



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 5th June 2026

Dear parents,

This Sunday, the children of Year Three will attend Mass at 10am at Church and then process back to school with Father John and the Blessed Sacrament, before going to the hall for their Communion breakfast. Any other parents, children or parishioners who attend Mass and join in with the procession are welcome to bring their own snacks or picnic and enjoy them in the school grounds with the school staff. By midday, everyone should be finished but it will be a lovely morning and all are welcome.

Communication from the parish of St Ambrose Barlow and Our Lady of the Wayside has gone out this week, which details the current arrangements: Fr Andrew Franklin has been appointed by Archbishop Bernard as the Parochial Administrator of St Ambrose Barlow, alongside his role as parish priest of Our Lady of the Wayside. Fr John Collins will continue to have responsibility for the pastoral, sacramental and liturgical life of the parish and continue his ministry at the church. This is a positive development and just sets out formally what has been working well for the past eight months or so.

Golden Book

Reception: Adrian McLarty-Goodhew deserves praise for coming back after

half term with such enthusiasm to learn! He has shown great listening skills and effort during lessons, trying very hard to develop his independence and resilience. He has produced some fantastic writing about '*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*', working on his segmenting skills and letter formation! Keep up the hard work, Adrian!

Year One: It was wonderful to see Elijah Fishley making the most of our trip to Twycross Zoo, taking part with enthusiasm and enjoying every minute of the experience. Elijah was especially excited about the penguins and eagerly shared his observations with his classmates, enjoying discussions about what they were doing. Elijah's work ethic and independence continue to grow, and it has been a pleasure to see him confidently achieve the tasks set for him. We are very proud of his progress and positive attitude. You're a star, Elijah

Year Two: We are delighted with how far Jimmy Gorman has come along during his time in Year Two — he has truly blossomed and flourished. He brings a smile to the faces of the staff every single day. Jimmy works incredibly hard in class and always gives his very best in every lesson. His perseverance and resilience shine through in everything he does; even when something feels challenging, Jimmy always keeps going! His handwriting is beautifully joined, and his work is consistently well presented.

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

This week, he wrote a fantastic colour-themed poem filled with some brilliant description. Well done, Jimmy!

Year Three: Theo Richardson for making excellent choices this week and being a fantastic role model in the classroom. Theo always listens carefully to instructions, works hard in all his learning and shows a positive attitude every day. His focus, effort and responsible behaviour really stood out this week. Keep up the great work, Theo.

Year Four: Adam Malik has started this half term excellently with a real focus on producing excellent work and improving his presentation. He has been full of ideas for his Brer Rabbit style character and I'm looking forward to seeing how he will combine all of these together as we write our folk tale next week.

Year Five: Joy Mattapudi has settled back into school really well and is really enjoying our work on Pentecost. He is exploring prayers of the Holy Spirit and learning about the different names we give to the Holy Spirit. This pupil is always happy to come to school; he is keen to complete his work and has shown growing independence this term. He is a very caring and loving pupil who brightens our day just by being him. Well done, Joy! You bring so much happiness into our school day.

Year Six: Alesha Perry has been showing a very positive attitude towards learning in all lessons. She is showing resilience and producing thoughtful pieces of work to a high standard. Proving she is more than ready for the exciting challenges which

lie ahead in secondary school. Keep up the excellent work Alesha!

Gardening Club

A shout out from Mrs McGrory:

As part of The Great Big Green Week, we are hosting a free event after school on Monday next week. It will take place in the school prayer garden after school. Pupils with parents can come and participate in a range of activities that Gardening club will run.

Families can stay for one activity or can stay for the hour and Refreshments (squash and biscuits) will be available. It would be fantastic to see lots of families enjoying our outdoor space that we are so lucky to have. Gardening club are really looking forward to hosting this event as it is part of a national campaign to raise awareness of Green issues and it fits in really well with the Church's year of Saint Francis.

Going Forth Mass

On Sunday 7th June, the children who made their First Communion will once again have an opportunity to wear their outfits as they process from Church on the Feast of Corpus Christi to school, where they will celebrate their communion breakfast. **All** families and parishioners are invited to walk with us and enjoy a picnic in our beautiful prayer garden – everyone is more than welcome! This is now a firmly established annual tradition and a great way to celebrate the Blessed Sacrament's centrality to our lives.

Notices from the PTA

Emma Holsey, who is the chair of the PTA, has organised TWO own clothes days for the children in exchange for goods for the Summer Fete. The fete itself is taking place on Saturday 27th June.

Thursday 11th June: £1 wrapped gifts

Thursday 18th June: sweets, chocolate and donations of cakes

Phonics Workshop – Reception

On Wednesday morning, parents of children in Reception have yet another opportunity to work directly with their child during a Phonics workshop that Miss Hodgkins is hosting in the school hall.

BCSSA Catholic Sports

This took place on Monday. At the Alexander Stadium – a great venue that was used to host the Commonwealth Games. Thanks to Miss Ball for organising and for all the parents who attended. For a one-form entry school, we certainly punch above our weight, if you can excuse the boxing parlance. We took 13 children and ended up in five finals after winning our respective heats against fifteen other Birmingham-based Catholic schools. A special mention to Francis Fitzpatrick who came fourth in the 600 metres, to Darcie Bucknall who came third in the 600 metres, to Poppy Nixon who came second in the long jump and to Millie Kirk who came first in the Girls Year Four sprint. See her winning margin on our Instagram grid – she won by a magnificent distance. No photo finish needed!

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Bella in Year Two who was seven on Monday.

On Tuesday, Gemma in Year Four was nine. On Thursday, Ella in Year Four was nine and

today, Layton in Year Six turns 11 and rode his new bike to school to celebrate!

On Sunday, Reception's Lily-Rose turns five and Amelia in Year Three is eight. Happy birthday all!



Uniform

The children look great in their polo shirts or blouses and summer dresses. A reminder that even in hot weather, children may still need a light jacket in case of rain. And, conversely, in warmer weather, will need a sun hat as well as sun cream applied at home. It goes without saying, of course (but I will mention it anyway) that all items of clothing need to be clearly labelled with a name.

June dates for your diary

Sun 7th June: Going Forth Mass / Corpus Christi Procession 10am

Tues 9th June: Reception children at Ash End Farm;

Thurs 11th June: PTA own clothes day; Year Three children to visit Hall Green library @ 2pm

Fri 12th June: Whole School Mass for feast of Sacred Heart

Mon 15th June: KS2 Sports Day 10am

Tues 16th June: KS1 Sports Day 1:30pm

Wed 17th June: Class photos

Thurs 18th June: PTA own clothes day

Fri 19th June: Reception Class Mass
2:30pm

Tues 23rd June: Year Six to Blackwell
Court

Thurs 25th June: Year Four violin
performance 9am;

Family Mass for leaving families 5pm

Sat 27th June: SAB PTA Summer Fete
12-3pm

Mon 29th June: St Teresa of Calcutta
Sports Day @ Alexander Stadium

July dates for your diary

Wed 1st July: Transition Day

Fri 3rd July: Reception Class Assembly

Thurs 9th July: Year Six at B'ham
Central Mosque

Fri 10th July: Keyboard and choir
concert at 2:15pm;
Reports out to parents

Thurs 16th July: Year Six Leavers'
Assembly

Fri 17th July: Leavers' Mass

Have a good weekend and we hope to
see you on Sunday for our Corpus
Christi procession.



Mr Clinton