



# 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 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear parents,



This has been a tremendously busy week in school with one thing or another. I honestly could not be prouder of our Year Six children for how they have conducted themselves during their SATs papers. Rarely have I known a class who have applied themselves so well and taken everything in their stride. I don't have a favourite class but, if I were to, they would surely be up there. My thanks, too, to Mrs George and Mrs Drewry for preparing them so well, and to the staff who helped administer the tests in the classrooms.

Today, we have started with Year One's fabulous assembly and we ended our week with a beautiful assembly about Our Lady of Fatima, whose feast day it was on Tuesday, and with a May Procession outside the school grounds and around our local roads. This procession was led by our Year Three children – who looked fantastic in their First Communion outfits – and we ended with the singing of the Regina Caeli: Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, pray for us to God. Amen.



### Golden Book

**Reception:** Joel Flanagan for his great determination and 'can do' attitude! Joel has produced a wonderful piece of writing about the story 'Dear Zoo' and ensured that he writes each sentence with a capital letter too! He has worked so hard on developing his confidence, independence and communication skills as well. We are all so proud of you, Joel!

**Year One:** Áine Reidy-Markey for working hard this week in all her subjects. She is putting in lots of effort and wants to do her best at all times. I was also super impressed with her bravery when she was nervous about the spider that decided to sit by her, she was very sensible and calm! Keep up the good work, Áine!

**Year Two:** Mila Caruana for showing fantastic focus and a positive attitude in class. She's been listening really well and applying herself in all lessons. We've noticed her contributing much more- and doing it with growing confidence! It's been so wonderful to see her shine! Keep it up, Mila, we're so proud of you!

**Year Three:** Francis Corcoran for showing such enthusiasm in all areas of his work. He has been showing a great work ethic and has really trying his best to contribute in every lesson. Francis has been using his listening skills which in turn has led to a great improvement

With **St. Ambrose Barlow** as our guide and **Jesus** at our side,  
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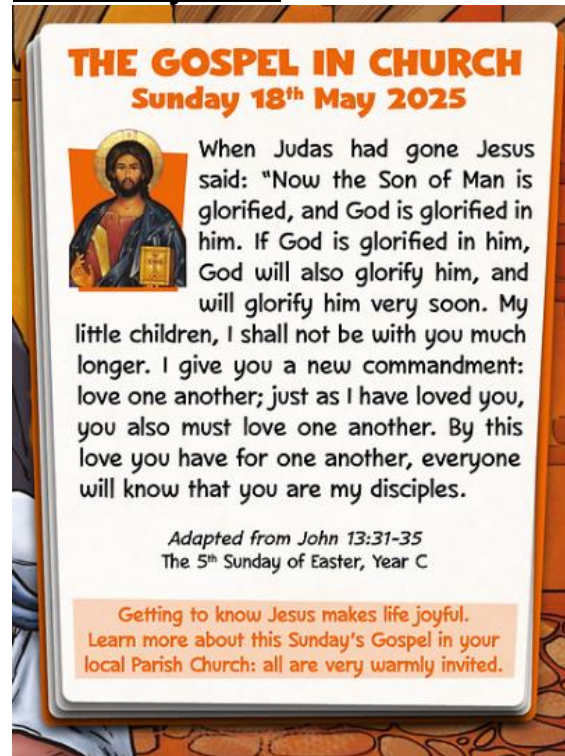
in his work. Especially in his reading. Keep up the super work!

**Year Four:** Ariella Treshani's focus on her presentation this week has been superb. She has focused on ensuring the foundations of writing are in place, adapting her sentences to suit and has made sure that it all looks fantastic with her effort into her handwriting. Keep this up Ariella, it has been wonderful to see!

**Year Five:** Jonathan Qiu has excelled in Maths this week, he is a star with Roman numerals and has been eager to support his peers when working in class. He has settled back into class after the holiday really calmly and maturely. This pupil has enjoyed art this week and has completed some pleasing work in RE using the bibles to help explore different readings we hear during the Easter Vigil. Everything Jonathan has done this week, has shown his sensible and mature attitude towards all aspects of school life. Well done, Jonathan, you've been an amazing role model this week.

**Year Six:** Harrison Walsh consistently shows generosity of spirit all the time, even when under pressure. It could be said of him that he can keep his head when all about him lose theirs, to borrow from Rudyard Kipling. He has handled the pressure of SATs week with maturity and as always, has parked his own anxieties and continued to look after the needs of others. Polite, friendly, offering a friendly smile to all, Harrison is a gem of a human being. Bishop Challoner, where he is heading in September, is in for a treat. Keep these wonderful qualities always as you grow up, Harrison.

### Wednesday Word



I see from the parish newsletter that Father Paul has instructed any child from Year Three or Six who attends Mass this weekend at St Ambrose Barlow to collect their gold stars to celebrate both the First Holy Communion and the end of SATS. Mrs Thorne will be at Mass on Sunday at 10am - if you attend at a different time, just seek her out on Monday.

### First Communion

Thanks to all involved! The children looked fantastic (as, indeed, they do again today for the May Procession) and we celebrated two beautiful Masses. Thank you to Father John Collins for leading those Masses and to all who joined, either in person or online. A special mention to the PTA for serving coffee and biscuits as photographs were being taken.



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### **Father Paul**

As you will see from Father Paul's parish newsletter, the ward where he is staying at the moment is closed due to an infection. I can hardly imagine how hard it must be to be deprived of visitors at the same time as trying to recover from a serious injury. Father Paul does so much for the school and our children continue to keep him in their thoughts. We pray for him each day, and today he was at the forefront of our minds as we said the Rosary during our May Procession.

### **PTA non-uniform**

Next Friday, the PTA have organised a non-uniform day for the children in exchange for a wrapped £1 gift, in preparation for our summer fete. Presents can be donated at the gate as children enter school next Friday.

### **PTA Golden Tickets**

Hot on the heels of Year Four enjoying their popcorn and film 'Mufasa' last week, Year Five are currently reaping the benefits of the PTA's 'Wonderlicious' Golden Ticket extravaganza. They will enjoy a 'No Pens Day' and can wear their own clothes as well next Tuesday, courtesy of Thea and Orlaith's two winning tickets. After half-term, Henry in Year Five will be helping me out as Assistant Head for the day – I hope he's good at assemblies! Reception will also have their ice lolly treat next Friday.



### **Work Experience**

Thanks to our plethora of ex-pupils who have helped out this week across school: Danny, Aaron, Isabel, and Charlie – you have all been fantastic and we hugely appreciate your time and efforts.

### **Birthdays this week...**

Happy birthday to Iyzah in Year Two who was seven on Monday, and happy birthday to Alec in Year Three who was eight on Tuesday. On the same day, Delilah in Year One was six. On Wednesday, Cayden in Year Two was seven and yesterday, Callan in Year Six turned eleven and we celebrated with his final Maths reasoning paper. Tomorrow, Lorenzo in Year One turns six and, on Sunday, Ayah in Reception turns five. A busy week! Happy birthday to all.



### **May dates for your diary**

**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Non-uniform for all children in exchange for a wrapped £1 gift; children break up for half-term at 3:30

### **June dates for your diary**

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** School closed for INSET

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> June:** School re-opens for all children

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> June:** Year Five and Six residential to Paris

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> June:** Year Three Going Forth Mass

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> June:** Year Five and Six residential to Whitemoor Lakes

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception Class Mass  
2:30pm

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> June:** Corpus Christi  
Procession 10am

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> June:** Whole School Mass for  
Sacred Heart of Jesus 9:30am

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer Fete 12-3pm

**July dates for your diary**

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> July:** Reception Class Assembly  
9am

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> July:** Keyboard and choir  
concert 2:15pm

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> July:** Reports out

**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> July:** Year Five eco-retreat @  
Columbans

**Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> July:** Year Six Leavers'  
Assembly 9am

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Whole School Mass at  
9:30am; Break up for summer at 2pm

Have a wonderful weekend and we shall  
see you all on Monday for the final  
week of this very short half term. God  
bless,



Mr Clinton