



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 20th May 2022

Dear Parents,

We welcomed some of our Governors into school on Tuesday to take part in a learning walk to observe the learning environment, to look at some of our books and to speak to some of the pupils. I have always said that the pupils of this school really help to 'sell' its successes and I was delighted with the eloquence and the confidence that our student representatives could talk about their work and their interests. We have a huge push on designing a sequenced and a systemic curriculum that focuses on the important knowledge that we want children to remember and it seems that this is bearing fruit. Please, parents, talk to your children about what they are learning in school and how this relates to what they have learnt previously!

Today, we welcomed a very special guest: Madam Baille, a specialist art teacher and BBC set designer who is working with our children to design a mosaic for the brickwork outside of school by the sliding gates. We are proud of our school and want to show it off to all in the local community! Every child in school will be involved in sharing their designs and making the artwork.

We also enjoyed Year One's assembly this morning about the history of transport and how engineers from the past used their God-given talents to improve lives for others. As I said after the assembly, it is this belief that makes Catholic education distinct. We *know* God calls us in a unique way to do a very special job.

Golden Book

Reception: Ismaeel Saghir has worked so hard recently, especially with his reading and writing! Ismaeel has put so much effort into all of his activities this week and has gained independence in the classroom. Keep up the hard work, Ismaeel!

Year One: Lola Hardiman has impressed a lot of staff this week! She gives 100% to everything she attempts and does it with a big smile. Lola learned her two assembly parts off by heart and said them with such great expression. Your teachers are very proud of you, Lola! Keep it up!

Year Two: Chloe Partridge for impressing all of the adults in her class with her reading skills. She has tried to use expression to keep the listener interested. She has also created some fabulous artwork over the past two weeks during our LS Lowry topic. Well done Chloe!

Year Three: Sam Tighe for his hard work and dedication during Maths lessons this week, when practising how to tell the time to the nearest minute and when using both 12 and 24 hour time. An important skill and a great one to learn early!

Year Four: Amelia-Jo Corcoran has a fabulous positive mindset, shows great enthusiasm in everything she does and gives 100% effort. Amelia always greets staff with a smile and brightens up the classroom. Keep up the excellent work, Amelia!

Year Five: Caitlyn Ansermoz has been trying exceptionally hard across all subjects and is giving her all to extracurricular activities such as before-school dance club and her keyboard lessons. She is a confident and polite girl who always has a smile on her face. We are

With **St. Ambrose Barlow** as our guide and **Jesus** at our side,
we are all **learning to live, love and work together**.

very proud of the work you produce Caitlyn. Keep it up!

Year Six: Jacob Roberts for always listening carefully during lessons. This is evident by the confidence and eloquence that he could talk about the content of his lessons when questioned by the Governors. His application has led to him making super progress across the curriculum.

FOSABS Summer Fete

The makeshift committee will meet again on Monday 23rd May. This meeting has been scheduled for 5:30pm to allow as many parents are possible to attend. If you cannot attend, please see a parent or FOSABS member so they can share ideas on your behalf. Plans are coming along slowly in the background. Thank you to all those parents (and extended friends in the community and the parish) who have already approached school about how they wish to help. We are very blessed and I hope that this year's Summer Fete is a real success, standing us in good stead next year to put on more events.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

On 6th February this year, Her Majesty The Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom. To celebrate this anniversary, all children at St Ambrose Barlow are invited to attend school next Wednesday in the colour of the Union flag – white, red and blue. No school uniform is necessary or donation is required. The children will have a day off timetable, writing a letter and designing a portrait. In the afternoon, they will receive a tasty treat and a book gifted by the Government to remember the special occasion.

May Procession

Next Friday, Mrs Bresnen will lead the children in the welcome return of the May Procession. Pray for good weather! We will sing hymns to Our Lady, pray the Rosary and crown a statue of Mary. If children wish to bring flowers or potted plants, they are welcome to, and after the crowning of Mary these flowers can be laid at the foot of the statue. Please see our Twitter feed for photos afterwards.

Rosary Club



This has been remarkably successful. Every day at 1pm, children gather in our beautiful prayer garden to recite a decade of the Rosary, led by a different group of children all day. Maybe it is the weather or the quiet and scenic setting, but it is one of the most uplifting periods of the day and is getting ever more popular with the children.

Reading at St Ambrose Barlow

Every class from year Two upwards will have to opportunity to visit Hall Green library each Friday on a rota-basis. Year Two received their forms yesterday, ready for their trip on Friday 10th June. On our return after half-term, Year Three will receive letters inviting them to apply for a library card if they have not already done so.



Carys Henvey in Year Five has just finished *The World's Worst Pets* by David Walliams and said it was a really good book that she would recommend. Sami Thafiq has just finished *Slime* by David Walliams and he really enjoyed it. It seems that David Walliams is the go-to author in Year Five's classroom when reading for pleasure., just as Roald Dahl's is Year Two's favourite author.

Year Six are about to start *Wonder* by RJ Palacio which is a beautifully told story about heartache, love and the value of human life. It comes highly recommended, and is one of Mrs Thorne's favourite books too.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Kieran in Year Four who was nine on Monday. Happy birthday to Niall in Year Six who was eleven on Tuesday and celebrated by seeing Birmingham City languishing in the second tier of the English football league for yet another season. Oh well. Happy birthday to James in Year One, who was six today and made a fantastic James Brindley Brindley in today's assembly. Happy birthday to Annie in Year Three who is eight tomorrow. Happy birthday to Lucas from Year Four who is nine on Sunday.

Finally, happy birthday to the ever-young Mr Turner is turns 21 again! Many happy returns to all!

I also owe Alec from Reception an apology for spelling his name wrong last week! Sorry!

May dates for your diary

Mon 23rd May: Summer Fete Committee Meeting (FOSABS) 5:30pm

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

Fri 27th May: May Procession 2pm

June dates for your diary

Fri 10th June: Year Two Hall Green Library visit 2pm

Fri 17th June: Reception class Mass 2:30pm

Fri 17th June: Year Three Hall Green Library visit 2pm

Fri 24th June: Reception class assembly 9am

Fri 24th June: Year Four Hall Green Library visit 2pm

Sun 26th June: Year Three Going Forth Mass 10am

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

July date for your diary

Fri 1st July: Year Five Hall Green Library visit 2pm

Fri 8th July: Year Six Hall Green Library visit 2pm

Sat 9th July: Summer Fete 12pm -3pm

Thurs 14th July: Keyboard and Choir 'Bastille Day' concert

Friday 15th July: Reports given out

Wed 20th July: Year Six Leavers' Assembly

Thurs 21st July: Leavers' Mass 9:30am (venue TBC)

Thurs 21st July: Break up for Summer at 2pm

Have a wonderful and relaxing weekend and I shall see you on Monday morning. God bless,

Mr Clinton