



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 24th June 2022

Dear Parents,

On Sunday, the parish and the school come together to celebrate Year Three's *Going Forth* Mass at 10am, with a small party afterwards for the children of Year Three to celebrate coming to the end of their First Holy Communion preparation. All are welcome to join us for Mass. My thanks to the siblings of those children who have volunteered to read and share bidding prayers.

Today, in school, we have just joined in with our penultimate class assembly of the year, with Reception leading our collective worship. It was all about the learning they have enjoyed this year, especially the people in our community who help them (doctors, teachers, nurses, firefighters) and how each of these is fulfilling their vocation, just as we are called to fulfil ours too. I do not tend to have favourite assemblies, but if I were to, it would certainly be Reception's. I love to see how the children have grown in confidence (and volume!) throughout the year – and such wonderful singing too!

On Wednesday, we celebrate the feast of St Peter and St Paul, two of the great saints of the church. Please join us at church for Mass at 9:30. Staff will lead the readings, children will lead the singing!

Golden Book

Reception: Isabella Mills for an excellent piece of work about Little Red Riding Hood. Bella has independently written speech bubbles for each of the characters in the

story using her phonic knowledge, finger spaces and full stops. She is so helpful around the classroom and always ensures she makes good choices! Well done, Bella!

Year One: Enda McGillicuddy is a superstar! His behaviour is excellent and his attitude towards learning is faultless all of the time. He was fantastic during Year One's trip to Twycross Zoo, where he ensured that his group stayed together and that they all had a great time. He learned a lot from our trip and he wrote a brilliant recount of the day. Well done, Enda!

Year Two: Niall Earp for such a huge improvement last week in his handwriting. He has been trying so hard with his letter formation and impressed everyone with his fabulous riddle in Literacy! Well done, Niall.

Year Three: Richard Qui for being a fabulous member of Year Three. Richard is unfailingly polite. He always works to his best ability and is always willing to help his peers. Well done, Richard!

Year Four: Noel Brose-Neeliyara for settling into St Ambrose Barlow fantastically. Since joining Year Four, Noel has shown off lots of his gifts and talents. He has worked really hard to learn the different sentence types and is using them brilliantly in his writing! Keep up the fabulous work, Noel!

Year Five: Ellie Gresty-Helliwell always gives 100% to her school work. Her presentation is always immaculate and she consistently works hard. Ellie displays our values and virtues in her day to day life and is always kind and friendly to her peers. Well done, Ellie!

Year Six: Jacob Lloyd for his amazing writing this week. Jacob always ensures

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we are all **learning to live, love and work together.**

that he uses all of the key features of a text type in his writing and has included high level vocabulary, emotive language, similes and metaphors in his recounts this week. He always listens carefully to the ideas of others and uses them to improve his own work.

Caught Being KiVa



I was delighted to hear that James McColgan, Year One, was such a good friend to Ambrose Griffin when the latter started a new football club, making sure Ambrose felt welcome and included in the sporting activities! Excellent work, James!

Sporting Success!

Thanks to Miss Ball who organised our participation in the Catholic Sports, held at Wyndley in Sutton Coldfield yesterday afternoon. Congratulations to Niall, who won the 800m; to Eoin, who came 2nd in the sprint; to Keira who came 2nd in the 800m and to Lily who came 3rd in the long jump.



School Uniform

It appears our hitherto high standards of uniform are starting to slip amongst a small but significant minority. The rules are on our website

(<https://www.sab.bham.sch.uk/uniform/>) but have been reproduced below:

Boys (Summer)

Grey school trousers (short or long)
Pale blue polo shirt (with school logo) or short-sleeved school shirt and school tie
Grey 'v' neck school pullover
Plain grey or black socks
Shoes

Girls (Summer)

School uniform checked to striped dress or grey school skirt/trousers
Pale blue polo shirt (with school logo) or short-sleeved open neck school blouse (with school logo)
Grey 'v' neck school cardigan/pullover
Plain grey or white socks
Plain grey or black tights
Shoes or sandals

There should be 'no extremes of hairstyles' – they are not permitted. No child is to have less than a 'No. 2' cut; no child is to have lines or patterns shaved into his or her hair; there should be no extreme spiking or gelling and no artificial colouring. All long hair should be tied back and secured with hair attachment appropriate to school colours.

These are not new school rules – they were in existence before I started and they will be in existence long after I am gone. They are agreed by the Governing Body, and it is the Governing Body that has the power to change them. As it is, they are clearly communicated on the website and they will be enforced by the staff of the school.

To be perfectly honest, I do not want to police haircuts. I do not want to remind

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children that trainers are not part of school uniform. I do not especially garner any pleasure from reminding children to tuck their shirt in, or do up their top buttons, or to ask girls not to wear nail varnish. That said, we have high standards and I expect all of our children to meet them. So if I have to speak to children who fall below the standard, then I will.

I will not apologise for having standards. We take pride in our uniform just as we take pride in our school. If you insist on getting your child's ears pierced, please wait until the summer holidays so that they can be removed safely before school if necessary. In any case, it is only studs that should be worn, not decorative earrings, not diamonds, and not earrings that dangle.

I have taken into account parental feedback with regards to the planned uniform changes, which will be postponed in light of the current cost of living. The uniform will not change overnight and parents will be fully consulted in future. Any changes will be phased in slowly and I will continue to accept and celebrate those children who wear the current uniform with pride. Finally, if you really do desire to go against our school rules, they please do not complain when there are consequences.

Sports Day

This will take place on Monday 11th July at Moseley Rugby Club, Billesley Common, Yardley Wood Rd, Birmingham B13 OPT and parents are invited. It will take place from 10am until around 2pm and children are to be transported by coach. All children will require a packed lunch: KS1 children will be provided one from school; if you wish your child in KS2 to be provided one also, just let the school office know.

Friends of St Ambrose Barlow School (FOSABS) Summer Fete arrangements



Our next meeting is on Monday 4th July to finalise position of stalls and lists of volunteers. Again, if anyone would like to have an advertisement in the fete brochure, please email Laura Fitzpatrick at laurafitz80@yahoo.com - half a page is £10 and a full page is £20. The cut-off date for advertisements to be added is the 1st July. If you have a small business and would like to come and sell your goods, please email Fiona Healy at fjhealy12@gmail.com

On Monday, cellophane sweet cones will be given out to the children, to be returned on Friday 1st July – children can wear non-uniform as a treat. Please also keep your 'nearly new' book donations rolling in.

A reminder of School INSET days for 2022/23

Mon 5th Sept: School closed to pupils

Tues 6th Sept: School closed to pupils

Fri 21st Oct: Staff retreat

Tues 3rd Jan: School closed to pupils

Mon 24th Apr: School closed to pupils

Housekeeping messages from the School Office

- It is really important to keep your School Dinner Money account up to date. We are coming to the end of the school year, and some parents are overdrawn. Please pay promptly in the coming weeks. If there are any issues, please make an appointment to see Mr Clinton.
- Please supply your child with sunscreen and hats procedure in the warm weather, and ensure water bottles are in school and filled with fresh water.
- If any child receives a head bump, our new First Aid procedure is to call home and notify parents. There is often nothing to worry about but our policy is to keep you informed and allow you to make the decision whether to let a child remain in school or collect them.
- School fund: hopefully you can see how this really does support the children, with sporting trips, books, play equipment, etc. Please ensure you make payment, if you have not done so already.
- If you have moved house or changed mobile number, please update the office. It is ESSENTIAL that the School Office has at least TWO contact numbers in case of an emergency. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct details are given to the office before the end of the term. Thank you.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Aaron in Year Three who is eight today! Happy birthday to Orlaith in Year Two who will be seven tomorrow!

SEND Coffee Morning

My apologies – this should have been on last week's newsletter. On Friday 1st July, we are holding a school coffee morning. All parents of children with SEND are invited, and you are welcome to come along if you wish to know about school's provision for SEND children or have a view to share. You will have the opportunity to meet staff from agencies that the school works with and ask questions to them also.

June dates for your diary

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

Tues 28th June: Year Three Hall Green Library visit 2:15pm (rearranged date)

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

July dates for your diary

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

Fri 1st July: Children to wear own clothes in exchange for a donation of sweets

Fri 1st July: SEND coffee morning

Mon 4th July: Year Two and Year Four @ Thinktank

Wed 6th July: Transition Day

Fri 8th July: Children to wear own clothes for a donation of cakes

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

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

Mon 11th July: Sports Day 10am – 2pm

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

Friday 15th July: Reports given out

Wed 20th July: Year Six Leavers' Assembly in School Hall 9am

Thurs 21st July: Leavers' Mass 9:30am at St Ambrose Barlow Church

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

Academic Dates for next year

Wed 7th September - Fri 16th December

Wed 4th January - Thurs 6th April

Tues 24th April until Tues 25th July

Thank you for all your support. Have a restful weekend, enjoy the warmer weather. Children, practise your Numbots or Times Table Rock Stars ready for next Friday's Celebration assembly and I hope to see you at Mass on Sunday morning with Year Three



Mr Clinton