

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

7th September 2018



Message from the Principal

As the first week of term draws to a close there is much to reflect upon. As well as being arguably the busiest week of the year it is also perhaps the week where we experience the best 'buzz' around the building as students are reacquainted with friends after a long summer and those new to our community make new friendships. There is a sense of hope and expectation for what the year ahead might bring. For everyone it is a new chapter and a blank page on which to create something lasting and memorable. In chapter 3 of the book of Ecclesiastes we see a passage many of you might recognise from the song 'Turn! Turn! Turn!' by The Byrds. It speaks about there being a time for everything and a purpose for everything under heaven. One of the verses mentions a time to plant. In the academic year, now is very much the time for planting. It is a time for all of us to revisit our school's mission and to understand what it asks of us and in turn then plant the seeds which will allow our mission to come to fruition. We want the best for the boys and the gentlemen of the Sixth Form and are making our expectations, hopes and dreams for them clear from the outset. I challenge our students to reflect on what & who they wish to become and set out the standards now to allow that vision to become a reality. Blessed Edmund Rice himself urged us to 'Plant the seed and it will grow'.

It has also been a time to reflect on the academic achievements from the summer results. Yet again we have seen academic standards rise at both GCSE & A level and these results bear witness to the resilience and desire of the students as well as to the dedication and commitment of staff. A number of our Sixth Form students participated in the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes and have returned renewed and refreshed. I thank them for their selflessness in giving their time and care to those in need. However, we must also think of those in our community for whom the summer hasn't been a time of renewal and relaxation but instead a time of worry and sadness. I think particularly of those with close ties to Kerala in India where there have been devastating floods leading to loss of life. For all those affected and for all those for whom the summer months have been difficult I hope and pray that St Ambrose College will be a safe haven and a community which allows you to heal and grow. Given that this is my first time putting something in writing in the role of Principal I would like to thank those who have offered me well wishes and support. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this wonderful, unique school. The traditions of Edmund Rice education are very close to my heart and I will endeavour to lead the whole college community to make the 8 Essentials of Edmund Rice education visible each and every day. With your support, I am sure that together we can make that happen. God bless,

Mr D Rainey

School Uniform

Please find below a brief reminder of the school uniform and the rules relating to mobile phones which students must adhere.

Uniform (1st year - 5th year)

All boys are required to wear the following items. College blazer; College tie; white shirt; charcoal grey or black trousers; black shoes; grey or black socks.

Please note school uniform can be purchased from: Monkhouse Schoolwear

Uniform (Sixth Form)

This year, Lower Sixth Form students and those from Upper Sixth Form who wish to, have made the transition into a new style of uniform.

Dark business suit with a white or pale blue shirt and a new College Sixth Form tie. Students must also wear appropriate smart leather or leather-type dark shoes and dark socks.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones must be switched off and not used in lessons without the specific permission of a teacher. Phones must not be used between lessons. Failure to adhere to this, may result in temporary confiscation of the phone.

Dates for the diary

12th September

5th year parents' information evening @ 7pm

13th September

L6th form induction evening @ 6pm

19th September

3rd year parents' information evening @ 8pm

4th year parents' information evening @ 7pm

20th September

1st year meet & greet evening @ 7pm

28th September from 2pm until 3.30pm

Macmillan Afternoon Tea



Fantastic summer work

1st year students surpassed our high expectations, producing outstanding projects on Blessed Edmund Rice and the school badge over the summer break.

Congratulations and welcome to all our 1st year students.

We hope you have enjoyed your first week as ambrosians.

Mr Rainey, Miss McCrory & Miss McLoughlin pictured with 1st year students and their projects



GCSE achievement

Congratulations to all our students for their hard work and determination to succeed, GCSE results improved significantly, with Acting Principal Mr Rainey paying tribute to the boys' 'healthy competitive spirit.'

The Attainment A ratio, the government's benchmark denoting the average of all grades increased from 68.5 to 70, with the key Progress 8 score, denoting just how much the boys have achieved than was predicted at age 11 "yet again significantly higher" said Mr Rainey, "with more than five per cent improvement showing the trend is very strongly upwards," he added.

Over 57% of all grades were at 9 to 7 or the former A* to A grades, prompting Mr Rainey to add: "This has been a very strong year group, with an exceptional work ethic, who enjoy healthy competition among themselves. They have been helped by a committed, professional staff who want the very best for all the boys in their classes." We wish all the boys every success in the future, whatever their chosen path might be.



A Level achievement

A Level students showed their calmness under pressure by acing the new style A Level examinations.

"The change to a linear style of assessment," said Head of Sixth Form Mrs Ridgway, "means there is more pressure on the final examination."

Mrs Ridgway added: "These are among our best results and shows how readily staff and students have embraced what has been a quite considerable change."

We wish all Sixth Form leavers every success with the next stage of their life. We look forward to welcoming them as 'Old Boys'.



Every year thousands of people are given the unfortunate news that they have cancer. Shockingly, by 2030 it is estimated there will be more than 150,700 people living with cancer in Greater Manchester. Following on from the success of the Macmillan coffee afternoon last year, we would like to continue our efforts to raise awareness and fundraise for this invaluable cause.

On Friday 28th September 2018, St Ambrose will be hosting an afternoon tea in aid of Macmillan's Biggest Coffee Morning! Between 14:00 and 15:30 you are invited to join us for a cup of tea and a slice of cake to support this wonderful cause.

Every pound we raise will help make sure that no one has to face cancer alone in Greater Manchester and across the UK.

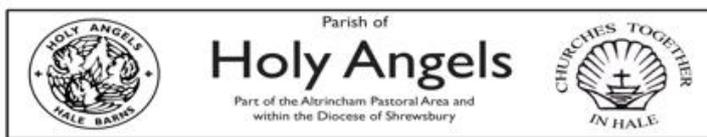
If you would like to attend could you please RSVP to:

office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

by Wednesday 26th September so we can make sure there are enough refreshments to go round!

We will be relying on donations of cakes from the school community so please get involved and support this wonderful cause.

Miss McCrory/Miss McLoughlin



EDUCATION SUNDAY

2018: Faith and Works

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sunday 9th September 2018 marks National Education Sunday. Education Sunday is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education. As a parent / carer of a child that is in school or is starting this exciting journey this September, we are sure that you would agree that starting school and the journey in education is an important milestone to celebrate.

The Parish of Holy Angels would like to invite your child starting school this September and their family to join us for a celebration mass (10:30 am), where your child will be invited to come forward to receive a small token from the parish and a special blessing. Children are invited to wear their new school uniforms. If your child and family are not a member of the parish, or your child is attending a school that is not under our Parish, you are still more than welcome to join us for this special celebration.

We will also be praying for all those who work in education, so we invite anybody from teachers, teaching assistants, and office staff or those involved in any capacity, to also join us and receive a blessing.

After mass there will be cake and drinks, after all no celebration is complete without cake!

Should you wish your child to have any further involvement in the mass (reading, welcoming, offertory etc.) or if you have any further questions please email secretaryholyangels@hotmail.co.uk or ring 0161 9804784

Education Sunday has been celebrated by the churches in England for well over 100 years and we hope this occasion is one you will join us for.

Yours Sincerely

Fr Martin Quoha.



St Vincent's Parish Survey

A survey has been compiled by the Parish Pastoral Team (PPT), who are all parishioners at St Vincent's. They are a body which meet regularly and action any spiritual and pastoral needs of the whole parish community as well as being a link between the various groups and ministries within the parish. An important part of the role is to identify and support areas of the Christian mission which need attention and assist with their development.

The aim of this survey is to gain a deeper insight and understanding into the thoughts and suggestions of our parishioners in a simple and informal way. We should be most grateful if you would all take 5 minutes out of your time to complete this short survey before **24th September** to help guide the team in its future endeavours.

Please follow the link:-

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSef0ZLUXzfnm2FjKxHlgrZEhsG0TyBhybz2YCWUkKI5U5-Lw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Sports News

Please help this season!

If you are available to help with refreshments during Saturday sports home fixtures, please e-mail:

mrnhandy@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk



Polite reminder
No dogs are permitted
on school premises.



Please make sure you attend lessons, training and fixtures in appropriate kit and use the changing rooms closest to your activity. Valuables should be locked away in lockers provided in the changing rooms (staff are not responsible for their safe keeping).



Home Fixture Saturday 8th September



1st XV, 2nd XV

St Ambrose College
Vs Wilmslow High School

10.00am Kick off

(Students selected have been advised of meet times)



AWAY FIXTURE Saturday 8th September



Wilmslow High School
Vs
St Ambrose College
U15A U14A, U13A, U13B

10.00am Kick off

(Students selected have been advised of meet times,.
Where possible boys are asked to make their own way,
3 minibuses will depart from SAC @ 9am)

Players & Spectators

It is important that players and spectators work together to support the core values of sport:
Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

We respect our match officials and accept their decisions.

We respect opposition players and supporters.

We value our coaches and those who run our clubs.

We observe fair play both on and off the pitch and are generous in victory and dignified in defeat.

We play sport because we enjoy it.
Enjoyment is what our game is about.

Teamer

Please sign up to receive sports fixture information.

SPORTS FACILITY TRAINING SCHEDULE 2018

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 st XV Rugby Pitch		U-15s Rugby JC/AE		Seniors Rugby PR/DD/AR	
Back Pitch		U-12s Rugby		U-13s Rugby	
All Weather Pitch Lunch	U-14 Rugby ME/LC	Seniors Rugby PH/DD/AR	U-13 Rugby NH /PA	U-12s Rugby MM/MF	U-14s Rugby ME/LC
Small Rugby Pitch					
Circuits	6-7p.m	7.30-8.30 a.m	6-7 p.m	7.30-8.30 a.m	
All Weather Pitch		U-13 Rugby		U-15 Rugby	
Trim Trail Cross Country Lunchtime	All Years SA		All Years SA/DK		
Sports Hall Lunch	1 st Year Basketball	Basketball Years 2 and 3	Badminton	Badminton	Basketball 4 th and 5 th
Fitness Suite Lunchtime	All years MF	All Years S.A	All Years D.S	All Years S.A	All Years S.A
Fitness Suite After School	All Years SA	All Years SA		All Years SA	All Years SA
Swimming Pool		Staff Swim		Staff Swim	All Students
Swimming Pool Lunchtime	Club Swimmers	1 st and 2 nd Years Water-Polo PC		Year 3 and above Water Polo TN/PC	Beginner Swimmers PC
Swimming Pool After School	Water Polo Club Years 3 and Above	Swimming Squad NH/PC		Water Polo Club 2 nd Years	Water Polo 1 st Years TN/PC

SAPA News

Saint Ambrose Parents' Association

Welcome back everyone to a new school year. We hope you all had a lovely summer. Welcome, especially to all the parents of new Saint Ambrose College students.

We hope lots of you can come to our first SAPA meeting of the new school year on Monday 10th September at 7.00pm in the College. We have lots to organise, including the Scalextric Race Night that is planned for October 13th. If you would like to support the Parent's Association and are available this evening, please join us. New volunteers are always welcome. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and support the College and Preparatory School.

We will also be selling second-hand uniform from 6.30pm until 7.00pm in the College before the SAPA meeting starts. Trousers will be on sale – only £1. They're in very good condition, mostly from Marks and Spencer, Next and John Lewis. We have lots in sizes age 13 through to 16 years. Thank you to those parents who have already donated uniform – we really appreciate it. If you have any unwanted uniform that no longer fits your son, please drop off any good quality uniform and sports kit at the College office, and we can put it to good use. We especially need ties and PE/games kit.

If you have any questions, please contact:
chair18@sapa.org.uk

Jo McEntee

Follow SAPA!

Facebook www.facebook.com/SAPAnews/

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

Website www.sapa.org.uk



School bus updates

Please follow the link below for school bus information and changes to the bus 766 route.

<http://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/library/client/website/Bus/2018/St%20Ambrose%20College%20-%20Bus%20Timetable%20Sept%202018.pdf>



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 dates for your diary

Monday 10 September

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

Monday 10 September

SAPA meeting 7pm in the College

Monday 8 October

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

Monday 8 October

SAPA meeting 7pm in the College

Saturday 13 October

Scalextric Race Night

Holy Angels in Bloom



If you would like to volunteer to support Holy Angels in BLOOM and require any information, would like to donate plants or young trees, or wish to donate money to the HAIb budget, please get in touch with either:

Wojtek Kwiatkowski at wojtek_kwiatkowski@hotmail.com or phone 07884116616

or

Sue Brown at rhlbrown@hotmail.com or phone 0161 980 8697

Next gardening dates are Saturday 15th & 22nd Sept at 10am

Come and join us – no experience necessary!



Saturday October 6th, 7.00pm

All Saints Church Hall

Barn Dance

with fish and chip supper

Tickets: £10 (children under 12 £5)
call All Saints Office 0161 980 3234



All Saints Hale Barns with Ringway

featuring popular live Ceilidh band 'Marmalade'