



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mr J Clinton

0121 464 2791

www.sab.bham.sch.uk

enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

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

Friday 14th February 2025

Dear Parents,

We have ended a most successful half term with Year Six leading a class Mass, celebrated by Father Paul, and attended by many of our parents. My thanks to Mrs George, Miss Newman, Mrs Vinti and Mrs Drewry for preparing the children so well. It was a very fitting end to the week. We also had our Gifts from God assembly on Friday morning, sharing house points, Golden Book (see below) and our Values and Virtues ambassadors for being 'Grateful and Generous' this half term. After our half-term break, Year Six will celebrate their Confirmation on Friday 28th February and will enjoy their final workshop, along with their sponsors, that afternoon with Bishop David present also. Please keep them in your prayers over half-term.

Golden Book

Reception: Millie Mynett for being an absolute super star! Millie tries her very best with her learning and making good choices around the classroom. She shows such a positive 'can do' and enthusiastic attitude towards everything that she does. Millie is always so polite and kind to others and

always wants to help if she can. Well done, Millie.

Year One: Tashyon Twinkle for always being enthusiastic to answer questions in lessons putting his hand up to answer nearly every question. He has been working really hard in phonics lessons and this is showing in his reading and writing. His confidence and independence are growing every day and it is fabulous to see. Well done, Tashyon!

Year Two: Theo Richardson has had a brilliant week. He has been listening well in lessons and trying his hardest in everything he does. His attitude to learning this week has been excellent. We are really pleased how focused he has been in lessons and it is been so nice to see him contribute more in lessons recently too! We are so proud of you, Theo. Well done!

Year Three: Tommy Fitzpatrick for always ensuring he is trying to be the best person he can be. Tommy will always have his hand up ready to contribute to lessons and thinks really carefully about his responses. This week we have been looking at discussion texts in Literacy and Tommy has been really insightful, considering both points of view. Well done Tommy.

Year Four: Amelie Robinson has had a fantastic half term and is always an exemplary model of behaviour in the classroom. She consistently pushes herself to produce excellent work and treats her peers with dignity and



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

respect. Keep up this wonderful attitude and dedication, Amelie!

Year Five: Chloe Partridge is a little ray of sunshine who really brightens up every day. Her cheery disposition is just the tonic we need when we are feeling a bit tired. Her RE work this week has just been brilliant: she is really trying hard to put 100% into all of her work. Chloe is a friendly, happy member of the class who is always willing to help in and around the classroom. She is polite, funny, and is always considerate and compassionate towards others. I am not sure she knows how wonderful she is, so here it is, Chloe - you are wonderful!

Year Six: Henry Slattery is the well-deserving child chosen for entry into the Golden Book this week. We have been looking again at KiVa principles this half term and Henry has been actively applying these principles to situations in school when he has been called upon to help. Henry also studiously applies himself to all subjects, is an excellent learning partner and a loyal friend. Henry tackles everything with a smile, is a delight to have in class and is a pleasure to teach. Keep it up, Henry!

Grateful and Generous

The following children have been exemplary in their approach to others, showing gratitude for their talents, and being generous in how they share their gifts with others.

Reception: Georgina Bryant-Corrigan

Year One: Lylah-Rose Holsey

Year Two: Esmee O'Keefe

Year Three: Alec Burns

Year Four: Lola Hardiman

Year Five: Nevaeh Osbourne

Year Six: Charlie McNally

Wednesday Word



The Wednesday Word that has been sent out with this newsletter can also be found online here: [>>here<<](#) and contains the Gospel for this Sunday, next Sunday and also the Sunday after we return to school, as well as the usual crosswords and reflections.

CSI School Inspection



Our report has now been finalised and published and posted on our website. Had you attended Mass at any point over the past two weeks, Father Paul might have alluded to an 'Outstanding' grade. What he might have been too humble to mention is that there are actually nine individual outstanding grades, to give us an overall judgement of Outstanding. That sounds a little boastful, and perhaps it is, but I urge you to read the report because it is filled with praise for the conduct and behaviour and attitude of our children. Our wonderful singing is also remarked upon more than once! The staff are praised, and rightly so because their dedication to the children shines throughout, but (as ever) it is the children who truly sell the school and it is the children who make working here such an absolute pleasure.

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

Year Six Leavers' Hoodies

These look great and the children have enjoyed wearing them this past week. Upon our return after the half-term break, the hoodies can still be worn but as coats rather than as school jumpers: they can be worn to and from school, at break and lunch, but school jumpers must be worn in the classroom and when moving around the building. They can make a welcome return after the children have completed their SATs in May and look forward to their residential. Talking of which...

Year Five / Six Residential Meeting

There will be a meeting for ALL parents whose children are attending either Paris or Whitemoor Lakes (or both, which is also an option) on Monday 10th March at 5pm. This will detail the arrangements for both trips including time of departure, respective kit lists, information about allergies and medical needs, and the staff who will attend each residential, including any final payment plans. Please make every effort to attend.

More on Curriculum trips

Please see updated diary dates for the dates of upcoming trips that align with what the children are studying in class. Reception are likely to visit a farm, but the actual destination and date are yet to be confirmed, which fit in with their 'Animals' topic. To complement their work on the Anglo-Saxons, Year Four will visit Tamworth Castle on 7th March. Both Year One (who are studying the Victorians) and Year Five (who are experts in the Industrial Revolution) will visit the Black Country Museum on 13th

March. Year Three, studying the Stone Age, will visit Compton Verney on 2nd April and Year Two will visit Selly Manor Museum on 3rd April. Finally, to round off our Shakespeare Week, Year Six will visit The RSC on 26th March. All trips to be paid via MCAS (My Child At School) platform please.

World Book Day

Almost that time again! This year's World Book Day is Thursday 6th March and children again are invited to come into school in their costumes. To make life as easy as possible, the

staff are dressing up as dinosaurs and one lucky teacher will be dressed as Harry from *'Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs'*. So, coloured t-shirts and prehistoric dinosaur masks are one option!



Alternative options include children in pyjamas, children as dalmatians, or children as apples, pears, plums, strawberries, Swiss cheese, salami, or anything else The Hungry Caterpillar ate. There will be a prize for each boy and girl from each class with the most original and imaginative fancy dress, if spending half-term making home-made costumes is your thing....

As in previous years, we will have lots of fun activities planned throughout the day including:

- Reading Buddies from each year group to read with their partners.
- Craft and colouring activities
- Book reviews
- Character descriptions

- And, back by popular demand, our whole school interactive quiz.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, which could not happen without the support of parents and carers - thank you.

Keyboard and Choir Concert

This will take place on Thursday 10th April at 3:15 – it is one of the highlights of the term! Thank you in advance to Madam Grange for teaching the children everything they need to perform!

Birthdays this week...



Happy birthday to Mila in Year Two who was seven on Wednesday, and to Maya in Year One who was six yesterday. Today, Jonathan in Year Five is ten; tomorrow, Callie-Anne in Year Two is seven.

Happy birthday to Ailbhe in Year Four who turns nine the day before we return to school, and Theo E turns seven on the same day! What a way to celebrate! Edward Newton in Year Three turns eight during the half term, and Archie White turns celebrates his seventh birthday during the holiday too.

You may have noticed that in our CSI report was a line about how some in our school choose to buy CAFOD world gifts instead of sending Christmas cards

or buying birthday treats. On that note, we recently donated thirty cupcakes to a local foodbank in honour of a child's birthday, at the request of their parents. It was a very touching gesture and one hugely appreciated. Thank you.

February dates for your diary

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 TBC

Fri 7th March: Year Five sat Tamworth Castle

Mon 10th March: Year Five/Six residential meeting 5pm

Thurs 13th March: Year Five and Year One at the Black Country Museum; Year Six 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 Five 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: Year Six on Stratford Theatre Tour; 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

Wed 2nd April: Year Three at Compton Verney

Thurs 3rd April: Year Two to visit Selly Manor Museum; 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 Hindu BAPS Shri Mandir; Keyboard concert at 2:15pm

Fri 11th April: Year Five at Guru Nanak Sikh 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 good weekend and a relaxing and well-deserved half-term. See you all on Monday 24th February!

God bless,



Mr Clinton