



Volume 2 | Issue 20

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SCHOOL THAT MATTERS:  
REMEMBERING MARCH 2020

Five years ago, to the day, schools across the UK went into lockdown. Five years later and while schools are mostly the same places they were before the pandemic, much is very different.

When the pandemic started, the pupils who are in Year 11 now were looking forward to end of Year 6; our current Year 7s were in Year 2. If nothing else, looking back on the momentous events of March 2020 reminds just how quickly time passes. The impact of the pandemic has been profound and is still deeply felt.

Schools did incredible things with hardly any guidance or resource and, at St Ambrose Barlow, teams of staff delivered meals, undertook home visits, made PPE for desperate hospitals, organised online learning, supported children and families and even funded free school meals from their own pockets.

The harsh reality is that a great many in our community struggled and continue to struggle, there were some parents, carers and staff members whose health was changed for good, and others who are no longer here. Later this year we intend to hold a service of remembrance and thanksgiving.

The response of our school community to the pandemic is reminder of the importance of public service and of relationships that put the dignity

and need of others at the heart of what we do. Like very little else before, the pandemic brought out a very powerful expression of our Catholic mission, and it is stayed at the centre of our approach ever since.

In this week's newsletter you can read about the success of our Year 8 rugby team who have secured the trophy as Salford Red Devils Champions. We have also held another of our very successful Scholastic Book Fairs this week – a huge thanks to all parents, carers and pupils for their support in this endeavour. One of our Year 10s, Lexie, has been commended by the Mayor for donating one of her original works of art to the Ceremonial Mayor's Charity Ball auction – you can see the incredible piece here.

These are the things that make a school matter. The pandemic forced us to reflect more than ever before on the importance of the opportunities and experience that bind us all together, creating memories and celebrating the value and talents of our young people.

**Ben Davis**

Headteacher

# CALENDAR

## Alumni Event

Tuesday 1st April

## Alumni Event

Wednesday 7th May

## 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](mailto:office@stambrosebarlowswinton.org)**.



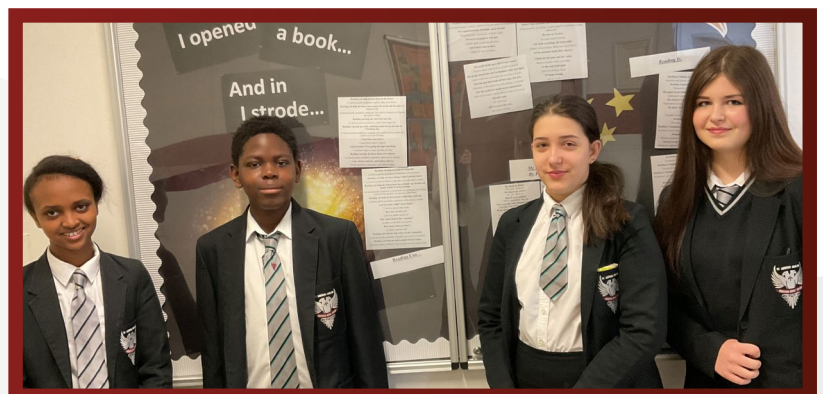
## ART FOCUS:

Pop art study by Alyssa Year 10



## STUDENT RECOGNITION

After successful trials Mason is now representing the north west cricket team. Well done!



## WORLD POETRY DAY

As a Literacy Tutor I see how important it is that young people have the space to express themselves and find their voice. As part of this poetry project for World Poetry day, I worked with students to help them express how learning to read has made them better understand the world around them, and feel hopeful about their future.

It was an incredibly rewarding experience to watch each student express their unique identity, taking pride in their culture and showcasing their cultures by writing their poems in their own languages which was a brilliant idea from one of our students! Well done to you all for showcasing your talents in poetry writing!

# BOOK OF THE WEEK

This week's book of the week is an oldie, but a goodie! It's also the book we're reading at book club on Tuesdays after school in the library.

The seminal life-affirming YA novel celebrating first love and self-acceptance - now in a beautiful new edition for the next generation of readers.

She's as magical as the desert sky. As mysterious as her own name. Nobody knows who she is or where she's from. But everyone loves her for being different. And she captures Leo's heart with just one smile.

STARGIRL is a classic of our time that celebrates being true to ourselves and the thrill of first love. A life-changing read that touches souls of all ages.



## SPORTS FOCUS:

The St Ambrose Barlow Year 8 Basketball team played our first fixture this term since the inauguration of the team at the beginning of the academic year.

We took a squad of players to Oasis Academy who, on this occasion were too strong for us, winning the game 26-14. Congratulations to Oasis on the victory. Our team played with courage, fighting to the end for one another, and should be incredibly proud of their efforts. This is the beginning of our journey and we look forward to the process of development from this point forward. Thankyou to Oasis for hosting us!

*Photograph on Page 1.*

## NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP EVENT

Last week some of our Year 10 students visited an apprenticeship event at the AJ Bell stadium. There students had the opportunity to engage with prospective employers and gain invaluable insight into the apprenticeship world of work. Students engaged well with all the activities on offer for their and left with lots of information and lots of great freebies!

