

ST AMBROSE BARLOW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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

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Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents,

We end our half-term on a high note, celebrating with Year Four's Going Forth mass, after the children made their First Holy Communion in the last academic year. As ever, it is our pleasure to host our parents in school, and you are very welcome.

To my mind, this relationship illustrates the essential nature of the success of our Catholic schools: a tripartite approach between the parish and the school and the parents. Long may this partnership continue!

Golden Book

Reception: Lawson Wilkins for trying really hard with his work this week, particularly with his counting and writing numbers in maths. Well done, Lawson!

Year One: Adam Abdeldayem who is a valuable member of our class who enjoys sharing his wonderful and imaginative ideas and putting these together to form wonderful creative writing. Adam also has beautiful cursive handwriting that is a fantastic example to all.

Year Two: Emily Lin for listening so brilliantly in lessons and giving everything a go even when it seems tricky! You have been a superstar this half term!

Year Three: Annie Sylvester for her determination to improve her maths skills and her positive attitude in all lessons. She is always keen to contribute ideas in class and is always enthusiastic about learning new things.

Year Four: Kieran Hayes for fantastic team work in PE, being a great role model to others and working hard in all lessons

Year Five: Lilly Yan Lok Lai for giving 100% effort in all topics especially French and for

producing a wonderful piece of Art in her sketch book inspired by tiger in a tropical storm by Henri Rousseau. Well done, Lilly!

Year Six: Gavin Sangha for showing excellent fluency, problem solving and reasoning in maths. He perseveres and shows resilience when tackling challenging problems. His work is always presented beautifully.

Friday Celebration Assemblies

Each week, we gather as school community to share awards, praise good practice and celebrate achievements, including those that happen outside of school also. Additionally, every week, the children listen to a different piece of classical music as they enter and exit the hall, given a little bit of history behind it and are asked to recognise and remember it.

Congratulations to Wojciech Nadolny in Year Six who, last week – without no prompting at all – could say (in order) what each piece of music that we've listened to each week was. For the record (no pun intended), the music listened to so far this half term is as follows:

Week One: Pachelbel's *Canon in D Major*

Week Two: JS Bach's *Air on a G String*

Week Three: *Zadok the Priest* by Handel

Week Four: Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*

Week Five: *no assembly due to INSET*

Week Six: Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Greensleeves*

Week Seven: Allegri's *Miserere*

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Parent Consultations

Thank you to all those who I spoke to on either evening and gave their feedback of the positives changes they feel are apparent in the school since our return in September.

My thanks also, to those who praised the dedication of the hard working staff, who always go above and beyond in their calling to ensure that each and every child works towards their full potential.

As a school, we are blessed both with our staff and our pupils.

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>.

Please spread the news to future parents of the School.

Paris Parents' Meeting:

My thanks to the parents that attended our first meeting yesterday. Your feedback has been invaluable in trying to arrange an approach that suits the vast majority of our families. Further meetings are to be arranged to move discussion forward and explore options, with the next one taking place on **Thursday 4th November at 5:30pm.**

Following this meeting, a new letter will be sent out to all applicable parents with a new payment plan and any additional details

Dinner money payments

For the next half term, those having school dinners will need to pay a total of £77 via School Money, though this can be paid in instalments. If there are any outstanding debts, please ensure these are cleared as soon as possible.

One of the many highlights of my week is to eat pizza and chips with the children each Friday. They are, quite genuinely, the best school dinners I have ever had. The coleslaw and salad bar are especially good and extremely popular, with good reason! Mrs Hardiman is a brilliant cook and I am delighted when I see the care and effort she goes to in helping her team prepare each meal. The behaviour (not to mention appetite) of the children in the dining hall serves them much credit indeed! And, as they say, the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it. In this instance, it is literally true. ☺

School fund:

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.

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Dates for your diary

Monday 1st November: School re-opens

Tuesday 2nd November: Reception Open day
for prospective parents 14:00

Wednesday 3rd November: Reception Open
day for prospective parents 14:00

Thursday 4th November: Reception Open Day
for prospective parents 14:00

Thursday 4th November: Paris meeting for
Year Five and Four parents in the school hall
17:30

Monday 8th November: Reception Open Day
(for parents of current) 14:00

Tuesday 9th November: Nasal Flu Vaccination

Thursday 18th November: FHC meeting 6pm
School Hall Year 3 Parents

Thursday 2nd December: Sacrament of
Reconciliation 6pm Parish Church Year 3

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

Wednesday 8th December: Whole School
Mass (Immaculate Conception) at 9:30 in the
parish church

Tuesday 7th December: Christmas Jumper Day
£1 donation for Advent charities AND
Staff / Children Christmas meal

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

Monday 13th December: KS1 Nativity PM

Tuesday 14th December: KS1 Nativity PM

Wednesday 15th December: Christmas parties
(pm)

Friday 17th December: Whole School mass at
9:30 in the parish church

Sporting success



Congratulations to Riley, Cian, Niall, Declan, Liam, Zain, Lucas, Joey and Tyler who represented the school during a football match against St Bernard's. We won 9-0, which is impressive, but more so was the attitude and manner and sportsmanship that the players showed, clapping and thanking the opposition and staying around afterwards to clear up. Cian scored two goals, as did Niall, Tyler, Joey and Declan scored what has been described to me as a last minute screamer!

We have arranged another match for after half term so more of our students have the opportunity to play, and we will also take part in a girl's football tournament too. My thanks to Miss Ball for organising and to parents for their support - and help with transport too!

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Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Maeve Henvey in year Two who was seven on Monday; happy birthday also to Declan Kerr in year Six who was eleven on Wednesday (and celebrated by scoring a goal in the previous evening's football match) and happy birthday to Darron Mariampillai in Year Two who was seven on Wednesday also and Miss Traynor whose Birthday is this Sunday. Hope you all have a lovely birthday.

And finally...

Seven weeks done! It has genuinely been my pleasure to get to know each of the children and see the parents at either drop off / pick up, or at one of our assemblies, masses or parents' meetings.

Have a wonderful and well-deserved half-term break: May God bless all the children and their families you and keep you all safe, ready to return on Monday 1st November!

Mr Clinton
Head of School