

Saint Ambrose College Newsletter

18th May 2018



Message from the Principal

Congratulations to all those students who have taken exams this week, their positive attitude and work ethic has been evident around college, the resilience and self motivation shown has been outstanding; well done and keep it up!

We have received news that the borehole being drilled, for our partner college in Sierra Leone, is nearing completion and I look forward to a full report before we break for summer.

As the thermometer readings rise here (typically in exam weeks), it is important for the boys to keep hydrated and this only serves to highlight the issues faced by students in other areas of the globe.

'Water does not resist. Water flows. When you plunge your hand into it, all you feel is a caress. Water is not a solid wall, it will not stop you. But water always goes where it wants to go, and nothing in the end can stand against it. Water is patient. Dripping water wears away a stone. Remember that, my child. Remember you are half water. If you can't go through an obstacle, go around it. Water does.'

Margaret Atwood

Mr J M Keulemans

Examination season begins

Students begin examinations

GCSE examinations began on Monday, with Computing and Religious Studies being first on the agenda. Mr O'Neill, Head of Religious Studies, joined students in prayer during the pre-examination briefing session, which is aimed to help support students take a moment to reflect in a calm and composed environment. The students seem to be coping well with the natural anxiety that exams cause. We look forward to celebrating their achievements on 23rd August.

Please can students be reminded to assemble in the Lecture Theatre at 8.45am for morning examinations and 1.10pm for afternoon examinations. Upper Sixth Form students began their examinations on Monday also; A level results will be available on 16th August. We wish all our students the very best during their examinations. Students have all been instructed to check that their school e-mail address is working correctly, in order that their results can be posted electronically.



Dates for the diary

14th May
GCSE examinations commence

25th May
2nd year PGL trip

28th May to 1st June
Half term

4th June
Return to school

For more information on the new government GCSE grading system please refer to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgZYx_fycrM

A recent article published in the SecEd questioned whether the smell of rosemary could improve a student's examination performance. The herb is commonly used in cooking, but has long been associated with enhancing memory. Northumbria University researchers have found that students sitting examinations may enhance their memory with the scent of rosemary.



Believe
in yourself and your
abilities!

St Ambrose College Eco Committee

St. Ambrose College's Eco Warriors are trying to attract the rare birds that migrate to Britain in the peak month of May. Inspired by passionate young ornithologist Thomas Diffley, who has a life long fascination with our feathered friends, the College's Eco Committee has designed and built a series of special bird boxes, to be located in the secluded woodland areas that adjoin Hale Road.

5th year student, Thomas, first started birding aged just five-years-old with his grandmother Jennifer Ruscoe, in their back garden in Timperley, he now travels the length and breadth of the country with groups from both the RSPB and the WWT, watching and recording rare birds.

An ardent environmentalist, Thomas said: "We have to maintain our local biodiversity. Birds such as a the Pied Flycatcher from North Africa and Central Spain have been migrating to Britain and Northern Europe in May, probably for thousands of years, but now with global warming, pollution rocketing and a significant decline in their natural habitats; we want to create an environment that will enable them to survive after such a long journey."

He added: "If we don't act now to maintain our unique biodiversity, we are going to face increasing problems with the loss of numbers and the extinction of species and nature's interdependency, and seasonal cycles will be destroyed." He continued: "This is a small project, but it is better than doing nothing, and from a small project, bigger ideas may follow."

"We are very fortunate at St. Ambrose to have the grassland playing fields to attract a whole range of different birds."

He concluded: "I have always been fascinated by the immense beauty of bird life. For example, you look at a Waxwing and you think it might just be a plain coloured bird, but look more closely and you see it is a pale pink, with flecks of gold and a waxy like covering, then you ask yourself, why has nature created that special mix?"

The bird boxes are just one of a number of different projects being undertaken by the Eco Committee at St. Ambrose.

Among their ideas, they grow their own vegetables to be used by missions in Manchester for the homeless and are now looking to plant fruit trees for the same purpose.

Corey Wilkinson, 15, said: "We were only too delighted to get involved, when Thomas came to us with his ideas and with thanks to our DT teacher Mr Blaylock, we were able to build some special bird boxes to Thomas' specifications. Corey added: "We also want to develop our market gardening project and contribute the fruit and vegetables grown to the food banks and their kitchens, so they can be used to teach people of limited means to eat more healthily and cost effectively."

Teacher Mrs Richardson, who supports the College's Eco Committee, said: "This generation is finally beginning to recognise the value of long term planning to conserve our wonderful natural resources and we have all learned so much from Thomas and his knowledge and passion for birds."

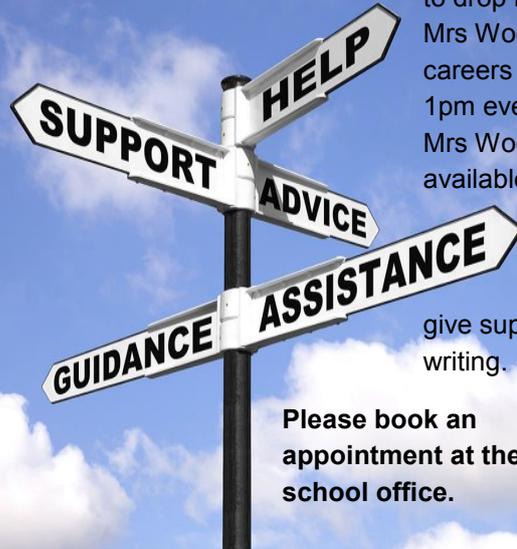
From left to right:
Mrs Richardson,
Alfie Pickles,
Niall Henderson,
Corey Wilkinson,
Thomas Diffley,
Nevan Kiernan,
Connor Lawler,
Mr Blaylock and
Jonathon Hughes.



Careers Advice Clinic

All students are invited to drop in to see Mrs Woods in the careers room from 1pm every Tuesday. Mrs Woods is available to answer student careers queries and give support with CV writing.

Please book an appointment at the main school office.



Success outside of school (SOS)

We are aware that many of our students achieve great success in their participation in a range of activities outside of their time at school.

Furthermore, we are eager to share their success with the school community and would like to know what they are involved in.

If you would like to share your son's achievements with us, you can email behaviour@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school. Please use the following link:

parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/

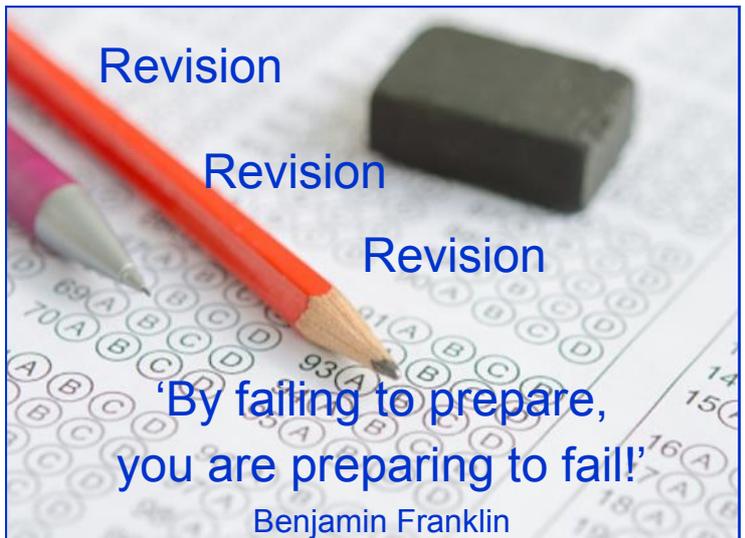
Revision

Revision

Revision

'By failing to prepare,
you are preparing to fail!'

Benjamin Franklin



SAPA News

Saint Ambrose Parents' Association

Summer Party

Main raffle tickets are now on sale! We have some lovely prizes for you to win. Buy your tickets now in the Parentmail shop, or you can get them at the Summer Party. They are only £1 each, with a minimum spend online of £5. The draw will take place at the Summer Party on Friday 15 June. Please support us to raise funds for the College for the benefit of your son.

If you want to come to the Party and you haven't yet got your tickets, buy them as soon as you can from the Parent-mail shop. Ticket sales will close on 4 June and there are only a few tickets left! If you have bought tickets; thank you for your support. Please remember to let us know if you would like a vegetarian meal, or have other dietary requirements (email chair18@sapa.org.uk)

Second-hand uniform

Thank you very much if you sent unwanted uniform into College for us to sell at our second-hand sale. It was just what we needed. If you haven't had chance yet, we still need more (especially ties and sports kit), so please send it in when you can. You are helping out so many other mums, dads and boys.

Joanne McEntee
SAPA Chair

Two Sale
Sharks tickets
for 2018/2019
season



Signed
Everton shirt
and boots



Meal for two at Toast
restaurant
(breakfast or lunch with
coffees)
plus bottle of
champagne



Lot's of raffle
prizes still to
come!



£200 voucher
to spend at
Nando's



Half a
case of
Prosecco



SAPA dates for your diary

Saturday 12th May
9 - 10am
Second-hand uniform sale
(Sports entrance)

Monday 14th May
6.30 - 7pm
Second-hand uniform sale at SAC

Monday 14th May
SAPA meeting @ 7pm
At SAC

Monday 11th June
SAPA AGM @ 7pm
At SAC

Friday 15th June
Summer Party @ 7.30pm
At Bowdon Rugby club

SAPA Summer Party



Friday 15th June
Bowdon Rugby Club
Timperley

Keep up with SAPA on;

Facebook - www.facebook.com/SAPAnews/

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

Website - www.sapa.org.uk

Hale Barns CARNIVAL

RETURNS 14TH + 15TH JULY 2018

BIG LIVE OUTDOOR SHOWS WITH FIREWORKS + ARTISAN FOOD + BEER TENT + FUNFAIR!

THE SOUND OF
ROWIE

THE
PRETEND
BEATLES

BOOTLEG
BEE GEES

**GEORGE
MICHAEL**
By Andrew Browning

ABBA REVIVAL

DIANA ROSS
By Tameka

GET A WEEKEND PASS FOR ONLY £30!

BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE TODAY AT
HALEBARNSCARNIVAL.CO.UK

Being successful in
exams is a simple
two step process -
believe in yourself and
back it up with hard
work.

Sports News

A fantastic week for summer sports, as finally the weather appears to be appropriate for the time of year. We encourage all our students to get involved with sport/physical activity, we feel it is especially important during examination season to combat stress and anxiety. We have a multitude of activities students can become involved, please ask your son to speak with any of the sports team for further details and information.

Congratulations to all the students who competed this week. On Wednesday the 2nd & 4th year athletics team's achieved great success with both teams qualifying for the North West Regional 'A' final in the English Schools Athletics. There were some outstanding individual performances from 2nd year students Harry Smithers, Daniel Kemball, Daniel Akinradewo, James Kelly and Jonty Greenlees and 1st year student Isaac Balogun, who all achieved 35 points or more in their 2 events. 4th year students had an equally success da, with outstanding effort from Max Clarke, Joe O'Donnell, Liam O'Connor and Daniel Edmondson, who again, all achieved over 35 points from their 2 events. With the National finals a distinct possibility, it is important that all athletes attend the lunchtime sessions to practice as much as possible.

In Cricket all fixture this week were versus Kings School Macclesfield. The U13A and B teams had tough afternoons and were both beaten. At U12's the B team lost but the A team who are fast becoming the stand out cricket team in the school won by 44 runs.



In Tennis the 7/8 team and the 9/10 team competed against Bridgewater HS with solid victories in all age groups.



Mr M Fitzsimon
Head of Sports.

Please help next season!

If you are available to help with refreshments during Saturday home fixtures, please e-mail:

mrnhandy@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk



Helpful links:

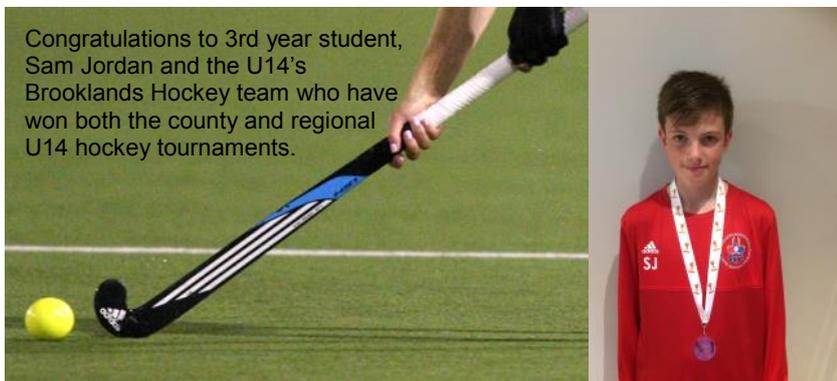
School office: office@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Pastoral concerns e-mail: Pastoralsupport@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk

Twitter: [@StAmbroseColl](https://twitter.com/StAmbroseColl)

Next week's fixtures

No sports fixtures W/C 21st May



Congratulations to 3rd year student, Sam Jordan and the U14's Brooklands Hockey team who have won both the county and regional U14 hockey tournaments.

Holy Angels in Bloom

Holy Angels in bloom gardening club is open to all, come along to the next date on
Saturday 26th May
at
10am.



If you require any more information, or would be willing to donate, please contact Vic Leyden:

vicleyden@btinternet.com



All boys are reminded to check the School Sports Website for updated/rearranged matches:
<http://www.schoolssports.com/School/?id=332>

M. Fitzsimon
Head of Sports



No dogs permitted on school premises

