

SHOWCASING OUR SCHOOL

#Welcome to The Barlow #Learn #Achieve #Succeed



It was lovely to see other areas outside the usual curriculum subjects eg; Rainbow Garden, Willow Room, Chapel etc...

Year 6 Parent

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Our pupils demonstrate resilience, curiosity and ambition in their learning

As we come to the end of another busy and successful half-term, I would like to congratulate pupils for their hard work and commitment over the last two months. I am mindful that our young people have navigated an extremely challenging period throughout the pandemic, and I am proud of how they have responded. They continue to show resilience, curiosity, and ambition in their school life. I would also like to put my thanks on record for staff, parents, and governors for their tireless support of our school community.

There have been several highlights this half-term with our Year 7 Transition Days, a vibrant Open Evening in which we were able to showcase our school and a celebration of National Poetry Day. We enjoyed marking World Teachers' Day at the beginning of October and there is also sporting success to share with you.

Additionally, we are delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted in two categories for the Educate Awards 2021: Mrs Redford has been shortlisted for School Governor of the Year and we



have also been shortlisted for the Careers and Enterprise Award for the quality of our CEIAG provision. This is testimony to the hard work and dedication of our school community. I would like to take this opportunity to wish pupils and staff a restful half-term break and we look forward to welcoming you back on 1st November.

Ms C Wallace
Headteacher

Barlow's Got Talent

We are delighted to announce that auditions are currently underway for 'Barlow's Got Talent'. A wide range of acts are auditioning, from Year 7 through to Year 11, including: singing, dancing, gymnastics, drumming, rapping, comedy, and horse riding (video audition)!

Finalists will be announced once all auditions have taken place and The Barlow judges have had opportunity to deliberate. Successful acts will perform live in The Barlow's Got Talent Final on 9th December 2021. Ticket information for The BGT Final will be available soon, so watch this space!

Good luck to all our acts!



OPEN EVENING

Welcoming prospective parents and pupils to The Barlow community

On the evening of 23rd September, the school gates were opened to welcome prospective parents and pupils into our community. The evening was much anticipated, given the fact that Covid restrictions meant the face-to-face event wasn't able to go ahead last year.

Anticipating a busy evening ahead, each subject was eager to show off what their area entailed. Headteacher, Ms Wallace, spoke to visitors explaining what their child's journey at The Barlow would look like. Afterwards, visitors were met by the school's tour guides. In English, there was the palatable Popcorn Poetry which allowed inquisitive individuals to express their creative writing in a fun and tasty way. Walking into mathematics, visitors were met by a handful of activities to delve into, each exploring the different ways to encounter and solve problems. In Arts, pupils could take part in playing an instrument; or be entertained by a performance of Shakespeare; and art provided a printmaking activity where they could create their own masterpieces! Strolling into the science laboratories there were various exciting activities including the use of microscopes, chemical reactions and even fire! Smiles all around, an aroma of joy and delight, this Faculty alone was a substantial success.

The 'marketplace' informed visitors about the well-being and support offer, careers guidance, extracurricular activities and much more. The Barlow left visitors feeling enthused by the experience.

This article was written by Felicia, Year 11



“

"I really like it here. I think this is the high school for me."

Year 6 Pupil

”

TRANSITION DAY

Preparing pupils for their five year journey at The Barlow

Throughout the month of October Year 7 pupils have taken part in a Transition Day at St Catherine of Sienna Church in Didsbury.

As part of this invaluable experience, transition themes were explored around pupils' personal development: self-confidence, resilience, friendship, and community. Pupils had an opportunity to spend time together and reflect on how to achieve their best at The Barlow.

The pupils, staff and governors who participated had a brilliant time; laughter and fun was had by everyone. All Year 7 pupils achieved their 'Transition Award' for taking part, receiving a certificate commemorating the day. Well-done to everyone involved!



Celebrating Diversity

This month we have been celebrating Black history and diversity within the curriculum. Pupils have had opportunities to celebrate the underrepresented in Science, such as Mae Jemison. Born in Chicago, Mae initially studied engineering at Stanford University. She became the first black woman to travel into space. Another female scientist celebrated was Rosalind Franklin. Born in Notting Hill, Rosalind played a key role in the discovery of DNA structure.

Speaking of Notting Hill, our assemblies celebrating Black History Month focussed on the work of two women contributing to the inception of Notting Hill Carnival. Claudia Jones desired to celebrate the Caribbean culture in London when she moved to England from Trinidad and Tobago in 1955. As editor of influential black newspaper, The West Indian Gazette, she organised events to celebrate

black identity through song and dance with the aim of creating unity within London. Rhaune Laslett-O'Brien continued Claudia's work, bringing song, dance, and costumes to the streets of Notting Hill. Pupils also learnt about Lilian Bader: the first black woman of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force during World War Two. Her perseverance saw her become a first-class aircraft woman. Throughout her career, Lilian continued to promote women in the armed forces and was a walking example of the contribution Black and Asian women have within this sector.

This important celebratory month will culminate in our annual 'Show Racism the Red Card Day' where our school community unite to show support by wearing something red in celebration of our multicultural and diverse Barlow Family!

SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH

MACMILLAN CAKE SALE

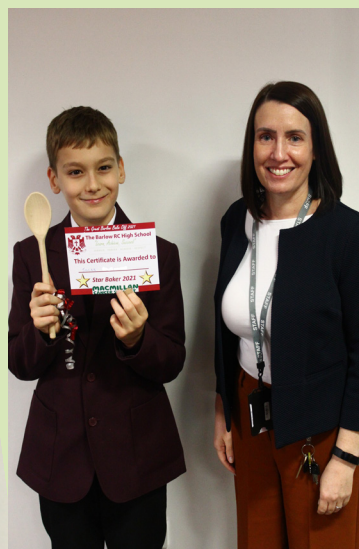
'Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance'

- St. Francis of Assisi

On Friday 1st October, we held our annual bake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Pupils and staff were encouraged to take part in The Barlow Bake Off Competition, and we received an incredible number of gorgeous homemade cakes, brownies, and biscuits, as well as lots of generous donations of store-bought cakes.

Miss Hayes was the winner of our staff 'Star Baker Spoon' and the following pupils also took home a coveted Barlow 'Star Baker Spoon': Natalia, Jacek and Tolani. Well-done to all our resident bakers and a huge congratulations to our winners!

A special thank you to our award-winning GIFT team for organising the Bake Sale and to all those who donated cakes or purchased cakes. It was another very successful fundraising event for our school community, with a magnificent £370 raised.



☆ Star Bakers ☆

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

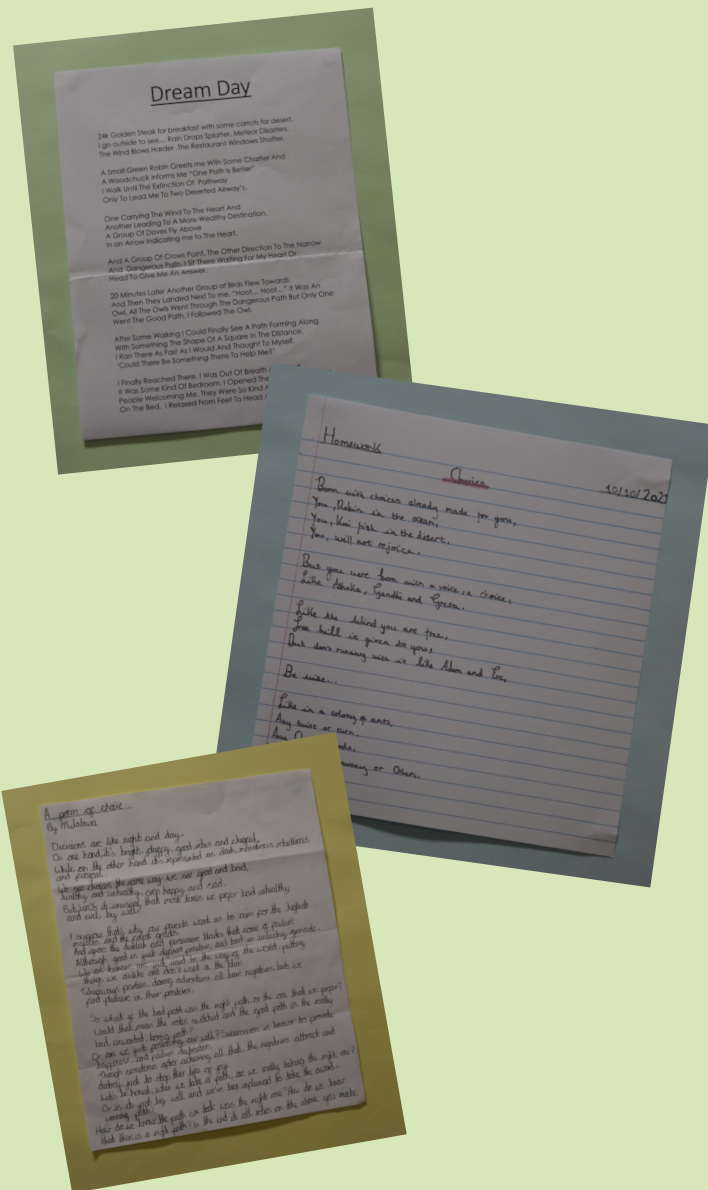
Enjoying, discovering and sharing poetry

Pupils at The Barlow recently celebrated National Poetry Day, exploring this year's nationwide theme of 'Choices'.

In English lessons, pupils had the chance to take some time out from their regular curriculum to read a selection of inspirational poems including Robert Frost's classic, 'The Road Not Taken', discussing meaning, themes, and authorial intent. Following on from this, they had the opportunity to take part in an online poetry writing workshop, recorded by Simon Mole, the UK's National Poetry Day Ambassador. The tutorial resulted in some wonderfully creative pieces of poetry which were read aloud and celebrated in lessons, with the top poems going through to our English Faculty competition.

Meanwhile, in Family Time sessions, pupils were invited to explore a poem written by one of the nation's favourite children's poets, Brian Moses. His poem 'Instead' gave pupils food for thought, encouraging them to have time away from screens and technology in order to rediscover the magic of imagination.

All in all, National Poetry Day 2021 was a brilliant opportunity for pupils to join the rest of the country in a celebration of poetry.



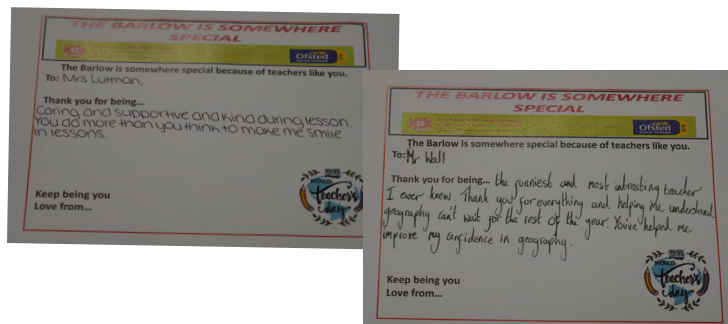
World Teachers' Day 2021

World Teachers' Day is celebrated around the world on 5th October. The theme for 2021 was 'Teachers at the heart of education recovery', recognising the hard work and dedication of teachers throughout the last 18 months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Pupils were given the opportunity to let their teachers know just how grateful they are for the work they do; every pupil completed a slip to share

with staff how appreciated they really are.

World Teachers' Day is a wonderful opportunity for our hand working staff to get to know just how important and loved they really are!



SPORTING PROWESS

Pupils enjoy a return to extra-curricular sport

Extra -curricular sport has exploded at The Barlow this half-term with record numbers of pupils taking part in a vast array of sporting activities, both at lunch-time and after school. To date, an amazing 175 pupils have either represented the school teams, or attended clubs on a recreational basis.

Netball continues to go from strength to strength with over 70 girls regularly attending this extra-curricular club and we are hopeful that this additional practice will bode well for the upcoming league fixtures against William Hulme! With the pandemic restricting our offer last academic year, the response since regulations have been lifted has been excellent. Over 100 pupils have either attended football training after school or turn up regularly for the Friday lunch-time 5 a-side showdown! Additionally, our RFU coaches have been able to resume their Rugby coaching every Tuesday after school and numbers are growing impressively, although we would love to see more Year 7 and 8 pupils attend. So, Year 7 and Year 8, come along and get your free mouth guard!

On Wednesday evenings both cricket and tennis are proving very popular with girls and boys alike. Trampolining Club and Fitness Club also have growing numbers. Cross country leagues at Wythenshawe Park saw 38 pupils take part during September, with noticeable performances by David O in Year 7 and Amber B in Year 10. Year 10 and 11 Athletics teams also performed well at the Manchester Indoor Schools Athletics Championships in early October. It is great to see the Sports Hall bulging at the seams every lunch-time with table tennis and badminton proving very popular.

Huge thanks to our fabulous PE team, Mr Tapster and Mr McFall for all their hard work

in running sessions and representative teams. A reminder that all extra -curricular clubs are open to all pupils, so parents please encourage your son and daughter to attend to get fit, meet new friends and simply enjoy themselves!



“It’s great to be back playing inter-school sports. I enjoy being active and having fun.”

Joseph, Year 9 pupil

ST AMBROSE FEAST DAY

Catholic Community

On Friday 10th September we celebrated our patron and local saint – St Ambrose Barlow.

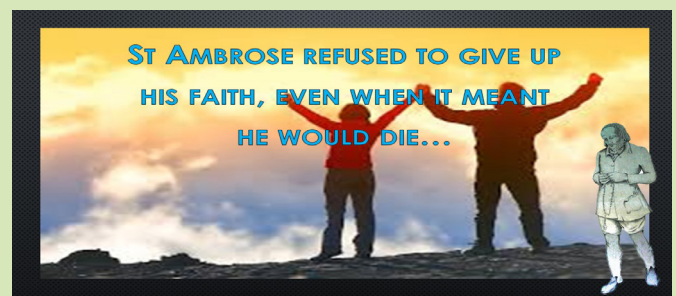
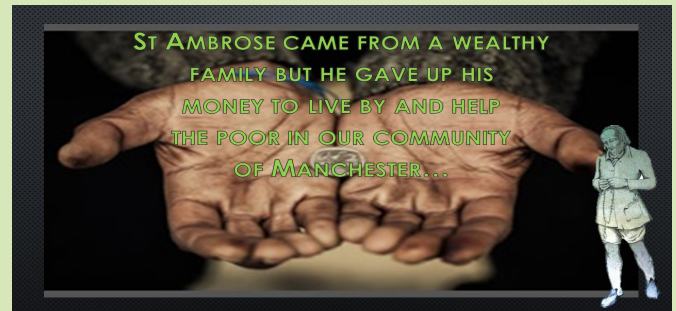
In Family Time, pupils were reminded about the life of St Ambrose, the example he set and how we can be like him, with special prayers set to music. All pupils received a chocolate treat (and the staff too) and our break-time was extended – just the way St Ambrose would want it! In the evening, our school was represented by a group of senior prefects, members of our GIFT Team and staff who attended St Catherine's for a celebratory Mass; joining our local community in prayer and then for a cup of tea and biscuit afterwards.

Thank you to everyone for making it such a special day; St Ambrose would have been proud.



THE BARLOW CELEBRATES THE FEAST DAY OF
SAINT AMBROSE BARLOW:
OUR PATRON SAINT

10TH SEPTEMBER 2021



Year 11 Revision Workshop

With mock examination season fast approaching, all Year 11 pupils attended a revision workshop in the week commencing 11th October. Mr Holmes, supported by several members of staff, led the research-based session that enabled the pupils to learn multiple revision strategies that can be applied to any of the subjects they study.

Within the 90 minutes, pupils then applied some of the strategies taught within the session to their English, Mathematics, Science and RE studies. Pupils

were also equipped with a revision pack containing stationery, a bottle of water, fruit, a revision timetable and a good luck message in order to support their efforts over the coming weeks and months.

We wish our Year 11 well with their upcoming mock examinations!



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