



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 8th March 2024

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful week! World Book Day yesterday was a great success and my thanks must go to Mrs Healy for organising it. Her performance at "Cruella's Quiz" in the afternoon was inspired! The children loved it and even Father Paul made a guest appearance! The children's costumes looked brilliant and, while World Book Day is but once a year, our love of reading is constant. Children should be reading every day and hopefully our focus on reading in school ensures this happens.

Thank you also to your kind donations of warm hats which will make their way to Calais via the Columban Fathers. Pope Francis reminds us that 'every migrant has a face, a name and a story' and it takes courage to stand up to any narrative that says otherwise. Our children have this courage and I couldn't be more proud of them. Hopefully, you will see the emphasis we place on Catholic Social teaching when you come and admire the children's work on display in the hall during Parents' Evening. As part of our focus on human dignity, the children of KS2 will take part in a 'Migrant and Music' workshop on the morning of Thursday 15th March.

Golden Book

Reception: Amelia Ahmed for being a super star this week! Amelia has worked very hard on her work, especially in Maths, showing a great attitude and resilience when trying to find two parts of a whole number. Amelia is always so polite and never forgets to say good morning to

everyone with a big smile on her face! Well done, Amelia!

Year One: Theo Richardson for working so hard on his independence when writing. He is able to say his sentence out loud and then use his sound mat to include the correct sounds. He wrote a fantastic recount Year 1's school trip and included some great details. Theo is a kind friend to everyone and is very polite to all the adults around the school. We are really impressed with his attitude towards his learning! Fabulous work Theo!

Year Two: Gemma Ip is working really hard in everything she does. In particular, she has stood out this week in swimming. Gemma's confidence has increased massively. She is now swimming confidently, kicking her legs and not letting them touch the floor. The progress Gemma has made since we began swimming in Year 2 is astonishing. Miss Hookes and Mrs O'Driscoll are so proud of you and we know your swim teacher is too, keep kicking those legs Gemma, well done!

Year Three: Aurora Clifton for being focused in everything that she has done this week. She has listened well in all subjects and put her hand up to answer questions and to contribute to class discussions. Rumours are that she single handedly carried her team in the World Book Day Quiz! Keep up the hard work Aurora.

Year Four: Mia Nelson has been very focused this week during assessments and has shown exemplary behaviour in the classroom. She showed a love of reading with her reading buddies yesterday. Her prayer that she shared with the class was beautiful! Well done, Mia!

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

Year Five: Lily Cunnachie for always trying her very best in everything that she does. In Maths, she has shown great perseverance with fractions work and is becoming more and more confident with converting and simplifying. She has impeccable behaviour, always doing the right thing and she can always be relied on to do jobs around the classroom.

Year Six: Noah Sheedy for doing such an amazing job with his assessments this week. Noah has been working hard all term to improve his maths, reading and grammar, and his hard work, focus and determination has really paid off this week as he has made super progress. Keep up the good work, Noah!

Wednesday Word

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH **Sunday 10th March 2024**



Nicodemus, a teacher of the law, came to Jesus one night. Jesus said to him, "The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. Everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear their actions should be exposed; but whoever lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what they do is done in God."

Prayer bags

These have been going home all Lent and then children share the prayers in the class the subsequent day. Coied below is Mia Nelson's prayer, alluded to in the Golden Book.

Dear Lord,

*You are my strength and my shield. You are
the one I love.*

*Please help me to be more like you, to be
humble like you. Help me to believe in others
and give to the poor.*

*Help me to work as if it all depends on you.
Help me to be like a saint – this means being
humble and kind.*

Amen

Sponsored Walk for CAFOD

The executive council of the Mini-Vinnies are working on their sponsorship forms to send out before Easter and the sponsored walk will take place on Friday 19th April. We will attend Mass as a school community and make our way back to school, taking in the scenes and raising money for CAFOD at the same time.

INSET

A reminder that we are closed this Monday to all children. Staff, instead, will attend Mass at 9:30 and then review our foundation curriculum, sequencing children's learning and being clear about what key knowledge we want children to remember, and how new knowledge will build on what they already know.

Other Faiths Week

Thanks to the wonderful Mrs Bresnen for sorting out our focus on other faiths in our local community. We have a massive focus in school on being brothers and sister with other people around the world, regardless of creed, colour, culture or religion.

Reception will look at our own Catholic faith and enjoy a tour of our own parish Church on Thursday 21st March. Year One will look at another Catholic church and visit Olton Friary on Wednesday 20th March at 10:15; Year Two will look at a different Christian church (the Church of the Ascension) on Fox Hollies Road on Tuesday 19th March at 1:30pm.

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

Year Three will visit BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir (Hindu Temple) on Tuesday 19th March. Year Four will visit Singers Hill Synagogue and learn about the Jewish faith on the afternoon of Tuesday 26th March. Year Five will learn about the Sikh faith at the Guru Nanak Gurdwara on Wednesday 20th March. Year Six will learn about the Muslim faith at the Birmingham Central Mosque on Thursday 21st March.

Shakespeare Week - 18th to 22nd March

Mrs Healy has taken a lead on this and we can't wait! In her own words, "we are now a Shakespearean school". Every year, the children's knowledge of William Shakespeare will build and, by the time a pupil leaves at the end of Year Six, they'll have studied seven different plays! The list this year is as follows:

Reception – Much Ado About Nothing

Year One – As You Like It

Year Two – Twelfth Night

Year Three – The Tempest

Year Four – A Midsummer Night's Dream

Year Five – Macbeth

Year Six – Romeo and Juliet

Science Week – 12th to 15th March

While I am starting each paragraph by thanking teachers, I mustn't neglect to thank Miss Newman who will lead on our Science week, which starts this coming Tuesday. Lots of treats and practical work in store for our children.

Keyboard and Choir concert

What a busy end to the term! Madam Grange has organised a concert for keyboard and choir children to perform to the school on Friday 15th March at 9am. All are welcome! This is the same day that children will be wearing green for St Patrick's Day. Please donate as you wish - this morning it was Halle, Bronagh and Caoimhe who shook the bucket. They did it so well, I may well use them again...

Easter Bonnet Parade

Parents of Reception, Year One and Year Two are invited to join us to watch their child strut their stuff on Friday 22nd March. I promise you, it is great fun! If any KS2 wish to take part too, they can also parade their home-made hats for all to see. Unfortunately, there will not be room to host the parents of KS2 children in the hall though.

Year Five and Six Residential: May 2025

There will be a parent meeting on Tuesday 12th 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.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Henry in Year Two who was seven on Tuesday and happy birthday to John in Year Five who was ten on Thursday. Happy birthday to Emily O'K in Year Four who is nine today, and happy birthday to Lily in Year Five who is ten tomorrow!



March dates for your diary

Mon 11th March: INSET – school closed to all pupils.

Tues 12th March: Meeting for parents of children in Year Four and Five re: 2025 residential

Thurs 14th March: 'Migrant and Music' workshop 9:30am; Year Five @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 15th March: Keyboard and choir concert 9am; £1 own clothes for St Patrick's Day

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

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

Tues 19th March: Year Three at Hindi
Mandir 10:30am; Year Two at Church of
the Ascension at 1:30pm

Wed 20th March: Year One at Olton Friary
10:15; Year Five at Guru Nanak Gurdwara
10:30am

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

Thurs 21st March: Reception at St Ambrose
Barlow parish church; Year Six at
Birmingham Central Mosque 10:30am

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

Fri 22nd March: Year Two Class Assembly
9am; Easter bonnet parade 2pm

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)

Thurs 26th March: Year Four Singers Hill
Jewish Synagogue

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

Thurs 28th March: Year Six Holy Week
Assembly (Stations of the Cross); board
game day; break up at 2pm (No After
School Club)

April dates for your diary

Mon 15th April: School re-opens for all
children

Fri 19th April: Whole School Mass 9:30am;
sponsorship walk – parents are welcome to
join.

Wed 24th April: Year Three First Holy
Communion INSPIRE workshop 9am

Thurs 25th April: Reception at Ash End
Farm

Fri 26th April: Year Three @ Compton
Verney

May dates for your diary

Thurs 2nd May: School closed for voting

Sat 4th May: First Holy Communion Masses
@ 10am and 11:30am

Mon 6th May: School closed for May Day

Thurs 9th May: Whole School Mass for
Ascension 9:30

Fri 10th May: May Procession 2pm –
parents invited

Fri 17th May: Year One Assembly 9am

Fri 24th May: Break up at 3:30pm

June dates for your diary

Fri 7th June: Whole School Mass (Sacred
Heart) 9:30am

Sun 9th June: Corpus Christi Procession
after 10am Mass

Wed 12th June: Year Six to Blackwell Court

Fri 14th June: Reception Class Mass 2pm

Sun 16th June: Going Forth Mass and
Communion Breakfast 10am

Thurs 20th June: Year Three and Year Six
parents Sacramental Programme
evaluation 6pm Parish hall

Fri 21st June: Sports Day TBC

Thurs 27th June: Family Mass 5pm

Fri 28th June: Reception Assembly

Sat 29th June: Summer Fete

July dates for your diary

Wed 3rd July: Transition Day

Fri 12th July: Reports given out

Fri 19th July: Leavers' Mass 9:30am

Fri 19th July: Break up at 2pm

Have a wonderful weekend. Children,
thank you for all your hard work this week
and parents, as ever, thank you for the
support you give the school and the staff.
Have a Happy Mothers' Day on Sunday.
Say a prayer for mothers everywhere.

God bless,



Mr Clinton