



Saint Ambrose College

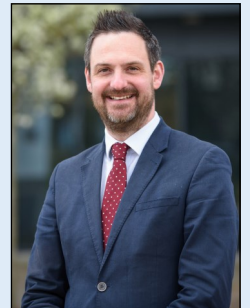
Weekly News Bulletin



@PrincipalSAC

Friday 13th October 2023

A Message from the Principal



Our thoughts and prayers are with all families impacted by the tragic events unfolding in the Middle East since last weekend. We know that it has been a fragile peace and pray that negotiations can find a lasting ceasefire sooner rather than later. We also keep in our prayers those affected by last week's earthquakes in Afghanistan.

It has been a busy week for having visitors on-site, particularly on Wednesday when we had Mr Andrew Higginson, Chair of JD Sports, addressing the gentlemen of the Sixth Form. We also hosted Sixth Form students from Loreto as they continue to work alongside our students, to improve wider understanding of the issues impacting our young people. We received many positive comments from the visitors with one reference to the sense of calm and positive behaviour they saw across the school.

We are delighted to announce that our new pop-up library has been opened this week. Our year 7 pupils have wasted no time taking the opportunity to borrow books. Please see the photographs included in the newsletter. A big thank you to Mrs Hart and Mrs Hill for setting up the library and SAPA for purchasing the books.

Staying with SAPA, there will be a pre-loved uniform sale tomorrow morning during the rugby fixtures, follow the signs round to the side of the swimming pool which is where it will be located this week. We are also grateful for the purchasing by SAPA of a new laser cutter which will be a huge benefit to the wider College community. Please note the date of our Christmas fair will take place on Saturday 2nd December 12 noon to 3pm.

Due to the current closure of our pool, we had reduced sporting fixtures this week but welcomed Stonyhurst on Wednesday afternoon, unfortunately resulting in a loss, despite a valiant effort from both U12A and U13A. The pool closure is currently beyond our control and we understand any frustrations there might be. Best of luck to all participating in the rugby fixtures tomorrow morning before we all settle down to watch fixtures that could have been a World Cup final. With the seeding as it is, we see the tournament favourites facing each other across two of the quarter-finals.

Finally, this coming Thursday we will be represented in Birmingham at the official launch of the Gaudete Trust, which we became part of late in the previous academic year. We look forward to the opportunities and partnerships that will become possible through being a part of the Trust.

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
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
6th November	Flu Vaccinations for Years 7-11

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



**Great Work to Julian D—7B,
Eric B—7 and Toby S 7B**

Who all received their end of season cricket awards from Didsbury Cricket Club.



Well Done to Luke D—9C

Who was awarded the Player's Player of the year award at the end of season cricket awards for Didsbury Cricket Club



Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11



UK Health
Security
Agency



Protect yourself against flu

Flu immunisation in England

Information for those in secondary school



Flu **i**mmunisation

Helping to protect you against flu

Available to all Students in Years 7-11

Parents/carers please see the email sent on 12th October for guidance and link to the online consent form.

You must complete the form even if you **do not consent** for your son to have the vaccination.

Vaccination date:

6th November

Online consent form closes:

29th October



SCHOOL NEWS

NEW LIBRARY LAUNCH

We were pleased to welcome our first students to our new pop up library this week. The library has over 500 brand new fiction books that have been generously donated by the Saint Ambrose Parents Association and it was wonderful to see them being used the students benefitting from this wonderful new provision. A number of students have visited the library at lunchtimes, as well as during English lessons.

The Library is now open on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes from 12:30-1pm, for KS3 students.

A reminder that students can loan a book for two weeks, so make sure you return or renew before half term!

Happy reading!!



How to support independent reading at home

Talking to young people about the books they read is one of the best ways to support their literacy development. They need to engage in critical thinking to discuss a book.

Here are some prompts for talking to your son about his reading:

Before he starts a new book

- Why did you choose this book?
- What makes you think it is going to be interesting?
- What do you think the book is going to be about?
- What do you think is going to happen?

While he is reading a book

- What's happened so far?
- What do you think will happen next?
- If you were that character, would you have acted differently in that situation?
- Where is the book set? Would you like to visit?
- If the main character in that story was in your class, do you think you would be friends?
- What does the place look like in your head as you read? Would you want to visit there?
- Did you learn any new words or facts so far?

After he has finished a book

- What was your favourite part of the book? Why?
- Who was your favourite character? Why? Which adjectives would you use to describe them?
- What was the most interesting thing you learned from the book?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book? What were they trying to show?
- Did it end the way you thought it would?
- If you could change one thing in the book, what would it be?



SCHOOL NEWS

AMBRETO PROJECT

Mrs Barlow and some of the Sixth Form Leadership team were delighted to welcome Mr Newman and the Head Girl Team from Loreto Grammar School on Wednesday afternoon to launch the Ambreto Project.

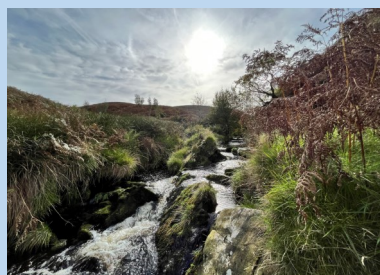
Students from both schools are looking forward to their collaboration, addressing the issues surrounding gender stereotypes, over the coming months.

Mrs Barlow



YEAR 10—GEOGRAPHY GCSE FIELD- WORK TO RIVER GOYT

We were very lucky with the weather on Tuesday, experiencing record mild temperatures for October, as it almost felt like a Summer's day. The students were very well prepared and remembered to bring their boots or wellington boots, so that they could collect data from the river. Students walked down the access path towards Erwood and Fernlee Reservoirs. They had to work in groups, in a very practical setting to gather data on the width, depth, velocity and pebble data at several sites during the day.



The boys were an outstanding example for teamwork, we were incredibly impressed by their positive mindset and determination to complete all the activities on the day before the long walk back to the main road and the waiting coach.

We look forward to taking them out on their second GCSE investigation, to Ordsall and Salford Quays in May/ June date tbc.

Mr McFadden and Mr Donnelly





Youth Mental Health First Aid Ambassadors at Saint Ambrose College

All of the students in the photograph are trained to support your mental health and wellbeing and are available for you to speak to should you need any help.

Students pictured are: (L-R) Stephen V, Ashlin R, Leo D, Zac D, Dylan M, Conor H, George D, Gabriel K, Martin S, Ben H, Ioan F Jisto J, Joel S

Also trained but not pictured: Mitul E, Abel J, Raymond S





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 7th October we played St. Anselm's College. Results were 3 wins, 1 draw and 5 losses.

On Tuesday 10th October our U15 continued their NatWest Cup campaign with a 53-0 victory over Cheadle Hulme School.

On Wednesday 11th October our 1st XV continued their NatWest Cup campaign with a 47-0 victory over Lymm HS.

Also on Wednesday 11th, our U12A and 13A competed against Stonyhurst School losing 20-30 and 0-20 respectively.

This Saturday we take on Wirral GS

Our 1st XV, U16, U12A&B are at HOME

Our U15A, U14A&B, U13A are HOME

KO 10am

On Tuesday 17th October our U14 team take on Lymm HS in the National Cup. Also on Tuesday our U16 take on Lymm HS in the Cheshire Cup both at home ko 4pm.

Football

On Friday 20th October our U16 continue in the ESFA Cup with a trip to Excel Academy Stoke ko 2pm.

Swimming

On Friday 6th October our U13, U15 and U18 teams competed in the Northwest swim qualifiers for the National Finals at Everton Park Leisure Centre. We are currently awaiting the results of the qualifiers.

The gala on Thursday 12th was sadly cancelled due to issues with the pool.

Water polo

On Wednesday 11th the water polo match was postponed due to issues with the pool.

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



SPORTS REPORT

CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday 7th October saw the first race of the school Cross Country season get underway at John Leigh Park in Altrincham. This was the first time the race had been run with different organisers in over 25 years! The new organisers have changed a few things, including the age groupings and the distance run by everyone except year 7. The races are now significantly shorter than they have been and makes for a much quicker race.



The year 7 and 8 team was made up entirely by year 7s, all making their debuts for the school cross country team. Cormac K followed in both his brothers' footsteps by putting on the Ambrose XC vest and ran a very good race to finish in 5th place. Henry F, just about made the start line after already playing a football match, and was 2nd counter, running well to finish in 8th place. Harry L and William J both ran with heart to make up the top 4 counters. Eben Y showed great determination to finish the race after an earlier stoppage. Billy G showed great promise before an unfortunate asthma attack meant he was unable to continue. The overall team position is yet to be sent out.

In the year 9-13 race, Ben H took the individual victory with a dominant display. He and a few others would have liked to have seen the race at its previous, longer distance. Benedict K in Y11, has been focussing on road races lately, and so the added mud and hills were a bit of a shock to the system. He raced well though to finish in 5th place. James S in Y9 had an excellent 2nd lap, passing many athletes to finish just behind his teammate in 6th place.

The next race at John Leigh Park will be on Saturday 18th November. Before then though, we have the first round of the English School's National Cross Country Cup, held at North Cestrian playing fields on Thursday 19th October. Those boys who have been selected will have already been made aware.

Mr Aspinwall



Trip to Lowry

On Friday 6th October St Ambrose College visited the Lowry Theatre to watch the National Theatre's production: Ocean at the end of the lane, and adaption of the best selling novel by Neil Gaimon. Hear from the boys first-hand how they found the show...



I had a fantastic time watching the Ocean at the end of the Lane at the Lowry on Friday night. I don't want to give many spoilers, however that seems inevitable, but the oversimplified plot is the narrator and a girl named Letty Hempstock travels through a puddle, that is somehow also an ocean, to the edges of this world to fight off a Flea trying to cross over from another world (not the type of fleas in your hair, the type that looks like a draconian mess of bones and skin and can shapeshift). In the combat at the edges the Flea manages to get into this world through a wormhole in the narrator's heart and invades the narrator's family. After some time, we get to know of beings called Hungerbirds who eat anything out of place in this world. They eat the Flea and go for the wormhole in the narrator's heart. After complications and a test of the narrator's trust and obedience, the Hungerbirds are fought off at the cost of Letty Hempstock's life. The play ends with the narrator coming back to the Hempstock's house after many years and has his mind "snipped and stitched" of these events, causing him to believe Letty has travelled off to Australia. My favourite moment was when they are first fighting the Flea on the edges!

Aarav U

I found myself blown away by the show "Ocean at the end of the lane" on Friday. The sound and set design were superb, and I was on the edge of my seat for a large majority of the show. If I could, I would re-enter that theatre a thousand times and enjoy it every time. We were on the front row, and I felt truly immersed within the scenes, and the lighting helped me truly become a part of the show. My favourite moment was Scarthatch's binding, in which there was an extremely well choreographed "dance" between Lettie and a spider monster, and the sound shook both my seat and my core. Finally, being there with my friends was truly amazing, and I could enjoy the show knowing they were seeing and enjoying the exact same things. I can see why the tickets were sold out, the show was absolutely perfect.

William M

We had our first trip to the Lowry this year to see the ocean at the end of the lane and it was a blast. The show was sold out and we were very lucky to have the opportunity to have front row seats. The show was astonishing, from the smallest details of lanterns to the massive powerful figures such as the Skarhatch and really gave the effects of an otherworldly dimension as it was immersed into the surroundings as the play went on. My favourite snapshots of this play were the synchronized attacks of the binding of the Skarhatch as they really gave the play a sense of dread and it provided a roller coaster of emotions for the audience. I'd really recommend this play to anyone doing GCSE drama or love theatre as this is a once in a life-time experience that you will never forget.

Sean M



Design a Christmas Card Competition



Calling all students in Years 7, 8 and 9

The St Ambrose Christmas Card Competition is
NOW OPEN

If you're an illustrator, sketcher, photographer, painter or digital artist then we'd love to hear from you!

The winning design will be sent to the Ambrosian community and beyond

- Designs must be size A5 (portrait or landscape)
- Designs must be handed in to the office by no later than Monday 30th October



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 8th November

From 6.00pm until 8.00pm

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
Catholic State-Funded Grammar School for Boys

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



LIFEGUARD COURSE



**LIFESAVERS
DIRECT**
Royal Life Saving Society



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

more people more active more often
www.traffordleisure.co.uk





UNIFORM SALE TOMORROW!

14TH OCTOBER TO START AT 8.30am
NEW LOCATION BELOW!

WE WILL BE LOCATED INDOORS AT THE BACK OF THE BUILDING THROUGH THE SWIMMING POOL ENTRANCE.

LOOK OUT FOR THE SIGNS WHICH WILL BE PUT UP AROUND THE COLLEGE FOR YOU TO FOLLOW.

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

Please keep sending in all uniform items as usual.





SAPA AUTUMN NEWS!

SAPA MEETINGS

We held our AGM on Thursday of this week and more details will follow in the next newsletter.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 2nd November from 6-7pm in the college - All welcome!

Any 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

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2nd DECEMBER 2023 PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!!

The committee are now planning our Christmas fair and **we need as many volunteers as possible to help on the day**. Would you like to get involved? It is very rewarding and fun. You can offer as little as one hour but it would be great if you can offer more time. Please get in touch with us on the below email for more details. Thank you to those who have already contacted us.

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



CAN YOU HELP?



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

**DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS,
HAVE A BUSINESS CONTACT OR
KNOW SOMEBODY WHO DOES?
COULD YOU ASK THEM IF THEY
WOULD LIKE TO DONATE A PRIZE
TO OUR AMAZING RAFFLE?**

**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



JOIN US !

TRAINING SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY - 6-7 PM

@ BEACTIVE URMSTON, M41 7FJ



Register now through the QR Code

For more information, please contact our
club administrator

Info@traffordhandball.co.uk



TRAFFORD HANDBALL CLUB

U14 TEAM TRIALS



@ BEACTIVE URMSTON, M41 7FJ



Chay Mullins
Ireland 7s / Connacht

WANT TO PLAY RUGBY FOR IRELAND



**BOYS BORN IN
2007 - 2008**

IQ RUGBY HALF TERM CAMPS

OCTOBER

NORTH - Mon 23rd. - St Ambrose College

S EAST - Tues 24th. - Grasshoppers RFC

S WEST - Wed 25th - Dings Crusader RFC

MIDLANDS- Thurs 26th - Stourbridge RFC

(Events Times - 0930 - 1530)

**REGISTER
NOW**





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/>