



Friday 10th September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

What a wonderfully busy week we've had. The children have enjoyed playing outside alongside friends from other year groups and have been busy in class enjoying our 'Learning to Learn' week. Class teachers have spent time talking to the children about developing grit and resilience as we approach our learning. This is going to be an ongoing focus throughout the year.

Change of learning platform

You will be aware from my email earlier this week that we are planning to move away from the class pages of the school website. Working alongside our parent focus group we have identified the need to move to a system that would support online learning whilst also ensuring a consistent layout across year groups.

I am pleased to inform you that we are now using Google Classroom. To access your child's class you need to log in using the same user details your child used to access Goggle meetings at <https://classroom.google.com/> Class teachers will be using these pages to share homework and to provide a summary of the weeks learning. Paper copies of homework will also continue to be sent home.

Reminder of changes to collection arrangements from Monday 13th September

The following information was shared in a letter to all parents on Wednesday 8th September:

From **Monday 13th September** we will be returning to all pupils leaving via the front playground.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 should be collected by their parents from the external classroom fire door that exits onto the school playground.

Pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6 will be brought onto the playground by their class teacher for collection.

Please can all parents collect youngest siblings first.

I would kindly ask that you collect your children and then promptly leave the playground avoiding gathering in groups to chat.

The playground gates will open just before 3.15pm and close promptly at 3.25pm in order to allow our after-school clubs and activities to operate safely.

Any parents arriving late to collect their children should go to the school office.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

Use of the parish car park

As you are all aware, we do not have permission to use the parish car park. This, however, is failing to deter a number of parents who are continuing to use the car park, often driving at speed in and out of the carpark as they are late to either drop off or collect their children. I have got to the point where I need to ask you for support in manning the car park.

If you are available at either the start or end of the school day and would be happy to wear a high vis jacket and stand at the entrance to the carpark and ask those parents who have continued to ignore my requests to park elsewhere, please email the school office st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk

Feel good Friday non-uniform days

Last year, we allowed our children to come to school on Fridays wearing their own home clothes. This was implemented to support their well-being. We now need to decide if this continues each week or less often, for example once a term.

Please can you complete the short survey using this link to let us know your thoughts.

<https://forms.gle/ZqUztAdGuhyiZKQd7>

Class teachers will also be speaking to children about their thoughts on this. I will let you know the outcome next week. Thank you.

Guinea pigs

We now have our very first school pets on site. Two beautiful guinea pigs called Sooty and Squeaky. They are based in 4G. While they settle in, other children will not come into contact with them. However, as they get used to their environment we plan to have a run outside for them.

If your child is allergic to guinea pigs, please can you email me to let me know so I can put the necessary precautions in place: head.st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk

Change of date - last day of the school year - Thursday 21st July

In acknowledgement of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 3rd June 2022, the Department for Education has agreed to reduce the minimum number of teaching days to 189 meaning the total school year will be 194 days.

As the 3rd June falls within the current summer half term holiday, this additional bank holiday will be taken by schools on what would have been the final day of the school year, meaning the school year will now end on Thursday 21st July 2022 not Friday 22nd July 2022, as originally published.

Thank you message from Mrs Molloy

*To all the wonderful children and parents present and past,
I was completely overwhelmed by the generosity of your messages and gifts upon my retirement.
I could not have imagined a more amazing celebration on my last day starting with wonderful performances of songs from Foundation Stage all the way up to Year 6 followed by the truly magnificent, moving piano solo by the amazing Jacobo then the incredible whole school dance to end the celebration. It was all performed with such love and enthusiasm and of course thanks to the hard work of all the amazing staff of St. Bonaventure's School.
Please know you will always be in my prayers.
God bless and love,
Mrs. Molloy*

Best wishes,

Mrs Ballantine

Sarah Ballantine
Headteacher

Events week commencing: Monday 13th September 2021 (NEW MENU week 1)

Monday 13th September: Roald Dahl Day – see below

Friday 17th September: Second hand uniform sale in playground – weather permitting

Extra-curricular activities at St Bon's

Attached with this newsletter you will find a list of after school activities that we will be providing from Monday 20th September. This list is also on our website <http://www.st-bonaventures.bristol.sch.uk/web/sports/262451>

We have also emailed this list (not including new Reception) along with a letter from Mrs McGrath explaining our approach this year. Our aim is to enable as many children as possible to access different clubs – this may mean that your child won't be able to do their chosen club every term if it is over-subscribed. We will run waiting lists and manage these to ensure fairness.

Many of the clubs will be run by members of staff for no charge. However please do not rely on these for childcare but use our After School Club. The activities are subject to last minute cancellations due to weather and staff availability.

To express your child's interest in particular clubs, please use this Google form:

<https://forms.gle/R1YuhULKCBQ1SufPA>

If clicking on the link doesn't work, copy and paste it into your web browser.

We will also have paper copies of this form available in the office if you are unable to complete the Google form.

Roald Dahl Day – Monday 13th September

It's Roald Dahl Day on Monday! We invite you to celebrate what would have been his birthday by coming to school dressed in **yellow** (his favourite colour!) or as one of his amazing characters!

We can't wait to see you all bright and colourful on Monday.

Miss Tudhope's summer reading challenge

The summer reading challenge winners will be announced in next week's newsletter. This was the challenge to read in an unusual place!



Entries are now closed but thank you for all the entries we have received.

PTFA News

www.stbonsptfa.com

Facebook – St Bons Parents and Carers

Instagram - @stbonsptfa

Email – ptfa.stbons@gmail.com

Welcome back everyone to a new school year! We hope you all had a great summer.

We are currently planning our calendar of events but, as we're sure you can appreciate, a lot will be contingent on what is safe and appropriate to do on school grounds with regards to COVID and we need to see how the opening of bubbles goes. We will update you very soon!

New Reception Parents

Welcome to St Bon's. There will be a new parents' meeting on 1st October. Further details to be confirmed. At this meeting we will explain more about the PTFA, class reps and help with the creation of class WhatsApp groups.

In the meantime, please check out our new website <https://www.stbonsptfa.com/>, follow us on social media or join the meeting on 21st September.

PTFA meeting

The first PTFA meeting of the year is 21st September at 20:00 online (details to follow).

We'd love to see lots of new faces as several regular attenders have now left the school as their children have moved on to secondary school.

As always EVERYONE is welcome whether you can stay for 10 minutes or the whole meeting.

Uniform Sale

Weather permitting, there will be a school uniform sale on 17th September at the front gate after school.

There will also be a second sale for Reception parents on 1st October at 1.45pm, at pick up time.

We hope to be able to take card/contactless payment!

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

Hi, we hope everyone has enjoyed the summer holidays and have had a great first week back at school!!

A quick update on the after school activities - we have now confirmed Hockey is back for years 3 & 4.

Please see details below on how to book. Lots of the popular football courses are already fully booked which is fantastic we only have a few spaces available for year 5 & 6 so please book to avoid disappointment

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

Abbeywood Community School will be holding Open Evening tours on Thursday 16th September, from 2:00 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. and are now taking bookings online. Please see their website for further information and to book a place.

Notification of variations to the Admissions Policies for St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School and the Redcliffe Sixth Form Centre for 2021/22 and 2022/23

In preparation for the introduction of the new Admissions Code in September 2021, schools which are their own Admissions Authorities have been required to put specific variations in place to previously determined Policies for 2021/22 and 2022/23. These relate to the definition of 'Home', the definition of Looked-After and Previously Looked After Children (whether in England or elsewhere) and how distance is measured. We would therefore wish to bring this to the attention of all 'interested parties'. Should you wish, you can view these changes to Policies for 2021/22 and 2022/23 by following the link below:

<https://www.smrt.bristol.sch.uk/index.php/variation-to-admissions-policies-for-2021-2023>