

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

26th May 2017



Message from the Principal

I am deeply saddened by the atrocities in Manchester on Monday night. I am relieved to report that all of our students and staff are safe. As we mourn for the victims and families affected by this senseless attack, I would like to thank all our parents who work, or who have volunteered during this time, for their service and their bravery.

We live within a diverse community of faiths, nationalities, cultures and heritages, it is important that we encourage tolerance and acceptance of those differences as we demonstrate resilience and strength together against terrorism.

Mr J M Keulemans

The end of an era

Thursday marked the last day at Saint Ambrose College for the young gentlemen of the sixth form. We wish them all, the very best of luck with their future and look forward to welcoming them back as 'old boys'.

On Wednesday evening they, along with staff attended a formal dinner at the Manchester Midland Hotel. The night was a wonderful occasion, reflecting and celebrating together.

Students joined staff for a minute's silence to reflect on the events which happened in Manchester only two days earlier.



Break a leg, Josh!

We are delighted that Joshua, a talented all round and athletic performer with a wide range of acting, singing and stage talents, has already been selected for two top summer shows after only two weeks with the popular youth drama company Garrick Performing Arts. Joshua wants to study Drama at A Level and has also expressed an interest to pursue a career in West End musical theatre. Joshua, 14, from Altrincham, is in the chorus of both *Guys and Dolls* at the Garrick Theatre in Stockport and *Nine to Five* at the Evans Theatre in Wilmslow Leisure Centre during the summer, which are both expected to be a sold out performance in the summer spectaculars.

He said: "GAPA is a great company to work with. I hope to learn and gain experience but I just want to enjoy the opportunity."

Mrs Bull, Head of Drama said: "I am not surprised that Josh has made such an impact after such a short time.

He's naturally talented with a strong work ethic and is a good team player; the type of young performer every director would want to have in their show."

S. Carter



PGL trip

A number of students from 2nd year, set off during lunchtime today for the weekend at PGL Boreatton Park, in Shrewsbury.

Boys will have the opportunity to partake in a selection of activities, including canoeing, climbing, raft building and a variety of outdoor pursuits.



M. O'Neill

Dates for the diary

W/C 5th June -
Internal examinations for
1st-4th year students

26th June—Activities week

17th August—AS results

24th August—GCSE results

**Let us unite as we pray for all those affected
by the Manchester bombing.
Please reflect and consider the prayer shared on
Tuesday morning with students and staff**

Last night and this morning our hearts were broken as we heard the news. Words cannot express our sorrow for the victims and families harmed in this senseless attack.

We mourn the lives of children and loved ones taken by this cowardly act. We are thankful for the selfless service last night of Manchester's First Responders who rushed towards danger to help save lives.

We ask you to hold the victims, their families, and all those affected, in your hearts and prayers. In this month of May we ask Mary Queen of Peace to pray for us.

Saint Ambrose College

Fond Farewell

What an incredible seven years it's been. As a year group we have seen an immense change and progression in both ourselves and the transformation from the old to the new school. It has been an absolute honour to fill our roles as Head Boy and Deputy Head Boys over the last year. We would like to wish the very best to all the boys who are sitting exams, and to the class of 2010, an incredible time at university or any other path they have chosen to pursue. St Ambrose is an incredible establishment, built upon the foundation of a brilliant, diligent teaching staff and defined by its pupils, who make it the school what it is. It has been a privilege to wear such conspicuous blazers, thanks for everything.



Joe Ronan, Shane Fox and John McDonald

1st year students visit Sikh Temple

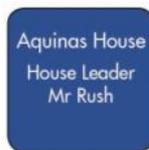
1st year students visited the Central Manchester Gurdwara this week and were welcomed by the Temple Priest and members of the Sikh community. The boys had plenty of opportunity to ask questions about the Sikh culture, history and religious beliefs. They took part in singing and were accompanied by the priest and mathematics teacher, Mr Singh playing the harmonium and tabla. The boys enjoyed the langar (free vegetarian meal) of potato curry, rice and naan bread. The boys and staff enjoyed a wonderful morning and lunch with their courteous and generous Sikh hosts.



M. Richardson

House Captain & Vice House Captain Selection

Congratulations to all applicants who competed for House Captain and Vice House Captain last week. We are delighted to introduce the new appointments.



To be confirmed after half-term



To be confirmed after half-term



House Captain;
Joshua Lavorini.
Vice House Captain;
Luke Keegan.



House Captain;
Luke Stone.
Vice House Captain;
Nicolas Tumelty.



Principal's weekly award



- Aquinas House: James Allen**
- Augustine House: Oliver Higson**
- Ignatius House: Joshua Lavorini**
- Luke Keegan**
- Newman House: Munachiso Nwaiwu**

JOB VACANCIES WORKING FOR THE DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY

Youth Mission Team Worker

Salary £19,000 – £22,000 dependent on experience

Director of the Youth Mission Team

Salary £27,000 to £30,000 dependant on experience

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury is looking to establish a Youth Mission Team to engage with young people in schools and parishes across the Diocese. The Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team (S.Y.M.T.) will comprise of full-time employees and lay & clergy volunteers. The full-time employees will be the key members of the team led by the Director of the Youth Mission Team. The successful candidates will be faithful practising Catholics, happily living their faith and willing to give positive witness to young people and to serve as a representative of Bishop Mark Davies + and the Diocese of Shrewsbury. More information can be found at: <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies>

Christian Brothers' community

Since we opened a new Christian Brothers' community in Salford, we have been asking ourselves, "what are we being called to do in this area at this time with our present resources?" We were aware that it would be around working with asylum seekers/refugees. But we were already doing this through our involvement with Revive, the Spiritan led project that is aimed especially at asylum seekers/refugees. In recent months it was becoming obvious that our ability to respond adequately to the needs of asylum seekers/refugees would not be met solely from our work with Revive.

Our involvement over the last 6 years with Revive was very rewarding and worthwhile. However, we had become aware that there were gaps in the provision and we felt drawn more and more towards addressing these gaps.

Asylum seekers/refugees come from many countries and many of those countries are represented in Salford. As a first step, we nominated the Sudanese community as the group to initiate a conversation with. There is a large Sudanese asylum seeker/refugee community in Salford and we had, over the past number of months, built up a good relationship with key members of that community.

On Thursday evening, April 20th, responding to our invitation, over 30 Sudanese men had turned up at St. Sebastian's parish centre. For most of the morning, a number of Sudanese volunteered to cook food for the occasion using our community kitchen. Chicken coated in batter and cooked in oil was the main food prepared for the occasion. To show their gratitude, the two voluntary cooks first prepared food for the Brothers and sat with us as we participated in a meal of cooked chicken, tomato, lettuce, cucumber etc.

As the appointed time for the meeting approached, there was a little concern that the numbers might not justify the amount of food that was prepared. We needn't have worried; African time is a lot like Irish time of old – the scheduled time for a meeting is aspirational and things start when enough people have assembled!

When sufficiently fed and relaxed we got down to the business of the night, a discussing what needs the asylum seeker/refugee community had that were not being met by current provision. All entered in to the spirit of the night and a number of suggestions surfaced. Among these was the request for a place to gather.

There is a shortage of such places in the area. Isolation and loneliness can be a real problem especially when asylum seekers are new to an area. Having a place where they could gather, meet with their fellow countrymen, chat, exchange news, and commemorate important events, etc. was a top priority. Other suggestions included the possibility of meeting with locals and refugees from other communities. English classes also featured highly on the list of suggestions. A place where they could gather to watch soccer matches was also mentioned. Finally we asked that a small committee might be formed to help us to prioritise suggestions and to plan for the next steps.

continued

As Brothers Ger, Jim, Tony and I reflected on the night we were very encouraged by how things had gone, and how the people had entered in to the spirit of the evening. Our suspicion that there were gaps in the services being provided proved well founded. It was obvious that we had tapped in to some real needs among the asylum seeker/refugee community and we were encouraged by this community's desire not to be closed to the needs of other communities in the area. We were impressed by their willingness to compromise and to collaborate. Their willingness to take ownership of the initiative was manifested in their willingness to do whatever was necessary to make the new initiative a success.

Emboldened by what we have experienced we must now offer the same opportunity to the other asylum seeker communities in our area. We know of Syrians, Iranians, Iraqis, Kurds, Afghanistans all living in this area and all encountering similar challenges. Over the coming weeks and months we plan to reach out to these communities too in the hope of hearing and responding to their needs and concerns. Like Edmund, we find Jesus in subverting conventional concepts of community to welcome and include the marginalised and rejected.



Brother Martin O'Flaherty

May 2017

Christian
Brothers'
Salford
Community

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:



Brother Bernard George Forrester
who passed away on 12th April 2017.

Noel Carlin who passed away in
Derry in April.

Brother John Joe Cahill who passed
away on 10th May 2017.

Marriage Care seeks volunteers from the Diocese of Shrewsbury to help to prepare more couples for Sacrament of Marriage



"Pre-marriage courses are a special expression of preparation. And we see so many couples, who perhaps come to the course somewhat reluctant. But afterwards they are happy and grateful, because they have found there the opportunity – sometimes the only one – to reflect on their experience in non-trivial terms."

More information can be found at: <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/news/marriage-care-seeks-volunteers-diocese-shrewsbury-help-prepare-couples-sacrament-marriage>

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

Our Under 12 cricketers had mixed results against King's Macclesfield in the week. At A team posted a score of 64 in 20 overs which Kings reached with overs to spare. The Under 12 B team were more successful reaching their opponent's score with similar success. At Under 15s the side scored over 200 in twenty overs. Oliver Higson top scored with 84 ably supported by Daniel O'Gorman and Lewis Phillips. Kings were always behind the required run rate of over 10 enabled all players to bowl two overs. Kings finished over 30 runs behind our score.

Tennis

In tennis results our sides continue to progress well in English School's competitions and 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.

Athletics

Our Under 15 side has reached the English Schools A final to be held at Robin Park on Wednesday 14th June. The Under 13 side qualified for the B final which is scheduled for Monday 12th June at Warrington Athletics Club. All athletes looking to be selected for the two sides should be training every lunchtime now that we have better weather for all events.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

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

PE/ Games Kit Reminder

Boys have been reminded that they are expected to wear PE kit for all summer lessons which includes white socks and training shoes. Due to the increased temperature, the winter games kit is unsuitable.

2nd Year students will soon be given a letter for their GCSE PE kit. This is a separate kit for students who have opted for PE as a GCSE subject and should be worn in those practical lessons only.

N. Handy

Director of Sport

Sport Fixtures/Scores

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

Now that the exam season is upon us SAPA wish all the students the very best of luck in all their exams. We also pass on our very best to the parents and carers who support the boys at this stressful time of year. We hope you have relaxing half term and look forward to seeing you in the next half of term.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting, which includes the AGM is on Monday the 12th June 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

Keep up with SAPA on:

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

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

Website - www.sapa.org.uk

SAPA Chair

JOB SCOUTS
BRINGING EMPLOYMENT TO YOUTH



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

Award winning youth recruitment agency, Jobscoouts 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

Saint Ambrose College Hale Barrs

OPEN MORNING

Saturday 1st July

9.30am – 12.30pm

0161 980 2711

st-ambrosecollege.org.uk