



# St. Ambrose Barlow

## Catholic Primary School

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St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School, 841 Shirley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 9JJ

Friday 11th February 2022

Dear Parents,

Year Six, as part of their Confirmation preparation, will join us for Mass this Sunday and lead the Liturgy of the Word – the readings from scripture inspired by God that hold lessons for us about how to behave and worship. I am delighted that the children are already showing greater responsibility around school, acting as young adults and being ambassadors for their faith. It was wonderful to hear so many actively share their ideas during our Confirmation parent meeting and I look forward to reading their Saints research. I ate dinner in the school hall on Wednesday with some Year Sixes and they delighted in telling me acts about my own Confirmation saint – Martin de Porres – that even I didn't know!

Year Two parents, you are warmly invited to your child's Class Mass next Friday. I can promise an uplifting celebration led by Father Paul and the children, and a wonderful end to the half term. All parents are welcome, and grandparents welcome too. You should be receiving your personalised invitations next week...

### Golden Book

**Reception:** Odhran Kelly – For always putting 100% effort into everything he does. Odhran has produced a lovely piece of writing this week, writing a letter from Gerald the giraffe explaining the importance of being kind – along with a beautiful portrait of a dancing giraffe! Well done Odhran!

**Year One:** Ambrose Griffin has tried hard recently to behave sensibly whilst in the classroom and out. He is contentious about his behaviour and he is now making good choices. Ambrose earlier this week in Art created a brilliant painting inspired by the artist Wassily Kandinsky - we mistook it for the real thing! He is becoming a curious learner, wanting to know more about the topics we have learned in class. Keep up the good work Ambrose!

**Year Two:** Mia Nelson for being a wonderful friend and role model to the rest of the children in Year Two. You are always smiling and making others feel happy around you! You've been giving 100% effort to your school work and shown great resilience in Maths.

**Year Three:** Harrison Walsh for his excellent team work with his partner during his computing lessons, he communicated well and supported his partner. This attitude has been seen across all of his lessons. Keep up the excellent work!

**Year Four:** Noah Young for contributing brilliantly to a class debate and sharing his fabulous science knowledge with his peers. Noah has a superb attitude towards his learning and consistently wants to find out more.

**Year Five:** Amara Sandhu-Hicks for her always working hard across all subjects. Amara consistently demonstrates our school values and virtues. She is a valued member of Year Five and supports her friends and peers a lot of the time in and outside of lessons. Amara is a pleasure to teach with a constant smile on her face and because she is always showing positivity!

**Year Six:** Zain Mian for always demonstrating an excellent attitude

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towards his work. His writing is always beautifully presented, and he consistently shows excellent reasoning skills in his Maths.

### **Caught being KiVa**

This week, plenty of people have been 'caught' doing good deeds around school and showing kindness: doing small things with great love, as St Teresa of Calcutta asks of us. This week, Kieran Hayes, Year Four, has been showing qualities of a fantastic friend during PE lessons by ensuring everyone is included.

Bronagh Brady, Year Three, came to Miss Traynor to tell her that Sadie Kelly, Year Five, had opened the door for her when she noticed her coming. Bronagh was delighted that a Year Five would do this for her. Fantastic, Sadie! Exactly the sort of kind acts that we wish to see in and around our school every day.

### **Sporting Success**

As you read this, our Girls Football Team will be competing in their football tournament. Pictures and congratulations to follow next week, and my thanks to Miss Ball and the other staff who have accompanied them, as well as the parents who have helped with transport. Next Friday, it is the turn of the boys!

### **Class reader news**

You are all aware of the importance that we place on reading here at St Ambrose Barlow. One of my favourite things is how the children, and the staff, have run with this idea and embedded it thorough in our practice. Year Five have enthusiastically started a Library Club during Friday lunchtimes, and the Year Six Prefects see making the environment in the library as welcoming as possible as one of their chief duties. As I was walking past Year Two the other day, I saw a new display: a list of all

the authors the children know, and on the wall, the books they are sharing in class.

### **School Council**

In Tuesday's meeting there was a discussion about our school and what changes they would like to make if they could. All the children from each year group agreed that they enjoyed coming to school and would like longer school days- if they could! They agreed that they feel happy, safe, and secure and that there is always a staff member to speak to if they needed help and support. They enjoy all the after-school activities and wouldn't want to change any. They all agreed that they liked their teachers and our new headteacher. They feel that Mr Clinton has made lots of changes for the good of them and the school. They enjoy having class assemblies and Monday morning assemblies with Mr Clinton. We also discussed activities we could have at lunch times, and we are keen to have a board games club. They will feedback to their classmates, and we will discuss this at our next meeting. They are all very proud of St. Ambrose Barlow School. Mrs Fayaz and Mrs Drewry.

Check our school Twitter feed to see a picture from their meeting with all of the councillors.

### **School closures**

A reminder that **Monday 28th February** is an INSET day so children will return to school after half-term on Tuesday 1st March. Also, Birmingham City Council has requested to use the school site as a polling station for the local elections on Thursday 5th May 2022. Therefore, school will be closed to all staff and children on this day. Finally, we break up for summer on Thursday 21st July at 2pm due to the Queen's Jubilee.

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### **Platinum Brides**

A little message from Platinum Brides – we are not endorsing the business but would like to signpost local companies to our school.

Holy Communion is such a special and exciting time for your little girl, and Platinum Brides at Robin Hood Island want to make sure choosing a Holy Communion dress is an experience they always remember. We want her to feel special and love the dress so much, that she can't wait to wear it.

We are a family business, looking after Communion princesses since 2007 and we keep a list for each school to make sure we do not sell the same style twice to the same school. New styles arrived last week.

We look forward to meeting you and your princess soon.  
To book your appointment please phone us on 0121 733 7309.  
Email [info@platinumbrides.co.uk](mailto:info@platinumbrides.co.uk) or via Facebook Messenger.

### **February dates for your diary**

**Fri 18th Feb:** Year Two class Mass 14:30  
**Fri 18th Feb:** Break up at 15:30  
**Mon 28th Feb:** School closed (INSET day)

### **March dates for your diary**

**Tues 1st March:** School re-opens  
**Wed 2nd March:** Whole School Mass for Ash Wednesday 9:30  
**Thurs 3rd March:** World Book Day (Children to dress as book characters)  
**Mon 14th March:** Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20  
**Wed 16th March:** Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20  
**Fri 18th March:** Year Six Confirmation  
**Fri 25th March:** Year Two Class Assembly 9am  
**Mon 28th March:** Year Six @ Boreatton Park (Five day residential)

### **April dates for your diary**

**Fri 1st April:** Year Five Class Mass 2:30pm  
**Mon 4th April:** Reconciliation for KS2

**Wed 6th April:** Piano and choir concert 2pm

**Mon 11th April:** Year Three Holy Week Assembly

**Tues 12th April:** Year Four Holy Week Assembly

**Wed 13th April:** Year Five Holy Week Assembly

**Thurs 14th April:** Year Six Holy Week Assembly

### **May dates for your diary**

**Tues 3rd May:** School re-opens after Easter

**Tues 3rd May:** First Communion parents meeting 6pm

**Thurs 5th May:** School closed for local elections

**Sat 7th May:** First Holy Communion (10am and 11:30am)

**Fri 20th May:** Year One class assembly

**Thurs 26th May:** Whole School Mass 9:30 (The Ascension)

**Fri 27th May:** Procession 2pm

### **June dates for your diary**

**Fri 17th June:** Reception class mass 2:30pm

**Fri 24th June:** Reception class assembly 9am

**Sun 26th June:** Year Three Going Forth mass 10am (followed by Communion breakfast)

**Wed 29th June:** Whole School Mass Ss Peter and Paul 9:30am

### **Birthdays this week...**

Happy birthday to Calum Mullin, Year Six, who was eleven on Monday. Sophie Fernando, Year Four, is nine on Sunday so a very happy birthday to her also!

### **Finally...**

I want to leave you with a wonderful poem that made its way to me at the end of this week. It is written by Annie Stephenson, Year Five, and it is superb! I honestly think it is good enough to be published! And so now it has been. Read it below: Fairy-tale Dream

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*I put my PJs on,  
And get in bed.  
This is when all the major miracles,  
Starting floating through my head.*

*I first see a girl with extremely long hair,  
Locked up in a high, stone tower.  
Then comes along a wicked witch,  
Who owns her and has a lot of power.*

*A trail of breadcrumbs leads me,  
To a little boy and a girl.  
They are looking in awe at a gingerbread  
house,  
That is covered in sweets and cream, swirl  
upon swirl.*

*The comes a lady shouting, "Off with her  
head!"  
She is wearing a crown and dressed in  
hearts.  
Soon, she seized the children by their arms,  
And threw them apart.*

*After her comes a white rabbit,  
He exclaims, "I'm late! I'm late!"  
Then comes a biscuit figure saying, "You  
can't catch me!"  
He was then eaten by a fox but I guess  
that's fate.*

*Next comes a big, bad wolf.  
Then a girl in a red hood.  
After that comes an old lady,  
Who comes with a man that chops wood.*

*A bear comes saying, "Give it back!"  
The girl gleamed.  
I guess she must have stolen something,  
Well, that's what it seemed.*

*I finally woke up.  
My mum said, "Stop dreaming, you!"  
But when I went down to breakfast, I  
thought  
"Could my dream be true?!"*

Incredible. Thank you so much, Annie for sharing.

God bless you all. Have a lovely weekend and I shall see you on Monday morning for the final week of this half term.



Mr Clinton