



St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

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Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you found this week's Parent Consultation meetings a useful and happy occasion. Certainly, the parents I spoke to were so complimentary about the children's work, their focus, and the behaviour of children in school in general. Added to this, *every* parent I spoke to was hugely supportive of school's approach. As ever, my door is open if you wish to raise any concerns or, conversely, if you ever wish to celebrate anything.

Whenever I show any guests or prospective parents around, I always start by saying how our assemblies bookend our week: a Gospel assembly to start our week every Monday morning and our Gifts from God assembly to end it. Celebrating the children's hard work and effort is what we are all about at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School!

Golden Book

Reception: Harry Watters for developing such a positive attitude towards his learning since starting Reception. Harry has tried tremendously hard with writing his name and developing his pencil control. He is so kind to his peers and is very helpful around the classroom! Keep up the hard work, Harry!

Year One: After joining us a few weeks ago, Anora Mandapati has settled in well to the routines of the day and works hard in every lesson. In Literacy this week, she has ensured all of her sentences have capital letters and full stops, creating some brilliant facts for her non-chronological report. She is a brilliant role model and she

is always kind and respectful. Great start to the year Anora - keep it up!

Year Two: Tobias Ahmed is an absolute delight to teach: he listens carefully in every lesson and is always looking for the next challenge. He has such a positive attitude to learning and his hand is always in the air willing to contribute. He is a brilliant role model for all the children in the class and is always doing the right thing. Well done, Tobias.

Year Three: Sonny Chow for his determination to improve his reading skills and his positive attitude in all lessons. He is always keen to contribute ideas in class and is always enthusiastic about learning new things. Every morning, he greets all staff with a 'good morning' and a smile. Thank you, Sonny!

Year Four: Hope Coughlan for her determination and resilience in Maths over the last few weeks, she has used her place value knowledge to help her solve addition problems independently. Keep up this hard work!

Year Five: Annie Sylvester for being such a wonderful member of the class. Her behaviour is exemplary and she is an excellent role model for those around her. In lessons she listens carefully and contributes appropriately. She puts maximum effort into her school work which has been very impressive so far. She has also taken on her role as a play leader very seriously and is doing a fantastic job!

Year Six: Erin Quinn for being incredible kind and caring. She always thinks about the needs of others and puts them before herself. Erin is a kind friend to everyone and is always eager to support other children in our class, and younger children in school. She always has a smile on her

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

face, a positive outlook and has something nice to say to everyone she meets.

Year Two Class Mass

My thanks to Father John Collins who celebrated Year Two's class Mass with them this afternoon. The theme was creation, to tie in with the Church's focus on this season and the readings and prayer reflected the focus we have on everything that God has made for us to look after, protect and promote. The singing was fantastic!

Mini Vinnies

The total from our Macmillan Cake Sale is in! Rory and Erin, Macy and Amelia, Nico and Freya have been slaving away in my office bagging up all your kind donations and we are delighted to announce that we are writing a cheque for £417-17!

Thank you also to Year Six who, under the watchful gaze of Mrs Deneny, have bagged up and dated all of our Harvest offerings, which are now on their way to SIFA Fireside and to the Church of the Ascension foodbank.

A new feature, by special request...

I received a beautifully presented letter from Maeve Henvey in Year Four this week, who suggested a new feature for the newsletter, whereby children might ask questions about the school or what lies beyond (in secondary school, for instance, or best ways to undertake homework at weekends,) and Year Six might answer. I can't promise this will feature every week but I will endeavour to launch this in the coming features and questions and answers will feature hopefully on a regular basis.

National Poetry Day: 'Refuge'

On Wednesday, we celebrated National Poetry Day as a school. The theme was refuge and spanned ideas from where we might find a safe place to what we could find solace in. It was a brilliant day and we will share some of our poems again next Wednesday, during our special School of Sanctuary assembly. My thanks to Mrs Healy for organising and to the children for all their brilliant work. See our Twitter feed for details!

A message from Mrs Currington, chair of the PTA

The children have been hard at work this week creating a beautiful school tea-towel with all their self-portraits on.

These are available to order with delivery in time for Christmas (they make fabulous family presents). They are priced at £5.50 each or two for £10 and you can order as many as you like.

Order forms will be out in book bags/backpacks next week, and all orders must be returned to the school office by the last day of half term (Friday 27th October) along with payment in cash. We won't be doing these every year, so this really is a chance to have something you can keep for years to come. My mum still has mine from 30+ years ago!

Little Batters @ Tudor Grange Academy, Solihull.

Children in Reception, Year One and Year Two will have received a flyer from Solihull



Cricket Academy in their book bags this week. This club has no affiliation with school but we are signposting it for all parents who may be interested. The training camp is open to both boys and

girls, and I think this is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in an exciting sport that caters for both sexes.

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 newsletters

- 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.
- Reception Phonics meeting on Wed 25th October at 5:30pm
- Maths INSPIRE workshops have been arranged for following dates. All will take place at 9am in the hall:

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

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Elora in Year Four who was nine on Tuesday and happy birthday to Bertie in Year One who will be six on Sunday!



October dates for your diary

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

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

Parents, as ever, thank you for your support for the teachers as they go above and beyond in what they do for the children. Your feedback through the week has been hugely appreciated and makes all our hard work worthwhile.

Have a wonderful weekend. I shall see you on Monday morning for the final two weeks of the half-term.

Father Paul is having a well-earned break as he continues his recuperation so weekend Masses will be celebrated by Father Gerry.

God bless,



Mr Clinton