



A Message from the Principal

This is the final newsletter in January and the slightly longer evenings are already noticeable, thankfully. Wednesday evening will have felt long for our senior rugby team but for very different reasons having been beaten by a last minute try in the Cheshire Cup final. This group of players have had a particularly painful experience with late heartbreak in several games but I hope they can take heart from how proud we all are of them. They gave their all in a real thriller. I would also like to thank the immense support from other students, staff and of course, parents and carers. It was a wonderful atmosphere.

The week has also seen commendable performances at the Model UN gathering in Stonyhurst last weekend and a memorable visit to Parliament for our politics students. Thank you to the staff who organised and accompanied the students. More can be read about those visits inside.

On Monday afternoon we had a short assembly with year 11 students where we distributed internal exams results and hopefully shared some words of wisdom. For the vast majority, it was a celebratory feel and the general current position of year 11 is a very positive one with regard to their current attainment. They must remain positive but not let complacency set in.

On the theme of celebration and praise, congratulations to the 16 students who received the Principal's Award at breaktime today. As always, there were a range of reasons including compassion for those in need, examples of selflessness and rewarding those who constantly maintain high standards.

At the time of writing last weekend, news was breaking of the tragic passing of local teenager Luke Howe. Luke's family have set up a fundraising page with the aim of providing a new soft play area for Brentwood school where Luke was a pupil. Although the initial target has already been met, we want to contribute where we can and therefore we have told students across all year groups to wear a 'loud' (but appropriate) tie on Monday. The idea was suggested by some of our sixth form students. We would ask that those participating donate directly via the link below.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/luke-howe>

Tomorrow is the annual Holocaust Memorial Day with this year's theme focusing particularly on the fragility of freedom. The introduction to the theme on the official website states,

Freedom means different things to different people. What is clear is that in every genocide that has taken place, those who are targeted for persecution have had their freedom restricted and removed, before many of them are murdered. This is often a subtle, slow process. The [ten stages of genocide](#), as identified by Professor Gregory Stanton, demonstrate that genocide never just happens. There is always a set of circumstances which occur, or which are created, to build the climate in which genocide can take place and in which perpetrator regimes can remove the freedoms of those they are targeting.



More information, including how to watch the ceremony virtually, can be found at <https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

Wednesday 24th January was the International Day of Education. We prayed for inclusive and equitable education for all around the globe.

This weekend sees a number of rugby fixtures against Lancaster Royal Grammar. Good luck to all teams. Good luck also to the Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC Championship game. Thankfully it starts at the more sensible time of 8pm UK time so my tiredness levels should be an improvement on what they were on Monday just gone. It was worth the late night!

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr D Rainey
Principal



REMINDERS

Dates for your diary

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 on 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



RETURN 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 are almost half way through the academic 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.





SPORTS UPDATE



Gaelic Football

Training has started for year 7&9 and will continue every Wednesday after school on the Astro 3:45-4:45pm

Handball—continues after school on Tuesdays 3:45-4:45.

Indoor Cricket—continues on Monday 3.45-5.15

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.

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 20th Jan we took on King's School Macclesfield in 2 games due to the frost.

Our U15 A&B won both games.

On Wednesday 24th Jan our 1st XV took on King's School Macclesfield in the Cheshire Cup Final. They agonisingly lost 22-20 after a fantastic game where the lead changes 8 times.

Basketball

On Monday our year 7's took on Wellington HS wining 35-16

On Thursday our U14 took on Altrincham College of Arts winning 50-29

THIS WEEKS FIXTURES

Rugby

On Saturday 27th Jan we take on Lancaster GS

1st XV, U16, U12A&B are home.

U13A&B, U14A&B U15A are at away

All 10.30 am ko

The coach for away leaves at 8.30

Football

On Monday 29th Jan our U16 take on St. James High School in the last 32 of the ESFA Cup

On Wednesday 31st our 1st XI travel to Bolton GS and our 2nd XI travel to Stockport.

Basketball

On Tuesday 30th Jan our Year 7 team take on Altrincham College of Arts (away)

On Thursday 1st Feb our Year 10/11 team take on BTH (home)

Cross Country

On Wednesday 31st Jan our mixed age teams travel to Coventry for the King Henry VIII relays.

Water polo

On Friday 2nd Feb our U18 Team travel to Northampton GS for the U18 plate semi-final.

Indoor Athletics

On Friday 2nd Feb our Year 7 team travel to Sports City for a Greater Manchester Tournament

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



FUNDRAISING

Monday 29th January 2024



Luke Howe Memorial Fundraiser

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, there was a tragic loss of a young boy in the community last week. In order to honour him, we would like to support the fundraiser which his parents have set up to raise money for the school Luke attended, Brentwood College in Timperley.

On Monday 29th January, as suggested by one of our sixth form student's, we are inviting the boys to come into school wearing a non school tie in honour of Luke and to show solidarity with Luke's family and in return ask for a donation to made to Luke's GoFund me page, parents or students can do this outside of school please using the following link <https://gofund.me/7a2d75cf>

If your son is struggling with the news of Luke, please encourage him to speak to his Form Tutor, Mr Groves, Miss Dean or Mr Murray for support. Alternatively, you may wish to let us know yourself so we can speak with your son.

We continue to send our thoughts and prayers to Luke's family and friends.

Scan to donate



gofundme



STUDENT SUCCESS



Miss Yates would like to give an enormous congratulations to the following students for passing their graded music examinations;

Mourag S—Classical guitar (Grade 5)

Santiago L—ABRSM Piano (Grade 8)

Chris S—ABRSM Trumpet (Grade 8)

Congratulations to the 9 Year 9 students who were awarded their Silver badge today by their head of year, Mr Vaughton. It is also worth mentioning that every student in Year 9 has now received their Bronze Award (75 House Points)!



**Success A
Rasheed S
James F
Joseph M**

**Tom H
Felix M
Rory K
Jerone J**





WEBINAR FOR PARENTS

Trafford School Nurses & Early Break

Vaping Webinar for Parents

For parents who wish to know more about vaping

What will it cover
What is vaping?
Facts around Vaping
How it may impact teenage behaviour
How parents may be able to support their children

Book your space now!

Contact your child's school for the links to the events

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Are you a parent with a child at a Trafford School? Join our webinar for information on vaping!

Commissioned by Trafford Council's Public Health Team, a smoking cessation and vaping service for young people has been established.

In partnership between the School Nurses Team and Early Break, this webinar will offer parents information on the facts around vaping, the risks, how behaviour may be impacted and how to manage this at home. It will also give you the chance to ask questions and know where to get support if you would like support for your young person.

We will be running free webinars on the following dates:

[Tuesday January 30th at 7pm](#)

[Wednesday February 28th at 7pm](#)

[Thursday March 28th at 7pm](#)

Please click on the link for whichever webinar you wish to join. If this does not work, please email info@earlybreak.co.uk who will be able to share the event with you or if you have any further questions.

See you then!

Early Break and School Nurses Team



MODEL UNITED NATIONS



United Nations

Model United Nations

On Saturday the 20th of January, two delegations from St Ambrose visited Stonyhurst College in the first Model United Nations conference in over a year. Debating on issues ranging from the use of child soldiers in Sudan to artificial intelligence, the Ambrosian delegates from Croatia and Denmark did a great job of representing their country's foreign policy, whilst also mingling with fellow delegates from other schools including Ampleforth, Manchester Grammar and Withington Girls. A particular highlight was touring the extensive museum within Stonyhurst, dating back to the early 17th Century. Amongst its exhibits was St Thomas More's night cap, Mary Queen of Scots bible and even a monkey that had been taxidermied to look like Martin Luther! Though the prizes were given largely to a couple of typically successful schools, the Ambrosians left having had a valuable experience and a fun time in utterly stunning surroundings. A huge thanks to Mr Brady and all fellow delegates for giving up their Saturdays and waking up for the early bus at 7:15!

**By Cormac O
Year 12**

<https://youtu.be/Z8I309tDi5k>





POLITICS TRIP TO WESTMINSTER



This Tuesday gone, a team of 17 lower sixth Students, Mr Lindsay and Mrs Rainbow, embarked on an excursion to the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. We took the early train from Manchester Piccadilly to Euston, and then to Portcullis House by way of the tube. We think that the comedian Hugh Dennis was on sat tube with us. We had to go through security and were even met by the Bishop of St Albans! Sir Graham Brady – MP for Altrincham and Sale West and our host – then had a Q&A with us, answering all sorts of (slightly audacious) questions. After a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament, we were able to observe both the Houses of Commons and Lords in session. Amongst the politicians present were Ian Duncan Smith, Lord Watson, Penny Mordant, Sir Kier Starmer, Angela Rayner, Lord Soames and even former Ambrosian and MP Damian Hinds! Even though the 14-hour-trip was tiring, I can positively say that the trip was one I shall not soon forget. Many thanks to Sir Graham and his office staff for their incredible help, and to Mr Lindsay and Mrs Rainbow for organising the trip and not losing anyone at rush hour!

By Cormac O
Year 12





UPDATED- Y11 INTERVENTION TIMETABLE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see an **amended** 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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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 class only	English 1pm Mrs Hill
	RE 1pm Mrs Wheelan Week 1/ Mr Groves Week 2	Drama 12:30pm Mrs Taylor		History 1pm Miss Edwards	
	English 1pm Mrs Hill	Geography 12:45pm Mr McFadden		Computing (Week 1 Only) 12:30pm Mr Sweeney	
	Chemistry Clinic 12:30pm Mr Elwell	RE 1pm Miss McCrory			
		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



PRINCIPALS AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to the young men below who were all worthy recipients of the Principals Award this week and enjoyed a breakfast with the Boss.



Harrison B—7B

Nicholas V—7E

Stephen M—8E

Arthur M—8A

Success A—9A

Tom H—9C

Tomas B—10A

Thomas F—10A

Sam P—10E

Cillian R—10D

Liam N—11A

Ryan D—11F

Ben W—11F

Robert S—13D

Rocco J—13D



***#ambrosianspirit #positiveattitude #compassionandkindness
#strivingforexcellence #sportingexcellence***



MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...

ST AMBROSE MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

LYRICS BY
TIM RICE

MUSIC BY
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

AUDITIONS
Feb 5th – 9th
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.

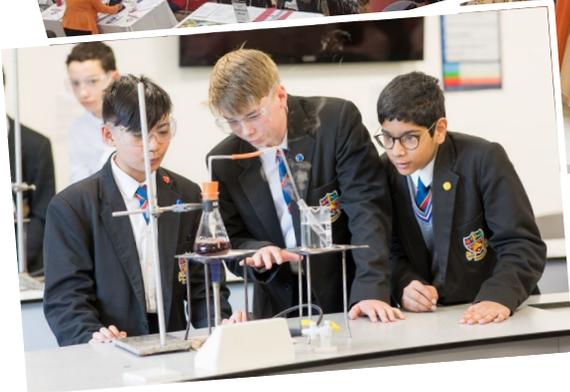
All students have been emailed a PowerPoint with information on how to get involved, where to sign up to auditions and the roles that are involved.

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

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with missryates@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Miss Yates
Director of Music

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](https://twitter.com/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

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

Tel: 0161 980 2711





CAREERS—UPCOMING EVENTS

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:

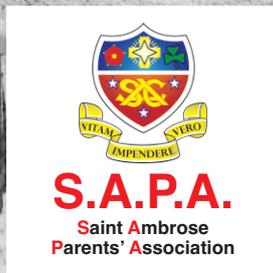
Fiona.buckley@traffordleisure.co.uk

training@traffordleisure.co.uk

Please see Mrs Chandler with any questions

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





SAPA WINTER NEWS!

26th January 2024

NEW YEAR NEW WEBSITE!

Hello and welcome back to our first newsletter of 2024. We had a great fundraising year in 2023 and there are more exciting events on the horizon to look forward to!

But first, we have some exciting news!

We have our brand new website up and running!

Why not head over via the link below and take a browse around.

You will find up to date information on any upcoming events including uniform sales.

The most recent events will always be posted at the top of the 'Fundraising & Events' page.

There is also information about how you can join the '**100 Club**' draw, become a SAPA member, how to get involved with future events and a gallery.

We will also keep you up to date with how the money we have raised is spent and in the near future we will also be adding a running total of how much funding we have made to date. Check the website out here...

www.sapa.org.uk





SAPA WINTER NEWS!

26th January 2024

UNIFORM SALE

THIS
SATURDAY
27th JAN
9.00am

DON'T FORGET!
Our first uniform sale of the year
is this Saturday!

Sale starts at 8am in the classroom at the back of
the building next to the swimming pool - just follow
the signs.

We are still collecting any **good condition**
and **washed & clean** uniforms so please continue
to donate in the usual way by dropping off at reception.

**WE ESPECIALLY NEED SOCKS, TIES AND
SMALLER SIZE UNIFORMS**

Thank you!

Julie Bastin - email: chair@sapa.org.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/>