



ST BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Striving to be the best we can,
guided by the light of Christ

Tel 0117 353 2830

Absence Line 0117 353 2831

Email st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk

Email admissions.stbonaventures@bristol-schools.uk

Friday 7th October 2022

Dear parents and carers,

*Almighty God,
You have blessed us with the joy and care of children.
Give us calm strength and patient wisdom that,
as they grow in years, we may enable them to love whatever is just and true and good.
May our children experience security, peace and purpose in You.
Amen*

Cross-country run

Well done to all those pupils in KS2 who took part in the cross-county run at St Bede's on Tuesday afternoon. We are so incredibly proud of you all. You were so supportive of each other and were an example to other schools. Well done!

St Bon's came first in the All Years and Years 5 & 6 categories. We also had age group winners in the year 3 & 4 boys' team and the year 6 girls' team. Amazing!



I am aware that for some classes, you received your letters about this event only the day before. I am sorry that we did not give you adequate notice on this occasion. This was down to human error and the letters not being given out in the busyness of Friday afternoon. In future we would want to provide parents with at least a week's notice for sporting events.

Parent/carer homework consultation

Thank you to those parents and carers who completed our recent consultation about homework. In total 72 responses were received.

I have analysed these responses and can provide you with the following summary:

Strengths:

- Majority of parents/carers stated that their child/ren receive quality homework tasks.
- Majority of pupils have a quiet space to complete their homework.
- Majority of parents/carers stated that daily reading and spelling homework is a sufficient amount.
- Project based homework with a longer timescale is viewed as positive.
- Majority of parents/carers stated that reading a minimum of 4 times a week with their child/ren is achievable.

Things to take forward in revised homework policy:

- Ensure information is clearly accessible on Google Classroom e.g. what task has been set and when it is due back. Instructions on how to complete homework must be clear.
- Any homework set in addition to reading and spelling should be a reinforcement of a concept previously taught in class, with an example provided so parents know what method is required or an example of how to complete it. This is essential for parents with English as an additional language.
- Although the majority of parents/carers can provide access to a device for their child/ren, a large number of parents prefer paper-based homework tasks.

I am now in the process of using your responses to inform the revision of our existing homework policy. Once this has been agreed with governors I will make this available to you all. In the short term, please can you all ensure that your children are practising their weekly spellings and are reading with you at least four times a week. Thank you for your support.

Wear It Pink Day – 21st October

Working closely with one of our parents, I would like us all to support Wear It Pink day on Friday 21st October. This is a charity close to our hearts and I know that many of you and your families have been affected by breast cancer. I am inviting all children to come to school wearing pink and to bring in a donation which will go to the charity Breast Cancer Now. In school we will not be talking about the charity or about breast cancer. We will simply be allowing the children to come dressed in something pink if they want to.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions about this please do come and see me on the gate or drop me an email.

Best,



Sarah Ballantine
Headteacher

Events from 10th October 2022 (MENU week 2)

Thursday 13 th October:	Parents' evening 4-7pm Year 1 trip to Bristol Aerospace
Friday 14 th October:	Harvest Mass in the Church @ 9.15am – parents welcome WEAR BRIGHTLY COLOURED CLOTHES FOR CAFOD Harvest campaign - £1 School discos
Tuesday 18 th October:	Parents' evening 4-7pm Individual / sibling photos in school
Thursday 20 th October:	Nasal flu vaccines for pre-booked appointments
Friday 21 st October:	WEAR IT PINK TODAY - £1 donation for Breast Cancer Now 6WA class assembly at 10am – parents welcome

Drama Club - update

Drama on Monday will be for EVERYBODY until 4.30pm.

Drama on Thursday will be for those who are needed – Miss Rigg will confirm next week via email.

Lion King DVD - refunds

If you paid for a DVD, please would you come to the office to collect your refund before the end of term 2. Any money remaining at the end of Term 2 will be put towards the fund for future drama productions.

Clubs and sports at St Bon's

Week of 10th October

Drama	YES – now full and running a waiting list	Monday and Thursday KS2 (see above for details)
Premier Sport Football	YES	Mondays - Y1, Y2, Y3 Tuesdays - Y4, Y5 Y6
Netball	YES YES	Mondays – Y3 & 4 Tuesdays - Y5 & 6
Gymnastics	YES – LAST WEEK FOR TERM 1	Tuesdays – Y3
Running club – 7.50am	YES	Wednesday mornings – all welcome
Mr Morgan after school	YES	Wednesdays – GIRLS this week Y5 & 6. Training pick up at 4.00pm (boys next week)
Tag Rugby	Starts in Term 2	Thursdays - Y5 & 6
Badminton – 8am	Starts in Term 2 – please complete club permission slip if interested	Fridays – Y3 & 4
Chess	YES	Fridays – Y5 & 6
Premier Sport Hockey	YES	Fridays – Y3 & 4
Hockey with Mrs Hinkins	YES	Fridays - Y5 & 6

Please support 6WA's prayer chair request

Lewis and Michael in 6WA presented a wonderful prayer chair to their class this week based on the theme of Harvest. To follow on from this, they would like to collect donations for the St Bon's Food Pantry as outlined below. Please bring these in to the office clearly marked for 6WA or give directly to the class teachers.

Thank you.

Cooking oil
Sanitary towels
Rice
Pasta
Tuna
Other tinned fish
Weetabix and other cereals
Pasta sauce and passata
Tinned tomatoes
Corned beef
Oats
Shaving foam

English not your first language?

Our parent coffee mornings are open to any parent or carer who does not have English as their first language. It is a very supportive and friendly group and you would be very welcome.



Dates for meetings this term are:

Monday 10th October
Tuesday 18th October

October Playscheme – deadline for bookings is next Friday!

Kidzone will be running a Playscheme this October half term for the five days of the week beginning 24th October. The playscheme will not be open on the INSET day of 31st October due to staff training.

The costs are £28 for a full day (8.30am - 5.45pm) and £21 for a short day (10am – 4pm). Bookings can be made on School Gateway. The deadline for bookings is Friday 14th October. The club will need a minimum number of children in order to run.

PTFA News

www.stbonsptfa.com

Facebook – St Bons Parents and Carers

Instagram - @stbonsptfa

Email – ptfa.stbons@gmail.com

Future meeting dates are:

Tuesday 11th October – 8pm online

<https://vrtx.zoom.us/j/3232294047?pwd=RmZld2QzZEZCSHkxTnNmYXBCY2l3Zz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 323 229 4047

Password: PTFA

Thursday 17th November – evening, online

Everyone is welcome to attend to any and all meetings. We would love to hear more ideas and have more help.

Discos for KS1 and KS2 14th October

We've been stocking up with refreshments and treats for kids and adults ready for next week (cash/contactless payment will be available).

We have a small group of face painters/glitter tattooists for each disco. This is likely to be popular, so if anyone is attending the disco and could join the team please let us know.

Waiting List

The waiting list for disco tickets opens this evening (Friday) at 6pm. It will be available here (the link will not work until 6pm):

<https://www.stbonsptfa.com/2022-disco-waiting-list>

As tickets are returned, we will contact those in order of the waiting list to notify them of availability. Please keep an eye on your emails as a prompt response would be appreciated to help us allocate tickets in a timely manner.

If you are allocated a ticket on the waiting list please pay for the ticket/s on the door on the evening of the disco.

The waiting list will also help us to understand demand so we can plan appropriately for future discos.

Returns

If you have a ticket you no longer require, please contact the PTFA at ptfa.stbons@gmail.com as soon as possible, confirming which disco it is for (KS1 or KS2) and how many tickets you are able to return. We will then allocate them to the waiting list.

If you are returning a ticket for an adult, your child will need to have another adult responsible for them at the disco please. The supervising adult can be responsible for a maximum of 4 children. There is no pressure for a child to attend without one of their parents. We recognise that not all children would be happy to attend without a parent for support.

Bag2School Collection 7th November

Advanced notice to get clearing those cupboards. The first collection of the year will be in November.

Ceilidh 11th November

A chance for parents and carers to let their hair down and enjoy a good reel. See you on the dance floor!

Christmas Fair 4th December

Put it in your diaries now, the Christmas fair will be on Sunday 4th December!
We're already getting ideas together.

This event will not be possible without people helping us to prepare for the event and volunteering on the day. If you're interested in helping us with this year's fair please get in touch.

Join the Committee!

We're looking for a new secretary to take over when our current secretary steps down later this year. Full handover will be given and Lu would be happy to support the incoming volunteer while they find their feet. If you'd like more info on the role please get in touch.

Shop and Support

Raise money for the PTFA while doing your shopping.

- **STICKINS**

Need new name labels for next year? Using code 19021 at checkout and Stickins will donate to the PTFA.

- **AMAZON SMILE**

Set up your Amazon Smile account and select St Bonaventure's PTFA as your chosen charity and every time you shop with Amazon the PTFA receives a donation.

- **EASYFUNDRAISING**

Download the app (available through the Apple and on android), check if your chosen retailer is on Easyfundraising, click through, shop as normal and the PTFA gets a donation

None of these options change the price you pay so please consider using them the next time you're shopping as an easy way to raise money without costing you a penny more.

Uniform Shop

Kids had a sudden growth spurt? Realised you could do with a couple of extra bits of uniform? The preloved uniform shop has plenty of good quality stock in so just get in touch: ptfauniformrep@gmail.com

Community Food Pantry Update

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated food and money to the Community Food Pantry this week. It really is so heart-warming and wonderful to know that so many of you are still able to help out and provide food for those struggling to feed their families.

We wanted to particularly say a big thank you to Mary, who donated many items over the past few months. Her generosity has made a huge difference to the pantry and meant that no family who visited us went without what they needed during the summer.

Cooking oil is one of the most popular products we stock, but it's becoming difficult to get enough to meet demand since most supermarkets are now limiting the amount one can buy in each shop. Next time you're doing your shopping, we would be so grateful if you could pick up an extra bottle and donate it to the pantry.

Details of how to give food donations are below.

How can I help?

Here are the items we're most in need of at the moment. Any amount helps, even one packet, tin or bottle!

PLEASE DONATE:

Oil
Sanitary towels
Rice
Pasta
Tuna
Other tinned fish
Weetabix and other cereals
Oats
Pasta sauce
Passata
Tinned tomatoes
Corned beef
Shaving foam

Please DO NOT donate:

Fresh food (we can't safely store it and it will go to waste)

Where do I leave food donations?

Please put food donations either in the clear box labelled "Community Food Pantry Donation Box" at the back of the church or in the box outside the front door of the Presbytery.

How do I donate money?

There is a "Food Pantry" button on the Donation Point inside the church if you would like to make monetary donations by card. Or you can give cash to Mgr Massey or put it in an envelope through Jenny Glester's door at 57 Egerton Road.

How do I donate my time?

If you'd like to get involved in the organisation of the Community Food Pantry, you can join our WhatsApp group by following this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Kq3UpC345FdDOPMnNwQfja>

Thank you all for your support!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Brownies is about trying new things that teach girls aged seven to 10 about themselves, their community and their world

Brownies introduces girls to a world of new opportunities, challenges and fun. Girls go along to holidays, day trips and sleepovers. They get together with their friends at regular meetings where they learn new hobbies, get creative, develop skills and have outdoor adventures.

As well as trying activities in their meetings, girls choose from interest badges related to things they want to know more about.

Spaces are currently available at 106th Brownies who meet at St Bonaventure's Parish Hall.

Visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/> to sign up.

Bristol Free School Open events

The following link has quick and easy access to all the information families may need including a video of the Open Event, our new school prospectus, and a link to book tours <https://bristolfreeschool.org.uk/#>

Bristol Grammar School Open events

Please use the link to book tours <https://www.bristolgrammarschool.co.uk/booking> If you are able to join the event perhaps you could contact Hollie Matthews, our Admissions Manager, by telephone on 0117 933 9885 or by email at admissions@bgs.bristol.sch.uk

Just a reminder that Bristol Parent Carers, in conjunction with the North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forums, is hosting free training courses for parents and carers of children and young people who are on the waiting list for an Autism assessment.

These courses can give parents/carers insights into how to help and support their children with the challenges they may face whilst they are waiting for a formal assessment. These tools can be helpful whatever the outcome of the assessment.

The courses can be booked here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-n-somerset-and-s-glos-parent-carer-forums-41027867683>

Volunteers Needed to join our Pre-school Management Committee!!

Currently St Bonaventure's Pre-school is looking for new members to join our Committee.

If you would like further information or would like to join the Committee please email Claire.ingall@stbonspreschool.co.uk (current Chair) or marie.taylor@bristol-schools.uk

Babysitter available: My name is Ella Bunce and I am a former St Bons pupil, now in 6th form at Redland Green. I have lots of experience with young children, I am reliable and responsible, and I am available for babysitting! I can be contacted on 07401 342599. Many thanks.

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Parish Finance Support Officer

The Diocese is currently introducing a new online accounting system (OPAS) for all its 99 parishes and additional support is needed in the Finance team to help support parishes in moving to this system.

The role is full-time, although more flexible patterns will be considered, based within the Finance team which is part of the Curia (administrative office) of the Diocese.

The role is based at Alexander House, Bristol but there will be an occasional need to travel to parishes throughout the Diocese. The closing date for applications is Friday 7th October 2022. For further details and an application form, please visit the Working for Us page within the Clifton Diocese website: <http://cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us/>