St. Ambrose Barlow
Catholic Primary School

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Friday 9th October 2026

Dear parents,

The end of another busy week! There has been some beautiful work from the children and some excellent discussions in class. Parents, you will be able to celebrate this work next week during our Parent Consultations.

Golden Book

Reception's Golden Book will start after half-term

Year One: Matilda has consistently shown, throughout her time in Year One so far, that she is determined, enthusiastic and conscientious in everything she does. She approaches every task and activity with excellent focus and always takes great pride in her work, ensuring that her presentation is of a very high standard. Matilda has worked incredibly hard in Phonics and is confidently applying the new Phase 5 sounds in her writing. This is both fantastic and very impressive, and it demonstrates the progress she is making. Keep up the wonderful work, Matilda!

Year Two: Flynn for his fantastic attitude towards learning. He has worked hard this week in all his lessons most especially in Maths where we have been doing column addition with renaming. He has remained focused and persevered even when it was tricky. Well done, Flynn! Keep up the good work!

Year Three: Ariella for consistently being the best person she can be. Ariella works incredibly hard in every lesson. She is a great help around the classroom, always being the first one to help with jobs and tidying up. She is an excellent friend and will always help her peers in lessons, especially in Maths. She is everything we want from a pupil at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School!

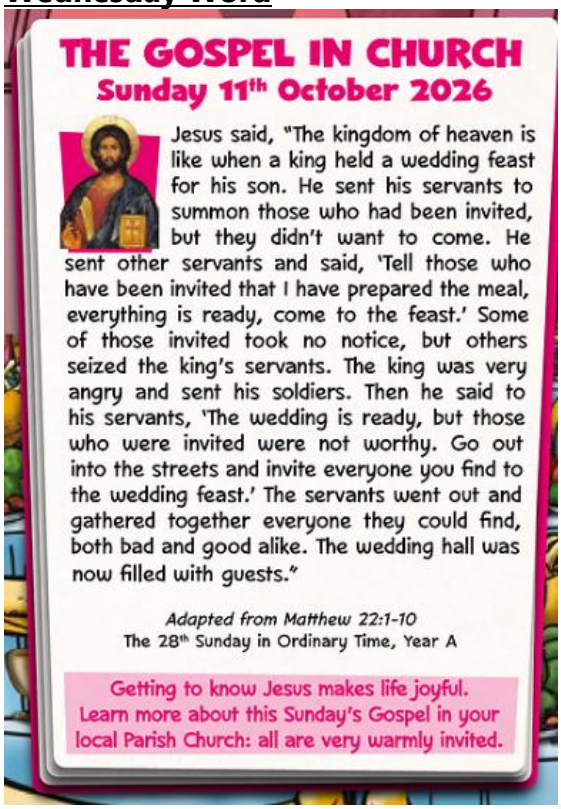
Year Four: This week, Ilana has shone! It is an absolute pleasure to have Ilana in our class. She approaches every lesson with enthusiasm and determination, always trying her very best and giving 100% to everything she does. Ilana contributes thoughtfully to class discussions, listens carefully, and shows genuine kindness and respect to everyone around her. Her work is consistently presented beautifully and reflects the pride she takes in all that she does. She is a fantastic role model for her peers, and her positive attitude, hard work, and lovely nature make her a truly valued member of our class. Well done, Ilana!

Year Five: Elsie has had a great week in Year Five this week. She has been engaging in lessons more and has been keen to do extra work too. She is now asking for support more readily showing she is determined and keen to make good progress. This is really pleasing to see and just shows how

much learning means to you, Elsie. Keep up the hard work - it will be worth it.

Year Six: Oliver E has had an incredible start to Year Six. His attitude to learning is fantastic, he is brimming with enthusiasm in lessons with his hand always up to share ideas, ask incisive questions and he always looks for an opportunity to help others. His work is showing all of the skills that he has gained during his time at school and he always looks for the next way to take it to the next level. Well done, Oliver!

Wednesday Word



What shines clearly through this story that Jesus is sharing with us is that God's invitation is for everyone, regardless of our past or present situation.

Loving and Compassionate

As you may be aware, we are focusing on being 'Loving and Compassionate this half-term. What you may not be aware of is how we structure this around out learning: every Monday, we start with a Gospel Assembly where we talk about how to see these values in our lives. Every Friday, we end our week with a Gifts from God assembly, where we celebrate all the gifts and talents that have been apparent this week. Every Tuesday we have teacher led-prayer in the classroom and then each Thursday, we have child-led prayer.

The reason I mention this is because, this coming Tuesday, during teacher-led prayer, we will be celebrating a particular group of people in our country who have been showing love and compassion to those in need. We will be praying for, and then writing letters and cards and drawing pictures to show our thanks to, those selfless members of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) who, in all weathers, put the needs of the vulnerable at the heart of their mission, including migrants and those enduring small boat crossings. The RNLI is staffed almost entirely by volunteers and, recently, those same volunteers have been at the receiving end of some undeserved abuse. I am hoping that this small gesture from our special school community may go some way to showing that there is a very large silent majority who appreciate what they do,

Should you wish to make a donation to the RNLI, you can do so here: Donate to the RNLI and help save lives at sea

Catholic Social teaching

During our parent consultations that will take place in the hall, please take a moment to appreciate the children's work on the hall walls, where every class has created a display based on Catholic Social Teaching, which is the prism that we view our National Curriculum through.

Preferential Option for the Poor
"It is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing. That cannot be of God"
St Oscar Romero

The Common Good
"To change the world for the better, it is necessary to do good to those who are not able to return the favour."
Pope Francis

Solidarity
"In so far as you did this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me"
St Matthew's Gospel 25: 40-45

Stewardship
"We are all guardians of God's creation."

Human Dignity
"We should treat every person the way we wish to be treated."

Participation
"Don't be observers, but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did."
Pope Francis

Peace
"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me"

Parent Consultations

As mentioned above, these will take place in the hall. Parents will enter through the main office door. There will be chairs set out in the centre of the hall and tables around the edge where you can wait. If you are bringing children, and you are welcome to do so, they will remain sitting in the centre of the hall while you attend your appointment. Both Mrs Bresnen and I will be present throughout, should you wish to speak to either one of us, and Miss Brown will also be on hand to hand out your data sheets, should you wish to change or correct your contact details. Miss Traynor is also meeting parents to discuss our provision with children with additional needs. Either before or after your appointment, you will have the opportunity to view your child's books in their classroom.

Harvest Mass

You are warmly invited to join us for our Harvest Mass this Wednesday at 2pm, where we will give thanks to God for all we have. We will also be donated any tinned, non-perishables goods and toiletries (toothpaste, shower gel, sanitary products, etc) to those in need, both in our immediate local community and also those who have joined our community with nothing and need our help and support to rebuild their lives.

School Photographs

Individual photographs will take place this Monday. Children should be in full winter uniform with a shirt and tie. If you wish a photograph to be taken with pre-school siblings, please come to school from 8am via the front office and

you will be accompanied to the library. Children with siblings in school will be taken during the school day as normal.

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

PTA

All parents, guardians or carers of any pupil currently attending our school and teaching and non-teaching staff currently employed by our school are automatically members of the PTA. To this end, you are invited to attend our annual AGM which will take place this coming Friday at 2:30pm in the school hall. Should you wish, you can put yourself forward to stand for office or join the committee.

Birthdays this week



Happy birthday to Kieron in Year Six and Bella in Year Five who turned eleven and ten respectively on Monday. Happy birthday, both!

October dates for your diary

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 Four 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 weekend. I will see the children return on Monday morning and look forward to seeing you, parents, on either Monday or Wednesday.

God bless,

J Clinton

Mr Clinton