



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 31st January 2025

Dear Parents,

What a week it has been! On Wednesday, we welcomed Ben McArdle and Vicki Wayman, both registered CSI inspectors, to the school for two days to examine and evaluate our provision for Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education, and Prayer and Liturgy. It was a gruelling but ultimately enjoyable two days with the inspectors coming in to validate our own self-assessment of where we are and what we might need to do to improve.



My thanks to both for a rigorous examination of our strengths and developmental areas. The report will follow in due course and be emailed to you and posted on the website. I want to place on record my great thanks to all the staff for their amazing efforts this week. I also want to single out Mrs Bresnen, though she will hate me for doing so, for all the hard work she has done in co-ordinating our curriculum RE. Talk about a baptism of fire on one's return to work! My thanks to her also for writing the newsletter in my absence last week. On that latter point, normal service has now resumed, she will be pleased to know.

Golden Book

Reception: Kaisan Hassan for contributing to our lessons with such fantastic ideas! This week, Kaisan has constantly had his hands up ready to answer questions with such enthusiasm and eloquence and has shown great engagement during our discussions. Keep up the hard work, Kaisan!

Year One: Delilah Smith for consistently working hard in all her lessons and showing great enthusiasm when attempting any task. This week she has contributed amazingly in every lesson especially in our recent R.E. Lesson based on the parable of The Prodigal Son. Delilah is a kind friend to everyone and a great role model to others. Well done, Delilah!

Year Two: Amelia Mehmood has had the most incredible week! She has blown all of us away this week with her amazing knowledge in R.E. She has been listening carefully in lessons and thought carefully about her answers. It has been so pleasing to see Amelia's confidence increase this week when contributing to lessons. Well done, Amelia! Keep it up!

Year Three: Aibhlinn Brady for being such a valuable member of our class. Aibhlinn strives to be the best she can be in everything she does. She is extremely helpful and always has her hand up ready to contribute to class discussions. This week Aibhlinn planned a liturgy with some of her classmates and then went home to write a beautiful

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prayer to read. Keep up the wonderful work, Aibhlinn.

Year Four: Oliver Ellard for his thoughtful answers during RE this week, he helped to develop everyone's understanding of the topic, inspired others to challenge themselves and produced some fantastic work. Well done, Oliver!

Year Five: Alesha Perry has really tried hard to make good choices this week. She has worked well in her RE and English this week, thinking about how she could develop her work further and editing her work following advice given. Alesha has also been more thoughtful with her words and actions inside and outside of the classroom which has had a positive impact on her attitude to learning. Alesha is now more confident in class and is beginning to see how positive choices can have a beneficial impact on her work. Well done, Alesha, Keep it up!

Year Six: Richard Qiu has shown a tangible sense of purpose towards his learning since his return after the Christmas break. His increased effort, coupled with a brilliant attitude, has led to some fantastic content in his work, both orally and written. I am sure he will maintain this and continue to build on his knowledge and reap the rewards of his extra efforts in all aspects of his learning now and in the future. Keep it up, Richard!

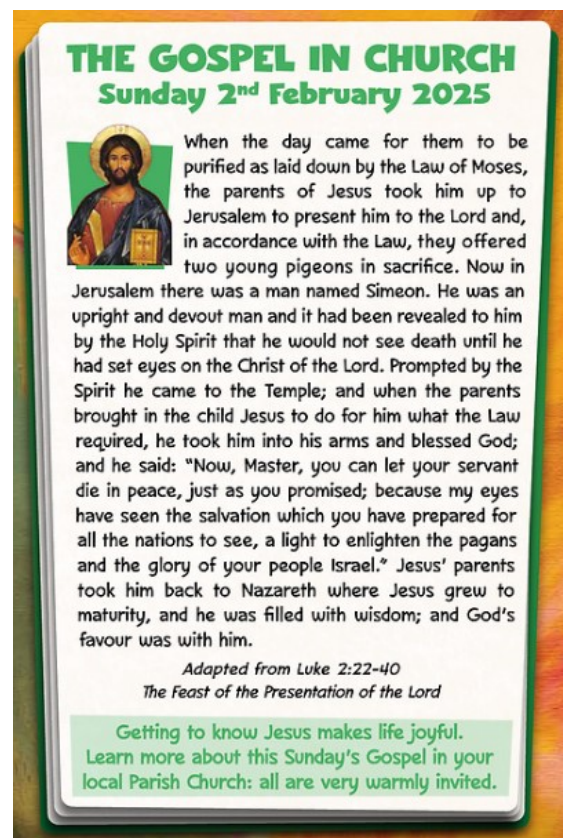
Twitter / X

We are in the process of collating all our previous posts on Twitter for safe storage and we will be moving to a different social media platform, which we will use to post pictures of our

learning. We will then delete our Twitter account, due to the unsavoury environment that it has now become. What you do with your own account is up to you, but I would be inclined to advise you to follow our example and leave.

Wednesday Word

On Sunday, we hear about Simeon and how he recognised Jesus as the light of the world - a great example of someone who placed their hope in God.



Places of Worship

Please see the updated diary dates for the days our children will visit other places of worship. This is part of the RE curriculum and an important part of learning how we can relate to those in our local community who may believe different things. Year Six will also visit

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both the Birmingham Central Mosque and the Islamic Experience Exhibition but the date for this is yet to be confirmed.

Birthdays this week...

Happy birthday to Harrison in Year Six, who was eleven on Tuesday. Happy birthday to Conall in Year Four, who is nine today. Tomorrow, Michael in Reception turns five. On Sunday, Daniel in Year Two turns seven and Harry in Year One turns six. Happy birthday all!

February dates for your diary

Thurs 6th Feb: Year Six to visit Hall Green Library; Year Six parents Confirmation meeting 6pm in Church hall

Fri 7th Feb: Year Three Class Assembly 9am

Sat 8th Feb: Year Six children Confirmation workshop

Sun 9th Feb: Year Six to lead 10am Sunday Mass

Thurs 13th Feb: Year Two to visit Hall Green Library

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

Mon 24th Feb: Children return to school

Thurs 27th Feb: Year Three to visit Hall Green Library

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

March dates for your diary

Sat 1st March: Year Three children at FHC workshop, 10am in Parish hall

Sun 2nd March: Year Three children lead Sunday Mass 10am

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

Thurs 6th March: World Book Day – theme to be announced; Year Four to visit Hall Green Library

Thurs 13th March: Year Five to visit Hall Green Library

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

Wed 19th March: Key Stage Two Reconciliation service 1:30pm; Parent Consultations 3:30 – 6:30

Thurs 20th March: Year Six to visit Hall Green Library

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

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

Wed 26th March: INSPIRE workshop for Year Three children and parents

Thurs 27th March: Year Two to visit Hall Green Library

Fri 28th March: Year Two Class Assembly 9am

April dates for your diary

Thurs 3rd April: Year Three to visit Hall Green Library

Mon 7th April: Year One Olton Friary Catholic Church

Tues 8th April: Year Two at Church of the Ascension; Year Four at Singers Hill Synagogue

Wed 9th April: Reception at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Church

Thurs 10th April: Year Three at BAPS Shri Saninarayan Mandir

Fri 11th April: Year 5 at Guru Nanak Gurdwara

Sat 12th April: Year Three at parish hall for First Communion workshop 10am

Sun 13th April: Year Three children to lead 'Palm Sunday' procession at church at 10am

Mon 14th April: Year Three to lead
'Palm Sunday' Holy Week assembly

Tues 15th April: Year Four to lead 'Last
Supper' Holy Week assembly

Wed 16th April: Year Five to lead
'Gethsemane' Holy Week assembly

Thurs 17th April: Year Six to lead
'Stations of the Cross' Holy Week
assembly; schools closes for end of
term at 2pm – no Kidzone club.

Have a relaxing weekend. See you next
week. God bless,



Mr Clinton