



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 26th September 2025

Dear parents,

Another busy week and time is flying by! Next week our library visits begin, the week after we celebrate Poetry Day and our Reception Open Days, the week after that we have our Parent Consultations and our first class assembly which Year Six will lead, and the first part of Autumn Term will be almost done.

Thanks to all parents and children from Year Six who attended our Confirmation enrolment meeting last night. The children have been given their activities to aid their preparation before being confirmed at the end of January, and the parents hopefully enjoyed the opportunity to show off their extensive knowledge of saints.

Golden Book

Reception: *Children will start attending our weekly Gifts from God assembly, after October half term, and this is when their Golden Book celebrations will begin.*

Year One: Cee-Jai Simpson has impressed us this week with his maturity and motivation in attempting all the tasks given. He has used practical objects to support his Maths problem-solving and worked hard to ensure his number formation is correct. In Literacy, Cee-Jai has contributed some fabulous

ideas and has done well to share them confidently with the class. Great work this week, Cee-Jai!

Year Two: In Year Two this week, we'd love to celebrate Maya! Maya is a brilliant listener and always approaches every task with confidence and ease. She has written a fantastic story this week based on our text '*The Pirates Next Door*.' Maya included all the steps from her plan and all the vocabulary and took on all the feedback to improve her work. Well done on a fabulous week, Maya!

Year Three: Sebastian Henvey for being an absolute joy to teach. Sebastian always has his hand up ready to contribute his thoughts and ideas. He has an excellent imagination which makes his writing a pleasure to read. Sebastian also helped to plan and led a prayer service for Year Three this week which he did with confidence and eloquence.

Year Four: Jasper Fung has wowed his class this week with his amazing writing and his precise punctuation. He has been challenging himself to produce some excellent work inspired by '*The Firework Maker's Daughter*.' His vocabulary has been incredible and he has really captured the essence of the characters. Fabulous work, keep it going!

Year Five: This week, Helena Ridgeway has produced some amazing work in her RE work, her poem about Creation and using our gifts and talents wisely

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was just brilliant. Not only did Helena work well in RE but she has also shown she is a mature, sensible and reliable pupil undertaking jobs in the classroom without fussing and being kind and considerate towards others. It has been a real joy to have her in Year Five!

Year Six: Thea Dawson has been a delighted this week. She could have made the cut last week also, which is testament to what she is capable of when she puts her mind to it. She tried her hardest in last week's assessments and impressed with her responses in Guided Reading this week, looking for evidence in the 'War Horse' text to support her answers.

School Council

Unlike the prefects and head boy and girl, school councillors are elected by their classmates and play a role in improving provision in school from a pupil's point of view. These will be announced in next week's newsletter.

Mini-Vinnies

Positions for UKS2 will be advertised next week: a



President, secretary, communications officer, and treasurer are needed. Year Five and Six will be spoken to about the responsibilities involved and then invited to apply.

Enrolment Mass

Please join us on Sunday at 10am for our newest tradition: having our Year Six children show their maturity and desire for greater responsibility as they formally welcome the new Reception

children to our special school community. Last year, Father Paul remarked to me that it could be the case that a child joins us in Reception and attends Mass at the parish church but doesn't actually take part in a Sunday Mass until they reach Year Three and start preparing for the First Communion. It was Father Paul's desire to address this, by formally welcoming our Reception children to the parish community, and using Year Six, as young leaders in the church and wonderful role models in school, to do so. The feedback from last year was very positive and we will continue in this tradition each year moving forwards.

Year Five retreat

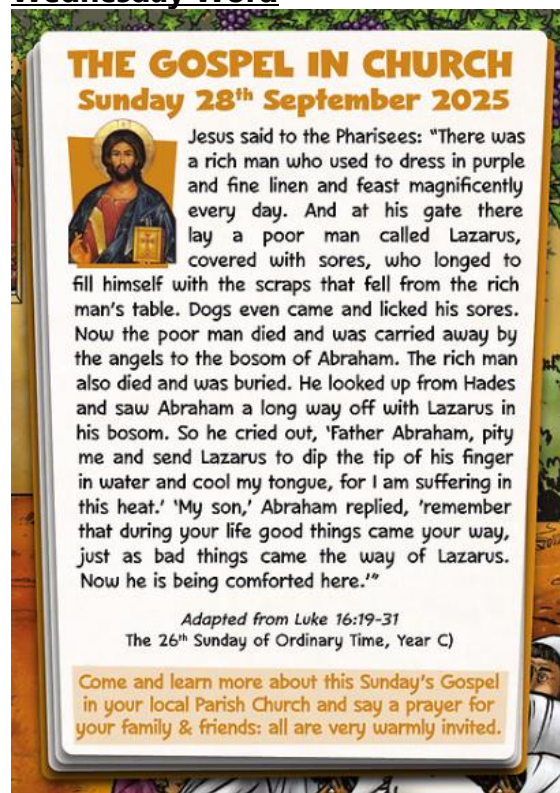
Thank you to the Year Five children who represented the school so well yesterday at the 'Fan the Flame of Hope' retreat at Corpus Christi Church, joining with eight other Catholic Primary schools. My thanks also to Mrs Fayaz and Mr Hawkins for driving the minibus, to Mrs Drewry and Mrs McGrory for accompanying the children, but especially to Mark McGrory (Mrs McGrory's loving husband) for utilising his wonderful woodwork talents in making our banner. It was very impressive and hugely appreciated!



Library visits

These have now been arranged. Each class, from Year Two upwards, will visit Hall Green library on a Thursday afternoon on a rota basis. Please see diary dates for more details about which class will visit on which specific day. If your child is not yet a member, why not head down to the library and pick up an application form. It is free and the best way to show our support for our local services is to use them!

Wednesday Word



Open Sessions for 2026 Reception Prospective Parents

We are holding two open afternoons for parents of Reception-aged children who would like to start in September 2026. These will take place on Monday 6th and Wednesday 8th October, at 2pm until 3pm. I will introduce our vision of Catholic education, Miss

Hodgkins will talk about life in Reception, and the Head Boy and Girl and prefects and will conduct their tour. All are welcome!

Advent charity



Mrs Drewry's father died very recently and, in his last days, was given remarkable care at Marie Curie Hospice.

There are 24 beds at the hospice, of which Marie Curie have funding for 12. It would mean a lot to Mrs Drewry if we could use our Advent fundraising to support Marie Curie.

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Aubrey in Year One who turned six on Monday and to Georgina – also in Year One – who turned six yesterday.



Tomorrow, Finley in Year Four turns nine. Happy birthday also to Mrs Corrigan who celebrated her 21st birthday again on Wednesday. She doesn't look a day over 40! Happy birthday to all.

September dates for your diary

Sun 28th Sept: Year Six and Reception 'Enrolment Mass 10am

October dates for your diary

Thurs 2nd Oct: Year Six at Hall Green Library 2pm

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Fri 3rd Oct: Year Two Class Mass 2:30pm

Mon 6th Oct: Poetry day;
Open Afternoon for prospective Reception parents 2pm

Wed 8th Oct: Open Afternoon for prospective Reception parents 2pm

Thurs 9th Oct: Year Five at Hall Green Library 2pm

Mon 13th Oct: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20

Wed 15th Oct: Harvest Mass, 2pm;
Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20

Thurs 16th Oct: Year Four at Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 17th Oct: Year Six Class Assembly

Thurs 23rd Oct: PTA AGM 9am;
Year Three at Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 24th Oct: Break up for half-term

November dates for your diary

Mon 3rd Nov: Children return to school

Tues 6th Nov: Year Two at Hall Green Library 2pm

Fri 7th Nov: Year Four Class Mass 2:30pm

Sun 9th Nov: Year Three 'Forgiveness' Mass

Thurs 13th Nov: Year Three First Confessions 6pm

Fri 21st Nov: Year Five Class Assembly

Thurs 27th Nov: Keyboard and choir concert 2:15pm

Sun 23rd Nov: Year Six to lead parish Mass 10am

December dates for your diary

Thurs 4th Dec: KS2 Advent Reconciliation Service

Fri 5th Dec: Reception Nativity 2pm

Mon 8th Dec: Whole School Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Tues 9th Dec: KS1 @ Mac: 'The Owl Who Came For Christmas'

Wed 10th Dec: KS2 @ Rep: 'Sherlock Holmes'

Thurs 11th Dec: KS1 Nativity Year One parents

Fri 12th Dec: KS1 Nativity Year Two parents

Tues 16th Dec: KS2 Carol Service 7pm

Wed 17th Dec: Christmas Dinner and Christmas jumpers

Thurs 18th Dec: KS1/2 Christmas parties (pm)

Fri 19th Dec: Whole School Mass 9:30am; Break up at 2pm: no after-school club

Have a restful weekend. We hope to see you on Sunday.

God bless,



Mr Clinton