St. Ambrose Barlow
Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mr J Clinton
0121 464 2791
www.sab.bham.sch.uk
enquiry@sab.bham.sch.uk

St. Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School, 841 Shirley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 9JJ

Friday 23rd October 2026

Dear parents,

We have reached the end of our first half term here in school and what a busy eight weeks it has been: we have welcomed our new Reception children, enjoyed Year Six's class assembly, celebrated Year Two's class Mass, celebrated a whole school Harvest Mass, hosted the book fayre, held two Parent Consultations, taken part in two football competitions, and this is in addition to the five or so daily lessons the children enjoy. Both staff and children can enjoy a well-deserved rest now. We return on Monday 2nd November for the second part of Autumn term. I look forward to welcoming the children back then, in their full winter uniform (white shirt, tie, and grey jumper for **all** pupils).

Golden Book

Reception's Golden Book will start after half-term

Year One: Kobi has had a fantastic week! He has worked brilliantly with his partner to discuss the content of different books, carefully considering whether they are fiction or non-fiction. In Maths, Kobi has worked hard to count objects accurately and record his answers, taking care to check his number formation. Kobi has also made some excellent choices regarding his behaviour this week. He has shown a growing awareness of the classroom and school rules and has made a real effort to follow them consistently. It has been lovely to see him making such positive choices. Super work, Kobi! Keep it up!

Year Two: Aubrey has had a fantastic week. Not only has she applied herself in all her lessons this week. She is also a kind, caring and helpful girl who is always willing to help those around her. This week Aubrey has seen her hard work in class pay off and she produced a wonderful narrative piece in Literacy, applying all her new found knowledge. Yesterday, her RE work was worthy of that of a Year Six pupil! Well done, Aubrey - keep up the hard work!

Year Three: Harry for always being so imaginative with his thoughts and ideas. Harry's vocabulary is great and he always goes above and beyond to make his writing sound interesting and engaging. He has also started to join his handwriting, making his presentation absolutely beautiful. Keep working hard, Harry.

Year Four: Iyzah been working really hard not just this week, but all half term! Iyzah has grown so much confidence and independence, and she always tries her very best in everything she does. Iyzah is a wonderful role model to their friends, consistently listening carefully, following instructions well, and setting a positive example for others. Well done on a brilliant week and half term, Iyzah!

Year Five: Each week, Gracie could be chosen for Golden book as she embraces every opportunity to 'learn more and remember more' in lessons. She is always attentive in class, asks enquiring questions and her work is always presented to the best of her ability. She loves reading and devours books. It was wonderful, when Year Five visited the library, to see Gracie enjoy her time browsing the bookshelves in the hunt for a new book. She is such a help in class and I think she might be even more organised than Mrs McG! Thank you, Gracie, for being you - you are a superstar!

Year Six: Amelie, our wonderful Head Girl, puts everything into her work. Her presentation is top-notch, her reflections in RE are well-considered and she constantly pushes herself to improve, producing the best work that she can. She always looks for opportunities to put her best self forward, whether that is seeking additional work to complete or the kindness she shows everyone. Well done, Amelie – this is fantastic to witness and certainly worthy of praise!

Wednesday Word: Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'

Access to the school drive

See below for communication sent from the school office:

Some months ago, we made the decision to allow any blue badge holders access to the drive in the morning to ease congestion outside school.

However, this measure has proved unsustainable in recent weeks, and therefore parents will no longer be allowed to use to drive, regardless of whether they are entitled to a blue badge or not. The gate will remain closed to all parents in both the morning and the afternoon. Only staff and deliveries to the kitchen will be allowed access. This change takes place with immediate effect. Please do not ask to use the drive as refusal may offend.

The decision has been taken, and fully supported by our Governors, with the safety of our children and extended school community in mind. The drive and limited parking can no longer facilitate the numbers of parents making requests to use it, and often cars driving in meet other cars attempting to exit, which makes reversing out onto the road a hazard. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Values & Virtues for this half term

Congratulations to the following children who have been identified by their class teachers as being Compassionate and Loving:

Reception - Gabriella
Year 1 - Gracie
Year 2 - Nico
Year 3 - Delilah
Year 4 - Freya
Year 5 - Francis
Year 6 - Eden

Walk to School relaunch

From the first day back after half term, children can earn their 'Walk to School' badge if they walk one day a week each month. Why not set off a little earlier, park a little further away from school, and support our sustainability and stewardship approach?

'flu vaccinations

The team who delivered our 'flu vaccinations are returning on Monday 16th November. The school office will communicate the salient details after half-term. Please take every opportunity to protect your children this winter with this totally safe, simple and painless nasal spray vaccine.

2026-2027 Parent/Carer Survey

The survey can be accessed using the following link:
>>respond here<<

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

SEND Coffee Morning

On Friday 6th November at 9am, we will be hosting a Meet the Agencies SEND Coffee Morning. This will be a fantastic opportunity for parents and carers to meet some of the outside agencies that work with our school, find out more about the support they provide and ask any questions they may have. We are delighted that representatives from the Communication and Autism Team, Educational Psychology, Language, Learning and Strategic Support Team, Occupational Therapy Team, and NHS Speech and Language Therapy will be joining us. We will shortly be sending out a Microsoft Teams form. If you would like to attend, please complete the form to let us know. There will also be an opportunity to submit any questions you would like our visiting professionals to answer. We hope you can join us for a coffee, a chat and the opportunity to find out more about the support available to our children and families.

PTA AGM and EGM

My thanks to all who attended last week's PTA AGM. The new committee were voted upon and are as follows:

Chair – Mrs Holsey (mother of Lylah-Rose in Year Three)
Vice chair – Miss Corrigan (mother of Georgina in Year Two)
Treasurer – Ms Moore (mother of Lola in Year Five and Alfie in Reception)
Secretary – Ms Aston (mother of Ariella in Year Six, Lorenzo in Year Three and Gabriella in Reception)
Community & Partnerships – Mrs Mooney (mother of Lennon in Year Four).

We are holding an Extraordinary General Meeting on Friday 6th November where last year's finances will be presented – both income and expenditure – as well as ear marking possible projects for this year. All parents are again invited.

Birthdays this week



Happy birthday to Delilah in Year Two who turned seven on Wednesday and celebrated with a 3-1 Villa win against Viking FK in the Champions League.

Happy birthday to all who celebrate over half-term too: Florence and Andreas in Year Six turn eleven, and Malakai in Year Two turns seven. Happy birthday to all!

November dates for your diary

Mon 2nd Nov: Children return to school
Fri 6th Nov: PTA EGM 9am;
SEND Coffee morning 9-10;
Year Four Class Mass 2:30pm
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
Mon 22nd Feb: School re-opens for
Fri 26th Feb: Year One Class Mass 2:30pm

March dates for your diary
Sun 7th March: Year Three to lead Sunday Mass 10am
Mon 8th March: Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20pm
Wed 10th March: KS2 Reconciliation; Parent Consultations 3:40 – 6:20pm
Mon 15th March – Fri 19th March: Year Five and Six in Paris
Sun 21st March: Year Three to lead Palm Sunday Procession at 10am
Mon 22nd March: Year Three 'Palm Sunday' Holy Week Assembly
Tues 23rd March: Year Four Holy 'Last Supper' Week Assembly
Wed 24th March: Year Five 'Gethsemane' Holy Week Assembly
Thurs 25th March: Year Six 'Stations of the Cross';
Children break up for Easter at 3:30pm

Well done to all the children who enjoyed hot chocolate on Wednesday for their half-termly Numbots and TimesTable Rock Stars (TTRS) treat. The children will work toward something else for the next half-term. I welcome suggestions!

Have wonderful half-term break. Relax and recuperate! 😊

God bless,



Mr Clinton