



Saint Ambrose College

Weekly News Bulletin

 @PrincipalSAC

Friday 12th January 2024

A Message from the Principal

I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break and have started 2024 with all the new resolutions still intact. We returned to school shortly after the Solemnity of the Epiphany which focuses on the journey of the Magi to meet God incarnate. There are many symbolic elements to the story but Christ being revealed to the Gentiles, indicating the new covenant which was with everyone, is one we associate with what the word Catholic means; universal. I was once taught that the 'three' wise men (the Bible doesn't say how many there were) represented the continents of the time; Asia, Europe and Africa. The Magi recognised the glory and the light and chose to both follow it and walk in it. We can only hope at the beginning of 2024 that their wisdom is replicated in the actions and choices of those leading our world today.

The Magi were astronomers, so it seems appropriate to move on to look at the school calendar next. We have year 7 parents' evening on Wednesday 17th January and year 8 parents' evening on Wednesday 24th January. These meetings will be online so please keep an eye out for the links to book appointments. This coming Tuesday 16th January is the Taster Day, where year 11 students sample some post-16 lessons ahead of the upcoming Sixth Form admissions interviews. As such, year 12 are not in school on Tuesday but have been assigned a personal development day, where they will complete super-curricular tasks to provide academic enrichment outside of the confines of the curriculum. They will also attend a one to one Teams meeting with their tutor to review their progress so far and to lay the foundations for their university and post-18 applications. Year 12 parents will receive an email with further information on the structure and content of the day, and on Monday, Mrs Barlow will conduct an assembly with the students.

The year 13 internal examinations are underway and conclude next week. The usual high volume of fixtures has continued for other year groups, however. The under 17 rugby team narrowly defeated St Anselm's 22-21 on Wednesday and the under 16A footballers progressed to the last 32 of the national ESFA Cup with a 5-4 victory against Parrenthorn High School. Unfortunately, the 6th Sixth Form football teams lost out in friendly matches against The King's School, Chester. In the pool, our under 13A water polo team beat Manchester Grammar School 20-7. A swimming gala involving several year groups took place on Thursday afternoon at Cheadle Hulme School with a magnificent 181 – 115 victory for the team. This weekend sees six rugby teams take on St Anselm's and our under 12A team take on St Mary's College. A water polo tournament is also taking place on Saturday at Manchester Aquatics Centre.

The school was mentioned across social media last week when Rory F in year 11 made his debut for Blackburn Rovers first team in the Emirates FA Cup 3rd round fixture at home to Cambridge United which Blackburn won 5-2. It was a proud moment for Rory, his family and the school, and we know he has a huge future ahead of him.



We had a number of students invited to interview at Oxford before Christmas and we are delighted that many of them have received offers to undertake courses from September.

Last year's Careers Day was a fantastic success and we are aiming to replicate the model this year on Friday 1st March. We would like to welcome back previous delegates and would welcome new companies interested in attending. If you feel you can provide guidance to students across all year groups or would like a stall on the day, please contact careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

One of the stories that caught my attention over the break was the passing of David Soul of Starsky & Hutch fame. Personally, I don't recall ever watching an episode of Starsky & Hutch but I was notified of a peculiar and perhaps lesser known aspect of David Soul's life with the news that he was prominent in the successful election campaign of Martin Bell in Knutsford in 1996 when he took the seat of Neil Hamilton. David Soul accompanied Bell as he canvassed locally including around the streets of Alderley Edge, Knutsford and Northwich.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and fulfilling 2024

Mr Rainey
Principal



Reminders

Dates for your diary

8th-19th January	Year 13 Mock A-Level Examinations
17th January	Year 7 Parents Evening (see email sent on 10th January for more information)
24th January	Year 8 Parents Evening (further information will be emailed on 17/1/24)
9th February	Half term Begins
19th February	School resumes

Term dates for 2024/2025 can be viewed [here](#)

For more calendar dates please visit our website:

www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/calendardates

! Stranger Danger !

May we remind you to have regular conversations with your son(s) about safety outside of school. If possible, try not to walk home alone, to not initiate conversations with strangers and if anything happens that makes them feel uncomfortable, they should let their parents/carers and school staff know.

Many thanks for your continued support in keeping our students safe.



2024/2025 Calendar Dates



2024 – 2025 Calendar dates

Michaelmas Term 2 nd September to 20 th December 2024	
INSET	Monday 2 nd September
INSET	Tuesday 3 rd September
Year 7 & Year 12 in attendance	Wednesday 4 th September
Whole school return	Thursday 5 th September
INSET (entrance examination, Y12 in attendance)	Friday 20 th September
Term breaks	Friday 25 th October
Half-term holiday 28 th October to 1 st November inclusive	
Term resumes	Monday 4 th November
Term ends	Half day for students on Friday 20 th December 2024
Christmas holiday 23 rd December to 3 rd January 2025	

Lent Term 6 th January to 4 th April 2025	
Term begins	Monday 6 th January 2025
Half-term holiday 17 th to 21 st February inclusive	
Term resumes	Monday 24 th February
Term ends	Friday 4 th April
Easter holiday Monday 7 th April to 17 th April inclusive	
Bank Holiday	18 th April
Bank Holiday	21 st April

Trinity Term 22 nd April to 17 th July 2025	
Term begins	Tuesday 22 nd April
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May
Term breaks	Friday 23 rd May
Half-term holiday 26 th May to 30 th May inclusive (Monday 26 th Bank Holiday)	
Term resumes	Monday 2 nd June
INSET	Friday 13 th June
Term ends	Half day for students on Wednesday 16 th July
INSET	Thursday 17 th July
Summer holiday 18 th July to 31 st August 2025	

WE ASK THAT YOU DO NOT TAKE CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL DURING TERM TIME
Please note dates are subject to change



STUDENT SUCCESS

Congrats to Andrew S (Y9) & Jude E (Y9)



Who were both selected by Swim England talent centre to represent the U14 England Lion's team who competed in an international Water Polo tournament in Barcelona during the Christmas holidays.

This was the first international tournament attended by this age group & the boys won 4 of their 8 matches.

Andrew & Jude scored a combined 34 goals during the tournament. Andrew captained the team and was also selected by the coaches to play in an all stars games which took place during the event.



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to Rory F - Y11

We have followed Rory's footballing success for some time and we were delighted when we found out he had been selected to play for the 1st team at Blackburn Rovers last weekend.

Congratulations to Lucas R—Y9



Who achieved his Chief Scout's Gold Award before Christmas. This is the highest award that a scout can earn and to achieve it Lucas had to complete all 9 Challenge awards and 6 Activity badges. These included Outdoor, Adventure, Team leader, Team Work and Creative challenges, trying new skills and activities. He

moves to Explorers in January and will work as a Young Leader, volunteering his time to work with the younger units.

Well Done to Zak W—Y10

Zak has recently helped out at The Toy Appeal Charity (<https://thetoyappeal.com/>) he spent his Saturday helping to sort, fill, pack and load Christmas toy sacks (approx. 12,200 sacks in total were distributed to children living in poverty across the North West). Absolutely no complaining and it was very hard work, myself and his Dad are very proud of his efforts, what a role model he is for children of his generation. We believe it shows true generosity of spirit and an empathy for his surroundings.





STUDENT SUCCESS In Music

Miss Yates would like to congratulate each of the following students on passing their graded music examinations over the past few weeks:

*Robert S—Grade 8 Drums *Distinction**

*Ethan M—Grade 6 Drums *Distinction**

*Hugo F—Grade 3 Trumpet *Pass**

*Jan B—Grade 3 Trumpet *Pass**

*William E—Grade 3 Drums *Distinction**

*Max B—Grade 6 Drums *Merit**

*Harry G—Grade 5 Drums *Merit**



SPORTS UPDATE

Gaelic Football

Training has started for year 8&9 initially! This will continue from Wednesday 18th January after school on the Astro 3:45-4:45pm

Handball—Will resume after school on Tuesday 16th January 3:45-4:45.

Basketball & Badminton—will resume on Monday 8th January.

Indoor Cricket—has been **cancelled** on Monday 15th but will resume on Monday 22nd January.

Head Injury Risk Assessment

There has been a lot of discussion on the news about concussion and direct links to dementia etc in contact sports. The RFU have a very useful video which I would recommend all parents to watch outlining what we should do if we suspect a potential concussion. You can find this on <https://keepyourbootson.co.uk/rugbysafe-toolkit/headcase/> and is appropriate for all contact sports.

Shin Pads

Parents and students are reminded that shin pads are required to participate in football in PE and Games lessons.

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

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.

School sports Website:

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

RESULTS THIS WEEK

Rugby

On Wednesday 10th Jan our u17 team took on St. Anselm's with a close fought victory 22-21

Football

On Wednesday 10th Jan our 1st and 2nd XI travelled to King's Chester in a friendly. Unfortunately both team lost 4-0 and 6-0 respectively.

Waterpolo

On Wednesday 10th Jan our U13 team too kon MGS at home, The aggregate score across 4 matches was 20-7

Swimming

On Thursday 11th Jan all age groups travelled to Cheadle GS for the first gala of the New Year. The teams continued their unbeaten record winning 181-115

THIS WEEKS FIXTURES

Rugby

On Saturday 13th Jan we take on St. Anselm's in a reverse of the early season fixture.

U12A&B are at home

U15A, U14A, U13A&B are away.

All 10 am ko

The away coach will leave at 8:10am

Water polo

On Wednesday 10th Jan our U13 team take on MGS at home 1.35 start.

Swimming

The gala v Bolton GS on Tue 16th Jan has been postponed due to an open day at Bolton GS

Basketball

Our U16 have 2 matches next week:

Monday 15th v North Cestrian @ home

Thursday 18th v BTH @ home

Our U14 team have a match on Wednesday 17th v North Cestrian (away)

Mr M Fitzsimon

Director of Sport



OLD BOYS RUGBY GAME

On the final Tuesday before the Christmas break, the Old Boy's Rugby team returned for the traditional Christmas fixture where they take on the current 1st XV.

It was always bound to be close with last years 1st XV reaching the semi- finals of the Natwest Vase and the current 1st team reaching the ¼ finals of the Vase.

The game did not disappoint. It was one of the most intense and ferocious Old Boy's games of recent times with both teams putting everything on the line.

The bragging rights went to the current 1st XV running edging out the Old Boys 30-27.

Christie Q (pictured below) was chosen to receive the Sean Ferguson Player of the match award.

Mr Fitzsimon





YOUNG ENTERPRISE



St Ambrose Young enterprise



As part of the College's annual participation in the Young Enterprise Programme, this year's team have produced a high-quality **2024 Saint Ambrose College Calendar**, which contains relevant information such as term dates and key events. Each month has a subject-themed picture (all taken by the calendar team) with students across the year groups included. To make your calendar orders, please visit the link which has been sent out via email and complete the online form.



Link to order calendars:

<https://forms.gle/urjixf6fabJXDE2h7>



Additionally, the company have produced a limited edition **500ml Double Walled Metal Bottle engraved with Saint Ambrose logo**. Due to the success of the Christmas Fair we have very limited stock, with only around 40 bottles left. A separate email will be sent out to all parents on how to purchase one. Don't miss out!

OUR COMPANY

SCAM JAM

We are committed to dismantling scams and safeguarding trust in the digital realm. We strive to empower and protect our community through educating others against exploitation.

Our Story

As a responsible and ethical company, our primary goal is to contribute to the well-being of society by taking proactive measures to protect vulnerable individuals from falling victim to scams. We recognize the impact that scams can have on people, especially those who are more susceptible due to various factors such as age, lack of technological familiarity, or other vulnerabilities.

For any enquiries please contact:
18jackpunnoose@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Instagram:
[stambrose.ye](https://www.instagram.com/stambrose.ye)



STAMBROSE.YE



FUNDRAISING

My Name's Doddie Foundation

In support of the My Name's Doddie foundation the NFL society are running a road to the Super Bowl predictor as one of a few activities. Students have the chance to win some team merchandise for correct predictions and donations will get the students in a separate raffle. The coemption is free to enter . You can scan the QR code below or follow the link to go directly to the Justgiving page



https://www.justgiving.com/page/d-170302260901doddieweirsaintbrosecollege?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fd-170302260901doddieweirsaintbrosecollege&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share



MY
NAME'S
DODDIE
foundation





CONFIRMATION INVITATIONS YEAR 8



Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Altrincham

CONFIRMATION 2024 - CURRENT YEAR 8

We pleased to let you know that we are now beginning the Confirmation Programme application process for all those currently in **Year 8 or above**. If you would like to join this Confirmation Programme, which takes place in March and April 2022, please complete and return the **application form** along with the other documents requested. The form can be found on our website in the '[Notice board](#)' section or can be collected from church.

Please return the completed form and supporting documents by Sunday 28th January to the parish office in the presbytery.

Parish Secretary - St Vincent de Paul
Altrincham

[Registration Form](#)



St Ann's Presbytery
1043 Chester Road
Stretford
Manchester
M32 8LF
0161 865 2079

Gerald.Murphy@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

The Parish of St Antony of Padua in Stretford, which includes St Ann's Church (and primary school) and St Hugh of Lincoln Church (and primary school) are beginning the Confirmation programme next month. Sessions will be held at St Antony's High School from 1st February.

If you are from one of the above feeder primary schools and are in Year 8—please follow the link below to the invitation letter which has all the details on.

Fr Ged Murphy

[Invitation & Registration Form](#)



TRAFFORD SCHOOL NURSES NEWSLETTER



Trafford Local
Care Organisation

Powered by

NHS
Manchester University
1918 Foundation Trust



Trafford School Nurses Newsletter for Secondary School

Issue 5 - January 2024



Hello and happy new year!

Trafford School Health Team would like to welcome you to the **fifth edition of our newsletter**. The newsletter is issued each school term letting you know what our school nurse team will be doing each term and sharing some useful information. Find out more about our service on our [webpage](#).



What's happening this term?

MMR offer

Year 7 – There has been a current rise in measles nationally. We will therefore be offering any pupils who have not received both MMR vaccines the opportunity to receive them in school. Parents of these pupils will receive a link to complete a consent form. If you have any queries about the vaccine or wish to discuss with a nurse please contact the immunisation team on **0161 912 3395**.



Year 9 vaccination offer

This term all year 9 pupils will be offered the school leaver booster of diphtheria, tetanus and polio and meningitis ACWY. Parents will be receiving the link to complete the immunisation consent form. The information is available in many languages, just ask your school or the school immunisation team on 0161 912 3395 and we can provide this for you.



Vaping awareness sessions

All schools will be offered a vaping awareness session. They are co-delivered by school nursing and [Early Break](#).

The Early Break Team are also offering webinars for parents about the risks associated with vaping on the following dates:

- Tuesday January 30th at 7pm
- Wednesday February 28th at 7pm
- Thursday March 28th at 7pm.

Links to book on these sessions will be available from your schools.





TRAFFORD SCHOOL NURSES NEWSLETTER

Public Health messages

Are you worried your child is involved in crime?

Oasis Parent and Carer Support offers support to parents and carers who have concerns that their child is involved in violent crime.

As parents and caregivers, we all worry about our children from time to time, but when a concern is troubling you it can be difficult to know where to turn. We have listened to parents and our research shows that caregivers are looking for one-to-one support, peer support, and advice and guidance when their child's behaviour is becoming a concern. Request a call back or make a referral and a member of the team will arrange a face-to-face appointment to get you started.

Visit oasis-gm.org for more information.

World Religion Day

21st January 2024 is World Religion Day. Promoting unity and understanding among people of different faiths.



Talking Mental Health

Time to Talk Day is 1st February 2024 - the aim is to get people to talk about mental health.

Time to Talk Day is about helping people and communities to come together to have the nation's biggest mental health conversation.

It's not always easy to tell people how you really feel. Sometimes it's easier to just say we're 'fine' than to open up. But an open conversation can be the first step towards better mental health.

[Find out more...](#)



School Nurse Contacts

- North Trafford (Stretford and Old Trafford) and West Trafford (Urmston, Flixton and Partington) School Nurse Teams – **0161 549 6290**
- South Trafford (Altrincham, Timperley and Hale) and Central Trafford (Sale and Sale Moor) School Nurse Teams – **0161 912 2340**



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.

Monday 17th June – Friday 21st June 2024

Work Experience for Year 12

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



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





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/>