

Saint Ambrose College

Sixth Form Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th & 18th September 2026 - 02& 03



Dear Parents & Carers,

Sincerest apologies for the newsletter not going out last week. It was near completion, but I failed to respond to Mrs Grainger's telephone calls requesting the final go ahead to publish. My excuse was that I was having too much fun on the rides at Alton Towers and failed to see my messages in time to meet the deadline. However please don't fret, as this week I will be 'subjecting' you to two Sixth Form newsletters in one edition.

I was delighted to read about young Andrew S and his great success in Barcelona. This is amazing and we are so proud of his endeavours. Enjoy the following account describing his time in Spain's second city.

Report on GB Water Polo in Barcelona

Andrew S has been representing Great Britain U18 Men at the Next Gen Cup in Barcelona, the first opportunity for this squad to represent GB in international competition.

The tournament is being used as an important development competition as the squad builds towards the European Championships next summer. GB have been competing against strong U19 European club teams, containing players born in 2007 and younger. Many of these teams train together every day and have completed full summer training camps, whereas the GB squad currently trains together for just one weekend each month.

Despite that difference in preparation and experience, GB have been very competitive. Results included a great 11-8 win over NC Monza, alongside close games against Ortigia (10-7), Elevate WP (7-5 and 11-7), and a 12-6 result against Brunswick.

It has been a fantastic first international experience for Andrew and the whole squad, giving them invaluable exposure to high-level European water polo as they continue their development towards next summer's Europeans.



Last Wednesday afternoon we welcomed a range of Oxbridge boys to the College. They are either current students or students awaiting to walk the cobbled streets of the 'hallowed spires' for the very first time. Last week they spoke to our Year 12 boys and next week they will come in and give our Year 13 prospects interview guidance and useful hints when completing their UCAS forms.



Last Thursday we held our clubs and societies fair. Our Sixth Form participate/lead these clubs with such enthusiasm that the rest of the school is energised by their gusto. We have a total of 50 sporting and non-sporting clubs. There is truly something for everyone.



Sport and Rugby

We have over 70 boys in senior rugby from Year 11 to Year13 and had a fantastic block fixture against Kirkham.

The excitement was palpable the opposition arrived with their entourage of full scholarship and academy players and the Headmasters Select played our 2nd XV. Our 1st XV Captain has written this account of our first game of the season. It was an excellent performance and proved exceptionally competitive to the very last minute. St Ambrose 15 – Kirkham Grammar School 21.

Congratulations to our 2nd XV who claimed a 27 – 17 over Kirkham's 'Headmasters XV'.

Please enjoy and digest the overall sports report by our Sports Captain Finn G.

Kirkham Rugby Report - by Finn G

In the second week back the rugby union teams at each age played their annual first game against the prestigious Kirkham grammar who always are able to field a competitive team no matter the age group.

The first team who are hoping for a successful season played an intense game in front of the school where they lost in an extremely close contest where they just about failed to come back from 21-3 losing the game 21-15 at the final whistle.

Success was found in the second team as the boys showed this year's strength in depth with a convincing 27-17 win over Kirkham's seconds. The u16s struggled against a particularly strong age group and will regroup for their Cheshire cup fixture against Sandbach next week.

The u15s started as they mean to go on with a good victory winning by 42-19 as they hope for another successful season. The U14s faced a difficult challenge but put up a respectable fight in their opening fixture losing by two tries in a competitive contest.

The U13s came in with the largest victory of the day winning 50-5 reaping the rewards to their commitment to the lunchtime sessions. Finally, both u12 struggled in their first games but to field two teams was a success in itself and will be exciting to see how the year group progresses.

Overall, a very positive opening day for the rugby squads and all will look to build on their performances in the coming weeks.

Outside of the rugby the first team football squad showed their dominance early winning 7-0 against Trinity CofE High School starting the season in an impressive fashion. Overall, a successful first week of fixtures with another exciting week to come.

Congratulations to Oscar W. Oscar made his international debut with the Irish Dodgeball men's team at the Northern European Championships in Aberdeen over the summer. The team played very well and came away with the bronze medal, Ireland's very first podium finish in Dodgeball. Oscar has also been selected to play for Ireland's men's team at the upcoming World Dodgeball tournament in Thailand.



Last Thursday night I welcomed many of you to our information evening and enjoyed meeting and greeting you. I realise that some of you have given generously to the College in your time either via the sports committee or SAPA. However, the reality of the current financial climate is that we are reliant on parental contributions to provide the 'extra' that we offer. The education that the boys receive at St Ambrose is truly 'independent education for free'. To sustain and enhance this offering 'Our College Needs You'. Any contribution however small or large will continue to allow us to enhance your son's education. Please help if you can.

Please note the dates for the Year 13 Mocks. They are before Christmas this year rather than after. This is to allow us to have the results earlier so we can act with more timely and active intervention.

On Wednesday afternoon our Sixth Form Student Leadership welcomed the Loreto Student Leadership, we are setting in motion several joint ventures. We decided that a joint talent show to be held in the atrium would be an event that would attract huge support and participation.

In addition, after the great success of our netball game at the end of the summer term we decided that an additional one could be held before half term. We discussed other ideas with the 'Ambreto' group and they assured me that they are in the final stages of organising the Sixth Form Winter Ball.



On Friday Mrs Scott and Dr Sate brought 53 students to the Oxford University Open Day. I believe the event was enjoyed by all. Our thanks to Mrs Grainger for organising and Mrs Scott and Dr Sate for attending.

May I also thank all the Sixth Form who helped out at our entrance examination day on Friday. It was invaluable and made the boys sitting the exam feel at ease and in a state of mind that they could do their very best.

The statute of limitations with regards to changing A level subjects has now passed. I hope all our Year 12 boys are happy with their choices and ready to dig deep and work hard so they can get the very best results in the future.

On Thursday night we launched the 80th celebrations with a magnificent mass. Please see the Principal's newsletter for the details of this fantastic event.



I wish you and your family a very pleasant weekend.

Kind regards,

Stephen Brady
Assistant Principal & Director of Sixth Form