

Saint Ambrose College



Principal's Weekly Newsletter
Issue 17 / 18.11.16

Message from the Principal

Today we felt the first blast of winter. Clearly at this time of year, it is important that students prepare properly. I recommend that all boys bring a coat to school which can be stored in their locker during the day.

It is also important that we remember the less fortunate than ourselves and currently the Revive Project in Salford are in need of scarves, hats, gloves and coats for the people they are assisting on a daily basis. Your generosity and support in this area would be greatly appreciated.

On Thursday next week, our morning Mass is dedicated to the memory of both old boys and staff who have died. If you wish to pass any names into School to be added to the Book of Remembrance, please do so before Thursday 24th November (office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk).

There is a lot that happens around the world we cannot control. We cannot stop earthquakes, we cannot prevent droughts, and we cannot prevent all conflict, but when we know where the hungry, the homeless and the sick exist, then we can help.

Jan Schakowsky



Prayer of Remembrance

Almighty and merciful God, I commend to you all our deceased family, friends, and those who have no one to pray for them.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the angels lead them into heaven.

May the splendid company of the Saints surround them.

May Mary their mother lovingly look on them.

May they rejoice in your loving presence for all eternity.

May they see Jesus face-to-face, and standing always in his presence, experience with happy hearts his great love for them.

And may they rest in the eternal peace of the contemplation of
you, their heavenly Father,
in the presence of the Holy Spirit forever.

Amen

Notices

General Notices:-

Website: www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

The Sacrament of Confirmation in 2017:-

Any year 9 (or above) pupils from Christ Church, Heald Green Parish, wishing to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation should attend, with their parents, a meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 30th November in the Parish Hall. Thank you. Christine Bodley
Christ Church Catechist (christinebodley51@gmail.com)

Parent Information Evening 22 November:

1st Year 6 pm-7 pm / 2nd Year 7 pm-8 pm

SAPA Christmas Fair: Sunday 27 November 2016 11 am - 2.00 pm

Sixth Form Open Evening: 15 November 2016 at 7.00 pm

Parent Information Evening 5th Year - 29 November 2016 6.30 pm

5th Year Mock Exams Info: <http://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/1119/parent/exams/>

Carols Service Holy Angels 7pm 19 December 2016 All Welcome

School early closures:-

St Ambrose Feast Day 9 December 2016 @ 12.30 pm

End of Term 21 December 2016 @ 12.30 pm

Pastoral concerns email: pastoralsupport@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Sport Fixtures/Scores: <http://www.schoolssports.com/School/?id=332>

Twitter: @StAmbroseColl

Rugby Twitter: @StAmbroseRugby

SAPA Twitter: @StAmbrosePA

SAPA website: <http://www.sapa.org.uk/>

SAPA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SAPAnews/>

Parents' Evenings (4.30 pm - 7.00 pm)

5th Year: 19/01/2017

Upper Sixth: 07/02/2017

2nd Year Options Evening: 22/02/2017 (7.00 pm - 8.30 pm)

2nd Year Parents' Evening: 28/02/2017

3rd Year Parents' Evening: 15/03/2017

1st Year Parents' Evening: 20/04/2017

4th Year Parents' Evening: 02/05/2017

Reignite

at Salford Cathedral

Mr D Krause

This Sunday there will be a large youth Mass celebration for all young people (18 – 35) in the Diocese of Salford (but also young people from the Diocese of Shrewsbury are very welcome) to mark the end of the Year of Mercy, with representatives from every youth organisation in the Diocese of Salford, at 5:30pm at Salford Cathedral. Afterwards will be a gathering featuring live music, refreshments, a social, and stalls of representatives of youth groups from across the Diocese of Salford.

Salford Cathedral: 250 Chapel St, Salford M3 5LL

'Nightfever' at the Holy Name in Manchester

Mr D Krause

First Friday of Each Month

6.00 pm Mass

7.30 pm - 10.00 pm

Music, Prayer &
Reconciliation

10.00 pm Solemn Benediction

NIGHTFEVER
— MANCHESTER —

Light a candle
Wind down Listen to Music Be Still

Encounter the Lord Open your heart
Reflect Bring questions before God

Offer your intentions Listen to God Talk to a priest

**Open Church
Open Heart**

Holy Name Church
339 Oxford Rd, Manchester, M13 9PG

www.nightfever.org

Hunting of the Snark

Tickets are selling fast for this academic year's production: 'The Hunting of the Snark'

Get your tickets via ParentMail or from main reception before they sell out.

Join us on a space adventure, suitable for all the family.

Originally by Lewis Carroll, this absurd and witty performance follows a comical crew on their journey to capture the mysterious Snark ... the problem is, no one knows what it looks like!



Saint Ambrose College

70th Anniversary 1946 - 2016

State-funded Independent Catholic Grammar School

Principal: J M Keulemans BSc (Hons) NPQH



15 November 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Measles, Chickenpox and Shingles

Please may we ask for your co-operation in an important matter.

One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment for cancer, which puts them at risk if they are exposed to measles, chickenpox or shingles.

Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles.

Our pupil is also at risk from chickenpox and would need to be given an injection within three days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chickenpox, you should let us know immediately.

It is also important that you let us know if there is shingles in your household.

Your child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of our pupil who is at risk does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we hope that you can help us.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

J M Keulemans
Principal



On Monday, Mr Chapman took four 6th Formers to the University of Manchester to participate in the annual, regional Maths Team Challenge. Congratulations to Tom Green, Fergus Grieves, Liam Devlin and Sean Gallagher-Gill for coming 9th out of 29 schools.

The results from the Senior Maths Challenge have arrived this week.

Congratulations to all the boys who took part, especially to Harry Brown (U6) and Liam Devlin (L6) who have achieved gold and qualified for the Senior Kangaroo on 2nd December.

Congratulations, the following boys have also achieved a Gold Certificate.

Aengus Lavery
Jake Stewart
George Pitt

Congratulations, the following have achieved a Silver Certificate:

Fergus Grieves
Thomas Cassidy
Madu Gadzama
Thomas Green
Issey Keogh
Alex Green
Edward England
Lewis Wonnacott

Congratulations, the following boys achieved a Bronze Certificate:

Christian Hall
William Taylor
Sean Gallagher gill
Daniel Hetherington
Felix Blake
Isaac Wasilewski
John Lloyd
Kwong Lau
Simon Armistead
Marcus Sinclair
Gabriel McDermott

SAPA Christmas Fair – 27th November 2016

As we approach the Christmas Fair we respectfully ask for your help!

Our annual Christmas Fair is a wonderful festive event and we totally rely on the generosity and support of the parents and carers to make it the excellent event it has become. You can contribute in 4 ways this year... Buy a raffle ticket, make a donation, volunteer to help on the day and, of course, please come to the Fair! Please help in whatever way you can – Any and all contributions are always gratefully received. ALL proceeds from the fair go to the College and the Prep School and are used to support the boys in the furthering of their academic, spiritual and physical education. Thank you!

Saint Ambrose Parents' Association

Raffle Tickets

This year we have nearly £1000.00 of prizes including an iPad mini, a radio controlled drone, Amazon vouchers, Golf Lessons, Scalextric, and much much more. The boys have each been given one book of raffle tickets for this year's draw. To enter, please fill in the ticket stub with your name and phone number and return with the relevant payment to the college reception by Friday 25th. It is also possible to pay for raffle tickets via parent pay. Simply print out the Parentmail receipt and return it with your completed ticket stubs before 25th November. More tickets are available from the College reception on request.

Donations

Whether you're having a 'clear-out' or simply have some spare good quality items that you can donate, please do consider sending them in to find a new home. We would like to request that parents and carers fill their own carrier bag(s) or boxes with donations and would be very grateful, if amongst any donations, you could include:

- First Year - Toiletries for the Gift Tombola
- Second Year - Bottles for the Bottle Tombola
- Third Year - New Small Toys for the Children's Tombola
- Fourth Year - Cakes for the Cake Stall
- Fifth Year - Toiletries for the Gift Tombola
- Sixth Form – any of the above (Cakes, New Toys, Toiletries or Bottles)

In addition/or in place of the above we would be grateful for donations of selection boxes or Cakes.

Donations can be delivered to the College or placed in the collection point in the Holy Angels Car Park before and after school during the week 21st -25th November (Look out for Christmas Fair Collection Signs).

THANK YOU!

If you return this slip with your son's details in your carrier bag / box of donations we will put it into the draw for a £10 iTunes Voucher.

Son's Name _____ House Tutor Group _____

SAINT AMBROSE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

The 2016

CHRISTMAS FAIR



Sunday 27th November
11am - 2pm

at Saint Ambrose College, Hale Barns

Santa's Grotto - Raffles - Tombolas - Toys - Games
Books - Christmas Puddings - Sweets
Christmas Lunch in a Barm - Christmas Drinks
Uniform Stall - House Stalls - Department Stalls
Performances - Christmas Music

Join us for some festive fun!

ALL proceeds from the fair go to the College and the Prep School and are used to support the boys in the furthering of their academic, spiritual and physical education.

Student News

By Lorcan Cronin

I attend private L.A.M.D.A (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) drama classes each week.

At the end of each year, there is a presentation to show the achievements of all the students over the year.

I have recently completed Grade Four Acting and Grade four Verse and Prose. I have been going to this class for eight years and I am hoping to keep this up for as long as I can, as I really enjoy it.

Through hard work and effort at Speech and Drama classes, I have been awarded three trophies and one medal.

Aquinas House - Well done to Lorcan Cronin 2E/AQM
Pictured below: Loran and Tutor, Mrs Thompson.



Charities Update

St Ambrose College Charities Update

The KS3 Form Captains met last week to decide how the school should make use of the money from the charity fundraisers within school last year. The boys chose charities which they have had some involvement in. They have chosen the following 8 charities which have each received £1000 each.

- Children in Crossfire
- St Francis House
- Christie
- Alex Hulme Foundation
- Joining Jack
- Corner Stone
- Make a Wish Foundation
- Youth Cancer Trust

We hope that this money will help the chosen charities and we look forward to being able to donate again in the future.

Advent charity appeal

This advent we are once again collecting food items for the Christmas hampers which we will be delivering to the revive centre in Salford. Each week our 6th form students go across to the centre and volunteer with the refugees. These hampers will be received with huge appreciation.

Each form group will be asked to make up a hamper including the following

- Tins of food (beans, canned fruit etc.)
- Packet of non-perishable food (e.g. rice/pasta)
- Soap
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Shampoo

Boys can give any items they bring in to their form tutor by 9th December.

We will deliver the hampers on the week commencing 12th December.

Fair Trade Stall

The selling of fair trade chocolate in school has become a regular fixture and the stall is now open every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime in the Central Atrium. The stall is manned by the members of the justice and peace society which has gained a considerable number of new members this year. The selling of fair trade products allows the boys to live out the Edmund Rice essential of 'education for justice' and allows the boys to become aware of the wider issues surrounding unfair trade.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' **Matthew 25:31-46**

Miss McCrory and Miss McLoughlin

Camera, Lights, Action!

S Carter, Press Officer

It's lights, camera and action at St. Ambrose College as their rapidly expanding drama department has unveiled a state of art drama studio.

Complete with a full rig of lights able to operate both in the studio and the central atrium for college productions and fitted with blackout curtains on a running track right around the space, the £15,000 investment will help develop the curriculum both on stage and behind the scenes.

This year a record 40 young men have chosen to take Drama GCSE with 11 going on to study at A Level and St. Ambrose has recent past pupils at RADA, LIPA and the Guildford School of Acting.

Mair Bull, Head of Drama at St. Ambrose College, said: "More and more of our young men want to study Drama and are attracted to potential careers both on stage and in production.

"This new studio will allow those who want to concentrate on their production techniques to develop some of the technical wizardry now being used in modern British theatre, film and television."

Mrs Bull added: "Britain is a world leader in the creative arts and we hope some of our current proteges will go on to fulfilling careers."

Pictured Opposite: Mrs Bull with GCSE dramatists Jacob Finch (right) and Harrison Pinder.



Refugees Visit

Mr D Krause/Mr A Roche

This Wednesday, in what is the final week of the Holy Father's Year of Mercy, our Edmund Rice International group and our Revive group hosted four refugees at St Ambrose College whom Brother Ger O'Connell, of the Christian Brothers' city centre mission, brought over for lunch. Joining us was Mostaffa, his wife Nadin and their six year old son, Him, all from Syria.

Mostaffa had only been reunited with his wife and son three weeks ago and the family has recently been allocated temporary housing in Hulme. Mostaffa spoke at length about how happy he is to be with his family once again, in a safe place, and how he looks forward to his son being given a place at a primary school. Also joining us for the afternoon was an impressive young man named Aman, from Eritrea, who captivated us with a story of his long, arduous journey after fleeing horrendous conditions in Eritrea. He spoke passionately about his desire to get back to work and how it is important for British people to discern between "people who are simply economic migrants" and "refugees, particularly families, who are fleeing their war torn homelands".

Over the course of the afternoon all refugees spoke not only about their experiences as refugees but the love and compassion that they have received from the people in Manchester. Assisting us with the informal interviews was Mr Honeyfield and his Edmund Rice International group from St Joseph's College in Stoke, a fellow Edmund Rice school. To highlight the plight of refugees in the UK the Edmund Rice schools are publishing a book; in this book will be interviews with the refugees together with photographs of places and objects that represent their lives.

In his homily at Mass last Sunday, Pope Francis reminded the faithful that love of God and love of neighbour must take priority in life:

"Everything else - the heavens, the earth, all that is beautiful, even this Basilica - will pass away, but we must never exclude God or others from our lives. We should be worried when our consciences are anaesthetised and we no longer see the brother or sister suffering at our side".

Mostaffa and Nadin's young son, Him, is a lovely boy and currently on a waiting list to join a local primary school in Hulme. If any Ambrosian family has any high quality toys, clothing and/or educational books/games that would suit a 6 year old boy with a poor command of the English language then please drop them off at St Ambrose College and we will make sure that he gets them.

(Pictured Top Right)



Brother Tony Twomey

On Friday morning Brother Tony Twomey (pictured below) came to speak at Newman House assembly. Br. Tony spoke at length about the importance of following Blessed Edmund Rice's example of looking out for the marginalised in our own towns and villages. He echoed the words of Pope Francis who said earlier this week:

"We don't have to go far or come up with grand projects to be charitable. Often the people closest to us could use our help".

Brother Tony has recently joined the Christian Brothers' new Salford Community and following his talk was able to take away our recent collection of toddler clothing and toys to donate to a young family in his parish.



Central Manchester Foodbank

Newman House - Mr D Krause

Last Friday, Amy Wisenfeld (pictured far right) from Manchester Central Foodbank came to St Ambrose College to deliver an inspiring talk to Newman House.

Amy spoke at length about the change in the type of people arriving at foodbanks. Manchester Central Foodbank has seen more requests for help from large families struggling to make ends meet, single people and the most vulnerable in our society such as the elderly and the disabled. A staggering 26,937 visits were made to Greater Manchester's foodbanks between April and September this year. This is the highest figure in the north west according to the Trussell Trust, which is a charity that campaigns against poverty.



Newton's Apple

Mr D Krause and Mr D David



The Story of Newton's Apple:

Newman House student Troy Wood recently attended a lecture by Dr Richard Keesing on 'Newton and Universal Gravitation – the story of the apple'. This was the story of the apple that Sir Isaac Newton saw fall in the late summer of 1666, which started his speculations about the nature of gravitation; Troy used this apple as a major feature on his patch design for Astronaut Major Tim Peake's mission into space.

A cutting from this ancient apple tree, given to the University of York by Kew Gardens in 1976, now thrives in a courtyard in Dr Keesing's Physics Department at York University. The apple is the extremely rare variety 'Flower of Kent' which was first mentioned in the fifteenth century. It is a large cooking apple with white soft flesh and a sweet taste when cooked. Dr Keesing told Troy that every year they make these apples into an apple pie for the university's new intake of Physics students but as a special treat Dr Keesing gave Troy an apple as a gift to take home. Troy then made it into a delicious cake that he went on to share.

Well done, Troy.

