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

Friday 9th February 2024

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of another busy half term and now the children (and staff) can enjoy a well-deserved break! We have ended our week with a beautiful Mass celebrated by Father Paul, around the theme of vocation – the call to a particular way of life. Shannon Rice, who works each Friday with us, was present (as were some of her family) and we gave her a wonderful send off before her marriage that will take place next Thursday.

Ash Wednesday takes place during halfterm so when we return, it will be Lent. Our prayer tables and displays will be purple, to match the liturgical season and our daily Lenten reflections will begin.



Later in this newsletter is a message from the Mini-Vinnies, regarding fundraising and charity work. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Golden Book

Reception: Delilah Smith for always being so determined around the classroom. Delilah always listens so attentively in lessons and shows such an eager attitude towards completing her work. She was very excited in our Maths Workshop to show her adult what we have been

learning about too! Keep up the hard work, Delilah!

Year One: Ilana Yassar for consistently working hard in everything she does. She is a great role model to others and always uses her manners. Ilana is working hard to use capital letters and full stops consistently in her sentences. She even took her Supertato on some great adventures on the weekend and wrote a set of fabulous instructions for anyone else who wants to make a Supertato. Brilliant work, Ilana!

Year Two: Maithri Lakshmanan is the newest member of Year Two and she has settled in amazingly. She listens carefully to every instruction given: her confidence is increasingly daily and it is showing through her contribution in lessons. Maithri really takes her time in everything she does too. A delight to have in the classroom. Well done, Maithri!

Year Three: Oliver Ellard for learning all his lines and singing with such enthusiasm while practicing for his upcoming assembly. Oliver has been very focused on his work all week and has especially enjoyed his maths lessons where he has enjoyed learning to read different units of measurements. A great week, Oliver!

Year Four: Emily O'Keeffe for her amazing writing and exemplary behaviour this week. She has really focused during lessons to produce work that she is really proud of. Her presentation has been beautiful and the answers she gave during RE were really thoughtful. Keep up this wonderful work!

Year Five: Oliver Healy has impressed his teachers greatly over this half term with his enthusiasm and contributions to ALL lessons. Oliver is always trying to better

himself and improve his work, constantly thinking about how he can up-level his vocabulary and use all the punctuation he has learnt so far this year. Keep up the incredible work, Oliver.

Year Six: Noel Brose for his amazing writing. Noel produced the most beautiful, thoughtful psalm in RE and wrote a fantastic, informative biography in Literacy. He always ensures that he includes the key features of a text type and edits his work carefully to ensure it is the best that it can be. He is making super progress because of his hard work. Well done, Noel!

Wednesday Word

A bumper version is being email out this week – one that contains the Gospels for the next three weeks, to accommodate for half term. In school, this week we have focused on the Gospel for this coming Sunday 11th February (6th in Ordinary Time). On our return, we will focus on the Gospel for 18th Feb (1st of Lent) in Monday's Gospel assembly, and then Gospel for Sunday 25th February (2nd of Lent) in class.

PTA Disco

This was, as ever, a great success. The children love it and the event always runs smoothly, if you can overlook the mild congestion at dismissal. Thanks for all your support. Thank you especially to the parent helpers who give their time so willingly to a) support the school and the children and b) raise much needed funds.

Date for your diary: Saturday 29th June 2024 has been provisionally set for our Summer Fete! Keep it free!

World Book Day

A reminder that this will take place on Thursday 7th March and children can be in fancy dress as any book character or, for ease, just as a dalmatian!

BCFC vs Sunderland

Thanks to all who applied. The tickets have been allocated to us but unfortunately were not delivered before the end of the school day. They can be collected from me at the main ticket office on Saturday 17th February from 1:30 until 2:30pm

School Council

On Tuesday after half-term, our School Council have a very special job: food tasting from a supplier who caters for school meals – what a great responsibility and a way to show the importance of student voice.

Mini Vinnies

Thanks to the executive committee who have planned our fundraising focus for each week – plans involve a sponsored



walk, an Easter bonnet parade (whole school), celebrating St Patrick's Day, a clothes donation for St Chad's, a Games afternoon, and a day without electricity, and an odd socks/shoes/crazy hair day. Great work, team.

Punctuality

A reminder that all children should be on site by the time the gate closes at 8:55. Any arrivals after this are via the office and children are marked as late, which affects their attendance record.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Zane in Year Four who was nine on Monday. On Tuesday, Dermot from Year Three celebrated his eighth birthday. On Wednesday, Anora in Year One turned six. Today, Hayley in Reception celebrates for fifth birthday!



Happy birthday to all those children who will celebrate in half term also:

Mila in Year One turns six on Monday;

Sophie in Year Six turns eleven on Tuesday, and Maya in Reception turns five on the same day; Jonathan in Year Four turns nine on Wednesday, and Erin in Year Six celebrates turning eleven on Thursday – the Same day as Shannon Rice's wedding. Tejiri in Reception celebrating her fifth birthday on the Sunday, before returning to school the following day.

February dates for your diary

Sat 17th **Feb:** BCFC vs Sunderland 2pm **Mon 19**th **Feb:** Return to school

Tues 20th Feb: Year Four @ Hall Green

Library 2pm

Thurs 22nd Feb: Year Three @ Hall Green

Library 2pm

Fri 23rd **Feb:** Year Six Class Mass 2:30pm **Tues 27**th **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

Tues 5th March: Year Six @ Hall Green

Library 2pm

Wed 6th March: Year Two trip @ Blakesley

Hall

Thurs 7th March: World Book Day

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)

Enjoy the half-term break and we will welcome the children back on Monday 19th February.

Mr Clinton