



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 4th July 2025

Dear parents,

This is a bumper edition of the newsletter because it contains Golden Book entries from this week and includes with additional diary dates for next year too.

However, first of all, I need to start with a huge thank you to the PTA and all the parent and staff volunteers who made last Saturday such a success. Even if the Summer Fete didn't make any money – or just about broke even – we would still continue to run it as the atmosphere on the day and the community feel it generates is well worth the effort. However, it doesn't just about break even: it is the biggest fundraising event in our calendar and raises much needed funds for the school in the process - see later in the letter for the final total. Thank you to all the PTA but especially Mrs Currington for her unwavering support, vision and enthusiasm.

We have ended this week with our Reception Assembly. I said afterwards that is the hard to believe that this cohort are almost at the end of their reception journey. The children started nine months ago but it feels like mere weeks, and they have matured so much in this time. My thanks especially to Miss Hodgkins, Miss Downing, Miss

Brookes and Mrs Robinson for all their hard work in getting the children to where they are now.

Finally, reports will be sent out on Friday 11th so next week's newsletter will be sent on Monday 14th July – the last week of the school year.

Golden Book from last week...

Reception: Thomas Hall for his excellent attitude towards practicing for our class assembly. Tom has clearly been learning his lines at home and he says them with such confidence. He has also made fantastic progress in his reading and writing in preparation for Year One! Well done, Tom!

Year One: Elliot Fowler has been working really hard recently to include his phonics when he is writing his sentences. All his hard work in phonics can be seen throughout his work. Elliot always gives 100% in every task that he does. He is a great friend to others and always willing to help those around him. Well done, Elliot!

Year Two: Callie-Anne Hudson has been chosen for the Golden Book for her brilliant attitude towards her learning. She is a fantastic listener and always follows instructions carefully and tries her very best in everything she does. Since joining us in September, she has made incredible progress and she should feel so proud of how far she has come. Her positive attitude and determination are a real credit to her! I

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look forward to seeing her blossom even more as she starts Year Three in September! Well done, Callie-Anne!

Year Three: Ella Kirby for showing such resilience and perseverance in her assessments. Ella showed a positive attitude and it was obvious that she wanted to do the best she could. I am so proud of Ella for putting 100% effort into everything she has done this week and her results are a testament to this!

Year Four: Oliver Ellard has shown exemplary behaviour in lessons and has been a shining example to his peers, always ready to learn and pushing himself to create his best work. His thoughts around the Gospel and work of the early Church has uplifted the learning of his peers. Keep this wonderful attitude up, Oliver!

Year Five: Zane Fernando has really impressed everyone: his assessment scores reflect all the hard work he has done over the past few weeks. His maths work is really impressive and shows that Zane now needs to be challenged further. Zane, next year, your scores will be phenomenal if you continue to work at the pace you are going. We have especially loved your sense of humour this week as it has been a difficult week, with lots of assessments, you have kept us entertained and been able to see the bright side of life. Keep being you, Zane - you are amazing!

Year Six: Nicolas Grange has been producing some excellent work since his return from Paris, culminating in a superb written piece to end today, setting the scene for our new literacy topic. He is increasingly bringing together all of his knowledge in writing

– specifically in Literacy but in all his other subjects too - to produce work of an extremely high standard. He is hitting the heights at the perfect time for his new secondary school in September. St Peter's are lucky to be getting him! Well done, Nicolas!

And Golden Book for this week too...

Reception: All of the children in Reception are in the Golden Book this week for their fabulous class assembly! All of you had such excellent stage presence and great confidence to say your lines. Your singing was amazing, and we are so proud of you all!

Year One: Ariella Farrell for becoming such an independent worker in Year One. She always gets on with her work straight away, remembering to write the date every time! She is a caring, kind and compassionate girl who is a good friend to all. She really is a good example to all!

Year Two: Lennon Mooney is a role model to everyone. He is so sensible and a brilliant friend to all. He is always listening carefully to all the instructions given in class and works hard in every single lesson. Lennon's hand is always in the air to share his thoughts and opinions and he is always surprising us with interesting facts. What we love most about Lennon is how he is always one step ahead and always thinking outside the box: such a brilliant skill to have! Lennon, you truly are a superstar! Year Three:

Year Four: Amelie Robinson has had an incredible term. She has shown focus and dedication to all subjects. Her Literacy writing assessment was a joy to read showcasing all of the skills that she

has developed this year. She is an excellent role model and with the help of two others in the class helped inspire her peers to consider how they can help their parish as they talked about their responsibility as altar servers. Keep this up into Year Five, Amelie!

Year Five: Ava Ling-Lee is a quiet, conscientious worker, who is now applying her new skills that she has learnt to help solve more complex problems. We are really proud of her assessment results which prove just how hard she has worked throughout the year. We really love the fact that this pupil has grown in confidence and she is now more willing to participate in group work as well as share her ideas, more readily in class. A real super star who sometimes hides her light, but now, with her new found confidence really shines! She is a great role model for her peers. Ava, continue to sparkle and others will follow your lead.

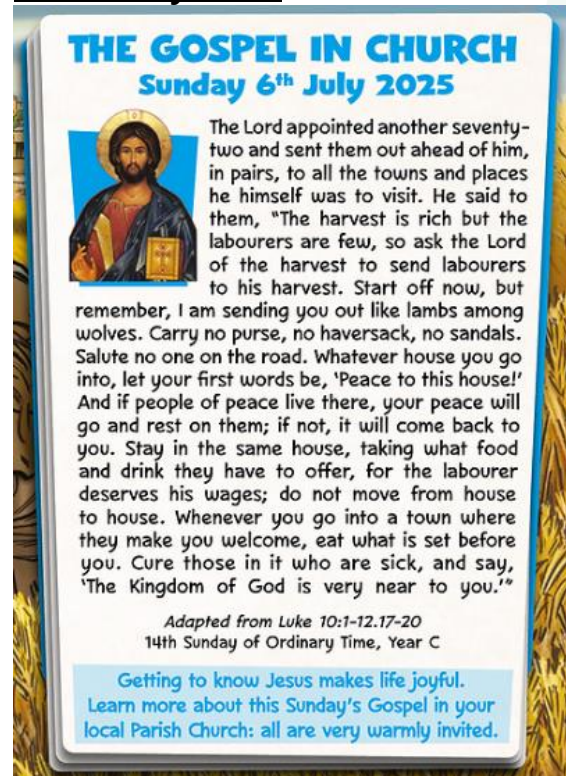
Year Six: Isabel is ready for the next stage in her education as she prepares to move to secondary school. King Edwards are blessed to have her on their roll. She continues to remain focused as she has since she arrived, producing work of a consistently high standard across the curriculum. She embodies our Catholic Values and Virtues, is always kind and helpful and a friend to all. Thank you, Isabel, for being such a lovely addition to the Year Six cohort.

Walk to School

Thanks to all those children who are still attempting to walk to school at least once per week. Each morning, children record their mode of travel. This term,

we have recorded a total of 15157 active trips. This equates to 32% walking trips, a 55% increase from our baseline in September. Not only this, but this term we have seen a 81% decrease in car trips from baseline, too. Congratulations! Our hard work is making a difference.

Wednesday Word



Summer Fete

The total raised for the fete and summer raffle was an incredible £4503! Thank you to all involved and to all the parents and children (and staff) who attended but especially Mrs Currington, in her role as chair, and Mrs Fitzpatrick, in her role as treasurer. We will hold our PTA AGM in October – please come along and support this wonderful fundraising initiative.

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And as a thanks from the PTA

Next Friday, the PTA have booked *WonderDome* Mobile Planetarium and all children will experience one of two shows:

Solar System - *explores galaxies, stars, the Sun, planets, moons, the Moon landings etc.*

Spaceflight - *looks at humans in space, including the Moon landings and life on the International Space Station.*

This is a fantastic opportunity for the children and shows how the funds from the PTA can be used to ensure all children benefit from an enriched curriculum offer. In addition to this amazing workshop, I also hear whispers of inflatables being booked for some time soon! Shhhhhh!

Bikeability

This takes place on Monday. All children in Year Five and Six are invited to take part in Level One on Monday, which takes place in the playground. You might have seen 12 brand new Trek bikes on our bike rack. Children will need their bike and a helmet, which can remain in school for the rest of the week as they work towards Level Two, which involves the skills needed to ride on the road.

Key Stage One Sports Day

This took place at 2pm on Tuesday 1st July in a slight change to last year's format. However, the feedback was that it was a very successful afternoon, and it was great to see the children and parents present together in our playground in the sunshine.

Key Stage Two Sports Day

Key Stage Two Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 15th July at Mosley Cricket Club on Streetsbrook Road. Children can come into school on the day in a t-shirt which is the same colour as their house:

St Oscar Romero - Red

St Maximilian Kolbe - Blue

St Josephine Bakhita - Green

St Teresa of Calcutta – Yellow

Parents are welcome to attend. There is parking on site and you are welcome to make a day of it. Children can either be picked up from the Cricket Club afterwards or return to school to be dismissed as normal.

Transition Day

This week, on Wednesday, children met their new teacher and both children and staff had a great time getting to know each other. We also welcomed our new Reception children to school, in two short sessions and Year Six travelled to their secondary schools. The end of the school year is very close but work still continues.

Ten:Ten Parent workshops

As you are no doubt aware, our mission as a Catholic school is to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all of our pupils, rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Church. At school, we use 'Life to the Full', produced by Ten:Ten Resources to teach about Relationship, Sex, and Health Education. Parents are able to access the Online Parent Portal which you can find here:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: st-ambrose-b28

Password: white-cloud

At 4pm on Monday 7th July, school will holding a meeting for KS2 parents should you wish to discuss or ask any questions about what is being taught during Ten:Ten lessons. After this meeting, your child will be learning about the material. Attendance is not mandatory, however it is highly recommended to support you in answering any questions children may ask at home.

Birthdays this week

This week,
Caitlin in Year
Five turned 10
on Wednesday



and today, Ethan in Year Four turned nine. Tomorrow, Iva in Year Two celebrates her seventh birthday and on Sunday, Nevaeh in Year Five turns ten. Happy birthday to all!

July dates for your diary

Mon 7th July: Year Five and Six Bikeability

Thurs 10th July: Keyboard and choir concert 2:15pm

Fri 11th July: Year Six @ Hall Green Library (am); Reports out

Mon 14th July: Year Six eco-retreat @ Columbans

Tues 15th July: Key Stage Two Sports Day

Thurs 17th July: Year Six Leavers' Assembly 9am

Fri 18th July: Whole School Mass at 9:30am; Break up for summer at 2pm

Term dates for 2025-26

Mon 1st Sept: – INSET

Tues 2nd Sept: INSET

Half-term: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025

Fri 19th Dec: Break up for Christmas

Mon 5th Jan: INSET

Tues 6th Jan: School opens for Spring Term

Fri 13th Feb: INSET

Half-term: Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026

Thurs 2nd April: Break up for Easter at 2pm

Mon 20th April: Children return to school

Half-term: Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026

Fri 17th July: School breaks up for Summer at 2pm

Have a great weekend! God bless,

Mr Clinton