

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

LOVE ♦ LEARN ♦ LEAD



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## SCHOOL THAT MATTERS: LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

This week we held our annual awards ceremony, our first in July and the first for only Years 7-10, Year 11 will have theirs in the autumn once the results are in. What a fabulous night it was! We were led through the ceremony by a team of talented and articulate girls who introduced each aspect of the night and made sense of proceedings. We were treated to excellent musical performances from our choir and a solo piano recital, whilst guests were welcomed to the event by our steel band playing their way through a repertoire of 15 tunes.

Then came the main event: the issuing of hundreds of awards, recognising the skills, talents and achievements of a great many of our pupils, from success in subjects, to improvements in progress, to sporting success to those who excelled in the performing arts. All were celebrated and all were applauded.

The evening concluded with our Mission Awards and the Pride of Ambrose Awards of those who represent all that our school stands for. The problem with all such awards events is that there are never enough awards and by giving out some we are inevitably leaving out others.

I know that for every pupil recognised last night there are another half-dozen pupils who could have taken their place. Nevertheless, the message of such an event is simply this: we celebrate our young people for who they are, not just what they can do. The capacity

they have for kindness, for empathy, for decency, is as worthy of an award as their skill in writing or in Science.

In future years we will make our awards even bigger and better to take in a great number of pupils. For the time being, however, my thanks to all staff who made it possible, to the pupils who were so brilliant and to parents and carers for attended. Special thanks must also go to City Mayor Paul Dennett who, despite the demanding schedule of his position on election day, joined us to speak and to give out awards and certificates.

Today we also announced the results of our mock election, with the party Vision, winning by a landslide. The process has been a very interesting one, with pupils responding brilliantly to the challenge of persuading the school 'constituency' and having some sense of the relationships between power and responsibility. To stand in assembly and hear the passion and commitment of the young people in our four political parties was genuinely uplifting, a rallying call from the young showing that they are keen for politics and leadership that is inclusive, unifying and creative.

**Ben Davis**

Headteacher



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# CALENDAR

## Information Evening for New Year 7

Families: July 11th, 6:00pm

## Culture Day

Tuesday, July 16th

## Annual Fun Day

Wednesday, July 17th

## School Closes for the Summer

Wednesday, July 19th, 1:00pm

## Exam Results Day

Thursday, August 22nd

## In-service Days (Closed to Pupils)

2nd and 3rd September

# YEAR GROUP LEADERSHIP



## Year 7

**Year Manager:** Mr Healey  
(Senior Leader: Mr Jordan)



## Year 8

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



## Year 9

**Year Manager:** Miss Moore  
(Senior Leader: Mrs Johnston)



## Year 10

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



## Year 11

(Senior Leader: Mrs Tulloch)

# AROUND OUR SCHOOL THIS WEEK: HIGHLIGHTS

# 1

This week St Ambrose Barlow ran our very own whole-school mock election. The purpose of the election is to raise the awareness of politics in our student body, prompting our pupils to discuss the general election; engage them in asking questions and giving them an experience of the processes of a real-democratic election. In the hope that when they are old enough to do so, they will exercise their right to vote in a real democratic election. This in turn will promote and reinforce British Values but more important St Ambrose Values, of love, learn and lead.

# 2

Thank you to Salford Libraries for welcoming our students and Mrs Davis to the 2024 Salford Children's Book Award. Our own Olivia was chosen to announce the winning book and congratulations Lily Bailey for winning your award!



## ART FOCUS

Wax resist painting inspired by Hundertwasser by Lily-Mae in Year 7.



# TRANSITION

Some more pictures from our fantastic transition days last week. Pupils enjoyed lessons such as PE, English and Science followed by an assembly with Mr Davis before a picnic lunch. They rounded off their transition visit with a welcome Mass delivered by Father Ernest before enjoying performances from our school choir and steel band. We hope you all had a wonderful time and we look forward to seeing you all again in September as our new Year 7 cohort!

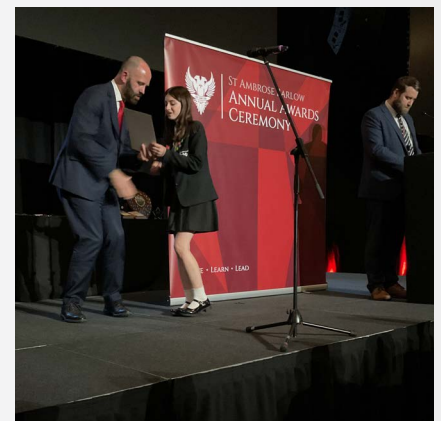
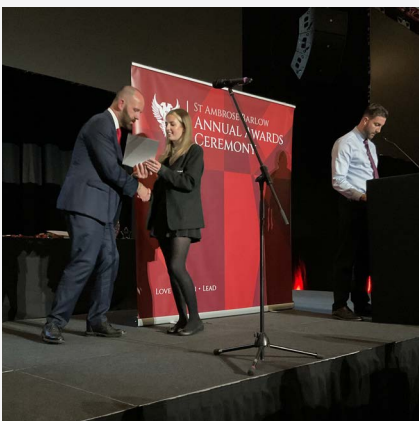
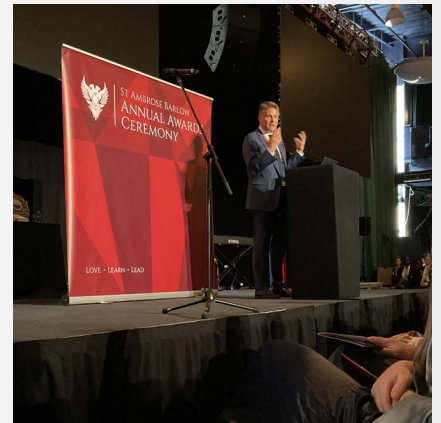




# ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY 2024

Our 2024 annual awards ceremony was a great success! Thank you to our guests of honour, Vikki Allen and the Mayor of Salford, Paul Dennett. Mr Dennett your speech was empowering and inspiring to us all, especially our young people. Thank you for sharing your story with us.

Many thanks to BWFC for your hospitality. A special thank you to our fabulous steel band, beautifully lead by Mrs Robinson and our choir, speakers and performers, you were all brilliant! A fantastic evening, enjoyed by everybody who attended.



# DRAMA FOCUS

A group of our Year 8 drama students attended the National Literacy Trust Oracy Matters conference with Mrs Tulloch on Monday.

They wowed an 200 strong audience of teachers with their Oracy speeches written as part of their Oracy curriculum. They were praised highly by everyone who attended and we are so proud of their brave and brilliant presentations!



## ALEXANDRA

Culture. Culture is the values, beliefs, behaviours and material objects that form a person's way of life. This is the definition if googled, but in my opinion, there is more to culture than just that. Not only does it form a person's way of life, but also who somebody is. All cultures are special. All cultures should be as equally respected as yours.

Culture provides people with a sense of identity and belonging. It helps people express their true colours. Culture is life. Culture is in our hearts. My culture is African culture, and everything about it makes me smile. Back in my home country, you will see culture everywhere you look, from the clothes to the celebrations to the food. Everyone is welcome. We bring people together.

People have been mocked for their culture, treated as inferior because they're different to others. This could have happened to any of you in this room, but don't feel ashamed or let down. Be brave like Martin. Be strong like Harriet. Speak out like Rosa.

My culture may not be your culture, and your culture may not be mine, but I respect yours and so you should respect mine. So tell me, I'm all ears. What is your Culture?

## EVE

Dance. Dance. Dance. This is a short reflection about dancing. Dance helps with confidence, fitness and it opens the door to so much more. Great moments of movement that express our creativity! One research study's results, published in the Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport, reveal that 35 percent of girls and 8.4 percent of boys report dancing as part of their regular and fun physical activity. There is something not quite right with the difference between these percentages - dance should be for everyone.

I have worked with the English Youth Ballet who give young dancers a unique opportunity to experience what life in a professional ballet company is really like. It is an exciting journey from acceptance at the audition, to classes, challenging choreography, tough rehearsals and enjoyable performances in the theatre, which mirrors exactly what a dancer in a professional company experiences.

Martha Graham says "What makes a great dancer is not good technique, it's good passion". I believe this with my whole heart as until you know the technique, it's all about your passion. Dance consists of discipline, hard work and long hours of practice, but to have this, you need dedication and commitment to what you do. It becomes who we are.

# FABIANA

Who we are? How many people here regularly wear makeup? Give me a show of hands. (pause) Only girls right? I want to talk to you about the political properties of makeup. Let's begin with how my journey started. 'No you're too young!' 'Why would you want to ruin your skin with that rubbish?' 'You don't need it, your skin is fine!' All said by my mum and let's not forget her favourite - 'Fabiana stop taking my makeup, that's not for children!'

Did you know, a startling 80% of women and 45% of men use makeup every day? Research studies show that the real reason women wear makeup is the high societal pressure they feel to look attractive. When I found out about concealer, my whole life had changed, I could conceal all of my freckles and moles! Now that I have my own makeup I love to experiment with it.

It is a fact that 1 out of 50 straight men wear makeup and 1 out of 100 straight men wear makeup weekly in the uk, proving a further point that you don't have to be in the LGBTQ+ community to wear makeup if you are a man. Regardless of your sexuality do as you chose.'

My message is, be yourself. Wear make up, be creative with make up or don't wear makeup at all, but be yourself, wear it for yourself. Say it with me. Come on. Be yourself. Little bit louder. BE YOURSELF! Don't let other people's comments change you, don't let societal expectations grind you down, don't let stereotypes rule you, just be yourself.

# JETHRO

Be yourself? Or strive for perfection? What is perfection? And why do people want to achieve it so badly? Being perfect might not be possible, but still, we strive. Being perfect is improving something until it is flawless, but in life, I suspect there will always be something greater than what you achieved.

Perfection gives us a goal to work towards, to never stop trying and to be the best you can, but it's a goal that's unattainable. The author of 'The Little Prince', Antoine de Saint-Exupery said "Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away" showing that perfection has to be absolute, but Albert Einstein said " A person who never made a mistake, never tried anything new." A mistake is a different path from perfection, one you needed to take in order to try a new experience.

I have come to the conclusion that as a human being, it is essential to believe that there is something more that you can achieve, as if there is a spiritual being cheering you on to continue. Reminding you that you should never stop. You should carry on, try harder.

Unless there is someone in here who is going to tell me they're perfect?

