



# St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School

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Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,

Lent is flying by! On Tuesday, we welcomed Margot Scotford from Father Hudson's to talk to the children about where our donations go. She really was brilliant: we learnt about how Father Hudson's Care works with children, families and schools; refugees, migrants and asylum seekers; the homeless; those with disabilities; and older people in the Archdiocese. We learnt about Tabor House and Tabor Living and everyone left feeling so positive and hopeful for the future.



We also surprised Margot with a cheque from our Advent fundraising, which made everyone a little emotional, myself included.

Children were supplied with small, recyclable plastic bags to fill with coins during Lent. Even if every child bought in around £1, that would be a £200 donation that we'd be making to help support those in need. Along with CAFOD and St Chad's Sanctuary, Father Hudson's Care is one of our chosen charities. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

See later in this newsletter for more FUNdraising plans.

## **Golden Book**

**Reception:** Roisin McAuley for trying her very best in class this week! Roisin has shown such an amazing attitude towards her learning and willing to give things a go. She has worked very hard this week, especially in her writing when applying her phonic knowledge independently. Keep up the hard work, Roisin!

**Year One:** Iva Brose for the great enthusiasm that she has shown this week about the class trip to the Back to Back houses. Iva was involved in all the activities during the day and had some great questions for her guide Liz. She behaved impeccably throughout the day and was a great ambassador for our school. Iva has written a great recount of the trip and recalled some great pieces of information from the day. Great work, Iva - keep it up!

**Year Two:** Jasper Fung is working incredibly hard in everything he does. He follows all instructions and listens to everything that is said. He is really taking his time, especially in his writing and has produced a brilliant story based on a farm setting. Jasper is a really good friend and a role model to all. Well Done Jasper!

**Year Three:** Ariella Treshani for having a super week. She has been enthusiastic about all of her work this week, writing a fantastic description of Lucy meeting Mr Tummus from *'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'*, and has shown confidence when ordering fractions. Keep it up, Ariella!

**Year Four:** Henry Newton for his imaginative journey writing based on our book *'Journey to Jo'burg'*. He has tried to

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include various sentence tricks and adventurous vocabulary and has really pushed himself out of his comfort zone with his writing responding to feedback from his teachers.

**Year Five:** Sonny Fitzpatrick for displaying an excellent work ethic this term in every lesson. His maths has been particularly impressive and he always strives to get all of the activities done to the best of his ability. He thinks carefully about his answers and will always put his hand up to share his thoughts and ideas to the class eloquently. Keep up the hard work, Sonny.

**Year Six:** Tierney Brady for putting lots of effort and enthusiasm into his work this week. He has contributed lots of answers during our maths lessons, explaining how to solve questions to help others out. He has also done some fantastic writing using a wide range of sentence types. I was particularly impressed with his metaphor and personification poems - they were fantastic!

### Wednesday Word

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024



Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple there he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and money changers sitting at their counters. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The people in the Temple said to Jesus, "What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this Temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The people replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple: are you going to raise it up in three days?" Now the Temple Jesus was talking about was his own body. And later when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had told them.

Jesus' actions in the temple are usually cited as an example of him losing his temper but another way of understanding it is how he stands up confidently for what he knows is right; in this week's assembly, we will look at how Jesus is unhappy with how our relationship with God has become clouded by earthly things that do not matter. Lent is a time of change and to reassess what is important.

### Mini Vinnies 'FUNdraising'



The events have been officially written in our diary! Please see below for the FUNdraising events taking place this Lent.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March:** Children to have crazy hair / socks / and shoes! All donations are gratefully received. Just throw some cash in a bucket on arrival to school!

***We've had a plea from the Columbans who are asking for donations for refugees in Calais. They are taking a group of sixth formers to Calais on 15<sup>th</sup> March and desperately need hats to donate.***

***If you have any winter woolly hats, please give them to the Mini-Vinnies on the gate on this date!***

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Wear green for St Patrick's Day! £1 donation if possible.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March:** KS1 Easter bonnet parade. Decorate a bonnet, come and see your child strut their stuff on the catwalk!

I've had a lot of feedback about the Easter Bonnet parade, particularly around involving our older children. I think the only solution is to say that children from

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**KS2 are invited to take part, but it won't be compulsory.** However, every child in Reception and Key Stage One **will** take part, and those parents from Reception and KS1 can attend also. Four prizes to be won: one name from each class in Reception, Year One, and Year Two, and one from anyone who has entered from KS2.

**Thursday 28th March:** board games for all children. Please come to school with board games, where classes will be matched up and children can enjoy a playing with their peers.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April:** 5k sponsored walk for CAFOD. Children will walk to church, enjoy a whole school Mass and then walk back via a longer and interesting route, taking in golf courses and parks. Sponsorship forms to follow! If every child walked around five kilometres, that's a grand total of 1000km walked for CAFOD! Phew!

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June:** No electricity day. Again, the children will walk to Mass – no screens, no electric keyboard, no interactive whiteboard, no cooked dinners, no lights, no heating, no laptops and no iPads. Why not join us with something similar at home? The Mini-Vinnies hope this will really raise awareness of how lucky we are!

### **BCFC vs Southampton**



Congratulations to all those parents who replied expressing interest to last week's email. You have been contacted directly with details for how to obtain your free tickets. Look out for the Pioneer People logo at the Gil Merrick ticket office, St Andrew's Way.

### **INSET**

A reminder that school is closed on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March for staff training.

### **Year Five and Six Residential: May 2025**

There will be a parent meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March (the day after our INSET) at 5:30pm to share plans for the residential that has been provisionally booked for May 2025. **It is for ALL and ANY parents from children currently in Year Five and Year Four.** As before, there are two options: a five-day trip to Paris and a three-day UK residential. At the meeting, any questions regarding cost and staffing can be raised. We ran both trips in May 2023 to huge success.

### **Minibus**

If you read Father Paul's parish newsletter last week, you will have seen his news about the joint parish and school minibus which is now on site. Once we have had the vehicle branded with our badge and name, we can unveil it officially. Thanks to the parish, and to the PTA also, for their support in raising funds. Both the children and the parish will be able to benefit!

### **Birthdays this week...**

Happy birthday to Aurora in Year Three who was eight on Tuesday and happy birthday to Francis in Year Four who is nine tomorrow!



### **March dates for your diary**

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Year Three at Parish hall 10am-12pm

**Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Year Three to lead Sunday Mass 10am

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Six @ Hall Green Library 2pm

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Two trip @ Blakesley Hall

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day

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**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> March:** INSET – school closed to all pupils.

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> March:** Meeting for parents of children in Year Four and Five re: 2025 residential

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Five @ Hall Green Library 2pm

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March:** £1 own clothes for St Patrick's Day

**Mon 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:30

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Year Four @ Hall Green Library 2pm

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> March:** Year Two Class Assembly

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three to lead Palm Sunday Procession

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three Holy Week Assembly (Palm Sunday)

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Four Holy Week Assembly (The Last Supper)

**Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Five Holy Week assembly (Gethsemane)

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Six Holy Week Assembly (Stations of the Cross)

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March:** Break up at 2pm (No After School Club)

#### April dates for your diary

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April:** School re-opens for all children

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> April:** Whole School Mass 9:30am

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup> April:** Year Three First Holy Communion INSPIRE workshop 9am

**Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> April:** Reception at Ash End Farm

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> April:** Year Three @ Compton Verney

#### May dates for your diary

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** School closed for voting

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> May:** First Holy Communion Masses @ 10am and 11:30am

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May:** Whole School Mass for Ascension 9:30

**Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May:** May Procession 2pm – parents invited

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> May:** Year One Assembly 9am

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May:** Break up at 3:30pm

#### June dates for your diary

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup> June:** Whole School Mass (Sacred Heart) 9:30am

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup> June:** Corpus Christi Procession after 10am Mass

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> June:** Year Six to Blackwell Court

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception Class Mass 2pm

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup> June:** Going Forth Mass and Communion Breakfast 10am

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> June:** Year Three and Year Six parents Sacramental Programme evaluation 6pm Parish hall

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Sports Day TBC

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> June:** Family Mass 5pm

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception Assembly

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer Fete

#### July dates for your diary

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> July:** Transition Day

**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> July:** Reports given out

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July:** Leavers' Mass 9:30am

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July:** Break up at 2pm

Have a wonderful weekend! See you either at Mass on Sunday, which is being led by our Year Three children, or school on Monday morning.

God bless,



Mr Clinton