



# Saint Ambrose College News Bulletin

21st September 2018

## Message from the Principal

Over the past fortnight, the vast majority of year groups have had events where parents/carers have had the opportunity to visit the college to receive vital information regarding the vision and expectations for the year ahead. I would like to thank the staff who facilitated and led those events as well as the parents and carers who turned out in huge numbers. The number in attendance spoke volumes in terms of sharing the aspirations we all have for the students and the desire to work alongside the school to support our aims. Thank you!

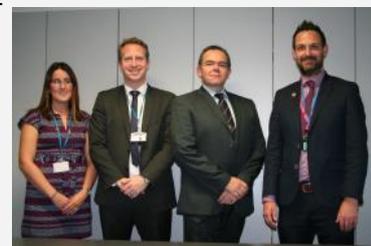
Last Saturday I attended a concert at the RNCM to listen to a musical hero of mine, Gruff Rhys (better known as the front man of Super Furry Animals). I have been to see him numerous times but I am always struck with his unorthodox guitar playing style. Being left-handed but initially learning on a right-handed guitar means he essentially now plays 'upside down' (Jimi Hendrix was similar). Still, it does not alter the quality; in fact, it brings something different to the sound. Whilst recognising the importance of consistency of expectations in our classrooms we must always be mindful of those who maybe get to where we want them to by a different route and recognise the different sounds and qualities they can bring to our lessons and college as a whole by doing so.

Good luck to our sports teams in their fixtures over the weekend. In addition, I would like to wish those sitting our entrance exam on Saturday morning the best of luck. I pray that the gifts of the spirit may be upon them so that they all may give of their best. May they be guided with wisdom, understanding and patience.

Mr Rainey

## Designated Safeguarding Leads

We are proud to introduce our Designated Safeguarding Leads; (from left to right) Miss Burton, Mr Groves, Mr Roche and Principal, Mr Rainey. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.



## St Ambrose Charity Registered Charity Number 526013



Thank you to all of our existing parents and supporters and to our new parents who have completed standing order forms for The St Ambrose Charity which were included in your welcome packs. Your generous donations are very much appreciated and will be used to improve the facilities of the College and to enhance the educational experience of the boys attending the College.

Since its inception in 1955 The Saint Ambrose College Charity has helped to fund many different projects at the College. In recent years these have included donations to enable the building of the swimming pool, the provision of a new mini bus, the fitting out of a new drama classroom and photography equipment to facilitate the A level course.

At its most recent meeting the Trustees have agreed a generous donation for the College to provide for additional equipment for the creative arts department, essential maintenance to the sports pitches and swimming pool, funding to upgrade the school website, IT equipment to facilitate Safeguarding within the school, improvements to the Personal, Social and Health Education programme provided to all students, counselling services for our most vulnerable pupils and a range of resources to improve the Catholic Life of the school. There is no doubt that without the Charity the College would be unable to fund all of these activities which will undoubtedly make a difference to the educational experience of all boys at St Ambrose College.

If you were previously unaware of the Charity and would like to make a donation further details are available at: <http://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/1117/parent/appeal-and-gift-aid-scheme/> If you are eligible to please make sure you sign the gift aid declaration so that the Charity can reclaim 25p for every £1 donation you make from HMRC.



### Dates for the Diary

**22nd September**  
Entrance Examination

**26th September**  
3rd Year Photographs

**28th September**  
between 2 & 3.30pm  
MacMillan Afternoon Tea

in the Sports Department (use Sports entrance)

**3rd October**  
5th Year Group Photograph

**W/C 8th October**  
1st Year Retreat to Castlerigg

**18th October**  
Break up for half-term at 3.35pm

**29th October**  
Return to College



All cake donations welcome!



### Congratulations



to  
**Alexander Allen**

for passing his  
Trinity College Electric Guitar Grade 5  
with Distinction

### Rail Season Ticket

Northern Rail has added us to their Educational Season Ticket Scheme.

For more information, please visit:

<mailto:www.northernrailway.co.uk/educational-season-tickets>



The excellent start of the year was again continued on Saturday with A teams playing Hutton Grammar School, Preston. All teams were victorious with our U13B team also winning their first game. It was great to see so many parents attend the matches. Supporters are always welcome, but it is imperative we continue to support the ethos of the school and appreciate the efforts of all players, teams, staff and referees. There is always a temptation to just encourage your own son but we are proud of our sporting reputation, which includes appreciating the talents of all players involved, so we would encourage you to applaud opposition tries too.

Our U15 B team enjoyed a victory against Sale Grammar School's A team and our U12 B team similarly enjoyed success against local teams. The U13C team faced a challenging first choice team from Sale, but probably achieved the best result of the day in defeat. The side scored 6 tries in a 30-60 reversal. The referee needed two pencils for this game! During midweek fixtures our sides played against Altrincham Grammar School for Boys. In the 4 away games, sides recorded a clean sweep of victories although our Second XV must avoid complacency in future fixtures. At Home only our U15 side tasted defeat, losing narrowly to a strong XV. At U13 the team won 50-0 whilst our U14s got the better of a 10-7 result.

This weekend we play against Kirkham Grammar School, Preston with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, U15A and B travelling via coach from the Wicker Lane entrance. Our U12A & B teams will travel from the Holy Angels church car park. Entrance exam traffic will congest the school driveway, hence this change. All boys must wear their school uniform to travel, and arrive in time for a prompt 8.30am departure.

Our U14 A & B and U13 A & B teams have home fixtures with 10.30am kick off scheduled. Parents would similarly be advised to drop their son off at the Wicker Lane entrance. **No parking or drop off points will be available on the premises this weekend.**

### Swimming Gala

Our first swimming gala took place against Merchant Taylors on Tuesday. Our 5 teams were behind going into the relays, despite some excellent individual performances. Our strength in depth however saw us win almost all the remaining relays to record our first victory.

Water Polo / Badminton / Table Tennis / Weight Training / X-Country  
We have received an excellent response from students to participate in extra curricular sports, clubs and activities again this year. All boys should now have a revised timetable and are preparing for their first competitions.

200 Club  
Thank you to all 1<sup>st</sup> year parents for joining our 200 club. Please return the Direct Debit form in your welcome pack if you wish to join our ever growing number of supporters. Every £10 raised each month provides £5 of funds to our Sports programme and gives members a chance to win monthly draws of half amounts raised with half year and end of year draws over £1000 in prize money.

N Handy  
Director of Sport

**Please help this season!**  
Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help serve refreshments after matches. If anyone can help please email Mr Handy. [mrnhandy@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk](mailto:mrnhandy@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)



## Scalextric Race Night— Saturday 13th October

Tickets for the Scalextric Race Night are now available to purchase in the Parentmail shop! Doors open at 4pm and close 9.30pm.

There will be two race sessions for College boys and their parents to enjoy – the first at 5.45pm, and the second at 7.15pm. Anyone can race – boys, dads, mums, brothers or sisters, but there are a limited number of places, so you will need to be quick to get your race seat. Don't be late on the night.....races will start promptly on time. There will be an 8-lane race track with computerised scoring and live commentary. Every racer will get the chance to race 8 times, with the fastest 8 going through to a thrilling final. A prize will be awarded to the fastest racer in each session. Race tickets are £9. Please visit the MiniRacing website ([www.miniracing.com](http://www.miniracing.com)) for more information.

If you don't want to race, that's not a problem. You can watch or have a go at our other fun games, and spectator tickets are only £2. We will have 4-lane Mario Kart Racing on the big screen (in the lecture theatre) plus games to play like 'Drop the coin', Magnetic darts and Pick-up sticks. We will have a lucky dip giving you the chance to win prizes. There will be hot food available to buy (hot dogs, burgers, fries, etc.), Krispy Kreme donuts, a pick and mix sweet stall (at the Penny Pit Stop), popcorn, hot and cold drinks and a licensed bar. You can also buy mini pamper sessions with hand, neck or head massages, or have your nails painted.

Jo McEntee,  
SAPA Chair

### SAPA dates for your diary

#### Monday 8th October

Second-hand uniform sale 6.30pm to 7pm in the College &

SAPA meeting 7pm in the College

#### Saturday 13th October

Scalextric Race Night from 4pm to 9.30pm

#### Sunday 25th November

Christmas Fair 11am—2pm

#### Friday 8th February 2019

Family Quiz & Games Night

#### Friday 14th June

Summer Party Bowdon Rugby Club



Polite reminder that  
**No dogs**  
are permitted on College premises

### Home Fixture

**Saturday 22nd September**

**U14A, U14B, U13A, U13B**

St Ambrose College

Vs

Kirkham Grammar School

**10.30am Kick off**

(Students selected have been advised of meet times)

### AWAY FIXTURE

**Saturday 22nd September**

**Seniors A&B,  
U15A, U15B, U12A, U12B**

Kirkham Grammar School

Vs

St Ambrose College

**10.30am Kick off**

(Students selected have been advised of meet times and locations)

**SCALEXTRIC RACE NIGHT**  
BY [MINIRACING.COM](http://MINIRACING.COM)

**Where?** SAINT AMBROSE COLLEGE, HALE BARNs

**When?** SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2018

**Event time?** FROM 4.00 TO 9.30PM

**Race times:** SESSION 1 5.45 - 7.30PM | SESSION 2 7.15 - 9PM

**RACES START PROMPTLY AT 6PM & 7.30PM!**

**£9 PER RACER** (TICKETS FROM PARENTMAIL - CHOOSE YOUR RACE TIME)

**ENTRY ONLY £2 FOR SPECTATORS!** (COME AND CHEER THE RACERS!)

**PIT LANE OPENS 30 MINUTES BEFORE EACH RACE**

**CHALLENGE YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR PARENTS! WHO IS THE FASTEST?**

**HOT FOOD & DRINKS (INCLUDING BAR) PENNY PIT STOP KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUTS MINI PAMPERS**

**LIMITED PLACES BOOK NOW!**

**RACE SEATS AVAILABLE TO BOYS ATTENDING SAINT AMBROSE COLLEGE AND THEIR PARENTS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS!**