

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

13th October 2017



Message from the Principal

In a week where the pound has again plummeted, an asteroid passed closer than the moon to the Earth and a possible supervolcano has begun to bubble into life in La Palma, it is also the week before half term and I would like to thank all parents, students and staff for their support during the start of this year. The new mobile phone ban is being well respected by students and it is great to see more students taking an active role in extracurricular activities as a result. Voluntary mass continues to take place on Thursday mornings followed, most weeks, by confession. Please encourage your children to attend as it provides a great opportunity for spiritual reflection amongst the bustle of College life. This week I have had cause to be reminded of the value of saints and their intercessions on our behalf, so I feel it essential that I highlight today's saint.

October the 13th is the feast day of Saint Edward the Confessor, King of England at a turbulent time when reigns were short, he died while on the throne in 1066, 22 years after he began his stint as King. His reign was a peaceful one, characterised by his good rule and remission of taxes.

'We too can be saints in our family, in our neighbourhood, wherever we live and work. Be a person who listens to what people need, communicating not only to grieve or tell others about your own problems. Listen in order to intercede and help out.' Pope Francis

J M Keulemans

Restart a Heart Day

We are delighted that our 3rd year students had the opportunity to take part in the nation's biggest mass CPR training event – Restart a Heart Day 2017. The school welcomed volunteers from North West Ambulance Service and other local care providers, who gave up their own time to deliver the lifesaving lesson to over 150 students.

The lesson included a short presentation which outlined how to recognise a cardiac arrest, how to do effective CPR and how to use a defibrillator to give someone in cardiac arrest the best possible chance of survival. This was followed by a practical element where every student practiced their new skills on a CPR mannequin. The aim of the day was to create a nation of lifesavers throughout the UK, and we are extremely proud to be a part of such a worthwhile campaign.



Dates for the diary

20th October

Break up at 3.35pm for half term holiday

30th October

Return to School

2nd November

1st Year Parents' Evening

11th November

Old Boys' Dinner

12th November

Remembrance Sunday

16th November

6th Form only—Drive safe training

26th November

Christmas Fair



W/C 27th November

5th Year Mock Examinations

5th December

L6th Parents' Evening

7th December

Feast of Saint Ambrose

8th December

12.30pm closure to celebrate Feast of Saint Ambrose



18th December

Carol Service at Holy Angels

20th December

End of Term—12.30pm closure

Thursday 4th January 2018

Return to School

1st Year Retreat to Castlerigg

Throughout this week, First year students have been out of school for a trip to Castlerigg Manor in Keswick. We all went in our house groups so that we could learn more about our house group and make new friends.

We all enjoyed the trip and know that it will engrain in our memories that we will treasure forever. The incredibly long journey seemed to take forever but eventually we arrived. When we did get there we met in the main hall with Mr O'Neill, Miss Cockcroft, Miss Donegan and all the volunteers at Castlerigg who informed us of the exciting 24 hours which lay ahead.

We particularly enjoyed the incredible walk to the park and the beautiful lake where we and tried to skim stones across it while others played football or rugby. We also loved it when the tuck shop opened when we returned where you could buy sweets and drinks after a hard day!

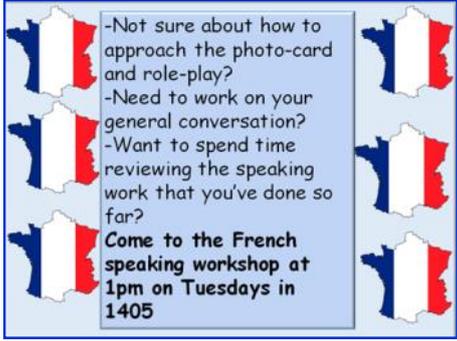
Last but certainly not the least; we loved the preparation for our liturgy which involved each group preparing different parts to contribute. It was led by the amazing staff at Castlerigg Manor but designed by Aquinas boys who were the main stars of the show as we participated in dramas, songs, bidding prayers and poems all inspired by the Gospel and our Aquinas values.

We would recommend Castlerigg to all new students as it was a chance for us to make new friends and come together as a House to share our Catholic values.

Daniel Enohumah and Opeyemi Adebisi AQA



English Literature Society
first meeting
on
Monday 6th
November
at
1pm
in

-Not sure about how to approach the photo-card and role-play?
-Need to work on your general conversation?
-Want to spend time reviewing the speaking work that you've done so far?
Come to the French speaking workshop at 1pm on Tuesdays in 1405



Hannan Sarwar and Troy Wood



Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate 1st year student Mark Harrington who has been acknowledged by Hale Harriers and awarded a gold medal for his achievement in the Pentathlon.



Miss McCrory and some of our students who proudly supported the event

Macmillan Afternoon Tea

There wasn't a soggy bottom in sight as the St. Ambrose College Justice and Peace Society raised £900 for Macmillan Cancer Care with a great charity Bake Off. We were thrilled how many young men, their mums and dads and kitchen staff all with cool hands, sensitive taste buds and an eye for timings baked hundreds of cakes, pastries and biscuits which were all eagerly devoured by friends, parents and relatives during a wonderful afternoon tea last Friday afternoon.

Hannan Sarwar, who is Chair of the Justice and Peace Society, said: "Like any large community we have many people who have been affected by cancer; with pupils, family members and staff living with the illness, and we want to bring our community together to recognise their struggle and do something positive to help."

Fellow committee member and helper Troy Wood, added: "Macmillan Cancer Care is a truly wonderful charity and it's important that organisations all over the country come together to recognise the contribution they make to national life."

Religious Education teacher Miss McCrory, who oversaw the event said: "We had a massive turn out of friends and parents and the hundreds of cakes we baked were soon nothing but crumbs. The boys take full ownership of all their projects, devising, planning and then delivering some fantastic events throughout the year."

S. Carter

Saint Ambrose Parents' Association

Scalextric Race Night

What an incredible night! We are delighted to have received such positive feedback from people who came to race or watch one of the three race sessions. Of 111 racers who voted, 93% said they would come back again. We received comments like 'Lovely family night! Good organisation' and 'Brilliant! Very addictive'. Please have a look at the photographs available on our website (www.sapa.org.uk) or on our Facebook page. On the night we raised £260, which will be shared between the Preparatory School and the College for the benefit of our boys. Of course, as this was our very first Scalextric Race Night, there are improvements we can make for future events. We apologise to those who experienced difficulty buying tickets, and missed out. We will try to resolve any issues to ensure the problems are not repeated next year. And yes, we will be holding a Scalextric Race Night next year! Look out for the date! Finally, we would like to say a massive thank you to all the mums and dads who helped make the night a such a success – you were amazing!

Christmas Fair

11am to 2pm Sunday 26th November 2017

Plans are well under way for the Christmas Fair, but we need your help! If you could kindly offer any time during the fair itself, or during the afternoon of Friday 24th November to get everything ready we would be truly grateful.

In addition to those dates, we are making arrangements for all donations to be delivered to the College, and will require some help during the morning or afternoon of week commencing Monday 20th November.

If you can assist in any way, please contact us now at chair18@sapa.org.uk. And if you have any fun or interesting ideas on how to raise money for the College, please let us know.

Keep up with SAPA on:

Facebook - www.facebook.com/SAPANews/

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/StAmbrosePA>

Website - www.sapa.org.uk

500 Club Draw

The annual 500 club draw took place on Monday 9th October at the SAPA committee meeting.

1st prize K Barber £117.00

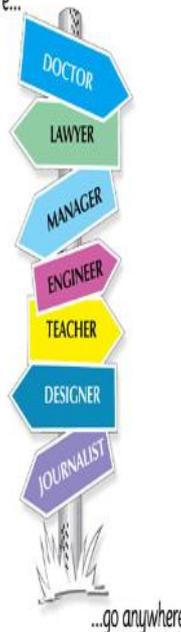
2nd prize Susan Catherine £78.00

3rd Prize M & J Wilson £39.00

Cheques will be heading out before the weekend.

The draw raised £234.00. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who continue to give the schools their support in this way.

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Careers Advice Clinic

All students are invited to drop into see Mrs Woods in the careers room from 1pm every Tuesday.

Mrs Woods is available to answer student queries with careers and support with CV writing.

History Society

The History Society has seen remarkable numbers so far this year in attendance. From the enthusiasm for our first meeting, to the fun and interesting quiz and budding first year presentations. The History Society has seen presentations from all ages and subjects such as Napoleon and the Black Death. We look forward to holding a Christmas quiz much the same as at the start of the year, and we would like to see support continue throughout the year. History Society can be found every Thursday lunch time in 2403 (Mrs Scott's room) and we hope to see you there!



Second-hand uniform sale

Your next chance to buy second-hand uniform will be: Monday 13th November from 6.30pm until 7.00pm in the College

New Student E-mail System

Please note we have a new email system for students to use. Below is the link to the new system:

<https://login.microsoftonline.com/en>

The Username is your son's school email address and the same password they use to access school computers

In addition, students have the option to download an app to their mobile phones.

The app is called **Microsoft Outlook**.

Any questions please email:

mrs1haynes@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk



Sports News

Please help!

If you are available to help with refreshments during Saturday home fixtures, please e-mail: mrnhandy@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

On Saturday rugby sides played 13 fixtures against Leeds Grammar School. All games were played in excellent spirit, with 200 boys representing the school, my thanks go to the staff who travelled and refereed giving so many boys had the opportunity

to represent the school. The results went in our favour with 2nd XV winning 5-0, U15A 28-7, U15B 22-17, U13B 45-15, U13C 70-5, U12B

40-20 and draws for both U14B 20-20 and U12C 5-5.

In our losses the 1st XV's 10-17 was probably the best performance with Leeds enjoying a very good season to date. The U14 the team haven't brought a win yet, but keep getting closer only losing by one score in a 5-12 thriller. The U13 A side knew the strength of the Leeds side from last season and suffered the heaviest loss 5-45, whilst the U12 team arguably played the better rugby in a 10-20 reversal.

On Tuesday the U15s played their 2nd Round Nat West Cup match at local rivals Manchester Grammar School. In a very close encounter the side lost 3-10, having two shouts for penalty tries denied in a very tense match. The side continue to develop, many of the team should now be looking to progress in County Trials.

In a friendly midweek fixture the 2nd XV played Bury Grammar School 1st XV and were resounding winners 45-0. Some boys will no doubt have played themselves into contention for our Nat West Vase game against Altrincham Grammar School on Saturday morning. No doubt the team will be keen to avenge the defeat they suffered at the start of the season, we wish them well.

Our annual afternoon fixture this Saturday takes place against St Peter's York. At home we have U16A, U14 A and B teams, U15 A and B are both away in York, leaving at 12 noon.

Indoor Athletics

Our Year 10/11 athletes have been invited to a Greater Manchester Indoor Athletics competition at Sport City today. This is a good preparation for the forthcoming athletics season.

N. Handy
Director of Sport



Nat West Vase Competition

U18A

Altrincham Boys Grammar School
Vs
St Ambrose College

10am Kick off



HOME

U16A, U14A, U14B

St Ambrose College
Vs
St Peter's School
York

2.30pm Kick off

(Students selected have been advised of meet times)



AWAY

U15A, U15B,

St Peter's School
Clifton, York, YO30 6AB
Vs
St Ambrose College
2.30pm Kick off

(Students selected have been advised of meet times)



Helpful links:

School office: office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk
Pastoral concerns e-mail: Pastoralsupport@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk
Twitter: [@StAmbroseColl](https://twitter.com/StAmbroseColl)

No dogs permitted on school premises

