



Saint Ambrose College

Weekly News Bulletin



@PrincipalSAC

Friday 6th October 2023

A Message from the Principal

We have been privileged to welcome Justice Desk Africa and PRATYEK to St Ambrose on Wednesday following their presentations to school leaders and governors at the annual Edmund Rice Conference at the beginning of the week. I returned from that conference reinvigorated, recognising that with rights come responsibilities and we certainly have a duty to advocate for the rights of communities less fortunate than ourselves. Undoubtedly, the groups who had the opportunity to listen to and work with the groups will have been similarly inspired. With Mission Sunday just a couple of weeks away, it is timely for us all to consider how we can play our part in creating a more just world. Further information on the work of Justice Desk Africa and PRATYEK can be found here:

<https://www.justicedesk.org/>

<https://pratyek.org.in/>

On Tuesday 10th October we will be recognising World Mental Health Day. Mr Cook has provided resources but it might be a good opportunity to discuss some of the themes with your son(s).

We have been undertaking a travel survey in response to some of the issues being experienced on some buses and routes this year. It is crucial that all students, sixth form included, complete this survey so that we can ascertain how we can best work with TfGM to resolve the issues.

Our new library system has been launched and will initially start with year 7 pupils accessing it on a Tuesday lunchtime. This is a new initiative for us this year and will gradually be rolled out throughout key stage 3. We have been fortunate in that the generosity of parents and SAPA have enabled us to provide a bank of new books across a range of genres.

Another new initiative for this academic year is the Sixth Form lecture series taking place on Wednesday afternoons. This coming Wednesday we welcome Mr Andrew Higginson, chairman of JD Sports. Mr Higginson will be addressing the gentlemen of the Sixth Form on leadership and character. Mr Higginson is also well known for his work in launching TESCO bank and we are in no doubt that he will inspire our students to realise that there is no ceiling for ambition and potential success. The following week we will have a talk from Frederick Naftal about the Holocaust discussing the personal and global impact that this tragic period had on world history.

Our rugby teams had a mixed experience against Leeds Grammar last



weekend but our senior football team have progressed in the national cup yet again, this time overcoming Bolton School despite having played with ten men for most of the match. We wish all our teams every success again this weekend.

It seems a long time since the Rugby World Cup got underway, but we are now at the point where things get a little bit more interesting. In the background, the Cricket World Cup has gone under the radar with England receiving a bit of a pummeling by New Zealand in a repeat of the last 50-over World Cup final at Lord's back in 2019. It looks like England's cricketers have a slightly tougher group than their rugby union counterparts. At least both of those sports know how to make effective use of VAR/technology by having half-decent communication unlike the shambles at White Hart Lane last weekend. The whole point of VAR was to ensure that it was more likely to come to the correct decision. Therefore, how it can then be the case that the laws prevent a match from being brought back after a few seconds to rectify such a huge error is baffling. Stopping the game and getting to the right outcome would have been 'the lesser of two evils' but instead we've had to endure the week-long fallout. It seems that they are making the system more difficult than it ought to be.

Have a great weekend.

Mr D Rainey
Principal



REMINDERS

Dates for your diary

Month of October	Black History Month Black History Month 2023 - Celebrating our Sisters
8th October	KUKRI Online shop closes
16th—20th October	Week Against Exploitation
16th-17th October	Year 7 Castlerigg Retreat (AQUINAS)
17th-18th October	Year 7 Castlerigg Retreat (AUGUSTINE)
18th-19th October	Year 7 Castlerigg Retreat (IGNATIUS)
19th– 20th October	Year 7 Castlerigg Retreat (NEWMAN)
20th October	Last day of half term
30th October	Term resumes

For term dates for 2023-2024, please visit our website [TERM DATES 2023-2024](#)

REMINDER PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT ARE CLEARLY LABELLED

The College holds a huge amount of lost property that is unnamed and unclaimed. Please may we remind all students/parents/carers that all items of equipment and uniform should be clearly labelled with the student's name. This means we can reunite items with their rightful owner!





STUDENT SUCCESS



Congrats to Ben M—Year 9

Who passed his piano exam with a merit last week, well don Ben!



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to the young men below who all enjoyed a reward breakfast this morning with Mr Rainey in recognition of their dedication to striving for excellence. Hot chocolate and pastries all round!



Temí B—12F

Samuel MW—11A

Adrian R—10B

Dominic BM—13D

Samuel D—11A

Jude G—7A
Finlay H—9D
Theo B—7F
Joseph A—7B
John B—8A
Thomas M—9D
Alexis V—7D
Archie C—7C
James B—9E
Ollie R—8B



**#ambrosianspirirt #positiveattitude #compassionandkindness #strivingforexcellence
#sportingexcellence**



SPORTS UPDATE

Senior & U16 Football

Senior and Under 16 Footballers Boys have the opportunity to purchase a full kit which should be worn to matches and in Games lessons. The total cost is £25 for shirts, socks and shorts. Goalkeepers kit is also available. Mr Cutting will be selecting squads in the coming weeks and boys will need the kit for matches starting at the end of the month. Please pay using the Parent Pay system.

Senior and u16 Rugby players can now pay for their full rugby kit via Parent Pay.

KUKRI Online Shop - This is CLOSING on Sunday 8th October

Personalised rugby shirts The Kukri Shop will be opening again shortly. If you missed the first opportunity to order a personalised rugby shirt please contact the College via email office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk to be added to the waiting list. As advised KUKRI will only reopen the online shop when there are a minimum of ten orders.

We do have some older style reversible Games shirts available to purchase as a replacement. The shirts are £10 and we have various sizes available.

200 Club

Parents are reminded of our 200 Club which has monthly draws to raise money for School Sport. The Direct Debit mandate can be found on the School website and parents are encouraged to support the Sports Committee who run this. For £10 a month parents can win £100 with three bumper prizes of £250 in Summer and Xmas draws, The School receive half of the monies collected and use this to support our extensive Sports programme. Please return completed forms to any Sports staff. I was delighted to return to school last week and find 38 new 200 club parents who had sent in their DD forms. These are being processed and should hopefully be included in the October draw.

School sports Website:

The vast majority of fixtures are available to view on : <http://www.sacsport.org.uk/?id=332>

Sporting fixtures commence:

Rugby

On Saturday 30th September we competed in 9 matches against Leeds GS. The College won 2 drawn 1 and lost 6 games. This Saturday 7th October we play St. Anselm's College 1st XV, 2nd XV, U12A&B are AWAY
U15A, U14A&B, U13A&B are at HOME
All 10 am ko

The meet time for the teams travelling AWAY to St. Anselm's is **8.10am.**

If you are at St Anselm's the meet time is **9.15.** the postcode is: **CH43 9XZ**

On Tuesday 10th October our U15 continue their NatWest Cup campaign V Cheadle Hulme School ko 4pm

On Wednesday 11th October our 1st XV continue their NatWest campaign at home to Lymm HS ko 2.15pm

Also on Wednesday 11th, our U12A and U13A compete against Stonyhurst School ko 3.40pm at home.

Football

On Tuesday 3rd October our U16 begin their ESFA cup campaign at home to Tytherington 4pm ko

On Wednesday 4th our senior team has a ESFA fixture against Bolton School away ko 2.15

Also on Wednesday our 2nd and 3rd XI have matches at Home v Kings Chester.

Swimming

On Friday 6th October our U13, U15 and U18 teams compete in the Northwest swim qualifiers for the National Finals at Everton Park Leisure Centre. (4pm start)

Water polo

On Wednesday 11th our U15 team get their season started with a match against Manchester GS. 1.35 start.

Sports Training Timetable

All students are encouraged to take part in at least one physical activity and we have tried to offer as wide a choice of Winter Sports as possible, House competitions will also be starting very soon in their Games lessons. The water polo lessons after school are a paid for activity and will start when numbers are confirmed. We have lunchtime practices to ensure all students have an equal opportunity to compete for School team selection. The exception is in Senior football where boys are asked to stay until 5pm for their practices and year 10/11 basketball (although basketball will be an option in the year 10&11 games lessons) Boys can wear appropriate non-school kit for practices to enable parents time to wash Games and PE kit which should be worn in curricular lessons. Any boys unable to take part in those lessons should bring a note or alternatively join teachers in the swimming pool or Fitness suite where an appropriate activity will be given to assist their injury. Please make sure your son has the appropriate kit for all lessons.

Mr M Fitzsimon

Director of Sport



KUKRI ONLINE SHOP

CLOSES 8TH OCTOBER 2023

Please be advised that the KUKRI online shop for items of sportswear, including the personalised rugby top, will close on Sunday 8th October.

Once the shop has closed it will only reopen if there are a minimum of 10 orders on the waiting list.



Online shop here:

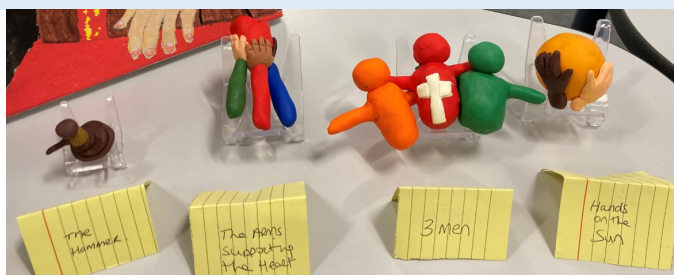
[St Ambrose College | Kukri Sports | Product List](#)



YEAR 7—EDMUND RICE SUMMER PROJECT

Well done to Jude G in 7A for a wonderfully creative Edmund Rice summer project. Jude handmade clay models of symbols of the eight essentials and also painted the famous portrait of 'Bless Edmund Rice'. He was selected to receive the Principals Award today in recognition of his outstanding work.

Miss Donegan



SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES—A brief precis of Sixth Form Wednesday Activities.

On Wednesday afternoons, our Sixth Form have been engaged in a multitude of activities and sports. Students have attended Medical tutorials with Dr Sate, Oxbridge master classes, Youth Enterprise, cooking within a budget, MOOCs (a series of on-line super curricular lectures focusing on areas of interest) Unifrog and community work. In addition, on Wednesday 11th we will enjoy the first of our guest lectures which will be delivered by Mr Andrew Higginson the man who built Tesco's Bank and the current Chairman of JD Sports aka The King of Trainers.

The gentlemen of the Sixth form also enjoy the fine sporting facilities and tutelage we have on offer. Whilst observing all that is going on over the last few weeks I was delighted to see all our boys engaged in some form of physical activity either in competitive matches or simply working out in the gym under the watchful guide of our gym manager Mr Aspinwall. There have been glorious mid-week rugby fixtures against Ellesmere College and Altrincham boys. The footballers most recently presented three teams against Kings Chester and our swimmers and water Polo players have been working in earnest with Mrs Chandler to hone their skills in the pool.

Whilst others enjoy badminton, basketball, weight lifting and tennis. We are assured that the old saying that a 'healthy boy leads to a healthy mind' will allow our boys to strive for excellence.

Mr Brady



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 8th November

From 6.00pm until 8.00pm

6:15pm Presentation from the Principal,
Head of Sixth Form and Sixth Form students



No need to register
All are welcome

Nurturing Young Men to Make a Positive Impact
on the Modern World



Saint Ambrose College
State-Funded Grammar School for Boys

Hale Road, Altrincham, WA15 0HE
www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

B:M2023

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

October half term is fast approaching and there are numerous cultural events taking place across Manchester that will greatly benefit young peoples personal development away from school and the taught curriculum.

Please see the link below for event happening in and around Manchester this October:

[Black History Month 2023 - all the events taking place in Greater Manchester \(msn.com\)](#)

Improving reading and literacy is a College wide priority. Therefore, we would encourage students to take the time this October to read a wide range of texts (link below) and to put their learning into practice by entering the official Black History Month poetry competition.

BHM poetry competition open to all:

[Black History Month Poetry Competition 2023 - Black History Month 2023](#)

Official BHM reading list *(open to all including parent and carers):*

[Reading List: Black History Month UK - Black History Month 2023](#)

World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th October 2023



Tuesday 10th October is World Mental Health Awareness Day. Please see below some signposting to support young people with their mental health and some healthy tips.

- <https://www.kooth.com/>
- [World Mental Health Day - Mind](#)
- [World Mental Health Day 2023 | Mental Health Foundation](#)



RLSS NATIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD QUALIFICATION

Venue: St Ambrose College 2024

Cost £270

(NOTE For St Ambrose students only)



Monday 12th February

Tuesday 13th February

Wednesday 14th February

Thursday 15th February

Friday 16th February

Time 8.30am till 5.30pm

100% attendance required on all days

Candidates must be over 16.

For booking and more information contact Trafford Training on:

Fiona.buckley@traffordleisure.co.uk

training@traffordleisure.co.uk

Please see Mrs Chandler with any questions



SAPA LATE SUMMER NEWS!

SAPA MEETINGS

**Our next meeting is the AGM at the college
on Thursday 12th at 6pm
All welcome!**

A huge **welcome** goes out to our new SAPA members.

It was lovely to meet you at our last meeting.

Any new parents who wish to be part of the group
please just turn up at the next meeting or message us
on the email below. We promise you a warm welcome!

Please email chair@sapa.org.uk for more information

**OUR NEXT UNIFORM SALE IS
14TH OCTOBER 8.30am**

**PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!!
OUR CHRISTMAS FAIR IS THE 2nd DECEMBER**

We are already planning our Christmas fair and as usual

WE NEED MANY VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

**Please email chair@sapa.org.uk
to express your interest in becoming a helper/volunteer on the day.**

**You do not have to attend all the meetings to volunteer at our events
and the more we have, the more successful it will be.**

CAN YOU HELP?

**WE ARE ALREADY
SOURCING PRIZES
FOR OUR EVER POPULAR
CHRISTMAS FAIR RAFFLE.**

**DO YOU HAVE A CONTACT WHO YOU
COULD ASK FOR A DONATION?**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR AMAZING
PRIZES ESPECIALLY FAMILY PRIZES
SUCH AS TICKETS/VOUCHERS OR
SOMETHING REALLY SPECIAL
SUCH AS A MANCHESTER UNITED OR
MANCHESTER CITY SIGNED SHIRT!**

**IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE GET IN
TOUCH ON THE EMAIL BELOW.
THANK YOU!**

Please email chair@sapa.org.uk for more information



SAPA LATE SUMMER NEWS!

**OUR NEXT UNIFORM SALE IS ON
14TH OCTOBER AT 8.30**

**PLEASE KEEP SENDING IN CLEAN
AND LAUNDERED DONATIONS!
(Especially ties and socks!)**



**Our stocks are depleted after our amazing
sales and we desperately need donations of:**

**TIES • BLAZERS • SPORTS SOCKS • RUGBY TOPS
KUKRI RUGBY SHORTS • INDOOR PE KIT**

**PLEASE COULD YOU SEND THEM INTO THE COLLEGE
RECEPTION SO WE CAN HELP THE NEW YEAR 7 PARENTS
WHO ARE WAITING FOR ITEMS TO COME IN!**

Please keep sending in all other sizes and items as usual.



General Notices

ATTENDANCE

The School Day

Please can we remind all students to ensure they are on-site by 08:55, all boys should be in their form rooms at 09:00 for registration.

All students should enter the building using the student entrance **not** Main Reception (this is only for late arrivals). Students who have two or more late marks in one week will receive an after-school detention.

Parents/Carers – please do not use the College car park as a drop-off point at the beginning or end of the day. This is for the safety of our students.

For further guidance please refer to our Attendance Policy available on the website: [St Ambrose College \(st-ambrosecollege.org.uk\)](http://st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

Medical Appointments

If your son has a medical appointment please try and make them after school or if not as close to the end of the school day as possible. Please give advance notice of appointments in writing attaching copies of medical letters/appointment cards and email them to attendance@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

PASTORAL/WELL-BEING ISSUES

Please contact your son's form tutor in the first instance and they will resolve or pass on as required. For urgent matters relating to safeguarding or pastoral care, please contact Mr Groves, our Designated Safeguarding Lead: mrpgroves@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

ONLINE SAFETY

Students' online safety is important to us. We encourage parents to visit our website for advice and guidance [Saint Ambrose College - Online Safety \(st-ambrosecollege.org.uk\)](http://st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

Useful resources can also be found by visiting:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://parentinfo.org/>

<https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/default.aspx>

More general advice and information about the latest apps is available from Net Aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>