



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 15th November 2024

Dear Parents,

Time is flying by! Only fifteen days of school until Reception's Nativity; in seventeen days, Year One and Two will have completed their performances too. Before all of that though, we celebrate Christ the King next Sunday, which is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time and the end of the church's year. Please join us at 10am on Sunday 24th November as Year Six lead us in this special Mass. The singing, as ever, sounds incredible - especially the last hymn that they are leading totally by themselves.

Golden Book

Reception: Ella Shiels for showing such an enthusiastic attitude in our Nativity practices. Ella always says her lines with such confidence and tries her best to remember all of the words in the songs. She is always excited to perform with a big smile on her face!

Year One: Arlo Tranter for always giving his best in everything that he does. He has produced fantastic work in maths, comparing numbers and thought carefully about who we might pray for in RE. He is a brilliant innkeeper in the nativity, and he knows all of the word to all of the songs which he sings with enthusiasm! Well done, Arlo!

Year Two: Esmae O'Keeffe deserves all the praise this week! Esmae works hard in every single lesson but, this week especially, it is Maths where she has shone! We have been learning how to divide in Year Two and Esmae has listened carefully in lessons and has used the different methods to help her succeed. She has shown so much perseverance and determination. Well done!

Year Three: Albie Sweet for working especially hard this week in class. He put his reading skills into practise in order to do some research on Dame Jane Goodall, the anthropologist, and then wrote a brilliant biography all about her life! Well done, Albie.

Year Four: Ethan Burke for his fabulous focus this week across all subjects, especially the work he produced in Science around electrical circuits. He has been making a conscious effort to be intentional in both his work and his excellent behaviour too. Well done, Ethan!

Year Five: Eugene Newman is always eager and keen to do his best in all lessons but his English work - particularly his new opening for a new scene - has literally bowled us over with its brilliance. Not only does he put 100% of his efforts into his work, he is also a caring and well-mannered member of the class who is always ready to lend a hand to help others. He is also a whizz at tidying up the

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

classroom (a skill Mrs McGrory wishes he could pass onto some others - including her own children). This pupil truly deserves a shout out for just being totally brilliant!

Year Six: Noah Parkes-Brown has been applying himself to all of his subjects this week with a renewed focus. This year thus far, Noah has embraced the responsibilities of Head Boy alongside the challenges of Year Six with a smile and a 'can-do' attitude. This will help him make the best of the learning opportunities on offer as he moves forward into the busy months ahead. Keep it up, Noah!

Congratulations, Year Three!

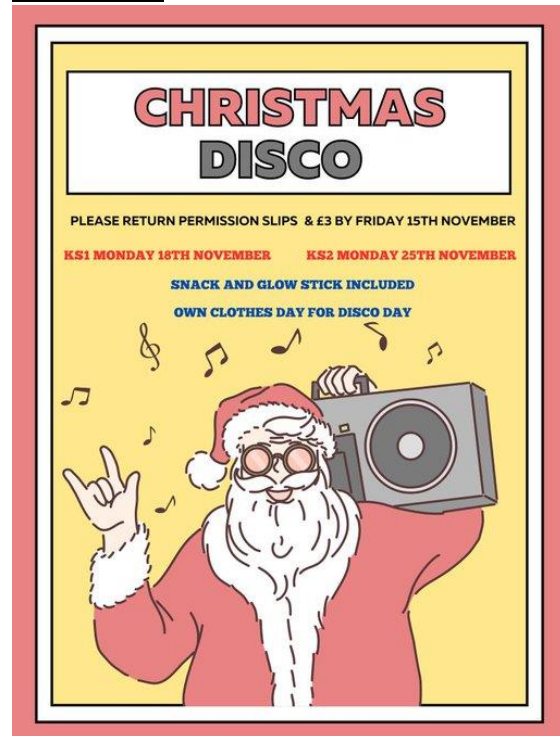
Yesterday, the children of Year Three made their First Reconciliation at church with Father Paul and Father Andrew from Our Lady of the Wayside. It was a lovely prayerful occasion and a huge milestone for the children, who now look forward to their First Holy Communion in May.

The children of Key Stage Two will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent, on Wednesday 4th December. Year Three will attend this too.

Welcome to Jasper and Gemma

The children of Year Three had another treat this week as they were all present for Jasper and Gemma's baptism. Father Paul said in all his years of being a priest, he had yet to baptise anyone in a classroom. It was a joy to witness. That's five of our children who have been baptised in the past six months! Incredible!

PTA Disco



On Monday, the children of Reception and KS1 are welcome to attend our PTA Christmas disco. All children in Reception and KS1 can wear their own clothes, regardless of whether they are attending the disco or not. Those attending will have paid £3. Please collect all children by 4:45, unless they are attending After-School Club. The following Monday, it is the turn of KS2 children

My Child At School (MCAS)



The office is slowly setting up our new online platform for payments, which is linked to our School Management Information System. All this means is that, rather than use two separate platforms, our one current platform for taking registers and tracking absence (Bromcom) can also now receive

payments. As such, we will phase out School Money and use My Child at School (MCAS, which is a part of Bromcom), through which online payments can be made. Bear with us during this transition period. Please contact the office if you have any concerns or anticipate any problems. MCAS will soon become our primary mode of communication (payments, text messages, emails, etc.) so it is essential that all parents have access to the platform. My huge thanks to Mrs Corrigan for taking ownership of this massive undertaking.

KiVa

The staff attended a meeting on Wednesday about how we can raise the profile of our KiVa



curriculum approach. The idea is of KiVa simple: children are 'caught' being kind. The KiVa approach originated in Finland and, in Finnish, the word literally means 'nice'. It is an anti-bullying programme that looks to dismantle the system that allows bullying to occur: a perpetrator who often requires an audience; the reinforcers; silent assenters who spectate; those that are aware of the situation but do nothing; and, finally, the victim who sometimes does not tell anyone how they are feeling. Each fortnight, children in KS2 will have a KiVa session and each month, we will celebrate those children who are 'caught being kind'.

Parents, you may be interested in reading more:

<https://data.kivaprogram.net/parents/>

You will also be invited to a parent meeting about the initiative in the new calendar year.

We are proud of our 'Outstanding' but it is only outstanding because we address each and every small instance of when a child falls short of our high expectations. When it comes to behaviour, it really is the only thing that works. Thank you, as ever, for your ongoing support in this regard.

Reception Phonics meeting

You are invited to a meeting led by Miss Hodgkins on Tuesday 26th November at 5:30pm about our reading approach here in school. I cannot impress upon you enough how important it is to be fully involved in supporting the school in teaching your child to read. You will learn about the language we use, what we expect children to know and remember, what books we read to the children and what books the children read to staff, and how you can be involved. Please make every effort to attend.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Tommy in Year Three who is eight today, and happy birthday to Sonny in Year Four who is nine on Sunday. Have a great celebratory weekend, both of you!

November dates for your diary

Mon 18th Nov: PTA KS1 Disco 3:45 – 4:45

Tues 19th Nov: Year Two at Hall Green library 2pm

Fri 22nd Nov: Year Five Class Assembly

Sat 23rd Nov: Year Six children Confirmation workshop 10am parish hall

Sun 24th Nov: Year Six lead Mass 10am

Mon 25th Nov: PTA KS2 Disco 3:45 – 4:45

Tues 26th Nov: Reception Parents Phonics meeting 5:30pm

Thurs 28th Nov: Year Six at Hall Green library.

Fri 29th Nov: Year Four Class Mass 2:30pm

December dates for your diary

Wed 4th Dec: KS2 Advent Reconciliation Service

Thurs 5th Dec: Year Five at Hall Green library (am)

Fri 6th Dec: Reception Nativity 2pm

Mon 9th Dec: Year One Nativity 2pm

Tues 10th Dec: Year Two Nativity 2pm

Thurs 12th Dec: Rec and KS1 @ 'Finding Santa' (am); Keyboard and choir concert 2pm

Tues 17th Dec: KS2 Carol service 7pm

Wed 18th Dec: KS2 @ *Beauty and the Beast*

Fri 20th Dec: Whole School Mass 9:30; children break up at 2pm (no Kidzone club)

January dates for your diary

Mon 6th Jan: School closed INSET

Tues 7th Jan: School re-opens for all children

Wed 8th Jan: Whole School Mass 9:30am

Fri 17th Jan: Year Five Class Mass 2:30pm

Fri 24th Jan: Year Four Class Assembly

February dates for your diary

Fri 7th Feb: Year Three Class Assembly 9am

Fri 14th Feb: Year Six Class Mass; break up for half-term.

Mon 24th Feb: Children return to school

Fri 28th Feb: Sponsor workshop, 2pm; Year Six Confirmation 7pm

March dates for your diary

Wed 5th March: Whole School Mass for Ash Wednesday, 9:30 at church

Thurs 6th March: World Book Day

Mon 17th March: Parent Consultations 3:30 – 6:30

Wed 19th March: Key Stage Two Reconciliation service 2pm; Parent Consultations 3:30 – 6:30

Fri 21st March: Year One Class Mass 2:30pm

Tues 25th March: Whole School Mass for the annunciation 9:30am

Fri 28th March: Year Two Class Assembly 9am

Have a lovely weekend. See you all on Monday.

God bless,



Mr Clinton