



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents,

This morning, our Year Four children led a wonderful assembly about vocation and how we are called, in a variety of different ways, to serve God. It was wonderful - thank you. I taught Year Four Science myself on Monday afternoon where we melted chocolate and I promised them a treat after they had completed their investigation. I suppose now they have earned it!

This afternoon, we have welcomed Bishop David into school for our Confirmation sponsor workshop, where Year Six (and their sponsors) showed off all their wonderful knowledge about the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit. They also shared information about their chosen saints in a 'speed sainting' session, and took part in a wonderful art activity about the Holy Spirit being present in our lives. Thank you to all who attended.

Please pray for our children as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation tonight. All are welcome to come and celebrate with us. Bishop David will be celebrating Mass with Father Paul at 7pm in the church.

I always mention the wonderful singing and I wish to thank Mrs Vinti especially for practising with Year Six. It seems fitting to leave you with the lyrics on *Veni Sancte, Sancte Spiritus* which will be sung by Year Six as they lead a candle lit procession into church.

*Veni Sancte, Sancte Spiritus,
Veni Sancte, Sancte Spiritus,
Come, Come Holy Spirit*

*Give me the gift of wisdom,
To value all things from God; and
Give me the knowledge,
To enlighten my mind with your grace.*

*Fill me with your understanding
To grasp all the mysteries of Faith,
May I have counsel, to
Help all the choices I make.*

*Send me the gift of piety,
So, Lord I will love and I'll serve;
I respect, Lord, your majesty
Through the fear of the Lord.*

*Fortitude, God you will send me,
To strengthen my power of will;
Send me your Spirit,
Lord, renew.*

*Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Spirit come.*

Golden Book

Reception: Zinedine Khan for being so amazing in class this week! Zinedine has been trying very hard in phonics to have a go at identifying and blending sounds and gaining confidence to put his hand up on the carpet. He has really amazed both Mrs Thompson and Miss Hodgkins with his effort! Keep up the hard work, Zinedine!

Year One: Chris Jobin for showcasing his confidence and ability in his Maths work this week. He is sharing his ideas and reasoning with the class with eloquence and ease. Chris is beginning to expand his sentences using conjunctions and he is

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

working hard to use adjectives to give extra details about characters. Well done, Chris!

Year Two: Logan Harris has made the most amazing start since coming back. He is showing excellent perseverance and is becoming increasingly confident within himself. He applies himself brilliantly in everything that he does and is showing a really positive attitude towards his learning. Everyone has been so impressed with the work Logan has been producing recently and Miss Hookes is so proud! Well done, Logan!

Year Three: Conall Corrigan for working hard all week, especially in Maths. Conall always contributes in class discussions and is always willing to help others. Conall has also really been working hard this term to improve his handwriting and it really shows! Keep up the hard work, Conall!

Year Four: Ava Ling-Lee for her dedication during our assembly practice, she has spoken clearly and eloquently during our rehearsals, learning her lines and actions promptly. She has shown determination in order to improve her presentation and the content of her work. Well done Ava, keep this improvement up!

Year Five: Bronagh Brady for being so enthusiastic in every lesson. Bronagh consistently has her hand up in all subjects ready to contribute her thoughts and ideas. She has particularly impressed us this week in Maths. She has been reading and interpreting a variety of different graphs and explaining her reasoning eloquently in front of the class. Well done, Bronagh.

Year Six: Liam Lynch for giving one hundred percent to everything he does in school. Liam has such a positive attitude to his learning and contributes a huge amount to all activities, from modelling how to add and subtract fractions in front of all of the parents at our Inspire Workshop, to his beautiful singing and reading in Mass on Sunday. Every class needs a Liam!

Wednesday Word

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH **Sunday 21st January 2024**



After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come," he said, "and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News." As he

was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

This Gospel mirrors perfectly with Year Four's assembly, illustrating how Jesus calls us to do His work and live in a close community with one another.

An exciting new project for our children

On Friday 9th February, some children from our Eco-Council will help to plant trees at the Columban Fathers' site in Widney Manor. We will then join a collaborative project between the Higaonon indigenous people on the island of Mindanao, Southern Philippines and the Columban Missionaries. Our children here in school are becoming more aware and involved with climate change. This project will support and provide further evidence of the work and contribution our children can make towards responding to the calls to action Pope Francis has given in *Laudato Si'*, *Fratelli Tutti* and the recent papal exhortation *Laudate Deum*.

A message from the PTA

Thank you for all your generous donations of unwanted Christmas gifts. They will form part of tombola stall later in the year at the Summer Fete.

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In related matters, the PTA have arranged two more discos to take place this half term: one will happen on Tuesday 6th Feb for KS1, and then KS2 will dance the evening away on Thursday 8th Feb. More details to follow...

INSPIRE Workshops

These have been a great success thus far. I love to welcome parents into school to see the good work produced by the children. So Far, Miss Newman has worked with Year Six on SATs preparation, and Miss Ball has worked with Year Five on line graphs. These continue next week with Year Four on Tuesday and Year Three on Thursday.

World Book Day

Advanced noticed that this will be celebrated in school on Thursday 7th March. Get thinking about those costumes. Mrs Healy will announce more details in due course. We will also be taking part in Shakespeare Week from 18th until 24th March, where every class will study a different play!

Library visits

Keeping with the literary theme, our library visits are resuming from next week. Please see below for details and dates:

Thurs 25th Jan: Year Six

Thurs 1st Feb: Year Five

Thurs 8th Feb: Year Four

Thurs 22nd Feb: Year Three

Thurs 29th Feb: Year Two

Thurs 7th March: Year Six

Thurs 14th March: Year Five

Thurs 21st March: Year Four

Thurs 18th April: Year Three

Thurs 25th April: Year Two

If you wish to walk with your child's class, just let the class teacher know.

Kids Zone

Mrs Corrigan and Mrs Roberts have worked tirelessly this week, sorting amounts owed for our Morning and After-school club. Payments can be made via Parent Pay and the account should show any outstanding amounts. Payments can be made via Parent Pay. If you are paying using vouchers, just let school know this amount can be deducted manually.

For reference, the account where payments are made to is NatWest

Sort code: 601914

Acct number: 02325926

St Ambrose Barlow School Fund Account
B28 9JJ.

Mrs Roberts is now a permanent member of our staff, and Mrs Yousuf, Mrs Fayaz and Mrs Mariampillai are the school staff who support her in club.

Measles

As I said last week measles is spreading rapidly through our communities in Birmingham. Measles is a highly infectious illness that can result in serious complications and death in unvaccinated people. Measles is a preventable disease, and having two doses of the MMR vaccination (measles, mumps and rubella) gives 99% life-long protection. The MMR vaccine is safe and available as a halal, gelatine-free injection from your GP.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Nicolas in Year Five who was ten on Wednesday; happy birthday to Amelie in Year Three who is eight tomorrow and happy birthday to Sonny in Year Five who is ten on Sunday.



January dates for your diary

Tues 23rd Jan: Year Four Maths INSPIRE workshop 9am

Wed 24th Jan: School choir at Young Voices

Thurs 25th Jan: Year Four @ Tamworth Castle

Thurs 25th Jan: Year Three Maths INSPIRE workshop 9am

Thurs 25th Jan: Year Six @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 26th Jan: Year Five Class Mass 2:30pm

February dates for your diary

Thurs 1st Feb: Year Two Maths INSPIRE workshop 9am

Thurs 1st Feb: Year Five @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Tues 6th Feb: Reception Maths INSPIRE workshop 9am

Tues 6th Feb: PTA KS1 Disco

Thurs 8th Feb: Year Four @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Thurs 8th Feb: PTA KS2 Disco

Fri 9th Feb: Year Three Class assembly 9am

Fri 9th Feb: Break up for half-term at 3:30pm

Thurs 22nd Feb: Year Three @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 23rd Feb: Year Six Class Mass 2:30pm

Tues 27th Feb: Year One @ 'Back to Back Houses'

Thurs 29th Feb: Year Five @ Black Country Museum

Thurs 29th Feb: Year Two @ Hall Green Library 2pm

March dates for your diary

Sat 2nd March: Year Three at Parish hall 10am-12pm

Sun 3rd March: Year Three to lead Sunday Mass 10am

Wed 6th March: Year Two trip @ Blakesley Hall

Thurs 7th March: World Book Day

Thurs 7th March: Year Six @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Thurs 14th March: Year Five @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Mon 18th March: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

Wed 20th March: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

Thurs 21st March: Year Four @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 22nd March: Year Two Class Assembly

Sun 24th March: Year Three to lead Palm Sunday Procession

Mon 25th March: Year Three Holy Week Assembly (Palm Sunday)

Tues 26th March: Year Four Holy Week Assembly (The Last Supper)

Wed 27th March: Year Five Holy Week assembly (Gethsemane)

Thurs 28th March: Year Six Holy Week Assembly (Stations of the Cross)

Thurs 28th March: Break up at 2pm (No After School Club)

Another wonderful week in school. Time is flying by – it's a short half-term and we are two weeks in and only have three weeks remaining! Before you know it, now Christmas is done, it will be Lent. Speaking of which, I am meeting the President of our school Mini-Vinnies on Tuesday next week to discuss fun opportunities of how to support our Lenten charities.

Finally, I shall end the same way that I started. Please pray for Year Six tonight as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at 7pm. Come, Holy Spirit.



Mr Clinton



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about Jesus starting to gather together the first Christian community.

Christian communities (just like families) are never perfect – even Jesus' closest disciples weren't always the ideal set of people. However, everyone works better with others in community.

Our schools and parish communities were founded to be places of love, friendship, security and inclusiveness.

Wednesday 17th January 2024

People in the past answered Jesus' call to form our Catholic school communities which now welcome and support us and our children. Now it's our turn to continue the work, to build on and develop the warm and loving community of our school – together.

Enjoy a very special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **COMMUNITY**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from
Pope Francis

"Dear brothers and sisters, be an active presence in the community."

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Adapted from Mark 1:14-20
The 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in church: all are very warmly invited.

Good News
for Everyone

When we read the Gospels, we see that Jesus forms a community which receives his word, follows it, shares in his journey and becomes his family. Jesus came for everyone and with him we, and our children, will never be on our own.

To find out more about the Catholic Faith, see: wednesdayword.org and cbcew.org.uk



Good News for Families



Listening & Learning Together

Jesus said, "Where two or three gather in my name, I shall be there with them."



1

One day, as Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Simon and his brother Andrew. They were fishing and Jesus called to them, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men: from now on you will be gathering people instead of fish." At once they left their nets and followed him. Further along the shore Jesus saw two more fishermen, James and his brother John; they were with their father and were mending their fishing nets. "Follow me," called Jesus. At once they left their father and followed him.

What did Jesus say the fishermen would be gathering from now on? Which word stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about?

2

Wednesday's Word is ...

COMMUNITY



3

Loving & Growing

"Whatever gifts and talents we are given by God are to be shared with the entire community." *St Baldwin of Canterbury*

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus starts to form a community. Ask your child what the word 'community' means to them. Which communities do they belong to (e.g. family, cubs, brownies, football, etc.)? Another word we could use for our school is 'community'. What does your child enjoy most about their school community? Can they remember who made them feel really welcome when they started school?

"The family is a community of love where each of us learns to relate to others and to the world around us." *Pope Francis*

Each of you name at least one thing that other family members are good at, which could help strengthen the family community. Without our own unique contribution to our community, something valuable will be missing. How can we also use our gifts for the good of the different communities we belong to? Perhaps we can: join a school team; welcome new people into our community; volunteer to use a gift or skill to help out with a project; join with others to support an online fundraising event.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for our school and parish **communities**. Please help me say "Yes" to you, and enrich the **communities** to which I belong. Amen.



G A R E E L I L A G L N
E W N T L E A G N A E G
J J E S U S S I L T W T
D E T L U W R P S H F L
E R S S P E O P L E L F
W M E D H R G E L R F O
O J S T L W I T D I T L
L G A L I L E E T N L L
L G R G E R L F W G E O
O T N E M R E H S I F W
F I S H E R M E N D T E
N E L P O E P L P O S D

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**



GALILEE FISHERMEN



LEFT NETS



FOLLOWED JESUS



GATHERING PEOPLE



SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

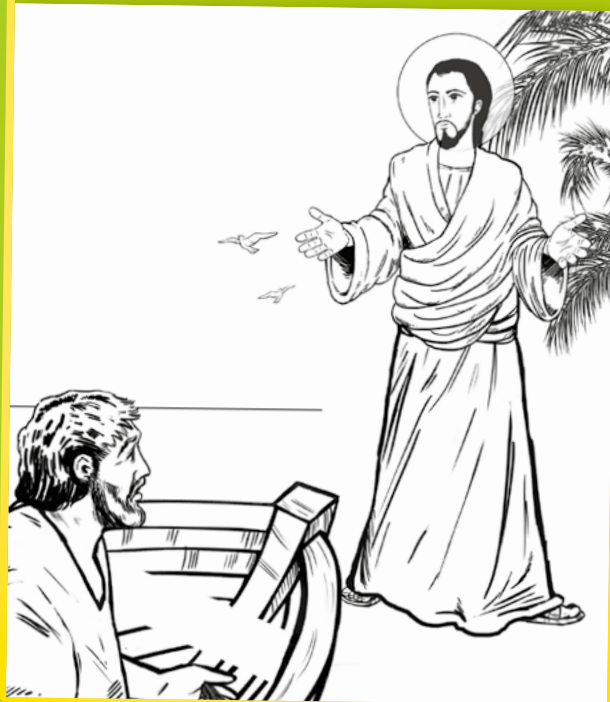
Cross out the letters **b l p** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

malbkep flipsherbs Cobmelp Jebslusp

_____ called to them, "_____, follow me
and I will _____ you _____ of men."

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus calling the fishermen to follow him. Today, Jesus calls people, like you and me, to help him - to build his community - a community built on love.

Find and draw 5 differences, then colour the picture



This week I will try my best to...

.....

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Share the Good News

Print and complete the leaflet with your child & SHARE A DIGITAL COPY with your friends

A Free Weekly Gift for Everyone

