



St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

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Friday 17th February 2023

Dear Parents,

We end the half term with Year Five's class Mass. It has been a busy seven weeks and we all deserve a rest – staff and children alike! When we come back, on Monday 27th February, it will be the liturgical season of Lent. Our prayer tables will be purple and our work in RE and collective worship will focus on this time of sorrow and penance. As in previous years, children will remain in school for Holy Week and, during this final week, KS2 classes will lead a reflection on each day for the school and parents. You are all most welcome to join us.

Golden Book

Reception: Ilana Yassar for working very hard all term. She has shown great independence and confidence in her writing, producing some brilliant work about *The Gruffalo* in Literacy. Ilana is an excellent role model to her peers, as she has such a positive attitude towards her learning and always ensures she uses her manners around the school. Keep up the hard work, Ilana!

Year One: Finley Dewell has produced some great pieces of writing this week. He wrote some excellent instructions on how to make a *Supertato* and on the weekend took him on a fabulous adventure. Finley always approaches every task with a smile and has a positive attitude. Well done Finley!

Year Two: Caoimhe McAuley for always giving 100% in every lesson and showing incredible progress because of it. She tries so hard at everything she does in school and is a great role model for her peers. She

is persevering in Maths even when the question can be tricky. Well done, Caoimhe!

Year Three: Emily O'Keefe for always listening attentively, contributing to class discussions and putting in 100% effort. She has really grown in confidence this half term and has made super progress. Well done, Emily!

Year Four: Maxim Griffiths for his dedication to all subjects and setting a shining example for the rest of his class. In particular, his persuasive advert was well thought out and included a multitude of persuasive features and sentence tricks to attract buyers for his inventive toy.

Year Five: Patrisha Arulprasad helped lead a wonderful prayer service on Wednesday – focusing on the life of St. Valentine, as well as looking at what it means to 'Love thy neighbor.' She spoke eloquently and confidently. It was a wonderful prayer service. Patrisha has also been working hard on implementing feedback – especially in her Maths work. Keep up the hard work, Patrisha!

Year Six: Joshua Aju for always having an excellent attitude towards learning. His work is consistently beautifully presented and finished to a high standard. He checks it meticulously to make sure it is accurate and his writing is always very thoughtful.

Caught Being KiVA

Conall Corrigan for spending his playtime helping the children in Reception to open and put the straws into their milk cartons (without being asked!)

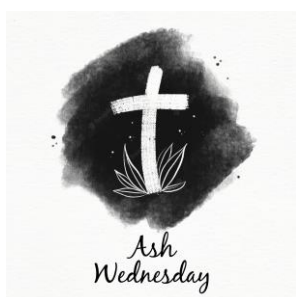


With **St. Ambrose Barlow** as our guide and **Jesus** at our side,
we are all **learning to live, love and work together.**

I also want to give a special mention to Cody Davies, Corey Osbourne and Lucas Cusick in Year Five for the exemplary behaviour they showed in yesterday's basketball tournament. They supported one another and celebrated their success, making a real effort to praise the others. I was delighted to be told this and it is a pleasure to communicate this to you.

Ash Wednesday

We are off school for Ash Wednesday. However, Father Paul will be celebrating Mass at church at 9:30am and 7pm. Please make every effort to attend.



Lenten Charities and Mini-Vinnies

As I write this, the President of the Mini-Vinnies and the two Vice Presidents from Year Six are sitting in my office, discussing plans for our Lenten charities.

We have agreed to support two charities this year: Father Hudson's Good Shepherd Appeal and the Disaster Relief to help with the aftermath of the earthquake in Syria and Turkey. We do this to show solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the world, regardless of religions or creed or colour. I am so pleased that this idea has come from the children themselves.

Upon our return to school after half-term, we will be hosting the following fundraising activities:

Week One – Friday 3rd March. Please bring in coloured items for the Easter Raffle (See PAT section later in the newsletter for details)

Week Two - Friday 10th March: Mini-Vinnies to organise a cake sale.

Week Three - Friday 17th March: wear Green for £1 to celebrate St Patrick's Day

Week Four - Silver coin collection on Friday 24th March

Week Five - Thursday 30th April: KS1 Easter Bonnet parade – teas and coffees on sale to parents and all donations gratefully received.

NEU Strike Action

As before, I am not yet in a position to say how the next planned Strike Day will affect St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School, and I will follow advice from my own union and the DfE. I wish to forewarn you that the possibility of full closure on 1st March is a distinct possibility. As yet, this cannot be confirmed.

Please also be aware that two further days are pencilled for Wednesday 15th March 2023 and Thursday 16th March 2023.

Bibles for Children

Every child in Year Two and Year Three has been gifted a copy of *The Children's Bible*, which have been purchased by the school from a charity called Bibles for Children. This charity has been set up to ensure all children have access to a Bible. In addition to this, every child in Year Four, Year Five and Year Six has been gifted a *Good News Bible*. The intention is that every child leaving school in Year Six will therefore have two Bibles that they can keep for life.

In future years, as a child enters Year Two, they will be gifted with a Bible. When a child enters Year Four, they will also receive a Bible.

World Book Day

This special day will be celebrated on Thursday 2nd March. All children can come into school in fancy dress, dressed as character from a book of their choice, and

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bring the book in also. The teachers themselves are dressing up with a common theme. I won't give it away, save to say that we won't give up until our outfits are as colourful as possible. All will become clear.

This year, we will have an activity inspired by "The Journey" by Francesca Sanna. This is a picture book which links to the work we do around Catholic Social Teaching and standing up for those who, for one reason or another, do not have a voice in our society.

Parking



Our School Council went out to examine the problems with parking for themselves and are in the process of writing a persuasive letter to the PTA to ask their help in funding bollards to prevent parents parking on the yellow zig zags outside school.



PTA

After half term, the PTA will share communication about an Easter Raffle, and will send out raffle tickets.

The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 5th April and each class will have 1 winner.

Please return ALL tickets, either the stubs for the bought tickets or the entire ticket where not purchased, by Monday 3rd April.

Any questions, please feel free to contact your year rep or a member of the PTA committee.



Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Sophie in Year Five who was ten on Monday and to Jonathan in Year Three who was eight on Tuesday. Happy birthday to Erin in Year Five who was ten on Wednesday and happy birthday to Archie in Reception who struggled in with a big plastic bag full of treats this morning and is five on Sunday. I assume the two are related.

March dates for your diary

Wed 1st March: NEU Strike Day TBC

Thurs 2nd March: World Book Day

Thurs 2nd March: Year Two at Hall Green library *cancelled*

Fri 3rd March: Children to wear own clothes and bring in coloured items for Easter Raffle

Sat 4th March: Year Three children in Parish Hall 10am – 12pm

Sun 5th March: Year Three 'Friendship' Mass

Mon 6th March: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

Wed 8th March: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

Thurs 9th March: Year Three at Hall Green library

Thurs 16th March: Year Two at Hall Green library (TBC)

Fri 17th March: Wear Green for St Patrick's Day. £1 donation to our Lenten charities.

Thurs 23rd March: Year Six at Hall Green library

Fri 24th March: Keyboard and Choir concert 2pm

Mon 27th March: KS2 Reconciliation 2pm

Wed 29th March: Year Three First Holy Communion INSPIRE workshop

Thurs 30th March: Year Five at Hall Green library

Thurs 30th March: Rec and KS1 Easter Bonnet parade 2pm

April dates for your diary

Mon 3rd April: Year Three 'Palm Sunday' assembly 9am

Tues 4th April: Year Four 'Last Supper' assembly 9am

Wed 5th April: Year Five 'Gethsemane' assembly 9am

Thurs 6th April: Year Six 'Stations of the Cross' 9am

Thurs 6th April: Break up at 2pm

Mon 24th April: School closed for INSET

Tues 25th April: School reopens for all children

May dates for your diary

Mon 1st May: May Day Bank Holiday

Thurs 4th May: School closed for local elections

Sat 6th May: First Holy Communion Masses 10am and 11:30am

Mon 8th May: School closed for King Charles III Coronation Bank Holiday

Fri 12th May: May Procession in school

Sat 13th May: PTA Quiz at Parish hall

Thurs 18th May: Whole School Ascension Mass 9:30am

Fri 19th May: Year Five Class Assembly

Mon 22nd May: Year Five/Six children departure for Paris or Boreatton Park

June dates for your diary

Sun 11th June: *Corpus Christi* Parish Procession

Fri 16th June: Reception Class Assembly

Sun 25th June: Year Three Going Forth Mass

Fri 30th June: Reception Class Mass 2:30pm

July dates for your diary

Sat 8th July: Summer Fete

Mon 10th July: Sports Day

Thurs 20th July: Year Six Leavers' Assembly 9am

Fri 21st July: Leavers' Mass 2pm in the school hall

Tues 25th July: Break up at 2:00pm

Have a wonderful half-term break and school re-opens on Monday 27th February at the usual time.

God bless,



Mr Clinton