

Saint Ambrose College

Sixth Form Weekly Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2026 - 20



Dear Parents & Carers,

This week has seen our boys engage in a vast range of activities.

The year 12 MUN representatives travelled to Stonyhurst, our senior boys enjoyed their penultimate rugby game against Royal Lancaster Grammar School whilst year 12 boys attended the Rotary debate at Wilmslow High School. In addition, the cross-country runners went to the English National Schools competition in Coventry. A great week of competition for our boys throughout the Sixth Form in an array of activities.

St Ambrose college delegations trip to Stonyhurst Model United Nations conference by Arthur E

Upon much preparation by the year 12 debate team, 14 delegates volunteered to compete in the Stonyhurst model United Nations Conference last Saturday.

Being their second conference this year as a delegation, they were looking forward to engaging in fruitful, diplomatic discussion, debating policy regarding real world issues, and learning the traditional features of diplomacy.

Each committee posed individual challenges to our delegates, requiring nuanced research and critical consideration, allowing them to be challenged and use their experience to pass amendments, and comment on resolution.

Arriving at such a grand building immersed the delegation in the scale and importance of the event and emboldened the team, before listening to an empowering speech by Dominika Lasota, a polish climate activist and founding member of the polish consultative council. She spoke passionately about justice in a world of imbalance and in equality and set a powerful precedent for the day to come, as the boys began procedure.



Across the full day, many of the boys passed legislation in competitive committees that facilitated many debate styles and topics, featuring ethical, pragmatic discussion that had full humanitarian benefit at heart.

The ambrosian delegates proudly continued throughout the day, developing their confidence, working together to build social alliances with new people through networking, and enhancing their passion for debate to provide significant competition to a national set of prestigious schools.

The closing debates regarded a crisis, in which delegates were required to fluently adapt and speak on a current issue in a spontaneous, changing environment, in which members of the Ambrose team were given the opportunity to speak in front of a full congregation in the ceremonial hall, followed by the closing ceremony that concluded a fulfilling day of passion for diplomacy and team building, that the team say amplified their confidence in not only debate, but political discussion holistically.



However, the highlight of this week was the University offers that came in. We saw Durham and Cambridge make offers to our boys, and we can excitedly state that we have 10 students with Oxbridge places. This is the largest number in the College's History. I was once accused of been obsessed with Oxbridge and focused on the success of those boys. This couldn't be further from the truth. I am delighted with all the offers received and celebrate all our boys as the offers come in.

Joseph M celebrates the victory over Royal Lancaster.

We continued our strong form after the King's Mac victory with a convincing 40–17 win against a physical Lancaster side.

The game began with a tight and physical contest between two strong teams. Despite Lancaster's large pack, our forwards soon asserted dominance, particularly in the mauls, which led to several tries across the match. After the early exchanges, we began to control the game in all areas.

Strong forward precision provided a solid platform, allowing the backs to exploit space with speed and skill. This balance of power and pace proved too much for Lancaster, and the final score of 40–17 reflected a confident all-round performance. The lads are hoping to continue this form in our final Saturday fixture of the season away at Haberdasher Adams this upcoming weekend.

We wish the boys every success in their last match of the season against Adams Grammar School.

Liam O'B travelled to Coventry and as part of the team achieved a magnificent top 20 position in the National Schools Cross Country.

Cross Country Report by Liam O'B

On Wednesday three sixth formers represented St Ambrose at the prestigious King Henry VIII relays in Coventry, an event with a 54-year legacy that draws in the highest calibre of schools.

Having lost key members and fielding a young team this year repeating last years great success of a school record 8th place was a tall order. With turbulent underfoot conditions James O'B kicked off the first leg with a sixth form record of 11:55, catapulting Ambrose into a strong 10th position.

Following this the baton was passed onto lower school athletes who continued to fight through the ever more hazardous mud and water. Charlie B (Y13), took the Ambrose torch on 4th leg continuing the determined effort.

Finally, I brought the Ambrose vest through the line in 20th, a valiant effort for a depleted team in adverse conditions.

Thank you to Mr Aspinwall and Mrs Chandler for accompanying the boys to the event.

Tate M impressed the assembled crowd at Wilmslow High School with an oration that deserved great praise and victory. However, victory wasn't ours on the day.

Tate has written the profile of the event.

Last week, a team consisting of myself, Dhillon F, and James A, as well as an intermediate team of Aj, Wesley, and Joseph in year 9, took part in the highly touted Rotary Youth Public Speaking Competition, representing the school against a strong field of talented speakers.

The event, held at Wilmslow High, brought together confident and articulate speakers, each addressing a challenging topic in front of an audience of judges, teachers, and fellow students.

Our team delivered a speech that immediately raised the standard for the evening. From the opening introduction delivered by James, the address was clear, engaging, and exceptionally well structured, demonstrating both depth of research and a strong command of rhetoric. We tackled the topic ('is cancel culture a necessary social corrective') with confidence and a unique take, balancing logical argument with emotional impact, and maintaining the audience's attention throughout. The delivery was polished and assured, reflecting the considerable preparation that had gone into the performance.

As the competition progressed, it became clear that the standard across the board was relatively high. However, our speech stood out for its clarity, persuasive strength, and maturity of argument. Audience reactions were notably positive, with sustained attention and enthusiastic applause at its conclusion. Many in attendance commented on the effectiveness of the pacing, tone, and ability to respond calmly under pressure.

When the results were announced, our team narrowly missed out on first place. While close competitions inevitably involve fine margins, the outcome prompted discussion among audience members, some of whom expressed surprise at the final rankings. Several noted discrepancies between the performances on the night and the scores awarded, leading to questions about how the judging criteria were applied.

Despite the result, the experience proved immensely valuable. The competition offered an opportunity to develop confidence, resilience, and the ability to perform at a high level under scrutiny. It also reinforced the idea that success in public speaking is not measured solely by results, but by the impact a speaker has on their audience.



Our sincerest thanks to our two year 12 GAA volunteers who have coached every Wednesday after school well done Cillian H and Joseph H.

Enjoy Cillian's report:-

As of the new school year myself (Cillian H) and Joe T, alongside Mr Thomas, have been running afterschool Gaelic football sessions for years 7,8,9.

Over the course of the past few months we have seen incredible progress in all the boys' skills and understanding of the game, many of which had never played before and have picked it up very quickly thanks to their determination and consistency to come out on most Wednesday afternoons.

With competitions fast approaching in the summer term, we have been putting emphasis on specific skills to develop the boy's whole skillset and fill any gaps in understanding to give us, as a school the best possible chance of winning and enjoying all coming games / tournaments, (including a potential trip down to London!).

Any students in years 7,8,9 are more than welcome to come out and take part whether they've got any Gaelic football experience or not. Thanks to all the boys who help get the equipment ready and create the ideal environment for everyone to learn, develop, and enjoy their Gaelic football progression.

Enjoy the weekend.

Kind regards

Mr Stephen Brady
Assistance Principal and
Director of Sixth Form