



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mr J Clinton

0121 464 2791

www.sab.bham.sch.uk

enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

@SAB_B28

St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School, 841 Shirley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 9JJ

Friday 26th January 2024

Dear Parents,

A busy week – mainly due to our amazing performance at Young Voices on Wednesday. See later in the newsletter for a full write up: it really was an amazing experience and one that I would ideally like more children to take part in next year. Watch this space!

We have ended our week with Father Paul celebrating Years Five's class Mass; class Masses are always lovely experiences for all involved - a slightly different atmosphere to a parish or whole school Mass and a really intimate celebration of our faith and our school.

Finally, we had a Safeguarding committee meeting yesterday with a focus on attendance and punctuality. While our figures for attendance are positive, a reminder that no holidays in term-time will be authorised. Miss Traynor, during her Year Three INSPIRE, made it explicit to parents how much work is undertaken between 8:45 and 9:05! If your child is not present for the start of the day, they miss so much! Please make every effort to get to school on time.

Golden Book

Reception: Lorenzo Treshani for being so fabulous in everything that he does! Lorenzo has worked so hard this week to apply his phonic knowledge and write his letters. He is always very polite to all members of staff and likes to go out of his way to make everyone happy! Well done, Lorenzo!

Year One: Nancy Herron for consistently working hard in all of her lessons and for showing a great enthusiasm when attempting any task she is given. She is working really hard on her handwriting and she is getting ready to join soon- which is fabulous! Nancy is a kind friend to everyone and brilliant role model. This week Nancy showcased her weaving skills in Art and she has created a fantastic place mat. Super work, Nancy!

Year Two: Gracie Goddard is such a superstar! She is an extremely polite, kind girl who is very helpful to everyone. She contributes amazingly to every lesson and works to the best of her ability every time. Her handwriting is beautiful and Gracie always takes her time when thinking about what to write next. She is always doing the right thing and is an excellent role model to all her peers. Well done, Gracie!

Year Three: Lola Hardiman for consistently working hard in each subject and challenging herself to always improve her work. Lola is a very kind and helpful member of Year Three and is always willing to help others both inside the classroom and outside on the playground. Well done, Lola!

Year Four: Annabelle Spencer for her exemplary behaviour during our trip to Tamworth castle, she was eager to learn about the castle and the Saxons and was keen to be involved during the workshops. She has shown this dedication to her learning in the classroom as well this week; well done, Annabelle!

Year Five: Violetta Johnson-Szemla for really impressing her teachers this week with her writing. We have been focusing on Science-Fiction texts and Violetta has put all of her skills into practice and

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

completed some incredible pieces of writing. All pieces have included a variety of sentence types and adventurous vocabulary. They have been a real pleasure to read. Well done!

Year Six: Sophie Fernando for putting one hundred percent into everything that she does. Her work is always beautifully presented and completed to the highest possible standard. The poem that she wrote this week was absolutely wonderful! She always contributes actively to class discussions and is always keen to share her knowledge with others.

Wednesday Word

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH

Sunday 28th January 2024



Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. Jesus' teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. While he was teaching, Jesus was interrupted by a very sick man who started to shout wildly and whose body was trembling and shaking. So Jesus paused and healed the sick man in full view of the people. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. "Here is a teaching that is new," they said, "and with authority behind it." And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Year Five will be able to tell you all about this Gospel: they have focused in class on the miracles of Jesus and what they tell us – namely, that Jesus has divine power over all earthly things, which is what allows him to teach with such authority.

Currently reading

Every time I eat my lunch with the children, they read the badge on my lanyard which says "Ask me what I'm currently reading" and I can finally give a different answer. I have finally finished *'Bournville'* by

Jonathan Coe (brilliant, by the way) and have started Sally Rooney's *'Beautiful World, Where are You?'* I have updated the poster in the entrance foyer accordingly. As you enter any classroom, the class have decorated the door with what they are reading – either in Literacy lessons, or for whole class reading, or reading for pleasure. At any one time, it is possible that a class might have three different books on the go!

Year Six are reading *'I Am Malala'* for both their Literacy focus and whole class reading sessions and Year Three are focusing entirely on Ted Hughes' *'The Iron Man'* – one of my favourites!

Year One's Literacy unit is called 'Stories on a theme' and for that, they are reading *'The Tale of Peter Rabbit'* by Beatrix Potter as well as *'The Enormous Turnip'* by Irene Yates. For pleasure, they are reading, *'Marge in Charge'* by Isla Fisher - she of 'Home and Away' fame. Year Four have just had a week reading *'Macavity: the Mystery Cat'* by TS Elliot and are moving onto *'The Fib'* by George Layton. For pleasure, they are reading *'How to Train a Dragon'* by Cressida Cowell and Miss Reynolds is reading *'Weirdo'* by Sara Pascoe.

In Reception, they are reading books about dinosaurs for the rest of the term. This week, they are focusing on the book *'Harry And His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs'*. They are also loving bringing their own books in!

Year Two's Literacy genre is 'Stories by the same author' and are reading by books by Simon Bartram: *'Dougal's Deep-Sea Diary'*, *'Bob and the Moon Tree Mystery'* and *'Man on The Moon'*. Their class reader is *'ESP'* by Dick King-Smith and Miss Hookes is reading *'The Housemaid's Secret'* by Freida McFadden. Year Five are reading *'This is Not Earth'* by Tony Bradbury for their Sci-Fi

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

unit, and 'Slick' by M.M. Vaughn for their class reader.

BCFC vs Sunderland

My beloved Birmingham City have kindly gifted us some free tickets – quite a substantial amount - for their match against Sunderland. The game will take place on Saturday 17th February (during half-term) and kick off is at 3pm.

Should any child, parent or staff member wish to avail themselves, just let the office know how many tickets you require. Parents will need to take total responsibility for their children as any staff attending the game will be doing so in their own time and will not be responsible for the children! This is a great opportunity and it would be super to have as many as our children and parents there as would like!

Young Voices

This was brilliant! Congratulations to all our young performers who joined with six thousand or so other children from schools as far afield as Lincolnshire and Wales to sing, dance, clap and perform at Resorts World on Wednesday evening. Thanks to all the parents who attended and supported us. We hope you enjoyed it.

My thanks also to Mrs Bresnen for accompanying the children and Madam Grange for her superb coaching and teaching of the choir, and for driving the initiative in school. Also, thank you to Mrs Stephenson (a parent of former pupils and teacher at Holy Souls) and the other staff from Holy Souls who shared our coach and whose children spend the afternoon and evening with us. Roll on next year!

Lenten FUNdraising

Following Ash Wednesday on 14th February, we are gearing up for our Lenten charity work in the second half of Spring

term. The focus is very much on FUN rather than funds. Plans are not finalised – this has been left entirely to the Mini-Vinnies – but will involve children to wear green on Friday 15th March to celebrate St Patrick's Day, the Easter Bonnet Parade and joining the CAFOD initiative to walk 200km in 40 days.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Isla in Reception who was five on Tuesday and happy birthday to Harrison in Year Five who is ten on Sunday.



January dates for your diary

Tues 30th Jan: Year One Maths INSPIRE workshop 9am

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

Mon 19th Feb: Return to school

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 busy and rewarding week done.
Have a good weekend, all. God bless.



Mr Clinton



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's important to have good teachers. Parents are the first and foremost educators of their own children - other family members and friends can also teach about what really matters in life. But who can really teach us about the best way to live?

Jesus stood out as a teacher because he taught with authority and power. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates this through the amazing healing of the man in the synagogue.

Wednesday 24th January 2024

Jesus' teachings expose the things that weaken us - setting free all those who listen to him. The whole of Jesus' life was a continual teaching. His teaching is calm and wise, powerful but gentle, and enriches family life.

Just follow the simple steps overleaf to enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **TEACHER**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from
Pope Francis

"Jesus is a teacher of truth and life who shows us the way that leads to happiness."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 28th January 2024



Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. Jesus' teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. While he was teaching, Jesus was interrupted by a very sick man who started to shout wildly and whose body was trembling and shaking. So Jesus paused and healed the sick man in full view of the people. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. "Here is a teaching that is new," they said, "and with authority behind it." And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Adapted from Mark 1:21-28
The 4th 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 have Jesus as our teacher, we are being taught by God. Jesus teaches us how important it is to follow God's laws - to live a good life that is pleasing to God. Our Catholic schools and parishes try very hard to do the same.

Connecting Home, School & Parish through Sunday's Gospel wednesdayword.org



Good News for Families



Listening & Learning Together

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



1

Jesus and his followers went to a town called Capernaum. When the Sabbath day came, Jesus went into the synagogue, and began to teach. Everyone was astonished because Jesus, unlike their other teachers, taught with real authority. While Jesus was teaching, he was interrupted by a very sick man who started to shout wildly and was trembling and shaking. So Jesus paused and healed the sick man in full view of the people. They were amazed and said to each other, "Here is a teaching that is new and with authority behind it." The news about Jesus quickly spread through the surrounding countryside.

Why was Jesus unlike other teachers in the meeting place? Which word stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about?

2

Wednesday's Word is ...

TEACHER



3

Loving & Growing

"The family's strength lies in its capacity to love and to teach how to love." Pope Francis

Jesus' personal example, the witness of his life, gave power and authority to his teaching. Jesus practised what he taught and we should try to do the same. Ask your child what the word 'teacher' means to them. Ask them which people teach them about God - at home, at school or in the community. What have they recently been taught about God? Who is their favourite teacher, and why? Perhaps you can tell your child about a person you know who is, or was, a good teacher, and say why.

"Let us thank all those who teach in Catholic schools. Educating is an act of love; it is like giving life." Pope Francis

Each of you choose someone who teaches you good and right things, and say a prayer for them. How can we show our appreciation to all those who teach us at home, school or in the community? Perhaps we can: be a good learner by really listening to what they have to say; do the good and right things they have taught us; let them know that we have said a prayer for them; make them a 'thank-you' card or simply thank them for being a good teacher.



Dear Lord Jesus, please bless all the people in my life who **teach** me. Thank you for being my friend and **teacher**. Please help me to learn and grow in your love. Amen.



N N A E U G O G A N Y S
N E U W B H I T Y H U B
E W T S A B B A T H G B
L J H G W Z W A I B N A
P E O P L E B S R L I U
O S R H N B W D O H H E
E U I G A Z E L H P C S
P S T S E Z A H T L A J
S S Y N A G O G U E E E
E Z A M A Z E D A S T P
T E A C H I N G U A E D
H S L T H U A S E N S R

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

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

- ☒ **SYNAGOGUE** ☒
- ☐ **SABBATH** ☐
- ☐ **PEOPLE** ☐
- ☐ **AMAZED** ☐
- ☐ **NEW** ☐
- ☐ **TEACHING** ☐
- ☐ **JESUS** ☐
- ☐ **AUTHORITY** ☐

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

Cross out the letters **r f o** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

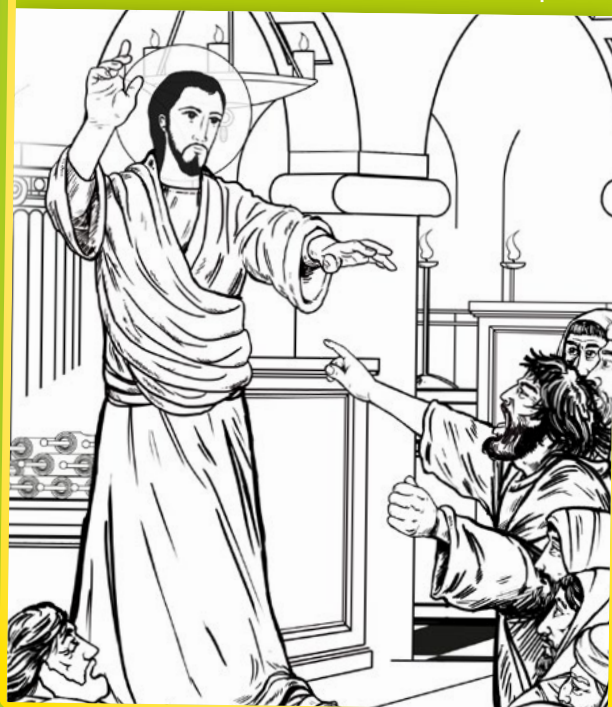
mefetoring terachof fodary Jersoufs

When the sabbath _____ came, _____ went into the Jewish _____ place and began to _____.

The 28th January is the Feast Day of St Thomas Aquinas - the Patron Saint of Catholic Schools.

Catholic schools exist to teach Jesus' message of God's love for everyone and St Thomas spent his adult life sharing this message too.

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



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

A Free Weekly Gift for Everyone

