

ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head of School: Mr J Clinton
Website: www.sab.bham.sch.uk

Twitter: @SAB_B28

Tel: 0121 464 2791
Email: enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

Friday 24th September 2021

Dear Parents,

Catholic Schools are often composed of a diverse mixture of communities, but all have the same common purpose of serving God and spreading the Good News. St Ambrose Barlow School is no different. The celebration of faith has always been a real strength of the school and I want to build on this wonderful work in the coming months as we come to the end of Ordinary Time and head into Advent. From Monday, please send your children in with Harvest offerings for our mass this Friday, where we will thank God for the wonderful gifts he has provided for us, which we will later donate to the less fortunate. And please, you are most welcome to attend our second school mass of the year, but the first in the school hall where Years One to Six will celebrate with us. All are welcome!

Golden Book

Reception: Odhran Kelly for always trying his best and working so hard.

Year One: Ethan Velasquez has produced lovely writing incorporating adjectives into his writing. His description of a scary night was lovely to read. Ethan is a great listener and applies his newfound knowledge into his work as soon as he has an opportunity.

Year Two: Eugene Newman for always being so positive and contributing as much as he can to every lesson.

Year Three: Tyler Richards for consistently putting in lots of effort during Maths this week whilst learning addition and producing well-presented work that clearly shows his reasoning for each problem.

Year Four: Mikey Timms for his fabulous effort when rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and

1000 and putting maximum effort into his work.

Year Five: Daniel Caine for producing three fantastic pieces of independent writing in our Literacy lessons. He has considered them carefully and put a lot of effort into them. As well as this, he was really knowledgeable about Brazil in our Geography lesson and knew a lot about the equator. He has been kind and respected all his peers during this week too.

Year Six: Lauren Banta, for always putting the needs of others first. She is always on hand to willingly help staff and other children. Great to see this, from one of our Year Six prefects!

Assembly rota

This can be found on the website underneath the Parents tab on the website. It was also emailed out by Mrs Corrigan. Parents are welcome to join in these bespoke examples of Collective Worship as we celebrate our school and Catholic life.

Year Six Secondary Applications

For a place at secondary school, an application must be submitted before 31st October. If you live in Birmingham, you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

It is important to note that applications received after the national closing date of 31st October 2021 will be treated as late applications. Late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools, and these applications will be processed after 1 March 2022, in accordance with Birmingham's co-ordinated admissions scheme.

ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head of School: Mr J Clinton
Website: www.sab.bham.sch.uk

Twitter: @SAB_B28

Tel: 0121 464 2791
Email: enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

Year Six PGL trip

We are looking at organising a five day residential through PGL to take place from Monday 28th March until Friday 1st April. The cost for each child in Year Six who wishes to attend is £305.00 per person, which includes coach travel. I will communicate directly with parents regarding the final payment arrangements. I know it is expensive but I do think it is an important role of schools to provide further opportunities to deepen children's lived experiences.

Future plans for Residential trips

Next academic year, I would like to our Year Six children to Paris. This would form the climax of a project that would take place in the first port of Summer term. This trip would likely take place in June 2023. As it stands, there are three options:

- a) Open to Year Six (approx. 30) and then fill remaining places with Year Five (approx. 10) and run the trip annually
- b) Open to ALL Year Five and Six students (approx. 60) and run the trip every two years
- c) Run for ONLY Year Six, which increases the cost due to the smaller numbers.

The cost is likely to be around £700 but school would try and reduce this amount as much as we could in whatever way we could.

If this is successful, it would become a permanent fixture in our school's calendar.

Finally, depending on the Paris decision, I'd also like to arrange an additional residential for Year Five and, if we can find a suitable venue, for Year Four also.

School fund

Mrs Corrigan will send out information regarding school fund soon and, next week, I will detail how your donations are used to enrich the lives of our children. Your generosity is most appreciated!

Reading books

Each child should be reading *daily* at home. Reading is the one thing, above all else, that will improve their confidence, fluency, vocabulary and knowledge. Each child should have been given a reading book from class, and will also have the opportunity to visit the school library.

Please note there is a £5 contribution from parents for any lost books.

Christmas theatre trips

A reminder that bookings have now been made for the children to enjoy a trip to the theatre in December.

Reception and KS1 will attend One Snowy Day at the Midlands Arts Centre, Canon Hill. The date for this has now changed, and it is now taking place on Friday 3rd December at 1pm.

KS2 will attend James and the Giant Peach at the Crescent Theatre on Thursday 9th December at 10:30.

Christmas Meal

The staff are delighted to be joining the children for their Christmas meal this year. This is to take place on Tuesday 7th December. Christmas jumpers and seasonal songs essential! The cost is £2-40 per pupil.

ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head of School: Mr J Clinton
Website: www.sab.bham.sch.uk

Twitter: @SAB_B28

Tel: 0121 464 2791
Email: enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

FOSABS

If any parents are current members of *Friends of St Ambrose Barlow School* (FOSABS), please make yourself known to me! This includes former helpers and those wishing to volunteer in future too. I am a huge believer in the power of community and, after a brief chat with our Head Boy and Head Girl, have plans to revive certain successful ventures and introduce many more!

Clubs

The following clubs are in operation:

Mon pm:	Gaelic football (see below)
Tues am:	Karate (KS2)
Tues pm:	Aston Villa Football (Year Five and Six)
Wed pm:	Tennis (Year Three and Four)
Thurs pm:	Dance (Year One and Two)

Also, thank you to all involved at Sean McDermott's Gaelic Football club for their assistance and help in identifying coaches who can run our Gaelic football club. This is likely to take place each Monday and communication will be sent from the office once confirmed.

Photo consent

Thanks to those parents who have returned the consent form, allowing us to utilise our Twitter feed and website to a greater extent. Hopefully, more pictures and examples and work will start to appear over the coming days and weeks.

Harvest Mass

As stated at the start of this letter, our Harvest Mass will take place next for Friday 1st October at 9:30 in the school hall. Parents are more than welcome to join us for this celebration!

From Monday, please start bringing in your donations: any pasta, rice, tinned fruit and vegetables, non-perishable consumables would be hugely appreciated. Following the mass, we will donate the Harvest gifts to our local food bank, who are greatly in need.

Additionally, if you have any sanitary items (washing powder, toilet paper, deodorant, etc.) please donate these also.

There are many in need in our local community and, as a Catholic school, it is our duty to help our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate. To this end, as well as donating to the foodbank, we will also be arranging future collections for the homeless via SIFA Fireside Centre and for asylum seekers via St Chad's Sanctuary.

“Whatsoever you do to the least of your brothers and sisters, you do unto me.”

INSET day – school closed

A reminder that school is closed to ALL pupils on **Friday 8th October**. This is an INSET day where staff will be undertaking tasks linked to their professional development and the continued success of the school.

ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head of School: Mr J Clinton
Website: www.sab.bham.sch.uk

Twitter: @SAB_B28

Tel: 0121 464 2791
Email: enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

Friday 1st October: Harvest Mass
Friday 8th October: INSET
Monday 18th October: Parent Consultation
Wednesday 20th October: Parent Consultation
Friday 22nd October: Break up for half term
Monday 1st November: School re-opens
Wednesday 3rd November: Reception Open day
Thursday 18th November: FHC meeting 6pm School hall
Thursday 2nd December: Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm Parish Church
Friday 3rd December: KS1 @ One Snowy Night 1pm (MAC Theatre trip)
Wednesday 8th December: Whole School Mass (Immaculate Conception)
Tuesday 7th December: Christmas Jumper Day £1 donation for Advent charities AND Staff and children Christmas meal
Thursday 9th December: KS2 @ James and the Giant Peach (Theatre trip)
Monday 13th December: KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 14th December: KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 15th December: KS1/2 Christmas parties (pm)
Friday 17th December: Whole School mass
Tuesday 4th January: Return to school
Thursday 6th January: Whole School Mass (Epiphany)

Gaelic footballers

My apologies for anyone missed off last week's list of Gaelic footballers. All I can say in my defence is we clearly have a lot of very talented sportsmen and women in our school, which bodes well for any plans for our own school team!

Birthdays this week

Bon anniversaire to the following children who are celebrating their birthday this week: Violetta in year Three who was eight on Wednesday; James Foster and Charlie Mills in Year Five who are both ten today; Amelia Corcoran (Year Four) who is eight on Sunday, and Liam Cunnane (Head Boy and Year Six pupil) who is eleven on Sunday.

A little bird also tells me Mrs Corrigan is celebrating her birthday today too! 21 again, so says the old joke that never gets tired. A happy birthday to her, and my heartfelt thanks for her tireless work in getting everything up and running in these past three weeks.

Have a safe and peaceful weekend and coming week and I will see you on Monday morning, on the gate at 8:45. AS each day passes, I learn more and more of those all-important names!

God bless,

Mr Clinton
Head of School