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 13th November 2026

Dear parents,

I have no idea if this newsletter will reach you due to the issues with Outlook across the globe but we will try regardless!

Golden Book

Reception: Kylan absolutely loves learning and always approaches his work with such enthusiasm and excitement. He is often asking to complete more work and is always eager to challenge himself and try his best. Kylan is such a lovely, kind and caring member of our class who treats everyone with kindness.

Year One: Zakariah has worked extremely hard this week to use the sound mat to support him when spelling words. He is becoming increasingly confident when sounding out words, recognising the order of the sounds and blending them together to spell words accurately. In Maths, Zakariah takes great care when forming his numbers, always ensuring they are correctly formed. He is also a confident and enthusiastic member of the classroom, regularly volunteering his answers and showing respect by listening carefully to the contributions of his peers. Super work, Zakariah!

Year Two: We are so incredibly proud of Christos for his hard work this week. He has shown a real determination, resilience and hard work in all his lessons and has shown a real positive attitude towards his learning. He has listened well and followed instructions and has made progress in all aspects of his learning. Well done, Christos - keep up the hard work!

Year Three: Isla has impressed this week by making such a wonderful improvement with her handwriting. Her presentation has been transformed and it's wonderful! Isla has also been putting her hand up in lessons to share such thoughtful and insightful answers - especially in RE. Thank you, Isla. Keep it up.

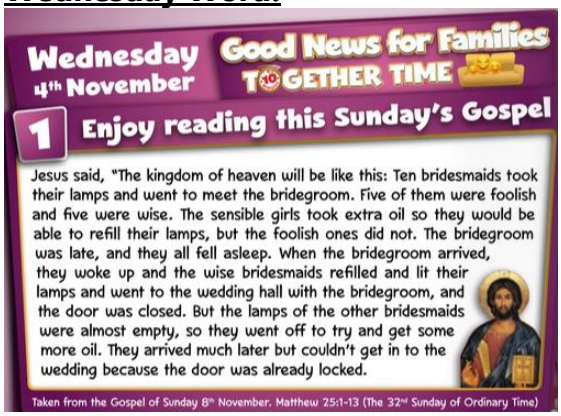
Year Four: Theo R has worked incredibly hard this week and should be so proud of himself! He is an amazing learning partner, always offering help to those who need it and taking the time to explain things when others are unsure. He has also shown fantastic perseverance in Maths this week, approaching challenges with a positive attitude and never giving up. Theo consistently tries his very best in every lesson and presents his work so neatly! Keep it up, Theo! Well done!

Year Five: Tobias has really made a huge effort to improve the quality and quantity of his work in every lesson. He is now listening more attentively and asking plenty of relevant questions. He is also helping others in class and working hard to complete all the extension activities that he is being set. We are really proud of the change we

have seen in Tobias. He has been a delight to teach lately! Keep it up, Tobias - we are really impressed with you.

Year Six: Sonny is a wonderful member of Year Six: he is kind, thoughtful, hardworking and is a dependable friend to all of his peers. Sonny has worked incredibly hard this year so far, pushing himself to produce excellent work. From his detailed notes taken in Literacy yesterday, his work today will reflect the care and attention he applies every day. Fabulous work Sonny!

Wednesday Word:

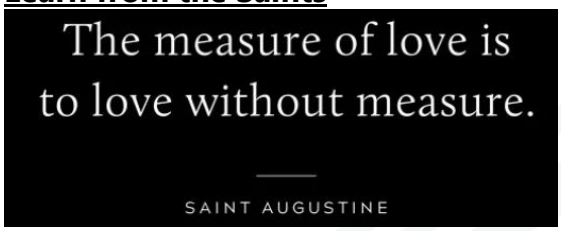


2026-2027 Parent/Carer Survey

The survey can be accessed using the following link:

>>respond here<<

Learn from the Saints



I am reading a book about St Augustine at the moment – bought for me by the parents of two of our families, actually. Be prepared for every quote from the saints from now until Christmas to be from Augustine.

Year Three Sacrament Preparation

Congratulations to the 18 children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation yesterday, with Father John and Father Pat from the Columban Fathers. It was a beautiful and prayerful service and a pleasure to be a part of. The children of Key Stage Two will receive Reconciliation as part of their Advent preparation on Wednesday 2nd December.

Christ the King

Year Six will take a role in leading this Mass on Sunday 22nd November as part of their Confirmation preparation. This feast signifies the end of the Chruch's liturgical year before the First Sunday of Advent the following week. All are welcome.

Year One Phonics workshop

On Wednesday 18th November, parents of children in Year One are asked to attend one of the available workshops with their child. These will take place at either 9:00am - straight after drop off - or 2:30pm before pick-up.

Phonics and early reading are essential foundations for a child's academic development. Our approach at school forms the foundational building blocks for all future academic progress. In June of this academic year, children in Year One will undertake statutory Phonics Screening Check. This short assessment checks whether they have reached the expected decoding threshold. It is essential that children are supported at home, consolidating the work that we do in school. This meeting will give you

all the aids and knowledge necessary to do this confidently and effectively.

Reception Early Reading workshop

On Monday 23rd November at 5:30, Miss Hodgkins will lead a parent session that details our approach to reading in Reception. Please make every effort to attend to learn about our approach here at school and how you can better support your child at home. It is not necessary for children to attend but please do not let lack of childcare stop your attendance – if you need to bring your child, we can facilitate care for the duration of the meeting.

Anti-Bullying Week

Like every school should, here at St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School we have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying. Part of this approach fs our proactive education and our KiVa (kindness) curriculum, where children explore what bullying is, how it happens, why it happens, and how those that are present can address the behaviours of others to prevent it happening. Monday 16th November is the start of Anti-Bullying Week here in school and, to celebrate differences, children are invited to wear colourful, bright, odd socks.

Father Hudsons Caritas

Also on Monday 16th November, we welcome Adele Bannigan from Father Hudson's Caritas to launch of Advent appeal to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

www.mychildsart.co.uk

Next week, children will produce a piece of artwork at school that will be returned home. If you wish to order the artwork to be made into Christmas cards, please fill in the details and return to school by the required deadline. This is a PTA project but also a lovely activity, so your support is greatly appreciated.

Hall Green Library visits

Hall Green Library will be amending their opening hours from week commencing 30th November. As such, the day we will visit the library has changed for the new year. Please see below for the dates that each class will visit.

Mon 11th Jan: Year Two
Mon 18th Jan: Year Three
Mon 25th Jan: Year Four
Mon 1st Feb: Year Five
Mon 8th Feb: Year Six
Mon 22nd Feb: Year Two
Mon 1st March: Year Three
Mon 8th March: Year Four
Mon 15th March: Year Five and Six children (those not attending Paris)

Visits will resume Mon 19th April after Holy Week and Easter Break.

Birthdays this week



Happy birthday to Ambrose in Year Six who was eleven on Monday and happy birthday to Logan in Year Five, who was ten, and Esmae in Year Four, who was nine, on

the same day. On Tuesday, Isla in Reception was five and Nova in Year Three was eight. Tomorrow, Ibrahim in Year One is six and, on Sunday, Tommy in Year Five is ten. Happy birthday to all!

November dates for your diary

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
Mon 11th Jan: Year Two to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Tues 12th Jan: Young Voices at Resorts World
Thurs 14th Jan: Year Six Confirmation meeting 6pm
Fri 15th Jan: Year Five Class Mass 2:30pm
Mon 18th Jan: Year Three to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Fri 22nd Jan: Year Six Sponsor workshop 2pm;
Year Six Confirmation 7pm
Mon 25th Jan: Year Four to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Fri 29th Jan: Year Four Class Assembly

February dates for your diary

Mon 1st Feb: Year Five to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Fri 5th Feb: Year Five Class Assembly 9am
Mon 8th Feb: Year Six to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
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 all children;
Year Two to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Fri 26th Feb: Year One Class Mass 2:30pm

March dates for your diary

Mon 1st March: Year Three to visit Hall Green library at 2pm
Sun 7th March: Year Three to lead Sunday Mass 10am
Mon 8th March: Year Four to visit Hall Green library at 2pm;
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

Mon 15th March: Year Five and Six children to visit Hall Green library at 2pm (those not attending 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

April dates for your diary
Mon 12th April: Children return to school for Summer Term
Fri 30th April: Year One Class Assembly

May dates for your diary
Mon 3rd May: School closed for Bank Holiday
Thurs 6th May: School closed for local elections
Sat 8th May: Year Three First Communion 10am
Wed 19th May: May Procession 2pm from church
Fri 21st May: Break up for half-term

Have a good weekend.

God bless,

J Clinton

Mr Clinton