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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: MARKING 70 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EXCELLENCE

On January 10th, 1955, the founding staff and pupils of what was then Blessed Ambrose Barlow RC High School entered the school for the first time. The official opening, celebrated by Bishop Henry Vincent Marshall took place on February 26th: Founders Day. Seventy years later, we honoured the memory and the service of the thousands of pupils and staff who have passed through our school with a special Mass at St. Luke's RC Church in the parish of Our Lady of Hope. Mass was concelebrated by Bishop John Arnold, Canon Cook and other local clergy.

In attendance there was a huge range of people: past and present pupils and staff; the city's Ceremonial Mayor, Tanya Burch; former governors, current families and representatives from the local community. Importantly, the congregation included representatives from St. George's RC High School which merged with St. Ambrose Barlow in 2013, these included former headteacher Mr. Harte. The Mass was greatly enhanced by our choir and by pupils who read and served, as well as by our fabulous Steel Pan Band who played the congregation in and entertained them at the reception afterwards.

Reminding us of the distinctive purpose and nature of Catholic schools, Bishop John observed that they combine academic excellence with personal development and formation so that young people discover

their own, unique mission. Each pupil, each staff member is a link in an unbroken chain of service extending back to 1955 and projecting forward into the years ahead. People make schools: the stories shared by those who attended the Mass are a proof of this. Over the coming months we are holding two events for alumni of the school to meet with current pupils and share their memories and recollections of life at St. Ambrose Barlow or St. George's RC High Schools. These opportunities will take place on April 1st and May 7th – please contact us for more details. Later in the year we will also be hosting an event in school for alumni.

Our Catholic mission is concerned with both keeping alive the tradition of our school and our faith and with adapting to the times, with 'what we do next' in response to the challenges of our world. The greatest tribute that can be paid to the 70 years of our school's history is to see our young people live lives of purpose for the good of others, using their talents and skills to make a positive difference to world around them.

God bless.

Ben Davis
Headteacher



CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 5th March

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)

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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.



ART FOCUS:

Year 7 Matilda Pop Art inspired drawing.

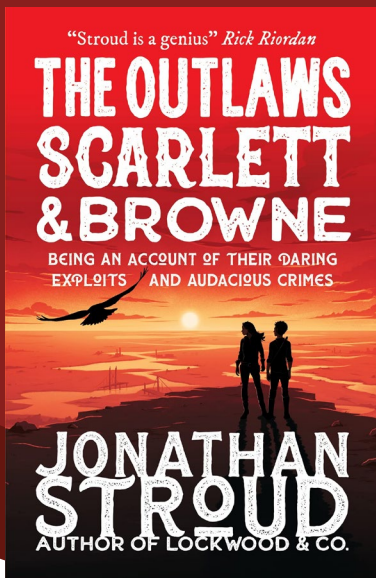
RAMADAN MUBARAK

This week's assemblies were led by our Head of Physics, Mr Hussain, who spoke about the meaning and rituals of Ramadan (the Muslim month of fasting, prayer, charity, reflection and community) that begins this weekend. We have a number of Muslim pupils and staff and make our chapel available for prayers. Mr Hussain talked about his experiences of visiting Jerusalem and discussed the many areas of shared meaning and common ground that unite Christians, Muslims and those of other faiths. As a school we know that our diversity and acceptance of different faiths and beliefs is a strength and we say, 'Ramadan Mubarak' to those in our community who follow the Muslim faith.

SPORTS FOCUS:

A top performance from our Year 8 rugby team this week! Well done for remaining undefeated in the Salford School's tournament run by Salford Red Devils, winning 4 and drawing 1. Successful debuts for Gianluca and Paul who were both a huge support for their team! The finals will be held at the AJ Bell stadium in two weeks' time. Good luck boys, we are so proud of you!





BOOK OF THE WEEK

England has been radically changed by a series of catastrophes – large cities have disappeared and London has been replaced by a lagoon. The surviving population exists in fortified towns where they cling to traditional ways, while strangely evolved beasts prowl the wilderness beyond. Conformity is rigidly enforced and those who fall foul of the rules are persecuted: some are killed, others are driven out into the wilds. Only a few fight back – and two of these outlaws, Scarlett McCain and Albert Browne, display an audacity and talent that makes them legends.

“Brilliant from start to finish.” – **SFX**

“Stroud’s writing is a treat; brilliantly crafted world building, taut action scenes, fabulous villains and witty dialogue. A wild ride indeed, and the first in a series.” – **The Observer**

“Another triumph. This adventure – starring a pair of charismatic anti-heroes, intensely cinematic action laced with characteristically dry wit, and a mash-up genres – crammed with gun fights, monsters and shadowy government operatives. Pitched for younger teens, but I expect discerning readers of 10 and up to devour it.” – **The Bookseller**



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY:

Y10 Design & Technology pupils manufacturing their Polymer flowers using different types of plastics, including recycled bottle tops, different equipment, processes and ways of working the materials before assembling all parts and placing the flowers in to the window boxes in the workshop.

