

## Newsletter: week 21st & 28th September

# St Ambrose Catholic Primary School



Following in Jesus' footsteps, we learn and grow together.

### Gospel message:

Today Jesus tells us a story about some workers who all receive the same wages, even though some worked all day and some just worked for an hour.

God will give us  
what we **NEED**,  
not what we want.

Jesus is showing us that God's idea of fairness (sometimes we use the word justice), is different from ours. God's fairness is about making sure that every single person gets what they need, no matter what their situation.

God gives us what we need and not just what others think we deserve. God is generous and created a world with enough for absolutely everyone.



*When we are kind, we show every person is precious to God and treat them with the dignity they deserve. Let's remember that this week.*

### Message from Mrs Knight:

Another fantastic and busy week in school.

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend meet the teacher meetings. If you were unable to make it the information can be found on the website, along with websites to help with learning times tables at home. Dark nights are coming! Here is your evening 25 minute Challenge or survival guide:

1. put the iPads away for an hour
2. open a book and read together for 15 mins
3. grill them on their times tables for 10 mins until they know them by heart  $1 \times 5 = 5$  not counting in 5s
4. Repeat every night
5. Celebrate success - it will make a massive difference to their progress in school.

Thank you for backing us on this!

Can I send a personally say well done to all those children in Y6 who sat entrance exams for grammar schools in Trafford this week!

It has been a pleasure observing the children working hard this week. They have really made me proud with their focus, attention and handwriting. Well done!

Join us for **Coffee and Connect: Help shape our SEND support and accessibility plan!** Whether your child currently receives additional support at school or you are simply passionate about making our school a more inclusive place for everyone I would love you to join us. We are hosting an informal Coffee & Connect morning or afternoon. It is a brilliant opportunity to chat, share experiences and grab a hot drink in a relaxed setting. During this time I would like to look over two important documents: SEND Information Report and our Accessibility Plan - If you could drop me an email [headteacher@st-ambrose.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-ambrose.stockport.sch.uk) or speak to me in person I will co-ordinate the times that work best and set this up asap.

Thank you and have a lovely week, the weather is looking quite promising too.

Mrs Knight



**Happy birthday to you for the next 2 weeks ...** Best wishes to Daniel Y2, Azzan, Emilie, Molly, Keona

This Friday and Saturday Alana and Casper celebrated their 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> birthday and we sang very enthusiastically, as they made a wish blowing out their candles. Have a lovely time celebrating.



The children received their treat after our celebration assembly and I loved hearing more about why they had been chosen.

Rec Joy, Imogen Y1 Hazel, Kaia Y2 Pablo, Winnie Y3 Illiana, Peter  
Y4 Rose, Jewel Y5 Grayson, Ivana Y6 Fortuna, Jaykai



**Mrs Knight's** last week went to Jude in Nursery for his beautiful smile every day and being really brave leaving his mummy at the door – well done!



This week's Golden ticket has been given to **Dottie** in Y6 for following our school value and the Gospel reading which was all about forgiveness – well done and thank you it's not always easy but you did this with grace!

**The Golden ticket could be yours next week. I wonder who the spotlight will shine upon... all you have to do is be a good friend and let me see you having fun.**

### **Shout outs for this week:**

Thanks to: **Mr Wilkinson** for organising our Fun Friday afternoon Enhancements – Every child in school has the opportunity on a Friday for an hour to choose from a range of clubs run by the staff: Let's get crafty, Let's babysit, Let's build, Let's travel around the world, Let's Experiment – these are just a few on offer. The children will sign up to a different club every 2 weeks where we focus on real-world skills. Whether it is fostering critical thinking, developing spatial awareness, building empathy or leadership skills but to name a few. We hope the children have fun and look forward to coming school on a Friday as much as the staff have enjoyed delivering the sessions! Please see the end of the Newsletter for some photos of the clubs.



This year's attendance is

**97%**

**130** children have had  
100% so far this year!

**WOW!**

**Well done children!**

Parish newsletter link: [www.st-ambrose.stockport.sch.uk/page/our-parish](http://www.st-ambrose.stockport.sch.uk/page/our-parish)

## **Invitation to Class Celebrations of the Word:**

| <b>Date</b>      | <b>Year group (these will take place in either the classroom or the hall) 9:10 am</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 25th Sept | Year 4                                                                                |
| Friday 9th Oct   | Year 1                                                                                |
| Friday 16th Oct  | Year 5                                                                                |

## **Parent workshop – RSHE:**

Miss Slack and Mrs Knight would like to invite parents and carers to an RSHE workshop on: **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 2:45pm in the hall.**

As part of our commitment to supporting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils through Catholic teaching, the workshop will provide an overview of the Ten:Ten “Life to the full” programme and the RSE curriculum delivered in school. It is a chance to look at the new changes the government has introduced this September 2026 and how these look in the curriculum. This forms part of our ongoing partnership with parents, who are the first educators of their children.

We have published on the school’s website the Model RSHE policy and an overview of the curriculum. Please take a look and complete the consultation survey to share your view. This will be sent via email. Thank you for your continued support with this.

**After school clubs: Start today Monday 21st September until 9<sup>th</sup> Dec until 4:20pm**

**Monday Year 4, 5, 6 Football** – we had a large number of children apply for places so I have employed two coaches so that all children can attend. We will divide the children into groups according to skill

**Tuesday Year 2, 3 – all children who applied have a place**

**Wednesday Gym club – all children have a place**

**Thursday Year 6 Booster classes until 4pm** – thanks for your support. This is a great opportunity please send your child. Please note that we will be **unable** to deliver boosters on **1<sup>st</sup> Oct** due to staff attending a training session that evening.

**If your child misses more than two sessions in the term they will not be able to attend again.**

## **School Building Fund**

### **Funding of Our Catholic Schools**

Our Catholic schools are Voluntary Aided or Academies and most income is derived from public funds. However, in return for the right to promote the Catholic Faith in our schools, 10% of the cost of building works and major repairs in our Voluntary Aided schools and the costs of managing repairs and improvements to all our school buildings must be met by the Diocese.

### **Why was the Schools Building Fund set up?**

The 10% cost of building schools and other major building repairs and improvements used to be met from the regular giving made at Mass by parishioners of the Parish (or Parishes) connected to the school. This was often giving by those who could least afford it. Today, building works are still needed as we strive to continually improve our schools to provide the best teaching and learning environment for your children. However, Mass attendance has fallen in recent times, and the burden of the 10% cost could no longer be met by Parishes. In response to this the Schools Building Fund was set up by the Diocese in 2000, in order to meet the 10% cost of building works and the development of building programmes in our schools.

### **How can you help?**

All parents with Children attending a school in the Diocese are asked to make a voluntary contribution to the Schools Building Fund. See below for more details.

The suggested voluntary contribution is £15 per child (as little as 29p per child per week!) However, you are free to give more or less than this figure.

If you wish to donate direct to the school, please see the leaflet at the end of the newsletter.

## Dates/Events

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>  | Y4 Parents Come along to our Celebration of the Word                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>     | SEND parents meeting in person look out for a letter your child be given and a text will be sent so you book a time                                                                                 |
| <b>Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>     | KS2 children Doodle Bug Day<br>Parents are invited to join us for a special celebration assembly at 2:45pm in the hall<br>EYFS Meet the Teacher 3:20pm                                              |
| <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>  | <b>No y6 Boosters this week due to staff training</b>                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct</b>    | <b>Fundraising activity for school funds - cake sale.</b> Please can you kindly send in donations during this week.<br><b>However, please do not use any products containing nuts.</b><br>Thank you |
| <b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>    | Y1 celebration of the word – please come and join us                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>      | Freddie Fit                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>     | Reception and Nursery open afternoon 4pm-6pm for prospective new starters in September 2027<br>If you know anyone please share                                                                      |
| <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> | RSHE Parent meeting at 2:45pm looking at the new curriculum overview                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>   | Y5 Celebration of the Word – come and join us                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>      | Halloween Disco 4-5:30pm tickets will be on sale from the office two weeks before.<br><i>Don't forget your spooktacular costumes!</i>                                                               |
| <b>Week 19<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>     | Dress a pumpkin competition and bring into school<br>Judging will take place Thursday 22nd October                                                                                                  |
| <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>   | 'Twinkle Twinkle, little star, come and see how bright we are!' - 9:15 am the EYFS Nursery Rhyme Performance for parents – this is limited two adult per child                                      |
| <b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>      | Online parents evening                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>      | Flu vaccinations in school                                                                                                                                                                          |

### Family Hub Information:

We are pleased to announce that **Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities (SFSC)** is launching in Stockport this autumn.

SFSC is a free, evidence-based parenting programme designed to support parents and carers of children aged **10–16 years**. The programme runs over **13 weeks during term time**, with **weekly 3-hour sessions** delivered by trained facilitators.

The programme helps parents and carers to:

- Strengthen family relationships
- Build positive parenting skills
- Develop a greater understanding of child and adolescent development
- Boost children's confidence and social skills
- Manage challenges and improve family wellbeing

**strengthening families strengthening communities**

**New for Stockport Families**

**FREE Parenting Programme**

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities is an inclusive parenting course. Running over a 13 week period during term time. The 3 hour sessions are suitable for parents of children aged between 10 and 16 years.

Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities  
Expression of Interest

To find out more and enrol please scan the

**Strengthens Families Strengthening Communities supports parents to:**

- Strengthen family relationships
- Build positive parenting skills
- Understand child development
- Boost children's confidence and social skills
- Manage challenges and improve family wellbeing

### Inclusion and SEND Information:

Stockport's SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Local Offer

This week we would like to highlight the SEND Local Offer Website. The SEND Local Offer brings together information about local services, support and advice for parents, carers, and young people aged up to 25 with, or who may have, SEND. The link below will take you to the SEND Local Offer.

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/landing/send-local-offer>

At this time of year, it's normal for children and young people to feel nervous or anxious about going to school. The council has brought together a range of advice and support to help families manage these worries, including practical tips on rebuilding routines, keeping mornings calm, talking openly about concerns, and helping children focus on the positive aspects of returning to school

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/news/support-for-families-as-children-head-back-to-school>

For children and young people with SEND, who may find changes in routine and transitions particularly challenging, planning ahead and providing extra reassurance can make a real difference. Families can access support and resources to help ensure a smoother and more positive return to school. Download the One Stockport Family Hubs app today

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## How can you help?

All parents with Children attending a school in the Diocese are asked to make a voluntary contribution to the Schools Building Fund. See inside this leaflet for more details.

The suggested voluntary contribution is £15 per child (as little as 29p per child per week). However, you are free to give more or less than this figure – your child will not be treated any differently.

# Help Your Child's School

Please give generously for your children's future

My dear Parents,

It is important that our school buildings provide the best possible environment for the children and young people of the Diocese. I am very grateful to those parents and guardians who support the Schools Building Fund, at a time when there are many calls on your generosity and the pressures of a financial crisis.

There is a continual need to repair and improve school buildings to meet the requirements of the many varied educational activities that take place within them so that the very best Catholic education can be provided.

With your help, I am confident that this can be achieved.

How you can make a voluntary contribution to the Schools Building Fund is described in this leaflet.

With every good wish,  
Yours sincerely in Christ

+ Man



All Saints Catholic College

Donate Online  
See inside for details



Finance Office, Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South, Prenton CH43 4UX  
Phone: 0151 652 9855 Fax: 0870 094 0341 Email: ann.holmes@dioceseofshrewsbury.org  
Registered Charity No. 234025



SCHOOLS BUILDING FUND

## How you can make your voluntary contribution

The appeal for contributions is made each year. The suggested voluntary contribution is £15 per child, but you are free to give more or less than this.

### Direct to School

Complete the Direct Donations to School Form (Form A) and send this with your voluntary cash/cheque contribution in an envelope direct to your child's school. You can also Gift Aid your voluntary contribution using the Gift Aid Declaration (Form B) on the opposite page.

ParentPay, ParentMail, Tucasi, Cheshire East ePayments, Schoolgateway, SchoolMoney, Agora, etc. – if your child's school allows you to make payments via one of these systems, you may also be able to use it to make your voluntary contribution.

### Online

Go to [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)  
Scroll to the bottom of the page  
Press Donate  
Select School Building Fund  
Please email:  
[ann.holmes@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:ann.holmes@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)  
so, your donation can be allocated to the correct school.

Direct Debit – a form can be downloaded and completed if you wish to make your voluntary contribution by means of an annual Direct Debit. The Direct Debit form also allows you to Gift Aid your voluntary contribution.

## FORM A

### DIRECT DONATIONS TO SCHOOL

NAME OF CHILD(REN):

\_\_\_\_\_

Please find enclosed my voluntary contribution of £\_\_\_\_\_ paid by cheque / cash for the purposes of the Diocese of Shrewsbury Schools Building Fund.

Cheques should be made out to the name of your school and this form returned to that school

Remember do not send Direct Donations (Form A) to the Curial Offices – return it to your Child's School

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms (please delete)

First Name(s)

Surname

School attended by your child(ren)

Local Authority

### FOR OFFICE USE

(to be completed by School)

DATE RECEIVED:

BANK ACCOUNT PAYING IN SLIP NO:

I confirm that the above sum was received on the date indicated

Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees  
Registered Charity No. 234025

## FORM B

### GIFT AID DECLARATION

Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees  
Registered Charity No. 234025

Please complete this form – even if you have done so in previous years

DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY  
SCHOOLS BUILDING FUND

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms (please delete)

First Name(s)

Surname

Home Address

Post Code

School attended by your child(ren)

Local Authority

I request that all donations I have made to the above charity since 6 April 2022 and all qualifying gifts of money that I make hereafter shall be treated as Gift Aid donations. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I intend to make my voluntary contribution by:

☐ cash ☐ cheque

direct to school for: £

Signature of Donor

Date of signature / / 20

### Please send this form to:

Ann Holmes, Finance Office, Diocese of Shrewsbury  
Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South, Prenton CH43 4UX

### Protecting Your Privacy

A record of your personal information and donations will be held by the Diocese of Shrewsbury and stored securely on the Diocese's database. We comply with data protection and marketing legislation and the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice. We do not transfer your data to 3rd parties to use for their own marketing or fundraising purposes. The Diocese will use your details to administer your gifts. This may include sharing your information with external organisations working on our behalf such as IT support companies, or when required by law (eg to claim Gift Aid). Many thanks for your continued support. You can read our full Privacy Notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice). The statement also contains details on how to opt-out of further communications from the Diocese if you change your mind at a later date and how to update your preferences. We would also occasionally like to send you news by post on the work of the Diocese and give you the opportunity to support future appeals. If you do not wish to receive these communications, please tick this box ☐

## Boost the value of your voluntary contribution by 25% with Gift Aid!

If you are a UK Tax Payer, you can take advantage of Gift Aid for your voluntary contribution.

If contributing directly to your school by cash/cheque, complete the Gift Aid Declaration (Form B). Gift Aid on your voluntary contribution will then be reclaimed for the Schools Building Fund.

See the opposite page for how you can Gift Aid if you are making your voluntary contribution Online.





Totally Lunchtime

Champions

Field to Fork

Thursday 1st October 2026



## Menu



Beef Burger in a Bun

with Skin on Wedges

Sweet Potato Curry (V)

with Boiled Rice



Jacket Potato with Cheese or  
Beans



Served with

Broccoli or  
Salad



Dessert

Dorset Apple Cake & Custard  
Fruit Platter





