



# Saint Ambrose College

## Weekly News Bulletin

 @PrincipalSAC

Friday 19th January 2024

### A Message from the Principal

This week we have seen a cold snap across the country and although it didn't cause any particular issues for us, I feel it is timely to inform you of what our approach would be if we were to make a decision to close school/site as a result of inclement weather. We are conscious of how far away some of our boys live and therefore we will aim to make a decision as early as possible but couldn't guarantee any particular timescale as the conditions and forecast will be ever-changing. To ensure the message reaches you as soon as possible, you will receive both an email and a text message informing of school closure. If you do not receive any correspondence, then school is open as normal. Our social media channels and website will also be updated accordingly.



With the temperatures remaining low, there is some doubt as to whether or not tomorrow's rugby fixtures against King's, Macclesfield will go ahead. However, the planned Model UN event at Stonyhurst is definitely going ahead and we will be sending two delegations. We wish them well.

There were no concerns with the temperatures indoors earlier in the week when our U16 and U14 basketball teams enjoyed excellent victories against North Cestrian. Congratulations to the players and coaches.

On Tuesday our Y11 students sampled some sixth form lessons ahead of the upcoming interviews on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January to discuss next steps and future ambitions. Please note the deadline for applications to our sixth form is Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Mr Cook is still keen to invite more employers from across a range of industries to be involved with our careers day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Please refer to the item included later on in the newsletter for further information.

Thank you to our Y7 parents and carers for the parents evening earlier in the week, Mr Brady will circulate a form to collate feedback. Next week is the turn of Y8 parents evening, please ensure you book appointments through our online system.

After an intense fortnight of mock examinations, we look forward to welcoming our Y13 students back to lessons on Monday. We hope that they have applied themselves fully and that the process has served as a productive practice run for them. A reminder that they should be clean-shaven and suitably attired in line with the school policy, by Monday.

Finally, our 1st XV rugby team take on King's, Macclesfield in the U18 Cheshire Cup final at 6.30pm on Wednesday at Kings Road, Wilmslow, SK9 5PZ. All are welcome to come and support.

**Have a great weekend,**

**Mr Rainey**



# Reminders

## Dates for your diary

24th January	Year 8 Parents Evening (further information will be emailed on 17/1/24)
5th February	School Nurse visit— Dangers of Vaping during lunchtime
9th February	Half term Begins
19th February	School resumes
22nd February	Year 9 Options Evening (further information to be emailed)
29th February	Year 9 Parents Evening ( email will be sent our 22nd February)

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

**For more calendar dates please visit our website:**

**[www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/calendardates](http://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/calendardates)**



## **RETURNING OF LOANED CRUTCHES**

Our reserves of crutches are diminishing, if we have loaned crutches out to your son in the past and you still have them lingering in the back of cupboards, we will gratefully take them off your hands so we can loan them to other students in need. Please hand them into the school office.

## **Forgotten Items**

Now we have settled in to the new school year and the boys are familiar with their timetables, please can we ask that parents/ carers avoid dropping off any 'forgotten' items at Reception during the day. Unfortunately we cannot disturb lessons to deliver these items to classrooms and students cannot send or receive messages on their phones as they are switched off. Instead, we would be really grateful if you could encourage your son to get his school bag ready the night before with everything he needs for the following day. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.



# 2024/2025 Calendar Dates



## 2024 – 2025 Calendar dates

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

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

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

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



# SPORTS UPDATE

## Gaelic Football

Training has started for year 8&9 initially! This will continue from Wednesday 25th January after school on the Astro 3:45-4:45pm

**Handball**—Will continue after school on Tuesdays 3:45-4:45.

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

**Indoor Cricket**—has been **will resume** on Monday 22nd January 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](mailto: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 Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan we took on St. Anselm's in a reverse of the early season fixture.

The U12's A played a tri tournament between St. Mary's Crosby and St. Anselm's winning one and losing one.

In the rest of the block fixture we had 2 wins from 5.

## Waterpolo

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan our U13 team took on MGS at home, The aggregate score across 4 matches was 20-7

## Basketball

Our U16 had 2 matches this week:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> v North Cestrian which they won 112-17

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> v BTH @ home which was postponed to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb

Our U14 team had a match on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> v North Cestrian (away) and won 43-27

## THIS WEEKS FIXTURES

## Rugby

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan we take on King's School Macclesfield:

U13A&B, U14A&B U15A&B are **at home**

2nd XV, U16, U12A&B are **away**.

All 10.30 am ko

Students playing **away** are asked to meet at Derby Playing Fields **SK10 4SP at 9.40am**

If you require a lift from school 2 minibuses will be leaving St. Ambrose at **9am** (limited spaces)

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan our 1<sup>st</sup> XV take on King's School Macclesfield in the Cheshire Cup Final. This will be played at Wilmslow RUFC 6.30 ko. We hope you can come and support the team.

## Basketball

Monday 22nd Jan U12 v Wellington (away)

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Jan U14 v Altrincham College of Arts (home)

## Games lessons for Year 7,8,9,10 this half term inside – all students will need trainers

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**



# SPORTS REPORT

## CITY of MANCHESTER FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to all the boys that competed in the City of Manchester winter water polo tournament last weekend. Please see the outstanding results below. James and I were so proud of both teams. A big thank you to all the parents that came to support and cheer them from the balcony.

**Mrs Chandler**  
**Swim Teacher**

### **2010 / 2011 BOYS**

**Gold** – St Ambrose College

**Silver** – Caledonia

**Bronze** – Sedgefield

COM 2	-	St Ambrose 7
Sedgefield 0	-	St Ambrose 7
Sheffield 0	-	St Ambrose 10
MGS 0	-	St Ambrose 13
Caledonia B 0	-	St Ambrose 9
Final Caledonia A 2-	-	St Ambrose 6
Goals For <b>52</b>		Goals conceded <b>4</b>

### **2010/2011 GIRLS**

**Gold** – Liverpool

**Silver** – Birmingham

**Bronze** – Cheltenham

### **2012/2013 MIXED**

**Gold** – Radcliffe

**Silver** – St Ambrose College

**Bronze** – Tyldesley

Chester 2	-	St Ambrose 4
Bolton 0	-	St Ambrose 10
Northampton 1	-	St Ambrose 6
Chester 1	-	St Ambrose 6
Chester 2	-	St Ambrose 6
Radcliffe 3	-	St Ambrose 2
Goals for <b>34</b>		goals conceded <b>9</b>



Official photos of the event can be viewed and purchased from <http://www.willjohnston.smugmug.com/2024>





# MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...

## ST AMBROSE MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...



**AUDITIONS**  
**Feb 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:30 – 13:00**

Dear Ambrosians,

The Music Department is excited to be launching 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', our big school musical for Autumn 2024. This is St Ambrose's first musical in ten years and is a superb opportunity for musicians, actors, technicians, dancers and creatives to get involved. We are also interested in recruiting business, marketing or finance orientated students who are interested in helping arrange this event to gain experience.

All students have been emailed a PowerPoint with information on how to get involved, where to sign up to auditions and the roles that are involved.

We will be holding auditions in the Music Department from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of February from 12:30 - 13:00.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with [missryates@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk](mailto:missryates@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

**Miss Yates**  
**Director of Music**



# 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](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



## Durham University Charity Fashion Show 2024—Fundraising for CALM

My name is Dan Xiberras and I graduated sixth form in 2022. I'm currently at Durham University and fundraising for a charity called CALM, which operates a suicide prevention helpline and web chat. On Friday last week I walked around a square in Durham called Palace Green for 24 hours in an effort both to raise funds for the charity and share my own experience living with suicidal thoughts and depression as well as my own attempts on my life. I shared the ordeal on my Instagram @danxiberras and it has been archived in a story highlight on my profile named '24hr walk'. Here is more about Dan's story.

This year I am modelling for the Durham University charity fashion show. We're raising money for CALM, a charity which operates a suicide prevention helpline and web chat.



This is a cause near to my heart. Near enough every day of my sentient life I have struggled with depression, suicidal ideation, dissociation and various forms of self harm. I have attempted suicide a handful of times in my life, twice last year here in Durham.

I cannot express the importance of charities like CALM and I have used their services a number of times at points of crisis. Often we don't want to burden our loved ones with the fact that someone they care deeply for is struggling, and in times like these the ability to talk to a complete stranger and seek the help that you need is vital.

Every day I when I wake up it is difficult. Every day I wake up and will into being an energy that was never really there to begin with. I'm glad I'm alive. There are so many people I am yet to love, things I have yet to experience and feelings I am yet to have. It's thanks, in part, to charities like CALM that I'm able to sit here and express this.

As part of DUCFS, I will be conducting an individual fundraising effort. At the beginning of next term I am going to walk in circles around palace green for 24 hours, from 00:00 - 23:59. Any donations or sponsorship would be immensely appreciated.

Love, always

Dan

Here is the link to Dan's Just Giving page.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/daniel-xiberras-ducfs-2024?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fdaniel-xiberras-ducfs-2024&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/daniel-xiberras-ducfs-2024?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fdaniel-xiberras-ducfs-2024&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)



# YEAR 12 Life Skills

Mrs Freeman had the Year 12's whipping up a storm on Wednesday when they prepared and cooked their own omelette on a budget of £1.20. This was all good practice for the next stage when they are required to cook for themselves when they go off to University. They had lots of fun making it and even enjoyed the end result. Do feel free to ask them to re-create this for you at home, as they say, practice makes perfect!

*Bon  
Appétit* 







# YEAR 11 Intervention Timetable

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see the Intervention timetable below which your son can access by dropping in. If your son is struggling with any aspects of his studies, please encourage him to attend the sessions available to assist with his independent revision.

**Mrs Hart**  
**Achievement Mentor**

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Before School					Computing (During Form Time by invitation) Mr Sweeney
Lunchtime	RE 1pm Miss McCrory	PE GCSE 12:30pm Mr Fitzsimon	Geography 12:45pm Mr Donnelly	RE 1pm Mrs Wheelan	
	English 1pm Mrs Hill	Drama 12:30pm Mrs Taylor		History 1pm Miss Edwards	
	Chemistry Clinic 12:30pm Mr Elwell	Geography 12:45pm Mr McFadden		Computing (Week 1 Only) 12:30pm Mr Sweeney	
		RE 1pm Mrs Wheelan			
		Music 12:30pm Miss Yates			
After School			History 3:45pm Mr Brady	Geography 3:45pm Mr McFadden	
			Maths 5-6pm (TEAMS) Miss Donegan	RE (From Feb Half Term) 7-8pm (TEAMS) Miss McCrory	

**Art and DT Workshops are available for drop in throughout the week both at lunchtime and after school.**



# 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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

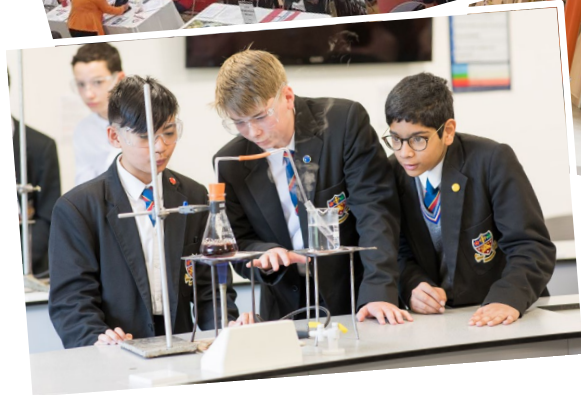
The Parish of St Antony of Padua in Stretford, which includes St Ann's Church (and primary school) and St Hugh of Lincoln Church (and primary school) are beginning the Confirmation programme next month. Sessions will be held at St Antony's High School from 1st February.

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](#)

# St. Ambrose College Careers Day 2024



**St. Ambrose College is looking for employers and further/higher education providers to deliver and promote careers within their companies for our Careers Day 2024**

- St. Ambrose College is a selective school and one of the top performing schools in the country
- St. Ambrose College has a wide range of high achieving students and future talent from across Greater Manchester, that are keen to learn about possible career paths and the world of work

**We would like companies and providers to to:**

- Send representatives to run a stall to promote the company and possible careers with the company and pathways into employment
- Students will rotate with a new year group each hour (5 hours in total)

Twitter: @stambrosecoll



# St. Ambrose College Careers Day 2024



**St. Ambrose College is looking for employers to deliver and promote careers within their companies for our Careers Day 2024**

**DATE: Friday 1st March 2024**

## **START TIMES:**

Year 7	Period 1	9.15 - 9.40
Year 8	Period 1	9.45 - 10.10
Year 9	Period 2	10.15 – 11.15
Year 10	Period 3	11.35 – 12.30

## **Lunch Break**

Year 11	Period 4	1.40 – 2.35
Post 16	Period 5	2.40 – 3.35

## **Benefit to Companies:**

- Links to one of the top performing schools in the country
- Access to high achieving learners and future talent
- Positive Social and Corporate Responsibility exposure

## **EVENT INFORMATION:**

For each session, students will register with their classroom teacher before being escorted and accompanied to the sports hall for the duration of the session by teaching staff. Members of the Senior Leadership Team will also be present throughout the day.

During the session students will have the opportunity to gain information and ask questions to a range of employers, employees, apprenticeship providers and FE and HE institutions.

If companies have stands/displays that they would like to bring to market and promote their company we would welcome this alongside any literature about the company and employment pathways.

Please contact the following if you would like to take part in helping support the future generation of talent from St. Ambrose College:

**Careers:** [careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk](mailto:careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk)

**St Ambrose College, Hale Rd, Hale Barns, Altrincham, WA15 0HE**

**Tel: 0161 980 2711**







## CAREERS—Upcoming Events

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>