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November 29th, 2024

CONTACTS

Reception:

0161 921 1570

office@stambrosebarlowswinton.org



Chair of Governors:

Mrs. Vikki Allen



Headteacher:

Mr. Ben Davis



Deputy Headteacher:

Mrs. Victoria Knipe



Director of Safeguarding:

Mrs. Anna Goddard



SENDCo & SEND:

Mr. Gareth Jones

Email Pupil Absence:

Stambrose.admin@salford.gov.uk

Finance Office:

stambrosefinance@salford.gov.uk

PA to the Headteacher:

Mrs. Gillian Saldanha De Magalhaes

SCHOOL THAT MATTERS: CHRIST THE KING, SERVANT LEADER

Over the past couple of weeks pupils in Years 7 – 10 have been working on writing, preparing and performing an original piece of drama entitled Play-full Cities. They have been collaborating with theatre company The Knotted Project, who are based in the Lake District and specialise in working with young people. As of today they have performed the piece twice to audiences of pupils of various year groups. It is a very impressive piece of drama with an original soundtrack composed with pupils and multimedia presentations. The message is a complex and interesting one about the relationship between urban spaces and the young people who experience them – what if cities were playful, child-friendly places? In addition to this work we hosted the Creative Careers roadshow last week (as covered in the newsletter of November 22nd) which further demonstrates our commitment to the arts and to providing creative experiences through which young people can thrive and view the world afresh.

Our Year 11s, straight out of the mocks, have spent the last two days on mock interviews. We were delighted to welcome a team of people from across Greater Manchester including employers and colleges, to provide the panels for these interviews. The pupils acquitted themselves brilliantly, rising to the challenge of questions such as 'where you do see yourself in five years

time?' What was especially interesting was hearing about their ambitions and aspirations and seeing the clarity with which they articulated these.

This week's Tuesday Mass celebrated the Feast of Christ the King and we took this as an opportunity to acknowledge the role played by our student leadership team. This is a relatively new feast in the Church calendar and was created by Pope Pius IX as a response to the upheaval of world war and depression – a feast day for our times. It reminds us of the unique idea of servant leadership embodied by Christ, the model for leadership in our faith and in our school. It emphasises that leadership is not political, is not about power, it is about lifting others up and seeking a greater truth.

Christ the King is the gateway to Advent (as well as the name of one of our partner primary schools), which begins this weekend. When we return to school after the long weekend it will be well underway and we mark it with the Christmas concert which takes place on December 5th at 5:00pm – tickets have sold well and some are still available so hurry if you want to enjoy the array of talent on show.

Ben Davis

Headteacher



www.stambrosebarlowswinton.org



@sab_salford



@sabsalford

CALENDAR

School Closes for Christmas Holiday

Friday, December 20th

YEAR GROUP LEADERSHIP



Year 7

Year Manager: Mr Healey
(Senior Leader: Mrs Johnston)



Year 8

Year Manager: Mr Marshall
(Senior Leader: Mr Jordan)



Year 9

Year Manager: Mrs Vincent
(Senior Leader: Mr Jones)



Year 10

Head of Year: Miss Moore
(Senior Leader: Mrs Tulloch)



Year 11

Head of Year: Mr. Pemberton
(Senior Leader: Miss O'Leary)

70

70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

As part of our **70th anniversary celebrations** and to raise the profile of the school further in the community, please can you help us to get in touch with former pupils?

Were you, or do you know anyone who was a pupil of St Ambrose Barlow or St George's?

If you know someone, or if you are that person please contact us via email on
office@stambrosebarlowswinton.org.

We look forward to hearing from you for our 70th anniversary celebrations.

CELEBRATING **70** YEARS OF EXCELLENT CATHOLIC EDUCATION



ART FOCUS

A mixed media Jean Michel
Basquiat study created by Riley.

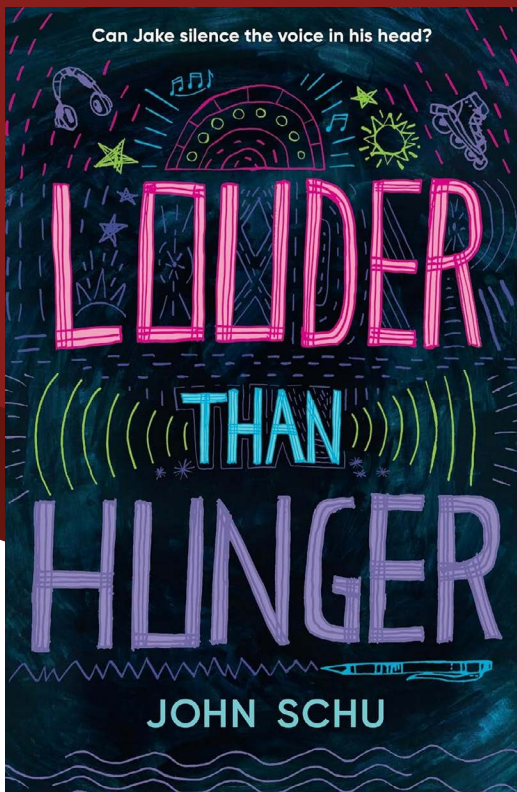
PEER READING

At St Ambrose we recently re-started our Peer Reading Mentoring programme. The programme is for Year 7 and Year 10 students and has been running over the last few years with great success. Year 10 students apply to be mentors and if successful are trained in both mentoring and reading skills.

As one of the teachers who supports this programme, it has been a real joy to watch our students support each other to develop their reading skills, and inspire each other to read without judgement. We are really proud of every single one of them!

Miss Armstrong, Literacy Tutor





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Louder than Hunger by John Schu

Jake feels alone at school and alone at home. Some days it feels like the only people who understand him are the poet Emily Dickinson – and his beloved grandma. But there is also the Voice inside him, louder than any other, who professes to know him best of all. The one that says “You have me.” The Voice is loud enough to drown out everything else, even the hunger Jake feels, until his mum intervenes and sends him to Whispering Pines to recover. Here Jake will learn how to confront the loneliness inside him, and find out who he is and what he has to live for. That is, if he can quiet the Voice...

Told in succinct and powerful verse, this novel is a stunning and wholly authentic expression of a young man finding the will – and the power – to wrest control from the intrusive thoughts that crowd his mind, leading him to a life of disordered eating. It charts the successes and setbacks of his journey toward recovery.

KNOTTED PROJECT PERFORMANCE:

Congratulations to the amazing Year 7-10 students who showcased their creativity and energy during last Friday's performance centred around the theme of Playful Cities! This performance was part of their hard work with The Knotted Project, where their rehearsals the past few Fridays led to this insightful performance. It was inspiring to see how they brought the concept to life through dynamic physical movements and teamwork, blending the structure of games with the difficulties of city living. Their exploration highlighted the playful yet complex nature of our environments, making the audience reflect on what it truly means to live in a city. A special mention to the Year 9 and 10 students who joined as an audience, supporting and engaging with the performance, adding to the collaborative spirit of the day. Well done to everyone involved!

