

 @sab_salford

 www.stambrosebarlowswinton.org

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School that Matters: Democracy in Action

This week, after featuring our new Student Leaders in the last issue, we launched our Democracy in Action work in form time. This has all forms debating a key question and, using software, feeding back to the council to that the views of the wider pupil body can be represented. I was lucky enough to visit one of the forms as they were doing this – they were talking specifically about a suggestion that as pupils they should teach staff about the learning needs of young people.

This kind of engagement and debate is vital; placing students’ voices at the heart of school life so that it shapes their school is important work and I am glad to see us taking it forward. Several years ago we became a Rights Respecting School and we look forward to reviving this element of our work this year.

Several parents and carers have asked about how we will take our Synergy communication app forward. I am pleased to say that from next week the achievement points comments written by staff will be visible to parents and carers so that you are better informed and can celebrate with your child. More will follow in due course, but we are aware of overwhelming people with too much data and information.

It's been a good week. In the pages that follow you can read about the news highlights and also find a few important reminders for the term ahead. I hope that you find this information use and wish you a good weekend.

Ben Davis, Headteacher



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'This has been the best day of my life...It's almost like we were never away'

Around our School this Week: Highlights

1

A series of excellent performances by pupils in our various rugby teams, from Year 9 in the first round of fixtures and also from Years 10 and 11 in their first matches. See the pics on Insta.

2

Our Year 7s continue to impress. They have been especially good welcoming new pupils who started the year late or who are new to country and the school. They are great examples of kindness.

3

Congratulations to all of our pupils on their continued good attendance. Some forms have seen 100% attendance and overall as a school we are well above national averages, with our current figure being 95.2%.

CALENDAR

- Salford City College presentations to year 11 pupils, Monday, September 25
 - Open Evening, September 27th, 6:00pm (school closes at 2:00pm)
 - Book Fair all week in the library, begins Monday, October 2nd – details to follow
 - Open Morning, October 4th – bookings via school website
 - Awards Evening, October 9th, 7:00pm
- *Change to Year 10 Parent's Evening from October 12th to November 9th

SYNERGY – action needed

If you have not yet done so please get the Synergy app and log-in .

Codes for log-ins were sent out to all families last year. If you have lost your code you can contact reception for new one.

The app gives you access to all the information you need about your child's education and care at school: timetables, achievement and behaviour points, attendance data and more.

You can also inform us of your child's absence via Synergy eliminating the need for a phone call.

NOTICES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION: SAFEGUARDING

Keeping young people safe and making sure that they are healthy and included in school, is our top priority. All of our staff are well-trained in safeguarding and we regularly issue reminders and updates. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of our staff, all the time.

We always work on the assumption that children in our school are experiencing a childhood that is making them unsafe or putting them at risk. We are never complacent and always act quickly to keep children safe or refer to an external agency. We have a team of 16 staff who are trained to Level 3 and make-up the Safeguarding Team – they are listed in the latest version of the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. Ultimate responsibility for safeguarding rests with Mr. Davis, **Headteacher**, and the **Designated Safeguarding Lead** is Mrs Goddard. Our **Safeguarding Governor** is Vikki Allen. Pupils know that they can speak to any adult in the school if they have concerns, are worried or do not feel safe.

We record all safeguarding disclosures and concerns on a secure, electronic system called CPOMS.

There are a number of safeguarding concerns that we feel parents and carers should be aware of at present. These are:

The use of vapes by young people. Vapes can contain hundreds of harmful substances, are addictive, illegal for children to use and can expose children to adults who wish to groom them. Vapes are never permitted in school.

Child Criminal Exploitation. Look out for unusual changes in your child's behaviour, friendship group, language or clothing as these may suggest that they are being influenced by an older person to participate in criminal activity.

Social Media. Please discuss your child's phone use with them and look at their use of apps or sites so that they and you are aware of the risks.