



Friday 24th September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended the virtual parents' information sessions this week. For parents of Reception pupils, your session will be on Wednesday 29th September at 4.00pm via a link on Google classroom.

I am aware that a number of parents had difficulties accessing the session due to issues with the technology. This is a new platform and we are in the process of ironing out the difficulties. Thank you for your patience. I am also aware that the timing of the 3.30pm session made it difficult for parents to access the session after collecting their children from school. All teachers have therefore put a copy of their presentation on to Google classroom. You can access this by logging in using your child's log in details.

I want to use this opportunity to remind you of the revised arrangements in place for dropping off your children from Monday 27th September:

- All children will enter school through the front gate – the back gate will no longer be in use
- Parents to continue to drop off at the gate (please do not come onto the playground at drop off)
- At 8.30am, the gates will be opened by Headteacher / Deputy Head
- KS2 pupils can be dropped off between 8.30-8.40am. Please be aware that, if dropping KS2 children with siblings, staff won't be on duty until 8.40am. Parents will therefore need to use their judgement if dropping off siblings with KS2 children before 8.40am. Children arriving between 8.30 and 8.40am should go straight to their class lines
- Reception parents are invited to come on to the playground with the children from 8.40am
- At 8.40am class teachers will come onto the playground to meet pupils.

Home learning contingency plan

Please find attached with this newsletter the most recent home learning contingency plan. This sets out the actions that will be taken with regard to home learning in the event of a child not being able to attend school due to contracting Covid-19 and/or a year group or whole school closure due to an outbreak of Covid-19 or a regional/national lockdown. This is also available on our website in the section Parents / Covid-19: Continuing your child's education at home.

Nessy

A small number of parents will have received an email from the software company Nessy this week. As part of our focus on spelling, a small number of identified children from each year group in year 2-6 have received a log in for this spelling app. This will be used in school to support them with spelling. At the moment pupils will not need to log in at home. We are in the process of setting pupils up in school and supporting them to become independent in using the app. If your child does not have difficulties with spelling, they will not receive a log in.

Parents' evening

Last term our parent focus group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of virtual and face to face parents' evenings. We used this discussion to inform the organisation of parents' evening this year.

This term parents' evening will take place on Thursday 14th October and Tuesday 19th October between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. These meetings will take place remotely via SchoolCloud. We plan to make the parents' evenings in term 4 face to face.

Parking

I'm sorry to have to include a parking 'nag' but we have been contacted by a neighbour who is concerned at the number of parents parking inconsiderately on the streets close to school. Please do bear our neighbours in mind when you're parking near school.

Parent/carer reading volunteers

We are looking to recruit new parent reading volunteers. If you have some time you can commit each week to listening to our children read please email me on head.st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk

Please note we do not allocate parent volunteers to the same year group as their own children. We also ask that parent volunteers cover the cost of their DBS (£18) as this is transferable across organisations and belongs to the individual not the school.

Best wishes,

Mrs Ballantine

Sarah Ballantine
Headteacher

Events week commencing: Monday 27th September 2021 (NEW MENU week 3)

Weds 29nd Sept: Reception parent information session via Google Meet @ 4pm

Girls' football trials Y5 and Y6 - 3.30pm-4.45pm

A message from our Chair of Governors

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Many of you will be aware that the 'Universal Credit' payments will revert back to pre-Covid levels imminently, resulting in a reduction of £20 per week. Many have expressed concern that this will result in additional hardship for many families with one probable outcome being that children may start their school day hungry.

If any of you find yourselves in this situation, please do approach Mrs Ballantine or Mrs Woolley who will do their best to help while respecting your confidence. Eduardo Romero, Chair of Governors

Y5 and 6 Girls' football trials – next Wednesday after school

Mr Morgan will be holding football trials for girls in years 5 & 6 for the school girls' football team. These will run from 3.30pm until 4.45pm.

School Meals Supervisory Assistant (SMSA) vacancy

We are looking for someone who would like to work 5 days a week during school time for one hour between the hours of 11.45am and 1.30pm (exact timing to be confirmed).

This role involves supervising children during their lunch break.

If you are interested, please contact the school office next week and we will be able to provide more details.

Secondary school admissions – deadline 31st October

An email has been sent to all year 6 parents outlining the details of a Zoom meeting being hosted by Jim Britton at Bristol City Council at 4pm on Thursday 7th October.

For all year 6 children starting secondary school in September 2022, please be aware that the deadline is midnight on Friday 31st October (during half term).

There is more information about how to apply online (and on paper if you need to) here
<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/secondary-admissions>

There are lots of Open Days taking place so do keep an eye on the school websites for dates and times.

Debating club for Y5 and Y6 with Mrs Addleman

Hi year 5 and year 6!

After nearly nineteen months off, Debating Club is going to start again! Hooray!
This will take place on Tuesday lunchtimes in 3A's classroom. Places are limited to fifteen children. I may increase numbers later in the school year.

The club will run from 12:15-12:55 - please bring a packed lunch, which you can eat in the classroom.

We will debate a different topic each week, which (under my guidance) you will choose. Sometimes the debates will be about school based issues and on other occasions, we will debate wider issues, relating to our city, our country, or our world. We will always debate issues in an age-appropriate and sensitive way, respecting all opinions and views.

If you would like to attend the club, please come along to my classroom next Tuesday to register your interest. I will do my best to give everyone a chance and I will try to select a mix of Y5/6 children who will be members of Debating Club for Term 1. If you are selected, you will be expected to attend each week. This is always a popular club, so if demand is high, I will select a new group to attend in Term 2.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Tuesday. I will let you know if you are going to be in the club by Friday 1st October.

Mrs Addleman 😊

October half term Playscheme

Our Playscheme will be running this October half term, the week of 25th October. We will also be open for bookings on the second Inset day – Monday 1st November. The playscheme will not be open on the first Inset day, Friday 22nd October.

The cost of the club is £28 for a full day (8.30am until 6pm) and £21 for a short day (10am until 4pm).
Bookings can now be made through School Gateway – visit the Clubs tab to make bookings.

PTFA News

www.stbonsptfa.com

Facebook – St Bons Parents and Carers

Instagram - @stbonsptfa

Email – ptfa.stbons@gmail.com

Step into Christmas!

We are starting to plan this year's Christmas fair and are forming a small subcommittee to do this. We need about 4 people to join us. We'll be having an in person meeting w/c 4th October depending on everyone's availability.

We'll also be looking for more volunteers for the actual fair.

Get in touch via the website, email, social media or via your class rep.
We look forward to hearing how you can help!

New Reception Parents



This will be a chance to meet some of the current committee, find out more about the PTFA, the role of class reps and help with the creation of class WhatsApp groups.

If the weather isn't favourable plan B will be a zoom meeting.
In the meantime, please check out our new website and follow us on social media.

Parent's Social Event

Parents and carers let's have some fun! It's been a long time since we've been able to get together. Should we run a quiz or rock bingo? Vote on facebook or Instagram to let us know.

Well- Being Pod

Find out how the PTFA have been supporting the school with our latest purchase:
Namaste! PTFA funds mindfulness cushions (stbonsptfa.com)



Uniform Sale

The uniform sale last week raised £144. We plan to hold a further one later in the year.
There is big demand for ages 6+ so please do let us know if you have any uniform in larger sizes.

If you are in need of uniform but not in a position to donate financially, please contact the school office and the PTFA will do our best to help.

Usborne Bookshop

Does your child have a birthday coming up? If you're considering buying a book for their class why not order through the PTFA bookshop?

You can order directly through the website or save on delivery and let the PTFA know what you would like to order we'll be putting in regular orders throughout the year to try and save on postage. Putting in combined orders also helps us earn more free books for the school library.



Premier Sport – Friday hockey Y3 and 4, Football Y5 and 6

We still have spaces available for Hockey years 3 & 4 on a Friday after school and for football for years 5 & 6 on a Thursday after school.

What to bring:

Plenty of water
Suitable clothing for the weather and activity
Shin pads

Dates, Times, Activities & Year Groups:

Thursday 16th September - 21st October 3:30pm - 4:30pm FOOTBALL (Year 5 & 6)
Friday 17th September - 22nd October 3:30pm - 4:30pm HOCKEY (Year 3 & 4)

Price:

£27 per club

How to book:

Visit our website - bookings must be made in advance please do not turn up on the day without booking. We will require a minimum of 8 bookings per club.

If you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact us on 07476 032239 or email

jcahill@premier-education.com

Booking link:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/2688/?location=bs7>

North Bristol Foodbank

North Bristol Food Bank can be reached on 0117 979 1399.

For areas covered see here: <https://northbristol.foodbank.org.uk/locations/>

Up to date information for these outlets is available here - <https://northbristol.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>

Have you had a change of circumstances due to COVID-19?

There are lots of schemes that you could be eligible for to support your child and your wider family:

- **Pupil premium and/or Free School Meals** - Financial support that is provided to schools to help support your child and Free School Meals http://www.st-bonaventures.bristol.sch.uk/web/pupil_premium_and_sports_premium/270945
- **Council Emergency Payment** - To help you pay off one-off bills like heating, electricity <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/benefits-financial-help/emergency-payments-local-crisis-and-prevention-fund>
- **North Bristol Advice Centre:** The advice centre can help signpost you to initiatives that you could be eligible for to get support: <http://www.northbristoladvice.org.uk/>
 - **The Money Advice Service** - For help to manage your money during the pandemic <https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/coronavirus-and-your-money>

If you are struggling to access these services and would like help, please contact the school office.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Open Day at Redmaids' High School

Redmaids' High School would like to invite parents and girls to their next Senior School open event, on Saturday 2 October, from 9:30-12:30.

Families will be given guided tours of the school site, an introductory talk from headteacher Paul Dwyer, and enjoy a short excerpt from the school's upcoming production of My Fair Lady. Parking is on site and refreshments will be available.

You can book your place on the school website <https://www.redmaidshigh.co.uk/make-an-enquiry> or feel free to turn up on the day.

St Mary Redcliffe & Temple School Virtual Open Evening

Our Open Evening for applications to Year 7 in September 2022 is a virtual event this year. We would greatly appreciate it if you could copy and paste the information below and communicate it to all parents/carers of children in year 5 and year 6:

Our virtual Open Evening went live on Monday 13 September. Please click on the link below where you will be able to watch four different films that will tell you all about our school. They include a welcome and introduction from Mrs Gilpin (Headteacher), some students describing the student experience at SMRT, a film that highlights many of our facilities and an explanation of how to apply to us.

There is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions. We realise that this is such an important decision for you child so please do have a look at the films and get in touch.

<https://www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk/index.php/admissions/smrt-open-evening-september-2021>

Department for Schools and Colleges Administrator – Diocese of Clifton

Following the retirement of our current administrator, the department is looking to recruit a replacement. The post would be suitable for someone looking to work during term time only and between the hours of 9-30 - 2-30 Monday- Friday.

Details of the specific role and person specification can be found on:
<https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/vacancies> or on the main diocesan website.

The extended Closing Date is Tuesday 28th September at 12 noon.

Bristol Free School – recruiting exam invigilators

Please use this link to see more information <https://www.eteach.com/job/exam-invigilators-1171236?lang=en-GB&frmsrh=Y>