



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 17th May 2024

Dear Parents,

Well done to everyone in Year Six! Each and every one of them did their SATs this week without fuss, and I am so proud of all of them. Thanks also to the staff for helping to administer the tests. Although the SATs are undertaken in Year Six, they are actually a culmination of everything they have been taught in Key Stage Two, so every staff member in school has played their part in the development and achievement of our children.

Next week, we are book-ended by two own clothes days. Children can wear their best party outfits for our Pentecost party on Monday and wear their own clothes again on Friday – the latter in exchange for a bottle for the Summer Fete tombola. Thanks to the PTA for coordinating the latter.

Today, Year One led our assembly. Thanks to Mrs Hunt and Mrs Fayaz for directing the children. All week, I've had either the song about the continents or the one from *The Greatest Showman* on repeat in my head. My thanks to all involved.

Golden Book

Reception: Faaris Ahmed for being a super star! Faaris has amazed both Mrs Thompson and Miss Hodgkins with his effort and determination towards his work this week. He is constantly trying his best to apply his phonic knowledge to his writing and working very hard to improve his letter formation. He is always so kind and polite to everyone around the school

and such a great friend to his peers too. Well done, Faaris!

Year One: All of Year One for their amazing assembly! All of the children have learned their lines and said them with great expression and enthusiasm. Their singing was fabulous and they all did Mrs Hunt and Mrs Fayaz proud. They are all super stars!

Year Two: Adam Malik has been really demonstrating our values and virtues this week. Adam has acted with integrity this week and has set a good example to his friends too. It has also been really pleasing to see his contribution in class improving too and making more effort with his work. Keep up the honesty and positivity, Adam!

Year Three: Dermot Pickering for always being so thoughtful and helpful. As soon as he comes into the classroom in the morning, he offers to complete jobs and then settles straight down to his Maths. He really enjoyed learning about the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb, asking interesting questions and identifying the feelings of Howard Carter. Keep up the hard work, Dermot!

Year Four: Alesha Perry for her wonderful work in RE this week; it has been beautifully presented and incredibly thoughtful. She has really tried to push herself in lessons this half term and has produced some fantastic work. Keep up this motivation, Alesha!

Year Five: Noah Deeley for consistently being so thoughtful and insightful in his answers. He wrote a fantastic prayer in RE yesterday for all those who have chosen a vocation in our faith and gave a fantastic explanation for the movement of the moon in Science. Keep working hard, Noah!

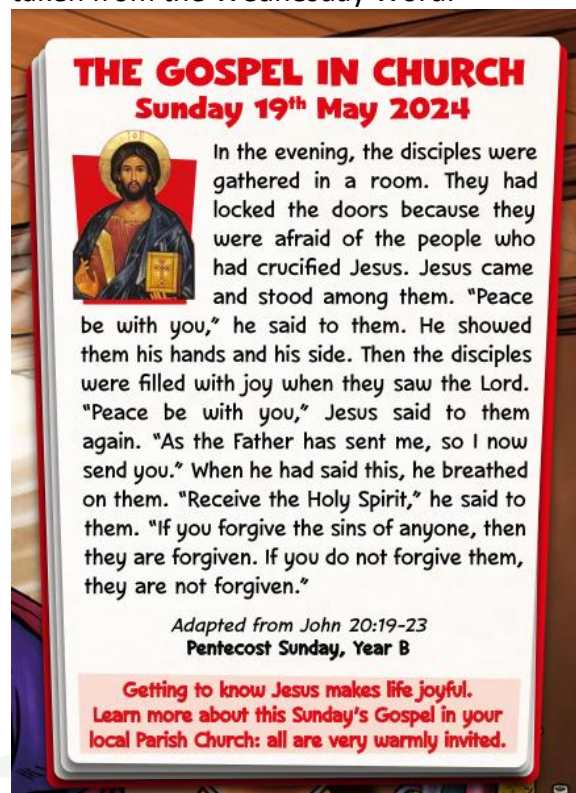
With **St. Ambrose Barlow** as our guide and **Jesus** at our side,
we are all **learning to live, love and work together**.

Year Six: All of Year Six for working incredibly hard this week with their SATs. They have shown resilience, determination and unwavering positivity even when they have found things tricky. They have shown focus and maturity and have kept smiling throughout the week. This week's success has been the culmination of their hard work throughout the whole of Year Six. They truly are wonderful role models to the rest of the school and they have made us all very proud.

Pentecost Party

As stated, on Monday 20th May we will be celebrating the church's birthday – the Feast of Pentecost. For this very special occasion, we would like all children and staff to come to school in their finest attire/party clothes! We will provide the children with food and with cake, and the PTA will give ice lollies. Let's hope the weather holds!

Please see below for Sunday's Gospel taken from the Wednesday Word.



School Building Fund

You will have no doubt seen the drive for school improvement here these past few years: in 2021, we have had a new lift installed; last year, we used our funds to resurface the front playground and have new markings installed; just this year, we have had a new toileting and wet room facilities put in. Mr Hawkins is currently digging up part of the front playground for a new bike and scooter rack. However, all these things cost money.

We are lucky that, as a Catholic school, the Government grants us the status of being 'voluntary aided'. What this means is that although the schools are in the state system, we can retain our traditions and organise the school on the basis of the teachings of the Church and, indeed, most parents decide to send their children to a Catholic school because they know that their child will be educated in a Catholic environment and because they know that the school will provide an excellent education.

However, in returned for being 'voluntary aided', we are required by law to raise 10% of the cost of developing and maintaining the school buildings. I always try and find money and funding streams from elsewhere in an effort to improve buildings. We were recently successful in a bid for over £210k to replace our leaky roof - the flat kitchen roof, and the roof that covers the building on the right-hand side as you face it, above the Year Three and Four classrooms. However, as part of the conditions, the school itself must pay 10% of the overall cost, likely to be £21,000. We have some funds set aside, but not the full amount.

I know the demands placed on you financially are great, and you are already so generous with your school fund and with

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your charity fundraising. School Money has been set up to allow payments at a rate of £10 per term, per family.

However, if you are in a position to donate a greater amount to our School Building Fund, you can do so by bank transfer. The details are below:

SAB CPS School Building Fund
Royal Bank of Scotland
Sort Code 16-13-18
Account No: 10295306

Just like Tesco says, every little helps.

Orlaith the way to Donegal

I am sharing two links below on behalf of the cycle ride to Galway – some of our parents are taking part, and the fifty or so cyclists leave in two weeks! So far, nearly £19,000 has been raised in total. The links below cover some of the individuals riding.

[>>Sponsor Caroline and John Quinn, Liam Kerr at al here<<](#)

[>>Sponsor Vicky Lynch and others here<<](#)

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Alec in Year Two who was seven on Monday, and happy birthday to Delilah in Reception who turned five on the same day. On Tuesday, Cayden in Year One was six! On Wednesday, Callan in Year Five turned ten. On Thursday, Kieran in Year Six celebrated his birthday by undertaking his third Maths paper of the week. Today, Lorenzo in Reception turns five. Happy birthday to all!



May dates for your diary

Mon 20th May: Pentecost party - dress to impress!

Thurs 23rd May: Year Two @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 24th May: Own clothes day in exchange for a bottle donation; break up at 3:30pm

June dates for your diary

Mon 3rd June: School re-opens

Thurs 6th June: Year Three @ Hall Green Library 2pm

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

Thurs 13th June: Year Four @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 14th June: Reception Class Mass 2pm

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

Thurs 20th June: Year Five @ Hall Green Library 2pm; Year Three and Year Six parents' Sacramental Programme evaluation 6pm Parish hall

Fri 21st June: Sports Day TBC

Wed 26th June: Keyboard and choir concert 2pm

Thurs 27th June: Year Six @ Hall Green Library 2pm; Family Mass 5pm

Fri 28th June: Reception Assembly

Sat 29th June: Summer Fete 12pm

July dates for your diary

Wed 3rd July: Transition Day

Thurs 4th July: Year Two @ Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 12th July: Reports given out

Thurs 18th July: Leavers' Assembly 9am

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

Fri 19th July: Break up at 2pm

Have a wonderful weekend. See you next week for the final week before our half-term break.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Clinton'.

Mr Clinton