR and Jamie Roberts, by combining a career as a doctor with international rugby. He said: "Above all I want to be a professional rugby player, but I also want to continue my studies. At the moment I am just going to try as hard I can to do my best both on the pitch and in class."

Now in the close season, Raphael says his work is far from done. "If you have any ambitions at all for a playing career, you have to train hard all the time, developing your strength in the gym and that will be my goal over the summer."

Principal, Mr Keulemans said: "Raphael is a very intelligent and extremely likeable young man with a gift for the game and we all look forward to seeing his career develop, whether on the rugby field, the medical laboratory or both!"

S. Carter

JOB SCOUTS

BRINGING EMPLOYMENT TO YOUTH

Looking to recruit Part-time / Summer staff for your business?

Award winning youth recruitment agency, Jobscouts are able to advertise your job and business to registered and highly motivated 16-18 year old students looking for part-time work. For more information or to register your business now, please visit:

www.jobscouts.co.uk

Sierra Leone Immersion programme Fundraising continues

Tom Hughes & Patrick Kearns continue fundraising efforts in preparation for the Immersion visit in February 2018. This time their challenge will be to compete in the Manchester Half Marathon. All funds raised will contribute to the Sierra Leone Immersion programme.



If you would like to support the boys and their fundraising efforts, please make donations through the 'Just Giving' page. Mr O'Neill and Miss McCrory are planning to travel to Sierra Leone with twelve sixth form students visiting schools and townships, helping people, teaching children and sharing their experiences with people they meet.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/st-ambrose-immersion>

Upper Sixth Form Bake Off

Upper 6th students marked their last Cooking to Survive session by holding a bake off. The gentlemen have been cooking on a Wednesday afternoon since September to prepare for university. For their challenge they chose to make cakes and the task was to bring ingredients, make, cook and serve their offering within the 60 minute lesson. A range of sweet delights were on offer; chocolate cookies, shortbread cookies with a "secret" ingredient, flapjacks, chocolate brownie and Eton Mess.

The winner was Tomasz Preece who produced some excellent flapjacks within the timescale to his own recipe. Congratulations to all the boys for their efforts, they are all now very competent cooks with a range of dishes and will be an asset to their housemates at university!

Mrs Alford



Congregation Leader attends St Ambrose College



We were delighted to welcome The Christian Brothers senior leadership team who flew in from Rome for a Board Meeting on Monday.

Congregation leader Brother Hugh O'Neill talked with leading Christian Brothers and lay people from around the world to discuss how best to continue the work of the Blessed Edmund Rice. There are some 970 brothers worldwide, with their influence seen right across the developing world, particularly in Africa, India and Latin America, where they work with the local populations to improve education, awareness of health issues and social justice.

Brother Hugh O'Neill said: "The charism of the Blessed Edmund Rice is summed up by the three words: presence, compassion and liberation. We must all be aware of the divine in our lives and be present in the moment so we can understand what is happening to our fellow man. We must bring this compassion to our encounters with others and not just pass them by or ignore them, but value the importance of each encounter." Talking about how Catholic faith-based education is increasingly valued both in the U.K. and overseas, he said: "There is a longing in the world for meaning and we believe our education helps children to be open, and experience what is beyond themselves."

He is pictured with St. Ambrose pupils Christian Villarruz, 12 and Oliver Johnson 11, Brother Clement Sindazi, who is working in Zambia, Roisin Maguire, Director of Education for the Christian Brothers Schools in the U.K. and St. Ambrose Head of Religious Education Mr O'Neill.

Ms Maguire said: "The Christian Brothers have and are doing a wonderful job in handing over the charism of Edmund Rice to lay people and showing by example, prayer and teaching the timeless value of Edmund Rice's values. He wanted to give the voiceless a voice and that is what their work is all about in the developing world. This wonderful ethos informs pupils in all our schools in the U.K. and overseas and helps develop tomorrow's leaders."

Brother Clement added: "I joined the Christian Brothers because I saw how effective they were in my own country in helping to combat AIDS and HIV and help the poor with practical problems."

Mr O'Neill concluded: "It's an honour to welcome Brother Hugh and his team who inspire and inform our pupils and whose example we try to follow in our work with the disadvantaged both locally and internationally."

S. Carter

St. Ambrose College awarded Bronze Certificate by the Incorporated Society of Musicians

We are delighted to have been awarded the ISM / ISM Trust's Bronze Certificate. This means that more than **10%** of all the school's GCSE students achieved an A* to C in GCSE music. Deborah Annetts, Chief Executive of the ISM – the professional body for musicians – congratulated the school, saying: 'We are delighted to recognise St Ambrose College's achievement in music and celebrate the commitment to music education shown by the school in their high uptake and high achievement of pupils'.

'Music is a valuable subject, it brings value in itself to pupils as well as supporting achievement in other subjects. Music also opens doors and generates educational opportunities for pupils from all backgrounds. We are delighted that St Ambrose values music within their school curriculum and as the professional body for musicians and a subject association for music education, we are delighted to recognise this high level of achievement with this certificate.'

The certificate is awarded by the Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM) and the ISM Trust (www.ismtrust.org). The Incorporated Society of Musicians is the UK's fastest growing professional body for musicians and a nationally recognised subject association for music. We were set up in 1882 to promote the art of music and to protect the interests of all musicians. Today we support nearly 8,000 members with unrivalled services and expert advice, from study up until retirement.'

The ISM Trust, the Incorporated Society of Musicians' (ISM) sister charity, was created in 2014 to advance education, the arts and to promote health.

The primary focus of the Trust is to deliver high quality professional development by leading practitioners from the ISM and also in partnership with other organisations.

The ISM Trust is dedicated to creating pioneering resources to support music and all those who work in the sector including music educators, performers, and composers and delivers its work through webinars, regional seminars, training events and advice packs.

Special Assembly by Troy Wood

Troy Wood of Newman House recently delivered an enthralling assembly to Newman House about his design of the mission badge for the astronaut Major Tim Peake. The 'Principia' design was the work of (then

13-year-old) Troy Wood and was chosen by Major Peake himself after more than 3,000 children entered a competition on BBC TV's Blue Peter. Troy left the Newmanites with powerful advice: "If ever you see an opportunity that you like the look of...just go for it!"



D. Krause

Helpful links

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

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

Twitter: [@StAmbroseColl](https://twitter.com/StAmbroseColl)

SAPA website: www.sapa.org.uk/

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



Cricket Results

On Monday night the Under 13 side played at Birkenhead School, traditionally one of the North's strongest cricketing schools. The side posted a score of 54 runs in their 20 overs but bowled really well containing their opponents and taking 5 wickets. Birkenhead did reach our total but the side showed a marked improvement on last year's performances. On Tuesday against Merchant Taylor's School the Under 15 and Under 14 sides both recorded victories by 4 and 5 wicket margins. Chasing scores, both sides reached their targets with overs to spare.

Tennis

In tennis results, our sides continue to progress well in English Schools competitions and at Years 2 and 4 look likely to win their County Leagues. Most teams are now competing at 4 levels in each year and the interest in the sport continues to grow. Against Priestnall, our 3rd year team defeated their 4th year A side 4 rubbers to nil. At Under 12 our D team narrowly lost to the Priestnall A side, but showed the strength in depth now shown in the sport. The Under 15s continued their winning start with wins against Fallibroome on Thursday with our Under 12 side narrowly losing.

Swimming

Joseph Deighan has recorded the fastest time in Great Britain for the Under 15 1500m freestyle. This is a fantastic achievement from the Stockport Metro and School swimmer. He was only one second away from the all time National record.

Athletics

On Thursday the 2nd and 4th year team competed in the English Schools Athletics Championships. 12 athletes from each team compete in 2 events which have to be one on the track and one field. with the exception of 4 boys whose second event can be the 4 x 100m relay. Our 2nd year team finished a respectable 4th place with our 4th year team as runners up with hopes of making National A finals with their score. Liam O'Connor was top points scorer for long jump and hurdles.

Fundraising

As the weeks close down the Australian tour looms ever closer. There will be fundraising events posted shortly. An Auction night at Bowdon Rugby Club on Friday 30th June will be the main event scheduled in the last term. If anyone has items they could donate for this, please ask your sons to see any member of the games staff. Please keep the date free; we have already been donated a signed Liverpool shirt, a Six Nations shirt signed by all captains, a Jason Robinson and Rory Best autographed playing shirt and many other items. An online bidding form will shortly be distributed for non attendees to make silent bids on.

Sainsburys Vouchers

We are nearing the end of the collection date for the Sports Vouchers. Please return all vouchers to school (there is a collection box near the PE Reception). Thank you in advance for your donations.

N. Handy
Director of Sport

Announcement

Notice is hereby given of the next Annual General Meeting of the Saint Ambrose Parents' Association. The AGM will be held on the 12th June 2017 at 7pm in the College. As well as summing up this year's events and fundraising totals, we're looking for new members who would like to join SAPA and we will be voting in new committee members. If you have time, please come along and join in! If you have any questions please contact: chair@sapa.org.uk

May SAPA Meeting

Thank you to everyone that attended the SAPA meeting on Monday night. Lots was achieved and we've got the ball rolling on a few important issues. We had a draw for the Prep '100 Club' lottery and the results are as follows:
1st Prize - £153.00 - W Dunn
2nd Prize - £101.00 - A Glynn
3rd Prize - £51.00 - J and S Middleton
Prize winners will receive a cheque soon.. Congratulations!

May Ball and Auction

The May Ball is this weekend and we're looking forward to seeing many of you. Thank you for your support!

During the evening we are holding an auction of some amazing items. Topping the list has to be hospitality in the Directors' Box at Manchester United for a Premiership game next season. We also have signed football shirts, VIP tickets to Cheltenham Racecourse and a Weekend in the French Alps. You can bid on items even if you're not there by emailing us your highest bid and a telephone number we can contact you on during the evening. Please visit the website for full information. <http://www.sapa.org.uk/may-ball-2017/>

Keep up with SAPA on:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SAPAnews/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/StAmbrosePA>

Website - www.sapa.org.uk

SAPA Chair

Principal's weekly award

Aquinas House: Peter Alam
Augustine House: Roman Goulden
Ignatius House: Alexander Oakes (3rd Year)
 & Alexander Oakes (6th Form)
Newman House: Harvey Richardson
 & Zain Zarar

Sport Fixtures/Scores

<http://www.schoolssports.com/School/?id=332>