

STAFFING

Best wishes and very grateful thanks are offered to the following colleagues who are taking their leave of St Ambrose High this summer:

Mrs Carnochan Modern Studies

Mrs Docherty Spanish

Mr Colgan PT Chemistry

Mr Denton PT Physics

Mrs Dingwall SfL

Mrs McAleer DHT

Mr Tierney PT Pupil Support

Mrs Thomson Maths

They have served the young people of St Ambrose well for many years.

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS PROVISION OF HIGHERS

In session 2014-2015 the school will be providing new national 6 Higher courses in most subjects with the exception of Biology, Chemistry and Accounting and Finance where the existing higher will continue. Pupils are parents should be re-assured to know that the Higher remains the gold standard in Scottish Education in this transition year. Universities, colleges and employers will recognise all higher successes.

Any parent wishing to discuss this further is invited to contact the Pupil Support teacher in the first instance.

SQA RESULTS ARE DUE TO BE RELEASED ON 5th AUGUST. PUPILS HAVE BEEN GIVEN DIFFERENT OPTIONS FOR HOW THEY WISH TO RECEIVE RESULTS.

PUPILS RETURNING TO THE SENIOR PHASE IN S5 and S6 WILL BE INVITED TO INTERVIEW ON THE AFTERNOON OF 14th AUGUST IN THE EVENT THAT THEY WISH TO MAKE CURRICULAR AMENDMENTS IN LIGHT OF RESULTS.

Pupils will be lettered before results are released to remind them of this service

PRIMARIES

The school looks forward to welcoming all our new S1 pupils in August. Two hundred and eleven pupils from 27 different primary schools will be joining our school community.

Installation Mass of Bishop Joseph Toal

Two S6 pupils will join the Head Teacher at this Mass in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral on Monday 23rd June 2014. One of the pupils will participate in the Procession of Gifts.



WAITING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Pupils have been given a whole range of experiences to make them aware of the Commonwealth games. This programme has been led by Mrs Kincaid in PE and has been supported by teachers throughout the school across the curriculum.

The school is also pleased to report that Kieran Rodgers has been selected to represent the school by carrying the Queen's Commonwealth Baton through a section of Coatbridge in the early evening of 23rd June.

Well done to our UNDER 18 football team who won the very prestigious Scottish Shields in May. This magnificent trophy will be on display at various points during the year. Congratulations also to the Under 14 team who won the Lanarkshire Football League and to the S1/2 Girls who won the NLC Netball League.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Please check school website for details of any changes to school transport. The SPT Helpline will be available from mid-July for any queries or checks:

0141 333 3362

0141 333 3360



St Ambrose High



[Www.st-ambrose-n.lanark.sch.uk](http://www.st-ambrose-n.lanark.sch.uk)



@stambrosehigh

The new School Leaders for Session 14-15 has now been interviewed and selected.

School Leaders are: Patricia Brannigan
Shona Maxwell

Deputy Leaders are: Antonia Donaldson
Lucy Hughes
Jack Shanks

House Leaders are: Sarah Chapman
Erin McAnally
Grace Murphy
Danielle McFadyen
Anna Cassidy
Caitlin Moran

Thanks are extended to the outgoing leaders of S6 who represented the school in numerous events and supported efforts to improve different aspects of school life.

SCHOOL PRIORITIES AND TARGETS FOR 2014-2015

A. Entitlements of Curriculum for Excellence

- ◆ Improve learner journeys in the senior phase through in house provision and partnership (college and consortia)
- ◆ Implementation of **NATIONAL 6** qualifications (Senior Phase)
- ◆ Development of **NATIONAL 7** course provision
- ◆ Review curriculum frameworks and junior phase learner journeys as evidence and intelligence emerges
- ◆ Review NAT 3, 4 and 5 in line with national adjustments to course and assessment arrangements
- ◆ Advance mechanisms to support development of and tracking of **literacy and numeracy** at cohort and subject level
- ◆ Review and improve **junior phase reporting** structures
- ◆ Launch and monitor revised **Learning & Teaching Policy**
- ◆ Develop approaches to the **application of ICT** which encourage pupils to take a lead in learning.
- ◆ Extend **Parents / carers (forum)** role in wider school
- ◆ Reshape **UNIVERSAL personal support** (houses, tutor time and PSE programmes) in line with 33 period week configuration and commitment to health and well being agenda
- ◆ Implement requirements of Children and Young Peoples' Act in spirit of GIRFEC (TARGETED SUPPORT)
- ◆ Trial and introduce new SEEMIS packages – (i) monitoring and tracking (ii) referral system (iii) Attendance module
- ◆ Advancement of sustainability and citizenship in line with our Gospel values.

B. Developing People and shaping the Organisation

- ◆ Implement revised management structure
- ◆ Develop structures to support and challenge managers in their new remits
- ◆ Set up and action 'Tackling Bureaucracy' Working Group
- ◆ Facilitate sharing of standards and good practice in self-evaluation at individual, team and school level.
- ◆ Define and formalise mechanisms for **sharing good practice / professional learning** at faculty / department level

PARENT COUNCIL

Many thanks to the members of the Parent Council who have worked very hard on a range of matters this year. Particular thanks for their input into the National Parent Forum Conference held in the school on Tuesday 10th June (see website). An annual report is part of this newsletter.

A sub group of the council plans to work with school staff early next session to review current reporting arrangements. Any parent who may be interested in joining this group is asked to contact Mrs Boyd PT Modern Languages before June 25th.



ECO IDEALS

AN APPEAL FOR RETURNS OF BOOKS AND RESOURCES

Please enquire with your son /daughter that he / she has returned textbooks and other resources which were issued during the school year. This includes library books. These are costly items and the school is obliged to take care of its budget.

SCHOOL YEARBOOK 2014

Congratulations to our Yearbook team for producing an excellent record of this session in St Ambrose and well done for using a company which acts sustainably in sourcing its paper.

COMMUNICATIONS

INCLUDING E MAIL AND MOBILE PHONE

*Please inform the school of
changes to mobile numbers.
This is very important if
emergencies occur.*

*The school also makes use of
texting to keep parents informed
of key matters. These new forms
of communication help to build
home school partnership.*

KEEPING IN TOUCH

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE ANY ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE ITEMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER. OUR HOME—SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP IS REINFORCED IN A NUMBER OF WAYS E.G. BY MEETINGS, LETTERS, REPORTS, PHONE, TEXTS AND E MAIL. THE SCHOOL BENEFITS FROM TWO WAY DIALOGUE HENCE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PARENTS ALSO GET IN TOUCH IF THERE ARE ISSUES OR CONCERNS. CONTACT SHOULD INITIALLY BE WITH THE PUPIL SUPPORT TEACHER, YEAR HEAD OR THE HEAD TEACHER. WE WILL ALWAYS TRY TO RESPOND TO ENQUIRIES WITHIN ONE DAY AND TO FIND RESOLVE TO ISSUES WITHIN FIVE WORKING DAYS IF THIS IS POSSIBLE.

**TEACHING COMMITMENTS OF KEY STAFF WILL NATURALLY
TAKE PRIORITY**

CONTACT DETAILS

PHONE: 01236 794896

e mail: ht@st-ambrose.n-lanark.sch.uk
web: st-ambrosehigh.n-lanark.sch.uk

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE IS A VERY HELPFUL UP TO DATE SOURCE OF INFORMATION. THIS INCLUDES DEPARTMENTAL WEB PAGES , HELP WITH THE NATIONALS TO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY. THE CONGRATULATIONS SECTION IS USEFUL FOR THE MORE MODEST PUPILS WHO DO NOT BRING THEIR GOOD NEWS HOME . THERE ARE ALSO USEFUL LINKS TO DOWNLOAD OR APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND TRANSPORT.

HAVE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF

Health and Wellbeing.

There is a strong commitment by staff to Health and Wellbeing. This year all staff have been involved in training in Getting it Right for Every Child, to ensure that children and their families get the right support when it is needed.

The S1 Pupil Council, supported by the school's Home School Partnership Officer, produced a 'Welcome to our School Community' DVD to help prepare primary 7 children for their transition to Saint Ambrose. This DVD was well received by both the children and their parents.

March 2014 saw a very successful health event for S3. The day began with a talk from a B-eat Young Ambassador as part of Eating Disorders Awareness Week. Thereafter pupils were involved in a variety of workshops including relaxation, sleep, personal safety, alcohol and drug awareness, and cycling.

In May all of S1 were involved in a 'Fun, Food & Fitness' day, linked to the importance of healthy eating and keeping active. Feedback from pupils indicated that the event encouraged 70% of the year group to think more about their diet, with 89% saying they would like to be more active!

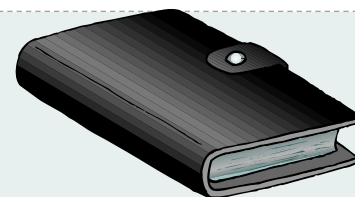
GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Partnership with our
partner school in
Bangalore.

During June pupils and staff are involved in a variety of foreign excursions as part of their wider curriculum. This includes the participation of three pupils and one staff member who are currently in Malawi as part of NLC Healthy Lifestyles.

A member of staff and two S6 pupils are taking part in the Scottish

In commemoration of the Allied Invasion of Normandy a group of 35 pupils and 5 staff are visiting the Belgian Battlefields and finally on the last week of term a party of pupils and staff will take part in



KEY DATES

SCHOOL CLOSES	27th June 2014 at 1pm
SQA Results release	5th August
Post Exam Results Interviews	14th August PM
STAFF INSET	14th / 15th August
School opens for pupils	Monday 18th August

Full School Uniform expected

blazer
black skirt/dress black trousers
white shirt
school tie
school shoes (no trainers)

TIMING FOR SCHOOL DAYS

SESSION 14-15

Monday	08:55 - 15:45
Tuesday	08:55 - 15:20
Wednesday	08:55 - 15:45
Thursday	08:55 - 15:20
Friday	08:55 - 14:55



Parent Council



St. Ambrose HS, 65 Townhead Road, COATBRIDGE. North Lanarkshire ML5 2HT Tel: (01236) 794896

"Parents as Partners"

Issue #1 June 2014

What does your Parent Council do?

ONE FEATURE OF YOUR PARENT COUNCIL'S ROLE IS TO LIAISE BETWEEN PARENTS AND STAFF .

In session 2013-14 we highlighted for discussion and action an issue surrounding 'school transport'. The Parent Council became aware from the wider parent forum of genuine and very real safety concerns. This was tabled at a Parent Council meeting and a visit was undertaken to witness the situation first hand.

The school representative also believed there to be a safety issue and following discussions with the school and the bus company, the pick-up and drop off point was changed to a safer location.

Result!



Scottish Schools FA TSB u18 Shield Winners

Commonwealth Games

As we all look forward to the Commonwealth Games XX staged in Scotland you can certainly feel a buzz about the place in George Square and around the centre of Glasgow and surrounding towns. The buzz has reverberated to Townhead and the busy bees of St Ambrose HS as the participation levels of both teaching staff and children have been gathering momentum over for the last few months.

The latest from the Ambies Campus has seen increased activities over the last week centred on the Games with lessons everyday looking at various aspects of the Commonwealth.

And finally with the recent Sports excellence from both the school's football and netball teams leading the way. Interhouse sports competitions are up and running and include rugby, benchball and football.

RespectMe



RespectMe is Scotland's anti bullying service. They work with adults who have a role to play in the lives of children and young people to give them the practical skills and confidence to deal with bullying behaviour. RespectMe offer resources and training absolutely FREE OF CHARGE to help combat bullying behavior. To find out more about the organisation visit their website or see their list of upcoming training sessions.

Credit Union

The Credit Union in St Ambrose has been operating since 2010.

Last year our Young Enterprise Team - "**Synergy**" - made it their main project, achieving great success.

The facility is now expanded and students can receive a variety of rewards for saving as well as gaining points on their Young Scot Cards and receiving their 6% annual dividend on their savings.

The aim is to encourage a saving culture that will stay with pupils throughout their lives - our focus is on how often pupils save money rather than how much they save.

Annual Parent Conference 2014

The 2014 NLC Parents' Conference was held in St Ambrose High School on Saturday, 29 March. This year's keynote speaker was the Executive Director, Andrew Sutherland, who outlined his vision for education in North Lanarkshire.

- The strengths of Learning & Leisure Services in North Lanarkshire
- Challenges and priorities to be covered over the next three years.
- Summary of activity required to continually improve the learning & leisure service for children, young people and families.

Information sessions were offered on a range of topics including assessment, the new national qualifications, higher order thinking skills, positive behaviour strategies, writing in the primary school and physical education.

The New National Qualification session proved to be very popular and was delivered by the SQA Curriculum for Excellence Liaison Manager. He outlined the structure and design of the new National Qualifications in Scotland stating that:

- The fresh approach to learning under Curriculum for Excellence requires new assessment methods and qualifications.
- The new National Qualifications that are being developed will have equal status and credibility to those currently available and will support the new curriculum.

The conference was an opportunity for Parents to learn about key aspects of education and to contribute their views on Education within North Lanarkshire.

The Ambees are Global Citizens!

S5 Chris Arcari, Louse Foster and Sarah Chapman along with Mrs Millar are traveling to Malawi in June. Sarah and Chris spoke to the PC on 12/5/14 with Malawian representatives and Charles Fawcett. Sarah said, "We are ready for the challenges of this trip and hope to provide support and friendship to the children of Malawi."

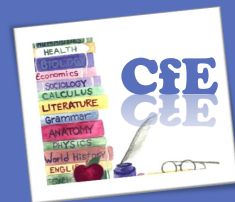
We also wish S5 Grace Murphy and Sarah Tracey who will be visiting Bangalore with Mr Scullion & Mrs McEachern to work with pupils with disabilities as part of APD partnership with other schools in Scotland and India.

Good Luck!

Pupil Voice

St Ambrose Pupils are given the opportunity to air their views on the running of the school via the pupil council. Prior to the meeting pupils are asked at their tutor time to vote for the subject(s) they wish to be discussed. The pupil representatives take this forward at the meeting and communicate back to pupils what was discussed and the outcome(s).

All Pupils are well aware of the anti-bullying policy within the school and they have the confidence to discuss any issues with their pupil support with the reassurance that this will be resolved quickly and effectively without repercussions.



Curriculum Development

Another busy year for curriculum development in St Ambrose and across Scotland with the full implementation of the A Curriculum for Excellence which aims to ensure our young people are equipped with knowledge, skills and attributes they need for learning, for work and for life.

As a parent representative body, we have discussed a range of important developments in Scottish Education. Not only have we heard about the changes in what our children learn and how they learn but also more recently we have discussed the new assessment procedures with the implementation of the new National 4 and 5 Qualifications completed by our current S4 pupils.

The National Parent Forum for Scotland have produced some excellent material advising parents of how to support young people at this critical stage and can be accessed using the link below:



www.npfs.org.uk

parentzone



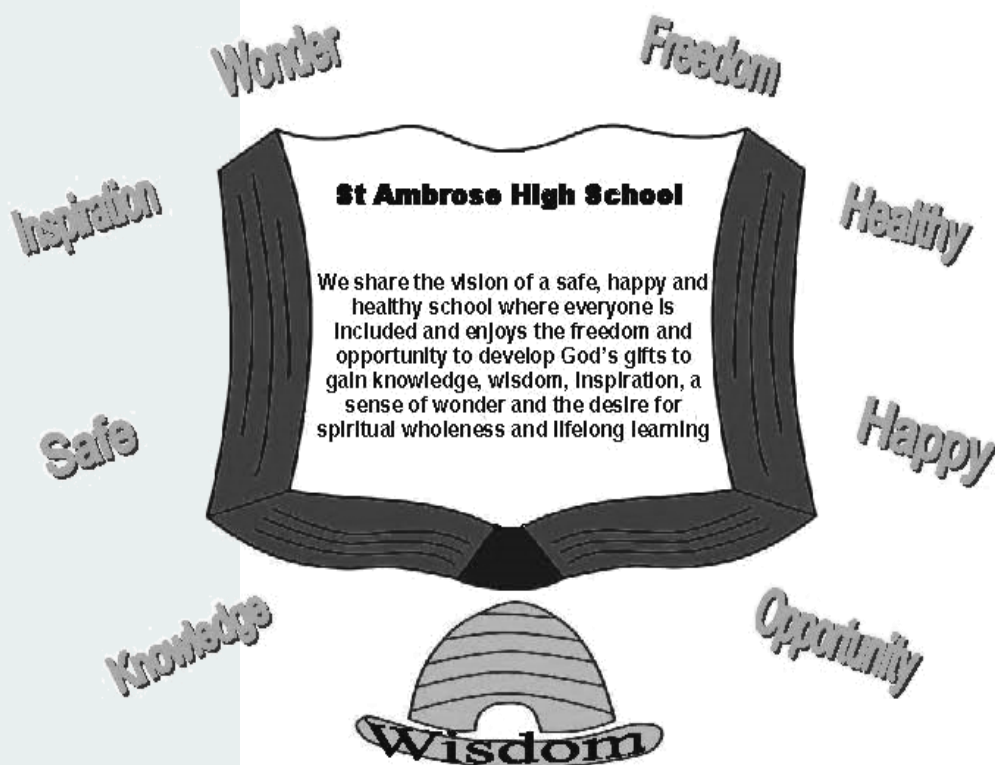
Follow us...



St Ambrose High School



@stambrosehigh



Mission Statement and Aims

St Ambrose High School shares responsibility, with home, parish and community to guide and support young people on their journey of faith and learning.

We are committed to achieving this by:

- ✱ Living Gospel values of truth and love
- ✱ Treating ourselves and other people with tolerance and respect
- ✱ Being humble, honest, and kind
- ✱ Sharing in learning and teaching to achieve our potential
- ✱ Striving for justice and peace and giving service
- ✱ Acting in sustainable ways to promote health and preserve our environment