



SCHOOL THAT MATTERS: MISSION

We find ourselves at the end of the first half-term of the year and there is a great sense of excitement about the holiday ahead amongst the young people, and perhaps some of the staff. The Friday before a holiday means the treat of musical performances in the canteen at lunch time, a relaxing end to the sometimes frenetic day-to-day of school routine.

This year the last week was marked especially by our Presentation Evening for Year 11. This is the night where pupils who have left recently return to receive their GCSE certificates and the awards that recognise many exceptional and diverse achievements. Last night's event was a great celebration and very well attended. It felt like the final step in the pupil's journey through school, a moment where we said a definite farewell as they continue their progress through life.

It is especially fitting that Presentation Evening took place during the week we have devoted to the theme of mission. The words of St. John Henry Newman are often used in assemblies

by us to illustrate this: 'I have my mission. God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.' For the Year 11 leavers this idea might well feel more urgent than it did when then joined us in Year 7 now that they have chosen a path in college.

As you can see from the content of this week's newsletter there are many expressions of mission, but all share a common theme. They demand something of us, they ask us to participate in something or respond to a challenge. When the pupils return from the half-term break they will explore their own, personal mission in form time, mapping it out and considering it in relation to our school mission, Love, Learn, Lead.

The word mission means to 'send out' or 'release', which feels especially appropriate for Year 11 who we are literally being let go from school. The five year groups in the school are challenged to consider who they are, what

they offer the world, and what they are being sent out to do as, in the words of Pope Leo, 'new saints'.

When we return to school on November 2nd, the Feast of All Saints will have been celebrated, and it is that day that gives its name to this term for good reason. All of us are called to be saints, the Pope tells us, to experience new beginnings, to live life in fullness, to live in dignity, honouring the dignity of others and being 'instruments of peace.' Whatever we are, whatever we are studying or doing, that is the foundation of our mission.

I wish you an enjoyable, safe and peaceful half-term holiday.

Ben Davis,
Headteacher



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Mrs. Gillian Saldanha De Magalhaes

YEAR GROUP LEADERSHIP



Year 7

Year Manager: Mrs E Pollard

(Senior Leader: Mr G Jones)



Year 8

Year Manager: Mr G Healey

(Senior Leader: Mrs K O'Leary)



Year 9

Year Manager: Mrs E Jones

(Senior Leader: Mrs B Tulloch)



Year 10

Year Manager:

(Senior Leaders: Mr R Jordan)



Year 11

Head of Year: Mrs C Vincent

(Senior Leader: Mr N Irwin)



ART FOCUS: Key Skills Colour Theory Development by Ewan.



YORK TRIP:

On Wednesday, 56 Y7 students embarked on a day trip to York, for the second year running! Students were exposed to a range of historical remnants, dating all the way from 71AD to the modern day. A trip to the Jorvik centre revealed the secrets of Viking England laying just below York's streets, whilst Clifford Tower provided an anchor point to tell stories of the Norman's and the Tudor's that will be taught in lesson later this academic year.

Students were then toured around the city, venturing up the Shambles, around York Minster with its' surrounding Roman reminders, and up to see Bootham Bar, once an entrance way to the heart of the city.

This was a great experience for our Year 7 students, helping them to take their learning outside of the classroom.

BOOK OF THE WEEK:



Trust Fall by Lynn Painter

A rags-to-riches rom-com about a small-town girl and a big-city boy who is hiding an explosive secret.

Julia is a small-town girl who loves her peaceful life. But when her family inherits a not-so-small fortune from her secret multi-millionaire neighbour, she is swept away to live in New York City and attend an elite private school for the super-rich.

It should be a dream come true, but Julia is struggling to fit in at her new school, and even worse, she's failing. Enter Damion, the mysterious and handsome tutor who is hired to get Julia back on track. Except Damion has a secret: he is a relative of the man who left everything to Julia's family, and he doesn't buy for a second that his Great-uncle would leave his fortune to strangers instead of family.

Damion schemes to earn Julia's trust, so he can uncover what really happened. But the more time Damion spends with Julia, the more his plan begins to backfire, as he soon starts falling for her.

As Damion and Julia work to figure out where they belong, will they be able to see past their differences and lean into their feelings, or will the trust Damion has worked so hard to gain lead everything to fall apart?

A swoony and fun, opposites-attract romance from Lynn Painter.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH:

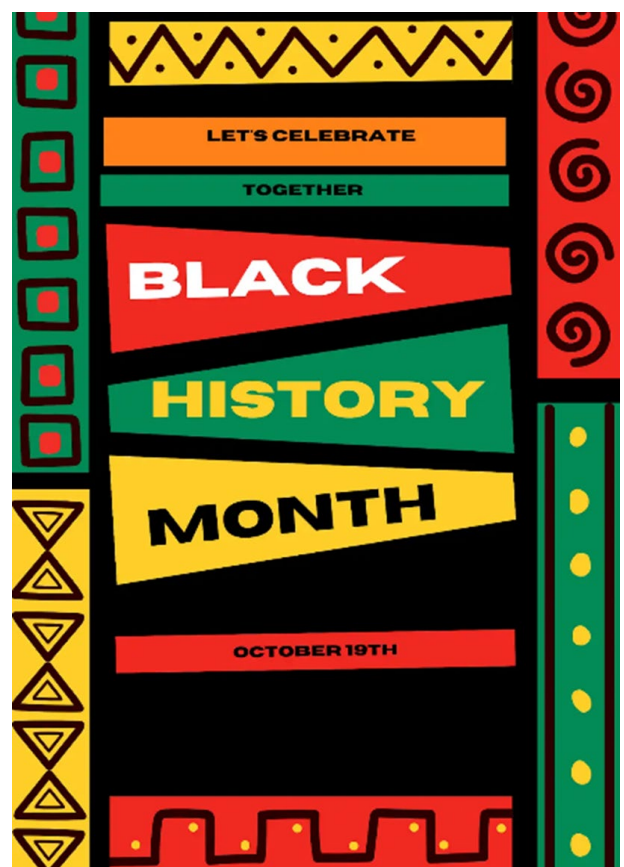
Putting the Missing Pieces Back into the Puzzle:

A group of our students led engaging and thought-provoking assemblies to celebrate Black History Month, sharing the stories of influential Black individuals who have helped shape British history, culture and society.

The students opened with a powerful message: Black history is full of people who have changed culture, sport, entertainment and society. They invited the audience to imagine a puzzle of the UK with half its pieces missing. Without those pieces, the picture would be incomplete. They explained that the stories, inventions and achievements of Black British people have too often been overlooked in history books.

The assemblies encouraged students to see history as more than dates and events, exploring the lives of artists, scientists, soldiers, campaigners and everyday heroes whose contributions continue to shape our world.

Among the figures they highlighted was Walter Tull, born in Folkestone, Kent, in 1888 to a Barbadian father and an English mother. Walter became one of Britain's first Black professional outfield footballers, playing for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town. During the First World War, he became an officer in the British Army, overcoming significant racial



prejudice and barriers. His courage and determination made him a trailblazer in both sport and military history.

The students also explored Paul Stephenson, a pioneering campaigner against racial discrimination. In 1963, he helped organise the Bristol Bus Boycott after the Bristol Omnibus Company refused to employ Black and Asian bus crews. Inspired by the Montgomery Bus Boycott in the United States, local people boycotted the buses for around four months. Their campaign succeeded in ending the company's discriminatory hiring policy, demonstrating how communities can unite to challenge injustice and bring about meaningful change.

They also celebrated Danielle Jawando, a British author and screenwriter born in Manchester, with Nigerian and Ghanaian heritage, who officially opened our school library in July 2023. Through her writing, Danielle gives young people from diverse backgrounds a voice, exploring inequality, injustice and the experiences of young people. Her work highlights the importance of representation and helps readers understand perspectives different from their own.

The theme of this year's assemblies was "Honouring Our Communities", reminding us that history is not shaped only by famous people in books or on television. It is also made every day by teachers who inspire, nurses who care, volunteers who help others and people who stand up for what is right. Our school community is full of people whose kindness, dedication and courage positively influence the lives of others. Recognising their contributions reminds us that everyone has the potential to make a difference.

Through these stories, the students demonstrated how Black individuals have broken barriers, challenged discrimination and made lasting contributions to society. Their assemblies encouraged everyone to learn about the people and experiences too often left out of our shared history.

As the presentations concluded, the students returned to the image of the missing puzzle pieces, reminding everyone that Black History Month helps us build a more complete understanding of our past.

Their central message was clear: Black history is important. It celebrates those who fought for change, achieved extraordinary things, broke barriers and continue to shape our world today.

Black history belongs to all of us, and learning about it helps build a more inclusive, understanding and respectful future.





ST AMBROSE BARLOW
ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF
2026
ANNUAL
AWARDS
CEREMONY
22ND OCTOBER 2026





SAFEGUARDING

AT ST AMBROSE BARLOW RC HIGH SCHOOL

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.

Our school mission is founded on Love: everyone safe, healthy, included and deserving of dignity. Through our lived mission we promote British Values.

SAFEGUARDING LEADERSHIP



Anna Goddard
Director of Safeguarding
(DSL & Prevent Lead)



Sarah Moynihan
Deputy Director of Safeguarding
and DDSL



Abby Scowcroft
School Therapist



Victoria Knipe
Deputy Headteacher
Deputy DSL



Ben Davis
Headteacher
Deputy DSL



Vikki Allen
Safeguarding Governor



Notice the Niggle

If you are worried about a child in any way, please ask to speak to a member of our Safeguarding Team. We take nothing for granted. **Think: it can happen here.**



As a guest in our school your safety and wellbeing is paramount, please ask to speak to a member of our Safeguarding team if you have concerns. We have staff trained as **Appropriate Adults** – please ask for a member of our Safeguarding Team.

THE WAGON TRAIN FINALE

Sunday
25th Oct • 6pm
Seedley Park
(part of Bule Hill Park)
FREE

As the clocks change, we look to Salford's future...
An unmissable outdoor spectacular celebrating
Salford's 100th Birthday, created by Walk the Plank.
Visit salford100.org.uk or @walktheplankarts to find out more.

