



Saint Ambrose College

Weekly News Bulletin

 @PrincipalSAC

Friday 3rd November 2023

A Message from the Principal

We have begun the celebrations for Allhallowtide this week, allowing us to reflect on the lives of those who have gone before us. Although much of All Hallows Eve has been lost amongst consumerism, many thankfully retain customs such as, among others, lighting and leaving candles on the graves of the dead on this day. We were able to celebrate Mass on the feast of All Saints on Thursday as a reminder of the connection between the different parts of the Church and connecting with the theme of intercession of the saints both in our lives and in praying for the souls of the dead. We will continue to remember our dead throughout November including having a book of remembrance in our chapel.

Our Christmas Fair falls on Saturday 2nd December. It promises to be bigger than ever. In addition to a huge tombola stall, we also have stalls from external companies. There will be the usual music, prizes and food available so we look forward to welcoming you then. We will hold our first non-uniform day in quite a few years later in the month with the agreement that a donation of a bottle to our tombola is received.

This morning we reminded year 13 students about OFQUAL guidance on plagiarism, not for any specific reason in terms of events in school, but more to do with the prevalence of AI. In many ways this isn't a new issue given the accessibility of the internet but it's a slightly different angle. Given some of Elon Musk's comments last night in a talk in the presence of the Prime Minister, it is likely that things will evolve in education as a result of AI so watch this space.

We continue to remember Liam O'Connor in our prayers, not only because we enter the month of November, but also because his friends continue to do amazing things in raising money for the charity BRAKE. Sam May recently completed the Manchester half marathon in under 2 hours, raising significant funds and remembering Liam in the process. Well done, Sam and thank you.

We look forward to welcoming year 11 parents and carers to our 6th Form information evening this coming Wednesday. There will be opportunities to visit five departments and hear subject-specific presentations. Another date for the diary for year 11 parents and carers is the parents' evening the following week. Appointment slots will be released next week.

We received a lovely correspondence from a member of the public this morning, stating that 2 of our students had helped him and assist with moving his car following a breakdown on Hale Road this morning. If you know who those gentlemen might be, please let me know ahead of the Principal's Award next Friday. It is always nice to read about examples where our students are providing service to

others in need.

With the clocks having gone back last weekend, we are mindful of the darker nights as boys travel home from school. Please always encourage your son(s) to walk in groups, particularly in areas where there isn't decent lighting. Please speak to your son(s) generally about safety in local areas. Staying on a similar theme, thank you to Mrs Barlow and staff for arranging and accompanying the Safe Drive event for year 12 in Manchester earlier this week. Given our remembrance of Liam as noted above, this was all the more poignant for our students.

As November is a month where there are campaigns highlighting men's health, we will be focusing on mental health issues in the weeks ahead but also have a number of the gentlemen of the 6th Form growing moustaches for Movember. Please support them as they raise both awareness and finances for various charities.

In the coming days, 2 of our students will be representing Ireland on the international stage; Dan in Year 13 represents Ireland in rugby at under-18 level with the match being streamed live here:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/O8zZ3SEBCKA?si=Ph0teD58xuteZGUK>

Rory in year 11 will be representing the Republic of Ireland in the Victory Shield involving home nations and those matches will also be televised. Best of luck to both Dan and Rory.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Mr D Rainey
Principal





REMINDERS

Dates for your diary

6th November	Flu Vaccinations for Years 7-11
8th November	6th Form Open Evening
12th November	Multi-faith Remembrance Service at Holy Angels , Hale Barns (10am)
15th November	Year 11 Parents' Evening (booking opens to parents/carers 08.11.2023)
22nd November	Year 13 Parents' Evening (booking opens to parents/carers 15.11.2023)
27th Nov - 1st December	Year 11 Mock Speaking Tests for French/Spanish
2nd December	SAPA Christmas Fair
7th - 19th December	Year 11 Mock GCSE Examinations
20th December	School closes for Christmas at 12.30

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!





YEAR 7 RETREAT

CASTLERIGG

Before Half Term, Year 7 took part in their Retreat at Castlerigg in the Lake District. As annual visitors to Castlerigg, we always anticipate a great experience for the students during their overnights stay, and this year's Retreat was no different.

Students take part in the Retreat in their Houses, so it's a great opportunity for them to meet new people and forge friendships early in the Ambrosian careers. Whilst the theme of this year's residential was 'Growth', the trip allows all students to explore different aspects of their faith lives and also facilitates teambuilding and positive socialising.

Activities ranged from quizzes and reflective sessions to the ever-popular 'duck hunt'. Each group attended Adoration on the first evening of their stay and Mass in the morning prior to departure. There was even time for the obligatory 'Composition of a St Ambrose Rap' session after breakfast!

Of course, Castlerigg's location in Keswick lends itself to exploring the Great Outdoors, and the Retreat Team led the groups on a lovely walk through the woods at Castle Head to the shore of Derwent Water at Friar's Crag. From there, the students enjoyed some independence exploring Keswick's town centre, which basically means going to the chippy and spending a fortune in the Old Friar's sweet shop!

Our annual visits to Castlerigg are always a highlight of the school year, and we really appreciate the input of the team. It's a lovely place for the students to begin their faith journeys at St Ambrose.





STUDENT SUCCESS



Lucas C—Year 7

Congrats to Lucas who was awarded 'All rounder of the Year' for his age group at Timperley Cricket Club at their end of season awards event.



Calum W - Year 13

Well done to Calum who is one of 37 players to be selected to join England U20 Men's Performance Programme in Lacrosse.





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 now CLOSED

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.

200 Club—now even easier to set up via your on-line banking!

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 £200 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 a 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

Rugby

Wednesday 1st November our 1st XV travelled to Calday GS in the ¼ final of the Cheshire Cup. They ran out 55-5 winners and will now face Stockport GS in the semi-final (date tbc)

On Wednesday 8th November our 1st XV travel to Wrekin College in the 4th round of the Natwest Vase ko 2pm

Our next Saturday fixture is Saturday 11th Nov V Sandbach

Football

On Friday 3rd Nov our 1st XI take on Cheadle Hulme High school in the 3rd round of the ESFA Cup ko 2pm

On Tuesday 7th Nov our U16 A team travel to Excel Academy, Stoke in the rearranged fixture in the 2nd round of the ESFA Cup. If successful they will play Upton by Chester School on Friday 10th Nov.

On Wednesday 8th Nov our 2nd XI play their next round of the ESFA trophy V Cardinal Langley in the 2nd round.

On Thursday 9th Nov our U16B play their 2nd round match V Poynton HS in the ESFA trophy.

Swimming

Our first gala of the year takes place on Tuesday 7th V Bolton GS (away)

Water polo

Our first water polo match takes on Wednesday 8th where our U14 team take on MGS at home (1.40pm)

Games lessons for Year 8,9,10 after half term – all students will need shin pads for football.

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.

A reminder - kit is as follows:

Games lessons: Hooped rugby shirt, rugby shorts, games socks, boots. (shin pads when on football)

PE lessons: white polo shirt or blue PE shirt, blue shorts, white socks, trainers. (for some outside sports your teacher may ask you to bring your games kit)

Swim lesson: house swim jammers, towel, hat, goggles.

Mr M Fitzsimon

Director of Sport

1st XV Fly Half Dan G is starting for Ireland Under 18s tomorrow versus Italy. If you would like to watch Dan play then please follow the live link > [CLICK HERE](#) ko is 5pm.



DRAMA UPDATE

School Show

Following an assembly in July in which students heard about the challenges faced by refugees and asylum seekers, many felt they wanted to do more to raise awareness/ offer support towards difficulties faced. Therefore, this year's school show aims to be part of a bigger advocacy project to raise awareness towards the plight of refugees and asylum seekers. It will be an original performance, created by everyone who wants to be involved.

So far there has been a weekly drama club (Thurs 1pm, everyone welcome) for performance ideas to be shared and tested out using fun drama techniques and games.

As we move forward we aim to use words from people we interview in the performance and we are also planning to work with a Manchester based Theatre company, Box of Tricks who are interested in leading workshops for students on devising, scripting and movement.

We intend for the production to take place in July.

Anyone who would like to take part should come along to our next rehearsal Thursday 1pm in 2310 (the Drama studio), students do not have to be studying Drama to participate. If you would be interested in taking part in the project but not as a performer please email Mrs Taylor, mrsltaylor@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

There's scope for you to get involved in lots of different ways: backstage, designing posters/ programmes/ tickets or taking part in advocacy work: leading different groups, for example - a political group - researching/ campaigning/ lobbying, a volunteer group - volunteering time to work with charities teaching English for example, a fundraising group selecting and supporting charities raising funds/ resources, a creative writing group, producing writing which could be featured in the performance, articles for the weekly newsletter or local papers aimed at raising awareness, these are just some ideas, your ideas would be warmly welcomed.

DRAMA SUCCESS

Belated congratulations to Thomas in year 7 who successfully performed in A Midsummer's Night's Dream at the Studio, Brindley Theatre.

He has generously told us all about his experience below:

"In March I auditioned for First Act Arts production of a Midsummer Night's Dream-to play the role of Puck.

I started rehearsals at the end of June.

We spent 4 hours every Sunday rehearsing the play and devising movement sequences to songs by PMJ. These songs were vintage versions of some of the most popular songs in the last few years: e.g., love story, bye, bye, bye.

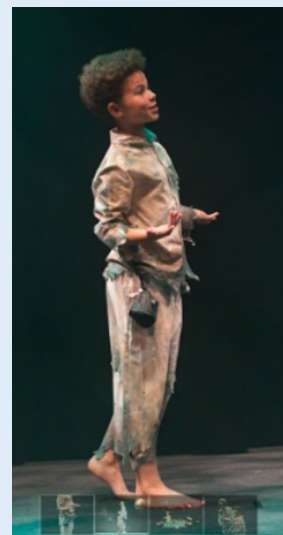
We worked none stop to get this play done.

We performed the show on the 4th-7th October at the Brindley.

There were lots of great comments from the audience and I really enjoyed playing Puck and have fallen in love with Shakespeare.

We were a very close cast, and I am very grateful for their kindness to me, even though I was the youngest member of the cast.

Soon, I have auditions for The Trials and The Machine Gunners."





CAREERS—Upcoming Events

Wednesday 28th February 2024 (6pm – 8pm): Careers & Future Pathways Fair. We are excited to host a careers fair during this evening, where we aim to bring together a diverse range of employers from various industries. This event will provide an excellent platform for our students to gain insights into different career paths and connect with professionals.

Work experience for Year 12. This will take place between **Monday 17th June – Friday 21st June 2024**: During this week, Year 12 students will have the opportunity to participate in a work experience program. Students are encouraged to organise their own placements at workplaces of their interest. **We strongly recommend that students begin making inquiries and arrangements for work experience as early as possible to ensure a valuable and enriching experience.**

If you or any contacts you may have are interested in being a delegate and presenting at our careers & Future Pathways Fair, we would be delighted to welcome new employers. Please reach out to us at the contact address provided below.

We will continue to share further information and updates with you throughout the year. Should you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.

Kind regards,
Mr. Gunning and the Careers Team



Inside STORY

Our highlight this week is an epic offering from healthcare and pharmaceutical giants, Boots UK. This is a unique opportunity running over eight weeks to learn more about careers in healthcare, retail, STEM and supply chains. This eight-session virtual experience gives you a chance to connect to the Boots business and build your skills and knowledge about a range of departments. The programme is split into three two-part sessions, each of which also include an introductory session to Boots and its history, and concludes with a 'Next steps' session, helping you prepare for your future and hopefully, a career with Boots in mind!



Date: 10/01/2024 - 13/03/2023
Time: 15.30pm - 17.00pm
Ages: 14-19
Application deadline: 20/12/2023
Opportunity: PL-5488
Click [HERE](#) for booking details*

The sessions are as follows:

Session 1: 10th January – Introduction – Discovering Boots as an organisation

Option 1 - Discover 'life-changing' careers in Healthcare and Patient Care (mandatory)

Session 2: 17th January – Careers in Pharmacy

Session 3: 24th January – Careers in Opticians

Option 2 – Discover careers that delight our customers everyday

Session 4: 31st January – Careers in Retail (Including Beauty)

Session 5: 7th February – Careers in Supply Chain

Option 3 - 'Behind the scenes' Careers at Boots

Session 6: 28th February – Careers in STEM (Including IT)

Session 7: 6th March – Careers at Boots Support office (including Marketing)

Session 8: 13th March – Discovering your next steps after work experience (mandatory)

All sessions take place on Wednesdays from 3.30pm - 5pm.

Previously 92% of those attending virtual work experience with Boots would now consider starting a career in the organisation and 93% felt the experience had useful to add to their CV, so this is an opportunity not to be missed!

*Please note that for this virtual work experience, students will be expected to apply themselves as this is a nationwide opportunity.



YOUNG PEOPLES SHOWCASE On EXPLOITATION

TRAFFORD STRATEGIC
SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP



Young Peoples Showcase on Exploitation 4th December 2023 6-8pm

The showcase has been developed, produced and delivered by our Trafford young people.

Presenting various performances from young people's perspectives.

The audience will be engaging interactively to identify the “red flags” and how we have conversations about green flags/ healthy relationships with young people.

The evening is open to young people, parents/carers, professionals and the community.

Gorse Hill will open their doors and their kitchen to provide some delicious food to those that attend.

To book a place email: tssp.learning@trafford.gov.uk



#TraffordWoAExploitation

42ND STREET



THE HORSFALL



THE HORSFALL



THE HORSFALL



THE HORSFALL



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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





SAPA AUTUMN NEWS!

3rd November 2023

REMEMBER THE CHRISTMAS FAIR ON 2nd DECEMBER 2023!

WE NEED YOU!



**can you
volunteer
on the
day?**

**A MESSAGE TO SEASONED VOLUNTEERS,
VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED US
AND ANYBODY WHO IS THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING...**

**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR HELP BY CLICKING ON THE SAFE LINK BELOW
AND FILL IN THE DETAILS, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH ONCE REGISTERED:**

[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/233033299395361](https://form.jotform.com/233033299395361)

PLEASE REMEMBER...

**WE HAVE MANY REGULAR VOLUNTEERS WITH SAPA
BUT WE ALWAYS NEED AT LEAST 50 FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR -
OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.**

**RAFFLE TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!
And we have an amazing list of raffle prizes!**



S.A.P.A.
Saint Ambrose
Parents' Association

CHRISTMAS FAIR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE

**STAR
PRIZE
£300
CASH!**

TO SPEND ON
WHATEVER YOU LIKE!

**SIGNED
SALE
SHARKS
SHIRT**

**£150
AND £50
CASH
PRIZES**

**SIGNED
MAN UTD
PHOTO**
with Certificate
of Authenticity

**£10
BOOTH
VOUCHER**

**4X VIP
WEEKEND
PASSES FOR
HALE BARN
CARNIVAL**

**SLATERS
MENSWEAR
VOUCHERS**

**SKIN
FIRST
VOUCHER**

**£25
CHILL
FACTORE
VOUCHER**

**4X
BLUE
PLANET
AQUARIUM
TICKETS**

**KUKRI
VOUCHER
FOR
£25**

PLUS SO MUCH MORE, INCLUDING...

£100 voucher for XP Factory Escape Hunt/
Boom Battle Bar

Ringway Golf Club (1 round of golf for 4 people)

Dino Falls Adventure Golf for 2x adults & 2x children

PEAK Adventure Voucher for £15 towards activities

2x £5 vouchers for Chris Walker Plants

2x Tickets for a Day's Play at a Home Game
at Lancashire Cricket in 2024

The Entertainer Toy Shop Altrincham voucher for £15

30 Minute Guitar Lesson at Altrincham Guitar School

Old Hall Timperley Meal for 2 voucher of £40 for food & drink

Outscape Games Manchester Voucher for 4 people x 2

Clare Tanner School of Dance voucher

5 Free Day Passes for Brooklands Health Club worth £15 each

Voucher for 4 People to Breakout Escape Room in Manchester

Bartley Studios Photoshoot x2 Vouchers worth £250 each

Large Hamper of Brioche Products

£25 Amphora voucher

M&S voucher

Litre of Gin

Tin of biscuits

**WITH
EVEN MORE
PRIZES TO
FOLLOW!**

**£5
FOR A
BOOK OF 5
TICKETS**

Buy your raffle tickets via ParentPay NOW!

RAFFLE SALES WILL CLOSE ONLINE WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2023!



SAPA AUTUMN NEWS!

3rd November 2023

BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS VIA ParentPay NOW!

SAPA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

How does it work?

Your questions answered.

- 1.** Log on to the school ParentPay payments system with your usual details
- 2.** Go to the menu on the left and click on the 'Active Payment Items'
- 3.** Select the option for 'Christmas Raffle Tickets'
- 4.** Where it says 'How many would you like to buy'
if you add in '1' (cost £5) that means you will get 5 separate tickets (1 book of 5)
if you add in '2' (cost £10) that means you will get 10 separate tickets (2 books of 5)
and so on.

Tickets are £5 for 5 single tickets.

You will get 5x single raffle tickets, all 5 go into the draw separately for 5x chances to win!
Tickets are only sold in a book of 5.

Please note: You will NOT receive a physical ticket!
But please be assured that if you have made your payment then your ticket purchase will be registered with us.

Here is what happens after you have selected and paid for your ticket:
The SAPA committee take the list of all the names of people who have bought tickets from the ParentPay system, we then physically write your name and number onto paper tickets, these will then be mixed up with all the tickets sold on the day of the Christmas Fair where everything is given a good shake and the live draw is then made.

Please note: Tickets can also be bought on the day.

For more information email Chair@sapa.org

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



SAPA AUTUMN NEWS!

3rd November 2023

STALL HOLDERS WANTED FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR

DO YOU MAKE AND SELL YOUR OWN PRODUCTS?

This year we have decided to include a small number of external craft stalls to the hall.

There is a very limited number available so please register your interest as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

It will be on a first come first served basis and also suitability of product.

You will need your own Public Liability Insurance Certificate which you will need to bring with you on the day. Without this unfortunately you will not be able to sell on the premises. Tables are £20 each and if electricity is required it is an extra £5.

Only sealed food products will be allowed and we will not have more than one stall selling the same product type.

Once you have had confirmation of your acceptance your table is only secured once payment is received via PayPal. All details will then follow.

Please email events@sapa.org.uk to register your interest and we will get back to you with payment details if you are successful.



LAST UNIFORM SALE OF 2023

The last uniform sale of the year will be in December after the Christmas Fair (date to follow). We will be in the new location: The classroom near the swimming pool at the back of the college.

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no uniform sale at the Christmas Fair this year

We still need your items:

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN ANY SHIRTS OR TROUSERS, WE ARE AT CAPACITY WITH THESE ITEMS, THANK YOU!

But please keep sending in other donations as usual.
We are once again low on ties and socks!

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





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/>