



St. Ambrose Barlow

Catholic Primary School

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Friday 18th September 2026

Dear parents,

It is only fitting to start this newsletter with a note from our new Head Boy and Girl:

"Hello, I'm Enda and I am looking forward to representing the school. My expectations are very high for the school. I look forward to counting the house points every week and to help any people I can. I will do anything to help those in need."

"Hi, I'm Amelia and I am Head Girl. I am looking forward to representing the school in all I do. My expectations are high – higher than ever. I'll go to any length to help those in need because I believe that everyone deserves to have a chance to succeed in life."

Thank you, both. You have taken the words right out of my own mouth.

Golden Book

Reception's Golden Book will start after half-term

Year One: Liyana has had a fabulous start to Year One! Her enthusiasm and motivation have been bursting through, and she has approached every activity with a positive attitude and determination to complete it to the very

best of her ability. This week, Liyana has written some brilliant sentences based on our book 'Supertato'. We are all so impressed with her fantastic effort and attitude to learning. Keep it up, Liyana!

Year Two: Maisie has been a real star this week! She has shown fantastic work ethic in all subjects. In Literacy, she has worked incredibly hard and has produced work she should be very proud of. Maisie listens well in class and has made an excellent start in Year Two. Well done, Maisie!

Year Three: Roisin has been making such a positive start to the first term in Year Three. Roisin is the perfect role model for her peers. She listens well, contributes to all lessons and her presentation is of the highest standard! She tries really hard in all lessons and the work she has been producing has reflected this. Thank you for being so wonderful, Roisin!

Year Four: We are so pleased to be putting Tianna in the Golden Book this week! Tiana been working incredibly hard in all lessons this week. She listens carefully to instructions and always tries her very best. She has particularly impressed us with her Literacy work and her writing. Not only does she complete what is asked of her, but she goes above and beyond expectations. Her writing is a joy to read, and she should be very proud of the effort, creativity, and enthusiasm she brings to her work every day. Well done!

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

Year Five: Jasper is a kind, caring and helpful member of the class. More than this, though: he is also a deep thinker who has really shown his deep understanding of the RE lessons taught this week. Mrs McG is very passionate about teaching this subject and is always proud of the work her pupils do. This week, however, she was bowled over by the answers Jasper gave in his work. His reflections showed a real, deep understanding of how when we break the commandments given by God, we are also breaking our covenant with God, the same covenant given to Moses. Wow! Jasper, you have really shown you are engaging and reflecting in lessons and we are really proud of you!

Year Six: Aurora Clifton has had a fantastic week. Her contributions to class discussions have enhanced our learning. She has taken ownership of her own learning by seeking help and guidance whenever she required it so she could consistently produce some fab pieces of work. Keep this up, Aurora!

A note from Mrs McGrory

The newly elected Eco-Councillors for this year are as follows:

Year One: Gracie and Nolan

Year Two: Elijah and Millie

Year Three: Arlo and Isabella

Year Four: Sebastian and Ilana

Year Five: Aibhlinn and Ethan U

Year Six: Florence and Dermot who will be secretary and chairperson, respectively.

Head Gardeners: We also have two head gardeners who are Ariella and Oliver E so congratulations to all they will all be helping us achieve our goals on our Sustainability Action plan this year.

Next week is our 'Recycle Week'. The Eco Council met and have decided they will hold a Book Swap at lunchtimes where pupils can bring in a book and swap it for another. They will also be doing litter picks at lunchtime to see if there is a reduction in the amount of single use plastic on the playground.

Prefects

It gives me great pleasure to announce, after much careful deliberation by the staff, that our Year Six Prefects this



year are Mila, Sonny, Conall, Lola, Helena and Ethan V. Congratulations, all. Your hard work and dedication during your time here at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School has paid off by this recognition from the staff.

First Holy Communion Sacramental preparation

Thanks to the parents (and children) who attended last night as part of the Sacramental;



programme here in school. Children and parents from the other classes are

warmly invited to join us at St Ambrose Barlow parish Church this Sunday at 10am for Year Three's first Sacramental preparation Mass, with the theme of 'Belonging'. Also, please keep the children of Year Three in your prayers as they prepare for their Reconciliation on Thursday 12th November and their First Communion on Saturday 8th May.

Confirmation Sacramental dates

The date for Bishop David to celebrate with us has been confirmed as Friday 22nd January 2027 at 7pm. The following dates therefore apply:



Thurs 1st Oct: Parent meeting 6pm (school hall)

Sun 4th Oct: Enrolment Mass / blessing of Reception children 10am

Sat 22nd Nov: Christ the King Mass 10am

Thurs 14th Jan: Parent meeting 6pm (school hall)

Fri 22nd Jan: Sponsor Workshop 2pm

Fri 22nd Jan: Confirmation 7pm

Open Morning and Afternoon for prospective Reception parents

Please join us for our Open Days to welcome and discuss with you the aims and strengths of Catholic education, an introduction to our Reception staff, and then a tour of the school led by our prefects. All are welcome. No booking necessary.

Session One:

Tuesday 10th November 10:30am

Session Two:

Wednesday 11th November 2:00pm

Parent Consultations

These will take place on Monday 12th October and Wednesday 14th October. Appointments will be bookable via MCAS in the coming weeks.

Christmas trips

Yesterday, communication was sent out about these two trips. The only detail that has



changed from what was shared in last week's newsletter is that the cost of travel has now been totally covered by last year's PTA. The revised prices are now £15 for Reception and Key Stage One to see '*Tales from Acorn Wood*', and £20 for Key Stage Two to see '*Peter Pan*'. MCAS has been updated accordingly, which may explain why you received two different payment prompts during the week.

Birthdays this week

Happy birthday to Zakariya in Reception who turned five on Monday! A quiet week but birthdays but a special week for Zakariya all the same.



September dates for your diary

Sun 20th Sept: Year Three Enrolment Mass 10am at Church

October dates for your diary

Thurs 1st Oct: Year Six Parent meeting 6pm in school hall

Sun 4th Oct: Enrolment Mass for Year Six and Reception 10am

Mon 12th Oct: Parent Consultations 3:40 - 6:20

Wed 14th Oct: Harvest Mass 2pm; Parent Consultations 3:40 - 6:20

Thurs 15th Oct: Year Five Maths challenge 3:45 – 4:30

Fri 16th Oct: Year Six Class Assembly

Fri 23rd Oct: Break up at 3:30pm

November dates for your diary

Mon 2nd Nov: Children return to school

Fri 6th Nov: Year Six Class Mass

Sun 8th Nov: Year Three to lead Sunday Mass 10am

Tues 10th Nov: 10:30 Open Morning Session for prospective Reception parents

Wed 11th Nov: 2pm Open Afternoon session for prospective Reception parents

Thurs 12th Nov: Year Three Confession 6pm

Fri 20th Nov: Year Three Class Assembly

Mon 23rd Nov: Year Six at Whitemoor Lakes (until Wed 25th Nov)

December dates for your diary

Wed 2nd Dec: KS2 Reconciliation 2pm

Fri 4th Dec: School closed for INSET

Mon 7th Dec: Reception Nativity 2pm

Tues 8th Dec: Whole School Mass for the Immaculate Conception 9:30am

Wed 9th Dec: KS1 Nativity: 10am and 2pm

Fri 11th Dec: Keyboard and choir concert 2:15pm

Tues 15th Dec: KS1 trip 'Tales from Acorn Wood'

KS2 Carol Service 7pm

Wed 16th Dec: KS2 trip 'Peter Pan'

Fri 18th Dec: Whole School Mass 9:30; break up for Christmas 3:30pm

January dates for your diary

Mon 4th Jan: School closed for INSET

Tues 5th Jan: School re-opens for children

Wed 6th Jan: Whole School Mass for Epiphany

Tues 12th Jan: Young Voices at Resorts World

Thurs 14th Jan: Year Six Confirmation meeting 6pm

Fri 15th Jan: Year Five Class Mass

Fri 22nd Jan: Year Six Sponsor workshop 2pm;

Year Six Confirmation 7pm

Fri 29th Jan: Year Four Class Assembly

February dates for your diary

Fri 5th Feb: Year Five Class Assembly

Tues 9th Feb: Internet Safety Day

Wed 10th Feb: Ash Wednesday Mass 9:30

Thurs 11th Feb: School closed for half-term

Fri 12th Feb: School closed for INSET

Have a wonderful week. Will we see Villa's first win of the season tomorrow? You can let me know on Monday morning. I remain hopeful but ultimately unconvinced.



Mr Clinton