



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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

Friday 19th July 2024

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of the year! Children, thank you for all your hard work since September. Staff, thank you for always going beyond in what you do for the school and the children. Parents, thank you for your ongoing support. Governors, thank you for giving up your free time and offering your support and challenge to drive forwards improvement.

Year Six (and other leavers)

Goodbye to those children (and families) who are leaving us. Year Six, good luck for your new secondary schools – I am sure you will be a great success. You delivered a beautiful assembly yesterday. Remember that no matter how old you are, you will always be children of St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School!

Mrs Thompson

It is goodbye to Mrs Thompson who is retiring after 37 years of employment at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School. Father Neil Bayliss celebrated a beautiful Mass last Friday where we gave thanks to God for all her selfless service to the children. She will be sorely missed but promises to be back for every school trip! Mrs Thompson has gifted the school a beautiful engraved wooden bench which will take pride of place outside the school once the scaffolding has gone) and the SVP, in honour of the Pope's Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope, 'have kindly donated £50 a rose bush to be planted next to it.

Attendance

Our average attendance over the course of the year has been 96.2% which is above the national average.

The percentage of persistent absence (that is, with pupil's missing more than ten days) is 6.7% which is lower than nationally.

These statistics are shared with the Governors who often ask for the main contributing factors to absences. Other than illness, which accounts for 64.6% of our absence, they were alarmed to discover that holidays in term time account for 21.3% of our absence! This is why we never agree to them and why the local authority pursue and punish with fines parents who take their children on holiday during term time.

Sporting achievements

Well done to all those children who have represented the school this year. We have taken part in a variety of sports and tournament this year, including girls' football, boys' football, tag rugby, cricket, athletics, Gaelic football, basketball, dodgeball and multi-sports. Thank you to the PTA who have funded a new trophy cabinet for us. We can start to fill it already!

My thanks especially to the PTA and parish who have helped to fund our minibus (which makes travel so much easier) and to Miss Ball who co-ordinates all the fixtures for any sporting events. She is truly remarkable!

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

Data and results

The results from the children's recent assessments have now been posted on the website, as is legally required each year. I have copied them below there for your convenience. Well done to all the children for their hard work and my thanks to all the staff.

Pupils in Reception reaching Good Level of Development: 72%

Children are defined as having reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the EYFS if they have achieved the expected level for the Early Learning Goals in the prime areas of learning: communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; physical development; and the specific areas of Mathematics and Literacy.

Percentage of pupils in Year One

achieving Phonics standard: 93%

Average score of Multiplication Check

taken in Year Four: 21.6 (out of 25)

Key Stage Two results (SATs)

Subject	Reaching Expected Standard	Above Expected Standard
Reading	83% (74%)	50%
Writing	83% (72%)	17%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	87% (72%)	40%
Mathematics	87% (73%)	30%
Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined	77% (61%)	17%

Talent Show

Well done Rory Goddard in Year Six for co-ordinating and hosting this event! Thanks to the Mini-Vinnies for counting the donations afterwards, and my thanks to all the performers who had the courage and confidence to stand up and show off their gifts and talents! An incredible £174.69 for raised for our chosen charity, which is Father Hudson's.

School Dinners Price Increase

A reminder that the new price in September will be £2.70 per day per child.

Key Stage One and Reception meals continue to be funded by the government and therefore meals for these children are free.

School Money

Please ensure all balances are settled as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the calendar month. This helps us close our accounts at the end of the year and address any outstanding debts. Next year, we will be moving to a new online platform so it is more important than ever that all balances are paid.

Safeguarding over summer

CASS (the Children's Advice and Support Service) provides a single point of contact for professionals and members of the public who want to access support or raise concerns about a child. If you are concerned about a child, please contact CASS who will listen, assess your concerns and can act if a child is at risk.

Monday to Friday:

8.45am to 5.15pm

Telephone:

0121 303 1888

Emergency Out-of-Hours Telephone:

0121 675 4806

If you have a serious concern about a child's welfare and think they are at immediate risk of significant harm, please call 999.

Message from the PTA

Thank you all for your support in what has been another successful fundraising year for the PTA. This year we have also become a fully-fledged charity, and are now registered with the Charity Commission. This means we are now able to approach companies for matched funding and apply for grants (local and national) to help fund our projects. We will be going into full

detail at our AGM in October (please come along), but here is a quick summary of our efforts this year.

Fundraising:

- Tea-towels
- Christmas raffle
- Christmas disco
- Valentine's disco
- Easter raffle
- Family disco
- Summer Fete

Projects supported:

- book marks and Christmas chocolate for all children
- Refreshments at Confirmation and First Holy Communion
- School minibus donation
- Inflatables for bounce day
- Easter prizes
- Easter chocolate for every child
- Year Six leavers' gifts
- Inflatables for end of year fun day
- Ice lollies for all children
- Subscription to platform needed for choir and French
- Trophy cabinet
- Playground renovations in discussion

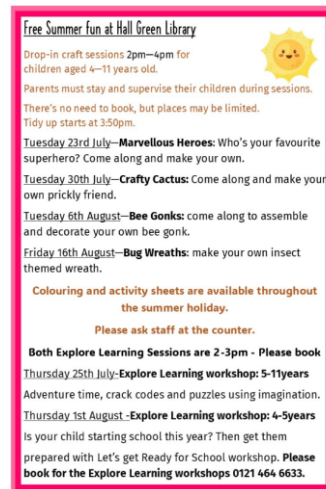
Thank you all again, for your support, donations, volunteering of time, attendance at events, it all helps! The aim of our PTA is to raise funds to enrich the lives of all our school children, so if you have any ideas at any point, please get in touch either in person or via our email sab.pta@outlook.com

Hope you all have a fantastic summer, and we can't wait to reveal our Autumn Term events planned in September.

My thanks and gratitude to Mrs Currington, our chair, and Mrs Fitzpatrick, our treasurer, for all their hard work and enthusiasm! It is hugely appreciated by all

our children, who benefit the benefits, and by me especially.

Hall Green Library

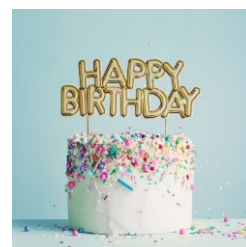


See above for details about Hall Green library's programme of events for the Summer Holidays. This year's Summer Reading Challenge is Marvellous Makers and it runs from now until September 14th. The children are asked to read any six library books and for each book that they read, then write a short review or draw a picture. The library will give children a pack with everything they need when they sign up for the challenge. When they hand in their six reviews they will receive various goodies, including a medal and a certificate and all completers at Hall Green library will have the chance to win vouchers and book sets (donated by Save Hall Green Library campaign).

The programme of events for the summer is available to pick up from the library.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Caoimhe in Year Three who was eight on Monday, and shared her day with Henry in Year Five who was ten. Happy birthday to Cody in Year Six who was



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eleven on Tuesday and shared his day with Tahyon in Reception who was five! Happy birthday to Dylan in Year Five who was ten on Wednesday, Happy birthday to Katie in Year Four who is nine today and happy birthday to Lylah-Rose in Reception who is five tomorrow!

Birthdays over summer...

Happy birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthday over summer!

Caiden Lee
Aine Markey
Roisin Mcauley
Isla Byrne
Noah Sheedy
Jude Goddard
Maxim Griffiths
Oliver Healy
Darcie Bucknall
Cynthia Cunnachie
Thea Dawson
Emily Lin
Zach Lloyd
Chloe Partridge
Sophia Davies
Oliver Ellard
Enda McGillicuddy
Ariella Treshani
Ethan Velasquez
Ethan Hughes
Arlo Williams
Freya Bucknall
Caelum Clifton
Kimberley O'Loughlin
Theo Richardson
Happy birthday to all!

Term dates for 2024-25

AUTUMN TERM 2024	
Monday 2th September	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 3th September	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Wednesday 4th September	Start of Term - School opens
28th October to 1st November	Half Term
Friday 20th December	End of Term - School closes for Christmas
SPRING TERM 2025	
Monday 6th January	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 7th January	Start of Term - School opens
17th to 21th February	Half Term
Thursday 17th April	End of Term - School closes for Easter
SUMMER TERM 2025	
Tuesday 6th May	Start of Term - School opens
26th to 30th May	Half Term
Friday 18th July	End of Term - School closes for Summer
Monday 21th July	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)

Have a wonderful break. Thank you for all your cards, presents, kind words and wishes. They are hugely appreciated by all of the staff. School re-opens on Wednesday 4th September for Year One upwards, and we welcome our Reception children on Monday 9th September.

God bless,



Mr Clinton