



St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

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Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents,

On Monday, I was blown away by the enthusiasm of singing in our hymn practice. I am writing this before we have celebrated our Harvest Mass but, if the singing is even half as good as it was earlier in the week, we are in for a treat. I think our Harvest Mass will be a wonderful way to end the week and it will again emphasise what it is that we value at St Ambrose Barlow: giving help to all our neighbours, standing up for what is right, and bringing about the change that we think is necessary in the world.

Following our Mass, after we have thanked God for all that the earth has given us, we will donate the food to two worthy organisations: the Church of the Ascension foodbank and SIFA Fireside, who work with the homeless in Birmingham.

A welcome from the Head Boy

“For those who do not know me, my name is Peter Ridgeway. I am very grateful to have been given the chance to serve the school as this year’s Head Boy. I promise to guide the children to follow the values and virtues of St. Ambrose Barlow.

Over the past six years, the teachers here have helped me to develop my skills as a communicator and I plan to use these skills to represent our community with eloquence and truthfulness. My passion for reading and love of learning will support me in making decisions that will enrich our entire community.

I am excited to work with our Head Girl, Bianca, and our team of student leaders to help the school continue to grow and develop over the coming year and allow its students to demonstrate their many God given talents. As an avid Potterhead, I shall leave you with the wise words of Albus Dumbledore: “Help will always be given (at St. Ambrose Barlow) to those who ask for it.”

A message from the Head Girl

Hi. My name is Bianca and I was chosen by the teachers for the role of Head Girl. As Head Girl, my priority will be to ensure everyone feels safe and cared for at our school. I am willing to help those who are in need or upset, no matter who, where or when. I will put my heart into everything I do. I assure you that you will be comfortable in this school. If you have any problems, please let me know so that I can help you, and we can solve the problem. Happy, joyous and calm are the three emotions that will feel at our school!

Golden Book

Reception: Ayushaa Rabiul has been concentrating really well during our Phonics lessons, working on her initial sounds and remembering our new sounds.

Year One: Mia Bhachu has worked really hard since starting in Year One. She completes every task with a positive attitude and she gives 100% effort to everything she does. Her sentences are progressing nicely with the use of capital letters and full stops and she is starting use a great range of adjectives. Keep up the brilliant work, Mia!

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

Year Two: Millie Kirk is an absolute delight to have in the class room she is extremely helpful to all her peers. She presents her work beautifully all the time and is a keen and enthusiastic girl. She follows all the school rules and demonstrates the school values and virtues this half term by being generous through helping others. We are so proud of you, Millie - well done!

Year Three: Roy Mattapudi has settled very well into class and is a delight to be around. He joins more in class activities with great enthusiasm and relates so well to others. This week, Roy particularly enjoyed poetry in his Literacy lessons. Well done, Roy!

Year Four: Maeve Henvey for her positive attitude to learning. She puts 100% commitment into all of her work and has produced a well written explanation text about 'How Nelson Mandela became a good leader.' Her enthusiasm for learning inspires other learners in the classroom. Brilliant to hear, Maeve!

Year Five: Ava-Mary Hodgkins for consistently setting a good example for those around her. She puts 100% effort into everything she does, whether that is during a lesson or helping out in the classroom. Thank you Ava-Mary for always putting a smile on the faces of the staff!

Year Six: Noah Young for his absolute dedication to being the best that he can be. Noah's behaviour in class and around school is always impeccable. He is kind, polite and thoughtful when speaking to staff and his friends. His dedication also spreads to his work - in Literacy this week, Noah has written the most incredible story which he spent lots of his own time working on - it was a real pleasure to read.

Mini Vinnies

Thank you for all your kind donations of cakes last week. The final total is not ready to share yet but will be sent to Macmillan Cancer Support early next week.

Maths INSPIRE workshops

These have been arranged for the Spring term. The format will be a lesson that takes place at 9am in the hall, to which parents are invited, to learn more about the resources we use in school and the teaching methods that the teachers employ.

Please see the dates below for advanced notice of when the workshops are taking place:

Tues 16 th Jan:	Year Six
Thurs 18 th Jan:	Year Five
Tues 23 rd Jan:	Year Four
Thurs 25 th Jan:	Year Three
Tues 30 th Jan:	Year One
Thurs 1 st Feb:	Year Two
Tues 6 th Feb:	Reception

Reception Phonics meeting

This will take place on Wed 25th October at 5:30pm and will focus on how we teach children to segment words and identify sounds within the words.

We follow the Little Wandle scheme here at school and you might find the following website helpful:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsound.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Uniform Swap Shop

Our uniform swap shop will run in the library during Parent Consultations – no charge, just take what you need. If you have any goods to donate, please send them via the school office from next week!

Year Six Sacramental Preparation

Thank you too parents who attended on Wednesday for our Vocations workshop and saints quiz. Your involvement (and, dare I say, enthusiasm) made for an enjoyable session. The children who are preparing for their Confirmation will attend a workshop in the parish hall on Saturday 7th October and we will all celebrate Mass together on Sunday 8th

October. Please make every effort to attend. Thursday 11th January at 6pm is the next parent meeting and this will take place in the parish hall.

Year Six Secondary Admissions

Please ensure this is completed online by 31st October. I would urge you to make full use of all six preferences:

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

Reminders from previous newsletter

- Parent Consultations will take place on Monday 9th October and Wednesday 11th October.
- Please come along to our PTA AGM on Thursday 19th October at 6pm in the Parish hall.
- KS1 and KS2 Christmas trips are now available to pay via School Money.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Helena in Year Three who was eight on Monday. Happy birthday to Kieron in Year Three who was eight, to Bella in Year Two who was seven, and to Ayushaa in Reception who was five yesterday. Happy birthday, also, to Cian in Year Five who is ten today!

October dates for your diary

Sat 7th Oct: Year Six children in Parish hall 10am – 12pm

Sun 8th Oct: Year Six Enrolment Mass 10am

Mon 9th Oct: Parent Consultations 3:40pm – 6:30

Wed 11th Oct: Parent Consultations 3:40pm – 6:30

Thurs 12th Oct: Year Six at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 13th Oct: Year Two Class Mass 2:30pm

Thurs 19th Oct: Year Two at Hall Green library 2pm

Thurs 19th Oct: SAB PTA AGM 6pm in Parish hall

Fri 20th Oct: Year Six Assembly 9am

Wed 25th October: Reception Phonics meeting 5:30pm

Thurs 26th Oct: Year Three at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 27th Oct: Break up for half-term at 3:30

November dates for your diary

Mon 6th Nov: School re-opens

Thurs 9th Nov: Year Four at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 10th Nov: Year Four Class Mass 2:30pm

Thurs 16th Nov: Year Five at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 17th Nov: RISE theatre visit for all children

Tues 21st Nov: Open Afternoon for prospective Reception parents 2pm

Thurs 23rd Nov: Open Morning for prospective Reception parents 9:30am

Thurs 23rd Nov: Year Six at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 24th Nov: Year Five Assembly 9:00am

Sat 25th: Year Six children at Parish hall 10am – 12pm

Sun 26th Nov: Year Six Mass 10am

Tues 28th Nov: Year Six at St Chad's

Thurs 30th Nov: Year Two at Hall Green library 2pm

December dates for your diary

Fri 1st Dec: Year Six (Group One) at Dementia cafe

Mon 4th Dec: KS2 Reconciliation Service 2pm

Thurs 7th Dec: Year Three First Confession 6pm at Church

Fri 8th Dec: Feast of the Immaculate Conception School Mass Year 1-6

Fri 8th Dec: Year Six (Group Two) at Dementia café

Fri 8th Dec: Reception Nativity 2pm

Mon 11th Dec: KS1 Nativity for Year One parents 2pm

Tues 12th Dec: KS1 Nativity for Year Two parents 2pm

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Fri 15th Dec: 'Starchitects' KS1 at Mac
Fri 15th Dec: Choir / keyboard concert 2pm
Thurs 19th Dec: KS2 Carol Service 7pm
Wed 20th Dec: KS2 Old Rep for 'Peter Pan'
Thurs 21st Dec: Christmas Jumper Day /
Christmas dinner
Fri 22nd Dec: Whole School Mass (including
Reception) 9:30
Fri 22nd Dec: School closes for Christmas at
2pm

Have a wonderful weekend and see you at
Mass on Sunday, which is being led by Year
Six.



Mr Clinton