



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

The first full week for children has been completed! We have also welcomed our new starters in Reception: half the class on Monday and Tuesday, the second half on Wednesday and Thursday and today marks the first day with all children attending together. From Monday, Reception children will enter at the same time as everyone else: please greet new parents with a smile and make them feel welcome in our special school community.

### **Golden Book**

**Year One:** Daniel Luckman has had a great start to Year One and approaches every day and every task with an enormous smile. He has shown great enthusiasm while participating in class discussions and group work sharing his ideas. Fabulous start Daniel, keep it up!

**Year Two:** Arla Jones for being an excellent help to everyone in class and a brilliant contributor in every lesson. She always comes to school with a smile on her face and has settled into Year Two extremely well!

**Year Three:** Andreas Kartsios has made an excellent start to the school year. He has settled into life in Year Three, producing fantastic work especially when producing a recount of the fable 'The Lion and the Mouse'. He has really impressed with his eagerness to achieve and has worked really hard to ensure all of his work is set out correctly. Well done, Andreas!

**Year Four:** Niall Earp for starting this year as he means to go on. He has put lots of effort into his presentation, especially for his fact file about St Ambrose Barlow and

has given thought provoking answers in class discussions and assemblies. Well done, Niall: keep this effort up!

**Year Five:** Niamh Lloyd for having an exemplary start to Year Five. She is consistently setting a good example to her peers by getting on with her work and listening and contributing at the right times throughout the lesson. She produced a fantastic piece of descriptive writing on Thursday about Beowulf's journey across the sea: "*Splash!* The violent, furious, terrifying waves smothered the beautiful, colossal boat."

**Year Six:** Mikey Timms for making a brilliant start to Year Six. He has listened attentively in lessons and has made excellent contributions to class discussions. He has displayed a fantastic attitude towards his learning, trying his best and persevering with challenges. His maths work has been particularly impressive, working with numbers to 10 million independently.

### **Year Six positions of responsibility**

I said in assembly last week that if any child needed to know how to behave in school, they would only have to look up to Year Six and follow their example. They have returned so well and have made a great start to their final year with us. The coveted positions of Head Girl and Head Girl will be announced next week, along with the Prefects, the President of the Mini-Vinnies, and the leaders of the Eco-Council. The latter two positions have their work cut out as we work towards achieving CAFOD's *Live Simply* Award and the *Schools of Sanctuary* Award.

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

### PTA

We have arranged for the SAB PTA Annual General Meeting to take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in the Parish hall. This is where we review the previous year's events, look at how much was raised and how it has been spent, and arrange events for the forthcoming year. We also elect or re-elect positions of office: a chair, secretary and treasurer, as well as co-opted positions. All are welcome.

Before the AGM, we will also run a uniform 'swap shop' where any items that have been donated can be picked up.

Finally, thank you to the PTA for their generous donation of £5000 towards to renovation of the playground. You may be able to see Phase One of the works today at pick up, with the new markings in the Reception playground.

### Parent Consultations

A reminder that Parent Consultations will take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. You will be notified once booking is open. This is a wonderful opportunity to see how well your child has settled in to their new class, discuss their progress and targets with the teacher, and view your child's work thus far.

### School Fund

Thank you to all those who have paid thus far. I will endeavour to keep you updated with how this has been spent, so you can feel you are getting real value for money. As stated before, along with our school budget from the Government and our fundraising from the PTA, every penny goes towards the little extras in school: playground equipment, extra-curricular bonuses, and treats for the children (such as ice lollies on Monday in the heat to celebrate St Ambrose Barlow's feast day).

### School Dinners

The price per day for school dinners is £2.60 (which works out at £13 a week). Next week, all children are invited to join us for our whole school brunch on Wednesday: sausages, bacon, omelette, beans, tomatoes, hash browns and toast. Beautiful! My thanks to Mrs Hardiman and her glamorous assistants in the kitchen for organising this. Please email the office if KS2 pupils are interested and pay via School Money.

### Kids Zone @ SAB

A reminder that our after-school club closes at 5:30pm and ALL children must be collected by this time (ideally before). Continued lateness will result first in a warning and then the loss of the place. To add, change, or remove days, please text the PARENT LINE on 07526 376 930.

### Open Days

A promotional poster for St Peter's Catholic School open days. The poster features the school's logo and the tagline 'Faith is our Foundation'. It prominently displays 'VISIT OUR SCHOOL' and 'meet our staff and pupils'. It lists two main events: 'Open Evening' on Thursday 21st September from 5.30pm to 8pm, and 'Open Mornings' on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th September. A small inset image shows a group of children and staff. At the bottom, it says 'We look forward to meeting you'.

St Peter's Open Evening takes place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 5:30 – 8pm.

St Paul's School for Girls hosts their Opening Evening also on Thursday 21st September, between 5 - 8pm.

Archbishop Ilsey's Opening Evening takes place on Thursday 28th September from 5.30pm-7.30pm.

These are open to all, but will be especially pertinent to parents of children in Year Five and Year Six. Applications for Secondary School places for entry in September 2024 open on 1st September 2023 and **the closing date is 31 October 2023 at 11:59pm. Please apply online at**

<https://eadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/prefs.php>

### **Covid infections**

Unfortunately, along with the usual bugs, colds, and potential flu infections, Covid cases are also on the rise. There is no need to test or report any results and the legal obligation to isolate has been lifted but the advice from the NHS is children suffering from Covid should try and stay at home for three days or until recovered.

### **School photographs**

Tempest are in school on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September for individual photographs of all children, and photographs of siblings too. If you have a pre-school child who you wish to be photographed also, please from 8:30am in the school hall.

### **Hall Green Library visits**

Hall Green library, on Stratford Road, is a wonderful resource and we are lucky to have it in such close vicinity to us. Our visits are due to start again. Please, if you have not already registered, make time to go to the library and get a card for your child. That way, each half term, they can get a book out. This supplements their reading diet, in addition to the books they explore in Literacy lessons and Guided Reading sessions and the opportunities they get to choose their own texts from the class and school libraries. Dates for visits are below – we leave school at 1:30, walk down and arrive at 2pm, and then return to school for 3pm.

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Sept:** Year Three

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Year Four

**Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Five

**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Six

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Two

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Three

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Four

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Five

**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:** Year Six

**Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Two

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

Happy birthday to Mia in Year One who was six on Monday. Happy birthday to Jimmy in Reception – one of our new starters – who was five on Wednesday. Happy birthday to Nico in Year Six who is eleven today. Remember, on their birthday or the day closest to it, children can wear their own clothes and enjoy all the attention that it brings!

### **September dates for your diary**

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Sept:** All Day Brunch

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Sept:** Individual photos (including pre-school siblings from 8:30am)

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Sept:** Year Three at Hall Green library 2pm

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Sept:** Year Three parents in parish hall at 6pm

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Sept:** St Peter's Open Evening for Year Five and Six children

**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept:** Year Three children at Parish hall 10am – 12pm

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Year Three Belonging Mass 10am

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Archbishop Ilsey Open Evening 5:30 – 7:30pm

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Year Four at Hall Green library 2pm

### **October dates for your diary**

**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Five at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Harvest Festival Mass 2pm in school hall

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Six children in Parish hall 10am – 12pm

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Six Enrolment Mass 10am

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Parent Consultations 3:40pm – 6:30

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Parent Consultations 3:40pm – 6:30

**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Six at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Two Class Mass 2:30pm

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**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Two at Hall Green library 2pm

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Oct:** SAB PTA AGM 6pm in Parish hall

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Six Assembly 9am

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Year Three at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct:** Break up for half-term

**November dates for your diary**

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Nov:** School re-opens

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Four at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Four Class Mass 2:30pm

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Five at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Nov:** RISE theatre visit for all children

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Nov:** Open Afternoon for prospective Reception parents 2pm

**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:** Open Morning for prospective Reception parents 9:30am

**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:** Year Six at Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Five Assembly 9:00am

**Sat 25<sup>th</sup>:** Year Six children at Parish hall 10am – 12pm

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Six Mass 10am

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Six at St Chad's

**Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Year Two at Hall Green library 2pm

**December dates for your diary**

**Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec:** Year Six Group One at Dementia cafe

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec:** KS2 Reconciliation Service 2pm

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Year Three First Confession 6pm

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Feast of the Immaculate Conception School Mass Yr 1-6

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Year Six Group Two at Dementia café

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Reception Nativity 2pm

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec:** KS1 Nativity for Year One parents 2pm

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Dec:** KS1 Nativity for Year Two parents 2pm

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec:** 'Starchitects' KS1 at Mac

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Choir / keyboard concert 2pm

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Dec:** KS2 Carol Service 7pm

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec:** KS2 Old Rep for 'Peter Pan'

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Dec:** Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas dinner

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec:** Whole School Mass (inc Rec) 9:30

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec:** School closes for Christmas at 2pm

Have a wonderful weekend and we will see you all on Monday morning. God bless you and keep you safe.



Mr Clinton