

# ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head of School: Mr J Clinton  
Website: [www.sab.bham.sch.uk](http://www.sab.bham.sch.uk)

Twitter: @SAB\_B28

Tel: 0121 464 2791  
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## Thursday 7th October 2021

Dear Parents,

As tomorrow is an INSET day and school is closed to all pupils, this week's newsletter is being sent out today.

The children all look resplendent in their "Go Green for CAFOD" clothes today and, just like last week, I appreciate the generosity of your donations to help those in greater need.

### Golden Book

Due to the lack of our usual Friday afternoon celebration, these children will be called up at the end of Monday's Gospel assembly instead.

### **Reception:**

**Year One:** Caoimhe McAuley for having a wonderful attitude towards school and learning. She comes to school with a bright big smile each day. Her writing has really improved these past few weeks which is down to her hard work and dedication!

**Year Two:** Poppy Nixon for always doing the right thing. She's a fantastic role model to her peers in everything that she does. Thank you for always having a big smile your face, Poppy!

**Year Three:** Evelyn Smyth for her determination during Maths this week, despite finding the topic tricky. She also tries to be kind and thoughtful to her classmates.

**Year Four:** Liam Lynch for having a fantastic attitude towards his learning, always trying to improve his presentation, apply new sentence types and showing off what he has learnt. Keep up the brilliant work, Liam

**Year Five:** Ava-Leigh Newton for always giving 100% in all lessons and for being complimented on her behaviour around school after being courteous and holding the door

open on multiple occasions for a member of staff and the rest of her class.

**Year Six:** Tyler O'Keeffe for excellent writing this week. You always include adventurous vocabulary and a range of Year 6 sentence tricks. Your writing is a pleasure to read!

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### Staffing changes

Congratulations to Mrs Bresnen who was successfully interviewed by the Diocese for the position of interim Deputy Headteacher, a role she will fulfil for the remainder of this academic year. One of Mrs Bresnen's many strengths is that she knows the school well, and can assist both me and Mr Taylor in our leadership.

I would also like to introduce Miss Harkin, who is working two days a week and will cover Year One and Year Two for a morning, and Reception for two afternoons. She is a very able and willing member of staff and I am pleased she can assist us.

Also, due to Mrs Bresnen's new role, she will be out of class for two days per week and covered by Mrs Humpris, who is a very experienced KS2 teacher and is already known to the school and to Year Four. Mrs Bresnen will remain the primary point of contact and is still responsible for the teaching and learning of the class.

Finally, I am delighted that Mrs Vinti is joining us for two morning per week. She is assisting out provision for music and some of you may have met her during last Friday's Harvest, as she led the singing and played the piano. She will also play for future school masses and for class assemblies

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## **Parent Questionnaire**

The link is still active should you wish to share your views. I know it is early in the academic year to feedback but I genuinely believe that parents, as first educators of their children, need to work closely with the school (and parish) so children can reach their full potential.

Please, if you have any comments, follow the link and share them. The free comment section is especially useful (even the critical ones!): <https://forms.office.com/r/6Yf1n0EkpJ>

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## **First Holy Communion meeting**

Thank you to all those parents who plan to attend the meeting tonight. Mrs Bresnen will lead the meeting and both she and I, as well as Father Paul, look forward to seeing you all there.

Just a reminder that this meeting is followed by mass at St Ambrose Barlow Parish Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 10am, where children will read.

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**Reception Open Day(s)** A talk and tour of the school for Prospective Reception Open Day parents will take place on 2/11/21, 3/11/21, 4/11/21 at 14:00-15:00. It will involve a talk about our Catholic ethos and vision for curriculum, a short tour of the Reception area and time for Q&As. Use the booking function via Eventbrite to book your slot: <https://tinyurl.com/SAB-bookhere>

Also, **parents of children in the CURRENT Reception class are invited in on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November**, where information will be shared about our Catholic ethos, our approach to spelling, our homework policy and our approach to phonics and early reading.

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## **Paris Parents' Meeting**

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, parents of children from the **current Year Five and Year Four** are invited to a talk to discuss the plans for a trip to Paris, and the alternatives that will be offered to those children that, for one reason or another, will not attend.

Rest assured that those children who remain in school will be completing curriculum project work (separate and distinct to the regular teaching timetable), and taking part in other activities that are of equal value and as much fun.

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## **Parent Consultations**

Parent Consultations have been arranged for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

This year, parents are being invited to book their appointments at a time of their choosing via the Teachers2Parent app. Booking will (hopefully) be live from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and will close on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October.

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## **Installation of new sliding gates**

There are plans to install new gates at the top of the drive, both on the road and the pedestrian footpath. These are likely to be installed in November, after half term. The gates to the car park will be automated and will only open with a security fob or ID card. Parents will therefore no longer walk up the drive and instead should **use the footpath** at the end of the day.

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## **Reminders from previous letters:**

- if your child has a diagnosed allergy, can you contact the school office on [enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk) with the heading **Allergens** with their name, class, allergen, severity and medical information:

- if you haven't yet done so, please pay the voluntary contribution for School Fund of £39 per family via School Money, our school app. All of these funds are spent on items and resources that ALL children can access to enrich their experience of the curriculum within school.

- a reminder that parents of children in year Six should submit an application before 31<sup>st</sup> October for their child's choice of secondary school.

- Last week, Mrs Corrigan sent communication to parents about the funding that school can receive following a FSM application. The process takes a few minutes only and for every successful application the school gains an additional £1,345 per year. All of the data is completely private and confidential. Please take the opportunity to access the online portal via the following link:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/>

- The arrival of the Book Fair will coincide with Parents Evening. All children will visit throughout the day but parents are free to browse after school. Vouchers can be ordered in advance by email: see <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers> for more details.

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## **Gaelic Football**

It was fantastic to see so many experienced Gaelic players, and see so many budding stars too! From next week, the weekly charge will be £3 per child each Monday, broadly in line with the other clubs that are offered. Please pay via School Money.

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## **Dates for your diary**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October: FHC meeting for Year Three parents at 6pm

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October: INSET – school closed

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October: Parent Consultations

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October: Parent Consultations

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October: Year Four and Year Five Parent Paris meeting

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Break up for half term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November: School re-opens

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November: Reception Open day for prospective parents

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: Reception Open day for prospective parents

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November: Reception Open Day for prospective parents

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November: Reception Open Day (current pupils)

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November: FHC meeting 6pm School hall

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December: Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm Parish Church

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: KS1 @ One Snowy Night 1pm (MAC Theatre trip)

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Whole School Mass (Immaculate Conception)

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Jumper Day £1 donation for Advent charities AND Staff and children Christmas meal

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December: KS2 @ James and the Giant Peach (Theatre trip)

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December: KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: KS1 Nativity

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December: KS1/2 Christmas parties (pm)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Whole School mass

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## **Birthdays this week**

Happy birthday to Kieron (Year One) who was six on Tuesday and shared his birthday with Isabella Mills from Reception, who was five on Tuesday too. A happy birthday to Cian from Year Three who was eight yesterday. Happy birthday to Tyler (Year Six) who will be eleven on Sunday and to Elora Tipper (Year Two) who will be seven on Sunday also.

Please enjoy your day today and enjoy the subsequent weekend. I hope to see you at mass this Sunday to celebrate with Year Three at 10am, and I will greet you all on Monday morning on the gate as usual.

God bless,

Mr Clinton  
Head of School

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