




Saint Ambrose College

Weekly News Bulletin

 @PrincipalSAC
Friday 22nd March 2024

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another term, I hope this message finds you well.

This Sunday marks Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, leading us into the most sacred time of the Christian calendar. Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, setting the stage for the events of Holy Week. As we reflect on the themes of the gospel during this time - love, sacrifice, and redemption - let us also consider how we can embody these values in our daily lives.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Murray and the students involved in today's Lenten liturgies, helping us prepare for the journey through Holy Week and into Easter. I would like to extend particular thanks to George, Mitul and Stephen for writing their own, profound reflections. Mass/service times for Holy Week and Easter in the local parishes are included inside this newsletter.

This week has been packed with many events, with highlights including the prestigious Roslyn Park rugby sevens and more water polo success with the under 13 side qualifying for the national final after their superb achievements in Walsall on Monday. We have also hosted workshops on County Lines awareness organised by Miss McManus on Wednesday, further Lenten charities fundraising, retreats for year 8, refugee workshop, the maths challenge and maths feast, and a geography field trip today. Thank you to all involved, and also to those staff who led or accompanied last weekend's Duke of Edinburgh expedition for year 9 pupils.

As is the case every year, a day of interviewing potential senior prefects, house captains and the new Head Boy and Deputy Head Boys was immensely enjoyable and inspirational. Such has been the quality of applications, we still haven't reached a firm decision.

A gentle reminder for parents and carers regarding our appeal for exam invigilators on a rota basis. We understand that your time is valuable, and we appreciate any support you can offer during the exam season in May and June. We don't expect volunteers to be here day in, day out but by even being available for a few sessions you would be helping us greatly. Please complete the jotform [HERE](#) if you might be able to assist.

We are looking forward to welcoming back the year 13 cohort of 2023 on Wednesday 10th April. If you know any of the students or their families who haven't yet responded to the invite, please do

encourage them to get in touch. On the theme of recognising achievements, congratulations to the six key stage 3 students and ten key stage 4 and 5 students who received the Principal's Award today.

In local news, I think it's fairly common knowledge now that Booths in Hale Barns will be closing. When we return after the Easter break, it will be all change. Whatever the general feeling about the prices in Booths, their lunchtime meal deal for £5 was always decent value and I'll miss my regular Friday prawn pasta salad. Still, it's another example of losing what isn't used and the challenges facing many businesses at present. I think I'm right in saying that ASDA will move into the premises in late April.

For Year 13 parents, please note that students in a number of subjects have received logins for Uplearn. Encourage your child to be proactive in utilising this resource over Easter, whilst still prioritising the work set by their subject teachers.

As we approach the Easter break, supervised study will be available from Monday to Thursday next week. Given the number of online platforms now being accessed for revision purposes, devices will be allowed but will be monitored. Any students repeatedly being distracted by their device or using it as a method of procrastination will be asked to leave. Students are able to bring lunch with them but in previous years they have tended to go off site towards Hale Barns village. They might wish to say their goodbyes to Booths!

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Itua for his service as a school governor. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

Wishing all families a holy and peaceful Easter break. We will begin the Trinity term on Monday, April 8th.

Mr D Rainey
Principal





REMINDERS

Dates for your diary

8th April	School resumes
10th April	2023 A Level Leavers Presentation Evening—arrive by 6:45pm
19th April	Year 12 trip to Lancaster University
6th May	Bank Holiday
24th May	Last day of term
3rd June	School returns

Term dates for 2024/2025 can be viewed [here](#)
For more calendar dates please visit our website:
www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/calendardates

TEACHER SPONSORSHIPS

Our very own Miss Walton will be running the Manchester Marathon in April in support of Cancer Research UK.



If you would like to support Miss Walton and this worthy charity, you can donate on Miss Walton's Just Giving page by following the link <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/jessicas-giving-page-152757> every penny donated goes towards beating cancer.

Good luck Miss Walton!





SPORTS UPDATE

✕ @StAmbrosesports

Gaelic Football training has started for years 7-9 This will continue every Wednesday 3.45-4.45

Indoor cricket training continues on Monday's 3.45-5.15 for year 7/8
Indoor cricket training continues on Wednesday's 3.45-5.15 for year 9/10

Shin Pads

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

200 Club – now even easier to set up via your online 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>
Cup matches will be updated when confirmed.

Results this week

Rugby 7s

On Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th this week our 1st XV are took part in the National School 7s at Rosslyn Park. After winning 2/3 group games the team failed to progress to the knock out rounds jut missing out on a best runners up place,

On Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st this week our U16s are took part in the National School 7s at Rosslyn Park. Similar to our 1st XV the u16 won 2/3 games, again narrowly missing out on a best runner up place.

On Thursday 21st Our U15s took part in the Audenshaw 7s and brought the curtain 7's season down with a Cup victory!

Water polo

On Monday 18th March our u13 water polo team travelled to Walsall for the first round of the National water polo Championships. Congratulations to them as they have progressed to the next round of the Cup.

Fixtures this week.

It is timed for a well earned Easter break for students and staff. Since September we have competed in over 200 fixtures! We will return after the break refreshed ready for our Summer sports fixtures which will include cricket, athletics and tennis.

Games lessons for Year 7,8,9,10 after Easter will require trainers.

New Summer sports Timetable (see next page)

A reminder - kit is as follows:

Games lessons: Hopped rugby shirt or PE shirt, shorts, trainers
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



Our winning U15s rugby 7s squad.



SPORTS REPORT

Rugby 7s Success

It's been a busy few weeks of rugby 7s.

The 7's season started with this: Year 7 Wirral Cup Winners



And ended with this: Year 10 Audenshaw Cup winners



With various successes in between!



Happy Easter to all the Rugby Squads. Have a restful break.



SUMMER SPORTS TIMETABLE

TRINITY TERM SUMMER SPORTS TIMETABLE



Practices	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pre School					
Sports Hall					
Pool		Staff Swim		Staff Swim	
Fitness Suite	Years 9-13	Years 9-13	Years 9-13		Years 9-13
Practices	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime					
Main Astro					
Tennis Small Astro		Year 7 JC	Year 8	Year 9 & 10 JC	Matches JC
Athletics Track	Middle Distance SA	Sprints	Middle Distance SA		
Athletics Jumps	Triple/Long SA		Triple/Long SA		
Athletics Throws	MF	CT	MF	CT	
Outdoor Cricket Nets		Year 7 JC	Year 8 SD	Year 10 DD	Year 9 CT
Cricket Astro		Year 10 DD	Year 9 CT	Year 7 JC	Year 8 SD
Sports Hall		High Jump SD	High Jump DD	High Jump MF	
Pool	Year 11-13 Water polo	Year 9/10 Water polo	Year 8 Water polo/swim	Year 7 Water polo	Swimming
Fitness Suite	Years 9-13 MC	Years 9-13 MF	Years 9-13 (DS)		Years 9-13 (SA)
Practices	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School					
All Weather			Gaelic Football		Staff Football
Sports Hall	Cricket Years 7&8 DB		Cricket Years 9&10 DB	Senior Cricket JC	
Pool	Year 10 Water polo	Year 9 Water polo	Year 7 Water polo	Year 8 Water polo	Prep
Fitness Suite	All years	All years	All years	All years	All years



STUDENTS SUCCESS



Congrats to Jamie F—Y9



Jamie participated in the U14's Warrington Swimming and Water Polo Spring Gala earlier this month. Jamie won 3 medals in his category, gold for 50m freestyle, gold for 50m breaststroke and silver for 50m backstroke! What a fantastic result!



Well Done to Sam D—Y11

Sam made his debut for Warrington Wolves U16 Scholarship Team this week against Bradford Bulls. The Warrington team were far too strong for the Bradford side winning 54-6. Samuel had an impressive debut setting up 3 tries and forcing 2 goal line drop outs with an excellent kicking game.

Tougher matches are close on the horizon with St. Helens the next opponents.



Well done to Charlie C (Y11), Oscar P (Y10), Andrew S (Y9), Logan M (Y9) and Jude E (Y9)

The boys represented City of Manchester water polo in the U17 National Championship qualifiers last weekend winning all of their games and finishing top of the group. The finals will be held in April—come on boys!





PRINCIPALS AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to all the fantastic young men who were nominated to receive the Principal's Award this week. One of Mr Rainey's cherished fortnightly traditions where he enjoys a continental breakfast and chat with our winners.

Gabriel M —Y10

Ewan M —Y10

Nwaka M—Y11

Luca P —Y11

Parshva S —Y12

Rishik N —Y12

Joachim H —Y12

Sam B —Y12

Joel S —Y13

Joseph C —Y13



Vince G —Y7

Owen C —Y7

James M —Y8

Bryan S —Y8

Ashton D'Souza —Y9

Success A —Y9



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



CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Weekly Prayer Theme for Singing Practice: *'Be still for the presence of the Lord'*

Thanks Miss Yates for leading our Singing Practice and Liturgy this week! KS3 students sang hymns in preparation for our Lenten Liturgies on Friday!

This week's Prayer of the Week focuses on St Patrick's Day:

OPENING PRAYER

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.



Form Prayer

Our Form Prayer this week focused on recognising the influence of St Patrick on the land of our founder, Edmund Rice. Students were also encouraged to reflect on St Patrick as evangelist, theologian, educator and architect. We retain very close links to Ireland through the Christian Brothers and are proud of our relationship with our neighbour across the Irish Sea!

IRISH BLESSING

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.

May the friendships you make,
Be those which endure,
And all of your grey clouds
Be small ones for sure,
And trusting in Him
To Whom we all pray,
May a song fill your heart,
Every step of the way.





CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Easter Liturgy

All our students attended Easter Liturgy in the Atrium on the last day of term, with beautiful singing led by Miss Yates and incredible reflections by Mitul, Stephen and George in Y13. The theme for the Liturgy was "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace".



Lenten Charity Action

This Lent we are encouraging students to fundraise for Caritas Shrewsbury's annual Good Shepherd Appeal. Please support them in their efforts as they join their classmates in promoting this valuable cause. If you would like to find out more about the appeal, as well as creative fundraising ideas, please follow this link: <https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/get-involved/good-shepherd-collection/>





CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Y8 Lenten Retreats

Our Lenten Retreats continued this week in the Chapel. Students are thinking about Jesus' journey towards the cross during Holy Week, but also finding out a little bit about themselves and each other! The highlight so far has undoubtedly been the Lenten Pub Quiz with prizes!



Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

Mr Murray and Miss Dean led a workshop on Suicide Intervention for 22 Y12 students this week. We have a number of Pastoral staff who are trained in suicided intervention and, with the help of Ann Nichols from the ER Office, we are working actively towards making St Ambrose a suicide safer community!



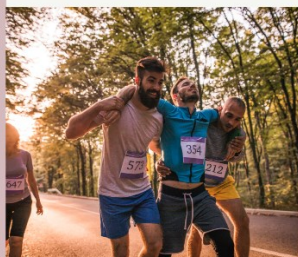


CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Stations of the Cross

Fifth Station: Simon helps Jesus carry his cross

"As they were leading Jesus away to crucify him, they compelled Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross behind Jesus."



During Lent, every single Form in school has visited the Chapel during RE lessons to pray the Stations of the Cross. This is such an important part of our spiritual preparation for Easter as the Stations chart Jesus' journey towards the cross. The Stations remind us of Jesus' ultimate loving sacrifice for us but, through the various people Jesus meets along the way, they also teach us a lot about ourselves!

'Watching' in the Chapel

On our last day of Term, our Chapel was open at lunchtime for a period of 'Watching'. On Maundy Thursday, Catholics traditionally stay in Church after Mass finishes to remain in the presence of Christ. As we're not in school during Holy Week, students and staff stayed faithful to this tradition by meditating silently together and reading from scripture.



And finally . . .

Fr Owen Gallagher very kindly joined us for Confessions in the Chapel this week. The fact that we ALWAYS struggle to meet the demand for Confession is a real credit to the students. This time, over 70 students attended! Whilst we couldn't offer everyone a slot, there will be another chance to go next Term.



CHAPLAINCY NEWS



Holy Angels, Hale Barns [Wicker Lane \(holyangelscatholicchurch.co.uk\)](http://holyangelscatholicchurch.co.uk)

St Vincent De Paul Altrincham [Palm-Sunday-of-the-Passion-of-Our-Lord-24th-March-2024-1.pdf \(stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk\)](http://stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk)

St Hugh and St John, Timperley [Week commencing 29TH October 2023 \(30th Week in Ordinary Time, Year A\) \(sthughandstjohnimperley.co.uk\)](http://sthughandstjohnimperley.co.uk)

St Joseph's and Holy Family, Sale [newsletter.pdf \(sjhf.co.uk\)](http://sjhf.co.uk)

All Saints and St Margaret Ward, Sale and Our Lady of Lourdes, Partington [C:\Users\mike\AppData\Local\Temp\msoAE50.tmp \(ourparishes.church\)](http://ourparishes.church)

Our Lady of Perpetua; Succour, Moss Side and St Alphonsus, Old Trafford [Microsoft Word - 24th March 2024 \(olms.co.uk\)](http://olms.co.uk)

St Ann's and St Hugh of Lincoln, Stretford [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stannandsthughoflincoln)

Our Lady and the English Martyrs and St Monica's, Davyhulme/Urmston/Flixton [Home - St John Henry Newman Parish website](http://stjohnhenrynewmanparish.org.uk)

St John's and St Teresa's, Chorlton [Newsletter and Bulletins – St Johns Chorlton](http://stjohnschorlton.org.uk)



YEAR 12 YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Greater Manchester Young Enterprise Final

On the afternoon / evening of Thursday 21st March, the SAC Young Enterprise Company (ScamJam) impressed both the judges and the audience during their pitch and interview at the Greater Manchester final.

Their project, a unique Scam Awareness Guide aimed at protecting vulnerable members of society, was warmly received by all that were present. Although the team's efforts were commendable and their presentation top-notch, they unfortunately didn't make it through to the North-West finals this time. Nevertheless, we are proud of the boys who established this company from scratch. They invested their time and energy into designing and developing a product that addresses a crucial societal issue.

This experience has provided them with valuable life skills that will undoubtedly serve them well in the future. From teamwork to entrepreneurship, they've gained insights that could shape them into the champions of industry of tomorrow.

We wish them all the best in their future endeavours and look forward to hearing more about their achievements and successes as they continue to follow in the footsteps of Edmund Rice in making a positive impact on the world around them.

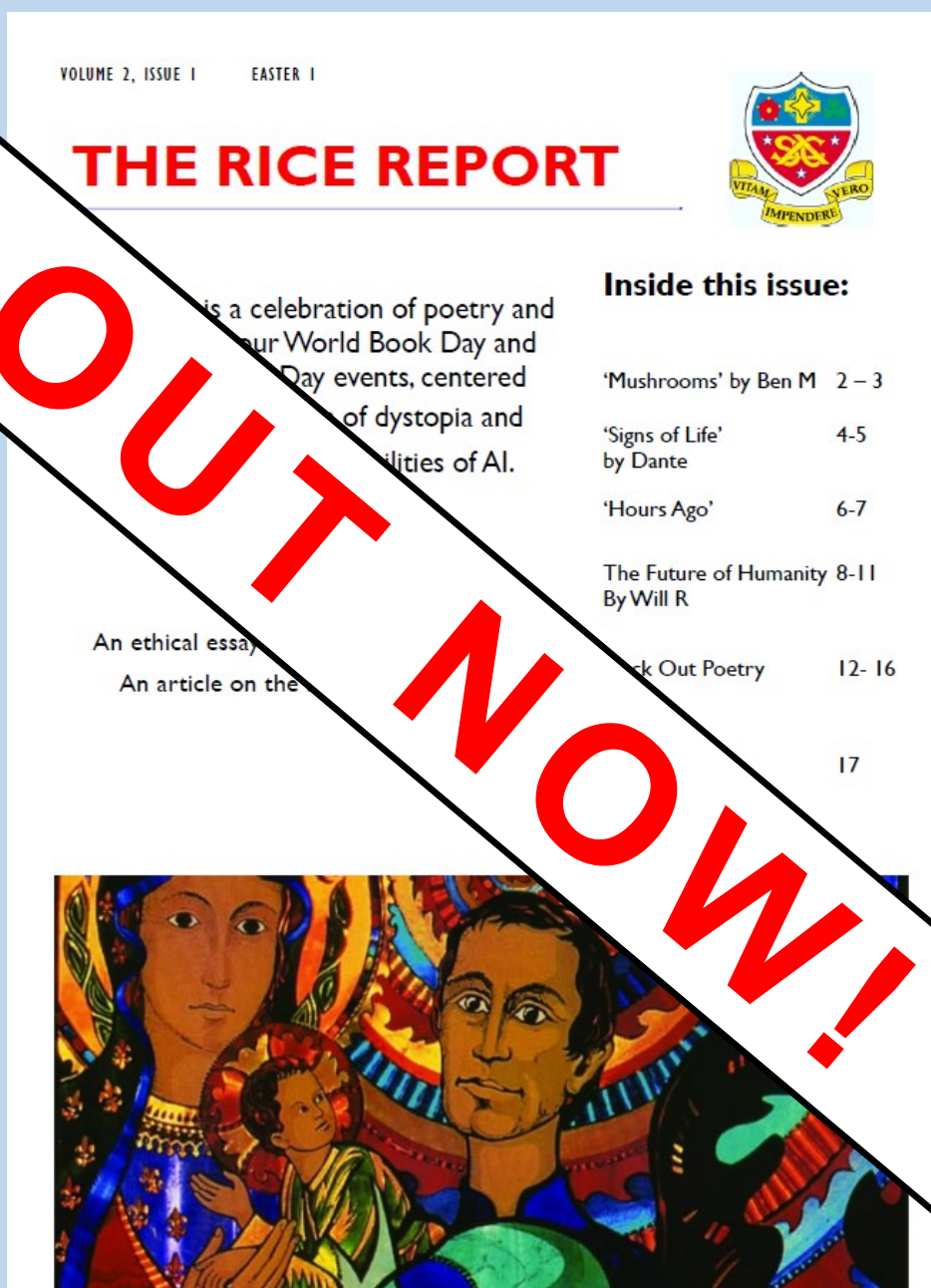
Mr. Gunning.





THE RICE REPORT

We are happy to publish a new edition of The Rice Report, focused around the theme of Artificial Intelligence. This edition celebrates our pupils' contributions for World Book Day and World Poetry Day, including flash fiction and poetry created dealing with the catastrophic implications of new technologies.



Read the latest edition on our website [HERE](#)



SCHOOL NEWS

KS3—TRIP TO MOSI

Students from KS3 science club visited the Museum of Science and Industry last week in celebration of British science week! Students engaged in a Q and A session with an engineer about careers in STEM, watched 'The revolution show' and spent exploring the experiment gallery. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day, and Miss Robinson was extremely proud of the boys behaviour and engagement during the day.

Miss Robinson



**SCIENCE+
INDUSTRY
MUSEUM**

GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

Mr Donnelly's Geography lunchtime society had their usual end of term quiz which proved ever popular on Thursday, maybe it was because it was Easter themed, or maybe it was due to the prizes being Easter themed! Either way, well done to the winners, The Minimalists and runners up—what a lovey start to the Easter break.



End of term Easter Quiz



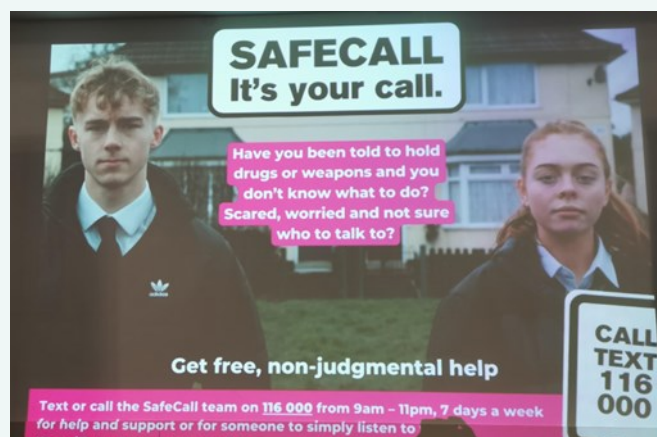
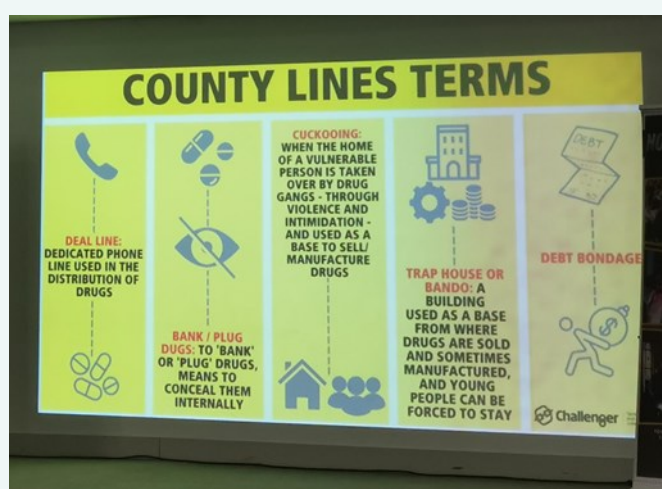
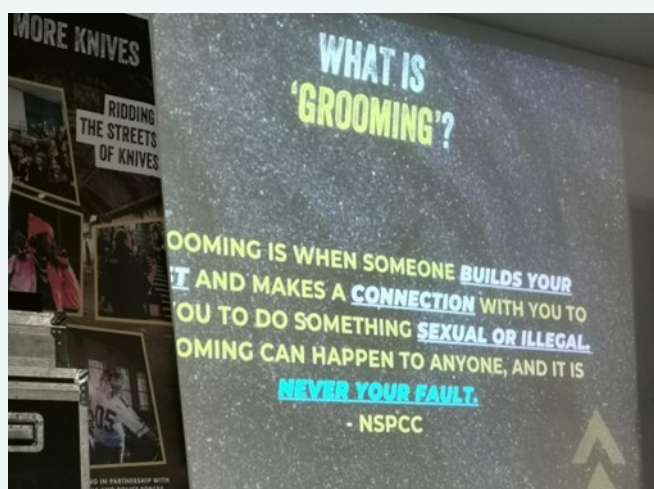
Geography Society 2024 Easter Quiz - Scores						
Team Name	Round 1 /14	Round 2 /10	Round 3 /10	Round 4 /10	Round 5 /20	Total /64
The Scrambled Eggies	7	7	7	6	8	35
The Minimalists	9	8	10	6	9	42
The Bunnies	9	9	9	0	14	41
The Hungry Lions	7	6	7	0	5	25
St Cath's Lads	5	7	5	6	12	35
Genius Geographers	6	6	9	6	12	39
The Bobs	7	6	7	5	9	34
New York City Chickens	4	6	7	5	6	28



COUNTY LINES

Our students had an amazing experience this week from The Message Trust related to 'county lines'. Very important messages were communicated in a fun and engaging way. Students have gained greater insight into the signs and tactics that criminals use to target and engage young people into a life of crime. Very enjoyable and very informative.

Students were signposted contact and support numbers should they ever need to talk to someone if they are worried about themselves or a friend.



Student can always report their worries to a trusted adult either at home or within school, or use one of the signpost numbers/email addresses given by the Message Trust.

Childline.org.uk

Safe call:
Text 116 000

Catch-22.org.uk

NSPCC.org.uk



Year 7 Football Tournament

7-a-side tournament information:

- The tournament will take place on Monday after school for 1 hour on the Astro pitch
- It will be held for 4-5 weeks after the Easter break
- The tournament will cost £10 per person to enter
- The entry sheet **MUST** be handed to the School Office by **9am Monday 8th April** with names of all the people in the team listed (if your team is short by one player that is also fine)
- The tournament will use a league system with the top 2 teams playing in the final at the end of the 4-5 weeks
- Shin pads **MUST** be worn , however any kit can be worn
- It's an amazing chance to show your footballing ability for the football team in coming years!!!!



Prize

The winners will be awarded with 'skip the queue' passes and a trophy.



Team Name:	
Player 1	
Player 2	
Player 3	
Player 4	
Player 5	
Player 6	
Player 7	



YEAR 7 Disco Fundraiser

PROJECT 7
YEAR 7 DISCO
STILEZ
JOHNO
LAFFO
FRIDAY 1ST MAY
4:00-6:00
SIERRA LEONE FUNDRAISER
DRAMA ROOM **£4**



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.

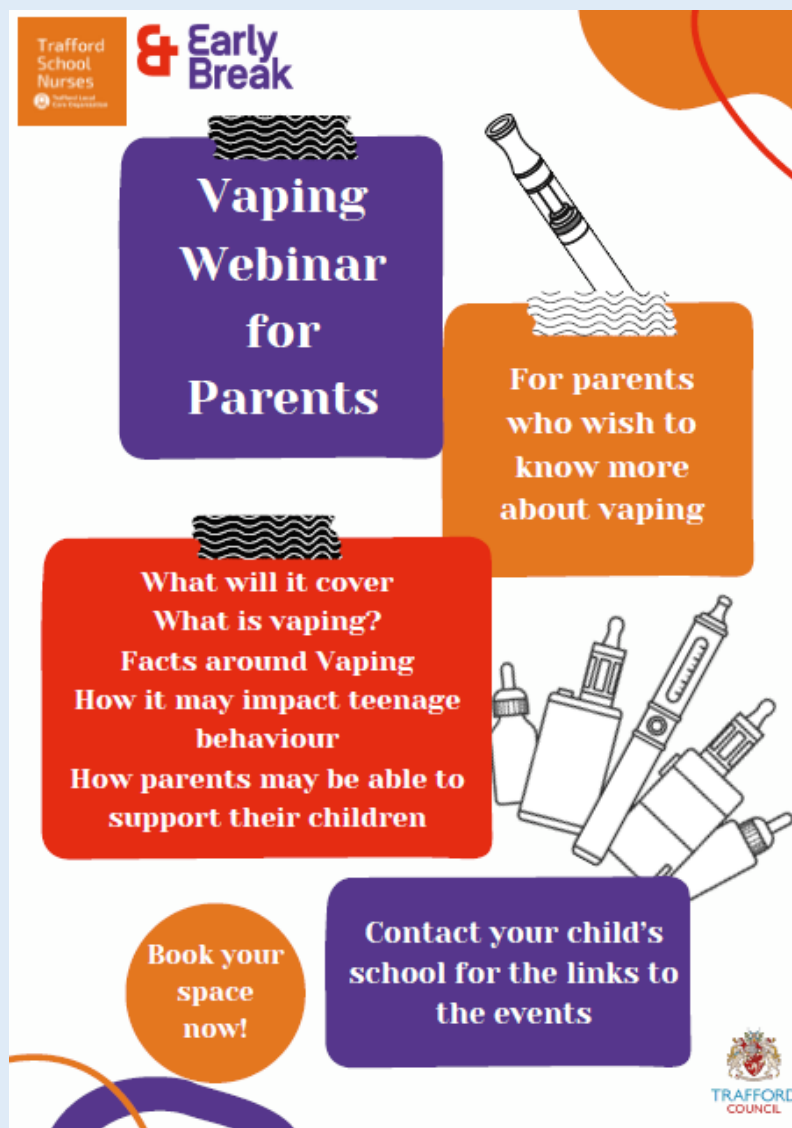
We will continue to share further information and updates with you throughout the year. Should you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at careers@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.

Kind regards,
Mr. Gunning and the Careers Team





WEBINAR FOR PARENTS



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 date:

[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



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/>