



# 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 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear parents,

We have started our day today with our Gifts from God assembly, led by Mrs Bresnen, and we have ended the week with Father John celebrating a class Mass with Year One. Next week, our parent consultations take place and I look forward to greeting you all then. If you have any issues with your appointment, contact the office urgently.

### Learn from the Saints



*"Preach the Gospel  
at all times and  
when necessary  
use words."*

*Francis of Assisi*

*"Preach the Gospel at all times and  
when necessary, use words."*

This quote encapsulates two things that are important for our children here at school: the first is the importance of spreading God's Good News to all; the second is that our actions speak louder than our words. We spread the Gospel by our actions – namely, how we treat others here at school, in the playground, and then in the wider community.

### Golden Book

**Reception:** Ada Drury could be in the golden book every week! This week, she has amazed us with her positive attitude and determination towards her work, always completing it with a smile on her face and showing such great resilience too! This week, Ada has been very proud of herself for what she has achieved and so she should be! She also ensures that she is always so kind to her peers and helps wherever she can. Well done, Ada!

**Year One:** Delilah Shaw has impressed all of the adults in Year One with her beautiful cursive handwriting. The content of her writing is brilliant, and she is beginning to explore a range of adjectives and punctuation marks. Delilah wrote a fabulous story based on the plot of *The Three Little Pigs*, but cleverly created her own animals and ideas, producing some wonderful content. Delilah is a lovely and polite member of the class and a fabulous friend to everyone. Keep up the great work, Delilah!

**Year Two:** We would love to celebrate Amelia Ahmed in Year Two this week. She has worked incredibly hard this week in her assessments and made brilliant progress! She completed them with determination and pride. Amelia has also produced some lovely pieces of writing this week. We were particularly impressed with her letter to Peter she wrote in RE this week about

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forgiveness. Well done on a brilliant week, Amelia!

**Year Three:** Amelia Mehmood for showcasing her fantastic work ethic and resilience daily. Her dedication has truly paid off, especially in her recent maths assessments. We couldn't be more proud of her and the fantastic effort she continues to show. Keep up the hard work, Amelia!

**Year Four:** Aibhlinn Brady has not only been an exemplary student of this school during our school trip to Tamworth Castle, she has also shown fantastic focus during assessments this week. She is pushing herself to do her very best, even looking back at previous work to check she has improved from any feedback given to her during writing. Amazing work, Aibhlinn!

**Year Five:** Oliver Grange is deservedly in the Golden book this week. He has focused so well during his assessments this week and his results are showing his true potential. Oliver is a bright, enthusiastic learner who brings lots of his knowledge into lessons sharing this with others. He is a good team player who enjoys solving problems with others. In RE this week, his answers to his questions show he is a deep thinker: he often asks many interesting questions and his honest answers reveal he is a compassionate and kind pupil often thinking of the needs of others before himself. Well done, Oliver - we can only find out answers if we ask lots of questions. Stay curious and you will learn lots.

**Year Six:** Jonathan Qiu has been applying himself well in lessons, showing what he is truly capable of. He is attentive and curious, always

wondering why and wanting to know more. Jonathan has a great sense of humour and enjoys making his peers laugh. Keep up the good attitude towards learning, Jonathan, and you will achieve great things!

### **A special shout out**

Mr Foley, grandparent of Dermot in Year Five, has recently been volunteering as chief gardener and assisting Mrs McGrory in her work. In her words, he has been simply amazing: he has come in to help clear the weeds and the garden is looking so much better as a result. Giving up his time is really appreciated as our prayer garden is such a great resource for the school. In this year, dedicated to Saint Francis of Assisi, being outside is a wonderful way to share and experience the wonders of God's creation. Thank you, Frank – you get your own honorary mention in the Golden Book this week.

### **St Patrick's Day**

Tuesday is St Patrick's Day. Children can wear their own clothes and/or an item of green (or their Gaelic football



shirts). Children are being asked to donate £1 and this is payable via MCAS. Children will also be collecting cash on the gate in the morning. We will then pass all of these donations to the Archdiocese of Birmingham's favoured charity, which is Father Hudson's Caritas.

### **CAFOD Sponsored Walk**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May, we will be conducting our sponsored walk and all funds raised will be passed to CAFOD, to fund communities overseas that are in need. Children in Key Stage Two will walk approximately 5-6k whilst children in Key Stage One will walk a slightly shorter route.



### **Parent Consultations**

On both Monday and Wednesday, parents have the opportunity to attend school to a) meet their child's class teacher to discuss progress and attainment, and b) examine the work the children produce in class, either in their books and on the walls. Miss Brown, our wonderful new office manager, has printed a sheet with all the data the school currently holds for you – including addresses phone numbers, contact, allergies and medical information. This will be given to you **after** your appointment by the class teacher. Please check that this information is accurate and then pass it back to the office as you leave. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff on the day.

### **Keyboard concert**

Madam Grange will host our termly choir and keyboard concert on 19<sup>th</sup> March at 2:15pm. All are welcome to attend.

### **School Fund**

Thank you to those who have paid school fund for this year. As a school,

we are requesting £25.00 per pupil to enable us to purchase the added extras that our pupils both deserve and cherish, which works out at less than a pound a week. I would ask you to consider this contribution and the invaluable difference it makes to resources we have in school.

### **Wednesday Word**

**THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH**  
**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

 As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. Jesus spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam" (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "Yes, it is the same one." Others said, "No, he only looks like him." The man himself said, "I am the man." Some of the Pharisees did not believe that Jesus had healed him and they drove him away. Jesus heard about this and when he found the man he said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Sir," the man replied, "tell me who he is so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You are looking at him; he is speaking to you." The man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshipped Jesus.

*Adapted from John 9:1-38  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year A*

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

### **First Holy Communion and Going Forth Masses**

The children of Year Three will make their First Holy Communion together at 10am on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Each child will have one bench for their family. All are welcome to join with the school and parish to celebrate this important milestone in our children's journey of faith. The Going Forth Mass for our children will be twinned with the Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June. After Mass, children will process up from church to the school with the

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Blessed Sacrament and eat their communion breakfast in the school hall.

### **KS2 SATs**

These will begin on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> **May** with a Spelling and SPAG paper. On Tuesday, children will have their Reading paper. On Wednesday and Thursday, children will complete their arithmetic paper and their two reasoning papers. The focus of lessons in Year Six currently is a mixture of introducing new information and revisiting what has previous been learnt. Over the two week Easter break, just ten minutes a day recalling important Maths or grammar facts will make all the difference to your child's confidence.

### **Birthdays this week**

Happy birthday to Aadvik in Year Two who was seven on Wednesday (and also welcomed a new baby sister the previous week, so congratulations to the family for that also) and happy birthday to Kaisan in Year One who is six tomorrow!



### **March dates for your diary**

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent Consultations @ 3:40 -6:20

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Children wear green for St Patrick's Day (£1 donation to Father Hudson's)

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March:** KS2 Reconciliation Service; Parent Consultations @ 3:40 - 6:20

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Four to visit Hall Green library 2pm

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Two Class Assembly 9am

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March:** Shakespeare Week

**Tues 24<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three First Holy Communion INSPIRE Workshop 9am

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Whole School Mass for the Annunciation 9:30am;

NO AFTERSCHOOL TENNIS THIS DAY

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Five to visit Hall Green library @ 2pm

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Six Trip to Shakespeare Theatre

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three Compton Verney School Trip

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three children to lead Palm Sunday procession at 10am Mass

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup> March:** Year Three 'Palm Sunday' Holy Week Assembly

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March:** Year Four 'Last Supper' Holy Week Assembly

### **April dates for your diary**

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> April:** Year Five 'Gethsemane' Holy Week Assembly

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April:** Year Six 'Stations of the Cross' Holy Week Assembly; Break up for Easter at 2pm – no after-school club

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April:** Children return to school for Summer Term

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> April:** Fire service to visit Year Four for 'Sparks' workshop

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

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed for Bank Holiday

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed for voting – staff INSET

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May:** Year One Class Assembly 9am

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May:** First Holy Communion Mass 10am

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May:** May Procession 2pm from parish church to school

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Break up at 3:30 for half term

**June dates for your diary**

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup> June:** Going Forth Mass / Corpus Christi Procession

**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June:** Whole School Mass for feast of Sacred Heart

**Tues 16<sup>th</sup> June:** KS1 Sports Day 1:30pm

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup> June:** Class photos

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> June:** Reception Class Mass 2:30pm

**Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> June:** Year Six to Blackwell Court

**Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> June:** Family Mass for leaving families

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June:** SAB PTA Summer Fete 12-3pm

**July dates for your diary**

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July:** Transition Day

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July:** Reception Class Assembly

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Year Six at B'ham Central Mosque

**Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July:** Reports out to parents

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July:** Year Six Leavers' Assembly

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July:** Leavers' Mass

Have a wonderful weekend. Enjoy the brighter mornings and evenings ☺



Mr Clinton