

ST. ANSELM'S COLLEGE

HALF TERM 2: NEWSLETTER



Oct-Dec 2024



Top News

For the first time in the history of the College the 1st XV have reached the U-18 National Plate semi-final having defeated the mighty Rugby School in the Quarter Final of the National tournament. We cannot wait to turn out on Wednesday 26th February to 'welcome' Ipswich School to the north-west in the U-18 National Plate semi-final. We look forward to seeing you there!



Once in a lifetime immersion to Japan...

To date this year we have travelled far and wide, across not just the UK, but Europe and Asia. In November, 15 students, who are part of the College's Japanese Language Club, had a trip of a lifetime to Japan through a brilliant link with former student Paul Halpen, who works in a Catholic School in Miyazaki. After exchanging letters and video calls we spent four days being hosted by our new friends, attending lessons, after school clubs and visiting local areas of interest. The second half of the trip comprised of visits to the spectacular sights of Osaka, Kyoto and Tokyo. It is hoped that our Japanese friends will visit us in the near future and we will go back to see them too!



New friendships formed during a Japanese Tea Ceremony



Week: 1

Our Year 10 Music students enjoyed a trip to the British Music Experience in Liverpool.

They learnt all about the history of British popular music, viewed galleries containing stage outfits & memorabilia, and got the chance to try out a range of instruments in the Gibson Suite!



New CEIAG Calendar continues.....

As part of our new CEIAG (*Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance*) strategic focus we kicked off the new half term with the first of many calendared events...

KS4 students attended a 'What Next?' event organised by Career Connect.

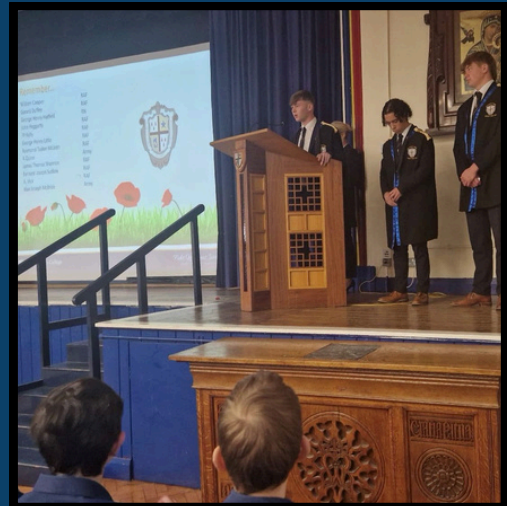
Students met and spoke to a range of companies and employers about future Careers and aspirations.

Our students represented the College impeccably and were praised by a number of exhibitors for their engagement and enthusiasm.



Lessons in cooking - Year 7 get creative with their culinary skills in DT Club.

Remembrance Day



During our annual Remembrance Service we focused specifically on the lives and stories of the four youngest Anselmians killed in action at a similar age to our Year 13 students.

On Remembrance Sunday itself, we also visited the grave of Raymond Tasker McLean of the Royal Air Force who was buried at Wallasey Rake Cemetery, aged 19 years of age. Thank you to our fabulous musicians and excellent readers who contributed to what was a very solemn and impactful service.

Week 2: Community Sports Leaders

Mr Mason presented Level 2 award certificates to our Year 13 Community Sports Leaders. This award involved students volunteering 20 hours of community coaching with children of our local feeder primary schools.



Anti-bullying week:

KS3 students reflected on this year's theme of respect and how we can live out this Christian value in our every day lives.

Students produced poems and made 'kindness postcards' to share with their peers. They also reflected on how we can show respect to our College environment considering the impact of waste and litter.

KS4 students focused on showing respect for ourselves and our peers, and how our choice of language, particularly on social media, can have a lasting impact on others.

#thinkbeforeyoupost

A promotional graphic for Anti-Bullying Week 2024. It features a dark blue background with a white hand cursor pointing to a red button that says "CHOOSE RESPECT". Below the button is the hashtag "#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK". To the right, it says "Anti-Bullying Week 2024: FREE Resources Now Available!" and "Download Now" with a download icon. At the bottom right is the "ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE" logo.



Week: 3 - Cross Country Excels Once Again....

The cross-country team have celebrated an exceptional term of achievements. The Intermediate Team earned the prestigious title of 'Wirral Schools Boys Team of the Year' at the Wirral School Sports Awards.

Both the Intermediate and Senior boys' teams secured places in the National Final, rescheduled for March 1st at Leeds Grammar School, and claimed an impressive 3rd place all boys' team, in the College's debut at the National Fell Running Final at Giggleswick School. In addition, the Senior team recently raised £1,200 for Claire House during a recent Games session, reflecting their dedication to be the best both on and off the course.

Year 7 and Years 10-12 dominated the Inaugural Merseyside midweek races, showcasing their strength across the age groups. With over 120 students involved, and thriving through weekly training, the College's cross-country programme continues to set new benchmarks of excellence; and we are eagerly looking ahead to its first-ever tour to Portugal in March 2025.



Bumper Packed Sixth Form Open Evening & Year 11 Transition Day 2024

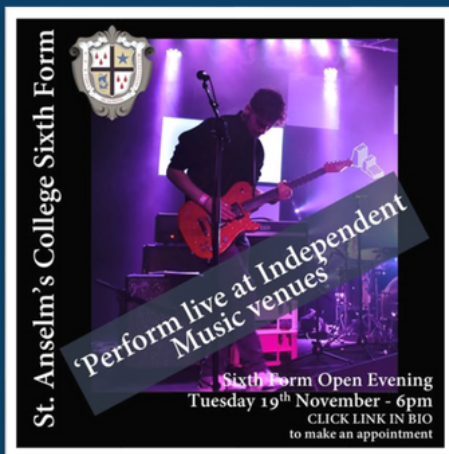


On Thursday 12th December, Year 11 experienced 'A day in the life of a Sixth Former'.

We started the day with an overview of the outstanding super-curricular activities available here for Sixth Form students, then students engaged in A Level lessons in a range of new and exciting subjects including Psychology, Economics, Business and more.

Some even managed to make it all the way to McDonalds and back for lunch!

The Application Process for Sixth Form September 2025 is **now open** - apply online via our website



Samaritan's Purse - Shoe Box Appeal



Our fabulous Junior SVP team have been extremely busy over the past few weeks co-ordinating efforts to raise money for the Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child. 190 shoe boxes are now on their way to those most in need this Christmas.



Our U-14 put up a mighty fight in the North West Indoor Hockey Final Championships, beating Cheadle and Lymm. Well done!

Week 4:

Alumni Motivational & Inspirational Guest Speakers Return

We were delighted to welcome back **Patrick Burke**, who studied here from 2010 to 2017. Patrick delivered an assembly to Key Stage Three students about his journey since leaving the College. He has travelled across the world working as a sports journalist and has published more than 5,000 articles. He now works for an international sports agency firm and will soon be jetting off to Hong Kong!

Dylan Adlard, who has successfully completed his training to become a commercial airline pilot at the age of 20(!) flew in to take an assembly with KS4 before travelling to London to begin his career as a First Officer for British Airways.

Our budding veterinary students attended a talk on veterinary Science led by our alumni veterinary surgeon **Sonny Groves**.

We look forward to hearing from **Dr George Booth** Stipendiary Lecturer and **Jamie Carragher**, Emmy Award Winner, who are visiting us in January.



Building on this success we already have news of interviews for a number of current Year 13 students for elite university places including Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine and Veterinary courses, and we expect these to translate into offers. We wish them all the very best of luck with their studies!



Week: 4

FOSA excelled in a maiden wreath making event held here in the College hall. Over 85 handmade wreaths were created, mulled wine and music flowed and most importantly we raised a significant amount of money which will go directly towards furnishing our brand new learning hub recently opened here in College.

A special thanks to Mrs Jill Welch, a member of our fabulous reception team, who led the evening with her remarkable creative wreath making skills! We can't wait to see you back in action next year Jill for another sell out evening!



Award Wining Drama Production 'Flowers' visits St. Anselm's College.

We had the privilege of watching an award winning drama production by St. Julie's School Woolton, as part of the international day for the elimination of violence against women and girls. This drama marked the start of 16 days of activism running from November 25 to December 10.

The aim of the drama was to raise awareness of violence against women and girls and to promote gender equality. To mark this event our boys wore a white ribbon to show their commitment to this cause. Support and help is available for any members of our community who may be affected by these issues.

**Thank you to St. Julie's Girls School
Liverpool.**

**TACKLING
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN & GIRLS**

Week: 5

Year 8/9 Careers Fair: Students participated in the “Meet the Employer” Careers Event at the College. This involved question and answer sessions with American Airlines, Cullimore – Dutton Solicitors, Green Socket Electrical Ltd, Seafarers Careers at Sea, Suresol Industrial Design, Make Life Kind, Wirral Council, Merseyside Police and Shedkm Architects/Design. The purpose of the event was to provide students with an insight into the world of work.

A team of Year 9 students participated in a STEM competition to design a new product for Unilever.

During another Year 8/9 Careers Enterprise Day students engaged in activities that enhanced their career path awareness, team-building abilities, presentation skills, and communication techniques; all critical competencies for their future. A special congratulations goes to the Year 9 winning team ‘Wirral Water Ways’ - Joseph, Oliver, Jonathan, and Lucas, for their excellent work and creativity. Likewise, congratulations to the Year 8 winners - Conrad, Phillip, Theo, Harley, and Nathan, for their outstanding teamwork and problem-solving efforts.

Over 100 Year 7-11 students participated in a ‘Rewards Afternoon’ in recognition of their continuous outstanding behaviour and attitude to learning across all their subject areas - well done boys!



Year 7-11 Rewards Afternoon – 100% Outstanding Behaviour for Learning

FOSA’s Annual ‘Christmas Showcase’ was a sell out with over 110 guests. We had a fun packed evening which included a Christmas Quiz and live music by ‘The Manor Hill Jazz Band’. All proceeds raised have resourced our new learning hub base in College.



Week 6 - Ho ho ho!

Annual SVP Party - This week we welcomed over 100 members of our community for our annual SVP Christmas lunch. Our 6th Formers served lunch and entertained our guests all afternoon.

We have also had numerous charitable activities this week, culminating in a charity staff football game at lunchtime.

Year 7 Advent Carol Service

Thank you to our amazing readers and vocalists who really showcased their talent at our Year 7 Christmas Carol Service:

- Tomiwa 7B
- Artie 7A
- Joshua 7A
- Orelouwa 7B
- Max 7A
- Soloist - Toby 7J



Faith in Action during Advent

During the season of Advent, students have reflected on the true meaning of Christmas. We have looked at how we can put our faith into action by helping those most in need. As Jesus said *'When you did it onto the least of one of my brothers, you did it onto me'*. Students have attended assemblies and prayer reflections in the College Chapel. They have looked outside their window and raised many hundreds of pounds for our nominated charities this year which include: KS5 – Claire House, KS4 – Charles Thompson Mission and CARITAS, KS3 - Wirral Ark and The Paul Lavelle Foundation.



St. Anselm's College Annual Prize Giving:

On Thursday 19th December we celebrated the successes and achievements of our Year 13 Leavers and current students.

The event was held at the magnificent venue, the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Birkenhead. Guest speaker Alumni, Vinny O'Connor from Sky Sports News presented the awards. A huge congratulations to all of our amazing prize winners!



Congratulations!



KEY NOTICES & INFORMATION

All students return to College on **Monday 6th January 2025**.

Please ensure that your child is ready to learn. A polite reminder that guidance re: uniform and PE kit can be found in our Parent/Carer Handbook on our College website under the 'Parent Section'. May I also politely remind you to ensure that your child has appropriate school shoes and a black coat only. Please also be mindful of the College's policy on facial hair and hair cuts.

We start the new term with a range of activities and events. On Monday 6th, Year 9 return to a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) event and KS4 have a Computer Science event. Most notably (and vitally important) are the **Year 11 GCSE Mock** exams. Mock examinations begin on Friday 10th and will continue for one week.

I recommend that your son revises over the Christmas period regularly, they have heard me talking about marginal gains many times and that success is the culmination of improvement done consistently. Revision must not be left until the night before an exam - this is a recipe for failure! Please ensure your child contacts his teachers via TEAMs if they require support.

Headteacher's Award Winners...

Our awards this half term focused specifically on students who have lived out the values and Eight Essentials of Blessed Edmund Rice.

Eight Essentials of Edmund Rice Education

Congratulations to:

- Yr7 Ruairi Mackenzie
- Yr8 James Worthington
- Yr9 Ashton Henderson
- Yr10 Ned Herdman & Casey O'Malley
- Yr11 SviatoslavBazakutsa



Our attendance % is currently well above average which is excellent.

A polite reminder that **holidays in term time will not be authorised** - 5 days of absence equals 30 hours of missed learning in a classroom. Success starts with good attendance.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



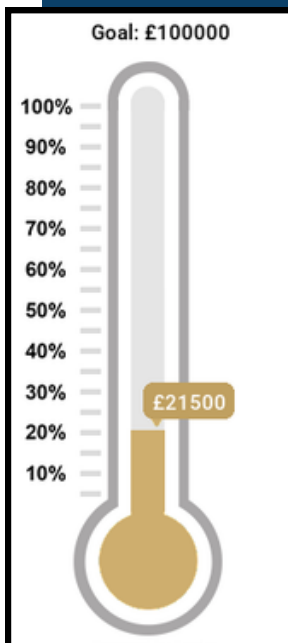


CORPORATE PROJECT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our amazing Sponsors!

Corporate and Family Supporters Project:

In conjunction with FOSA, we are launching a 'Corporate and Family Supporters' of St. Anselm's College, and our first mission is one that will have a direct and lasting impact on our students: raising the funds to purchase two new minibuses. These vehicles will expand opportunities for our students, enabling them to attend more field trips, music and sports events, we will be able to travel to an even wider range of University Open days and Careers events, enriching extra-curricular activities. It's about giving our students the best possible experiences both inside and outside the classroom.



What's the benefit for you?

We need your help to make this dream a reality. By becoming a supporter, you will not only contribute to the growth and enrichment of our students, but you'll also be recognised as a key partner in this initiative. Whether through your business or as a family supporter, your contribution will be acknowledged on our website, promotional banners/displays at key events, and through our social media channels, aligning with your personal or corporate values and CSR goals.

Need more information?

This is more than just a fundraising effort; it's a chance to create a legacy of support that will benefit your children for years to come. Every donation, every share on social media, and every bit of involvement counts. You can find all the details on our new website link:

<https://support.st-anselms.com/minibus-fundraiser/>

And be sure to follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and X for regular updates on this exciting journey! Let's make this project a shining success—for our College, for our community, and most importantly, for our students!

We have set up a GoFundMe page for anyone who wishes to make a donation towards the target. Our page can be found here at www.gofundme.com £1,500 raised so far on Gofundme!



incomegroup





M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

Dear parents/carers,

I cannot quite believe that we have completed one full term!

Undoubtedly, all of these activities could not be sustained without the tremendous dedication and commitment of you, our parents and carers. Thank you for being so generous with your time and for your unfailing support for the College. Indeed this newsletter is just a very small snapshot of the day to day activities we share at St. Anselm's College.

This Christmas, I ask you as parents to encourage your children to seize every incredible opportunity that the College offers them, to use their God given talents and embrace every moment.

Please encourage them to strive to be the best version of themselves. Indeed they possess the power to achieve greatness and to venture into uncharted possibilities. The world is brimming with opportunities waiting for them to grasp.

The future is theirs to create...

This Christmas give your son the gift of courage and resilience and challenge him to dream boldly, act decisively, and to remember: that the world is not just their oyster—it is their infinite horizon.

I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a fabulous New Year,

Mrs Cubbin