



Friday 21st July 2023

Dear parents and carers,

*Gracious God,
Who takes care of us all,
We thank you for walking beside us throughout the last school year.
Bless all those in our school community who have taught, supported and cared for us.
Forgive us for the times when we have taken for granted the many blessings we have received.
Protect us now as we go our different ways and bring us refreshed and renewed to the beginning of
the next school year.
We ask this in Jesus' name
Amen*

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another school year. I would like to thank you all for your continued support over the past 12 months. I would also like to thank the staff at St Bons, for their hard work and commitment.

We of course couldn't achieve what we have without the guidance of our governing body and the support of our active PTFA. Thank you all, we are truly blessed with our St Bon's community.

Today we said goodbye to our year 6 leavers, pupils moving on to other schools and staff who are moving onto other opportunities. To echo what I said in Mass today, you can leave St Bons but St Bon's will never leave you. We will miss you all but know that you will all go on to achieve great things.

Jonathan Rogers Scholarship Award

You will be aware that former governors of St Bons, Jonathan Rogers, died at the start of this academic year. The Cardinal Newman MAT, alongside Jonathan's family, have set up a scholarship award in his memory.

This year we were invited to nominate a pupil who, like Jonathan, has served their community, helped charities and given their time to help their school.

We were delighted to be able to award this to Elisia Mico. You will be aware that Elisia cut her hair for The Little Princess Trust and raised over £300 by holding a non-uniform day. Elisia and her family would like me to pass on their thanks for your support. In addition she raised over £300 out of school for the same charity, raising a total of over £600. Throughout her time at St Bons Elisia has discreetly offered her help to others, she sees something that needs to be done and will offer her support. She truly deserves this award. Well done, we are so proud of you!

St Francis Garden

As part of our faith awards for Care for our common home theme, all classes have thought about what they could do to improve the St Francis garden, which had started to look very neglected and unloved. Mrs Fox, Mrs Harris and Mr Morgan have been working very hard on the structure and planting of the garden to bring the children's designs to life. Every class has made creative

contribution to making it a prayerful and reflective space including prayer stones, prayer flags, bunting, decorated pots, reflection and prayer cards. In a video in assembly this week Michaela Strachan congratulated the children on the work they had done and reminded them to take care of the garden. The children have had the opportunity to visit the garden and it will be officially open in term 1 of next year for prayer and reflection.

Well done to Isabelle who made some bunting for the St Francis garden with her Grandmother at home.



Parent Focus Group

Our parent focus group met this week to discuss items that had been emailed to the parent focus group email address.

Items included:

- The use of class WhatsApp groups & the introduction of a code of conduct
- Request for forest school opportunities for KS1 & KS2 pupils
- Request for sport day dates to be added to the school calendar dates at the start of the year
- Opportunities for pupils to take part in competitive and non-competitive events

Actions have been identified and agreed with the group and these will be actioned at the start of the new school year.

If you would like the parent focus group to discuss an item please email:
parentfocusgroup@stbons.uk

School Uniform Consultation

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent school uniform consultation.

In total we received 67 responses.

70% of the parents/carers who engaged in the consultation stated the school meets the aims set out in the school uniform policy.

18% of parents/carers who engaged in the consultation stated the school does not meet the aims set out in the policy.

We have collated all of the comments you shared and have made the following recommendations: (changes are underlined for ease)

Main uniform:

- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo. (This is the only part of the uniform that requires a logo)
- White or navy blue polo-shirt or shirt/blouse.
- Navy blue or grey trousers or shorts.

- Navy blue or grey skirt or pinafore dress. These should be knee length. Cycling shorts can be worn underneath in the summer.
- Blue checked dress/playsuit for the summer.
- Navy blue, grey or white tights.
- Navy blue, grey or white socks.
- Black school shoes, trainers or boots for winter.
- Sensible summer sandals, plain colour, can be worn in summer months. Socks must be worn with these.

PE kit: (to be worn to school on PE days)

- Plain white t-shirt (no branding/sports logo)..
- Navy blue shorts or skirt in summer months (no branding/sports logo).
- Navy blue tracksuit bottoms/sports leggings in winter months (no branding/sports logo).
- Trainers.(These can be worn into school or brought in to school in a bag to change into. This is parental preference)

Swimming kit:

Children in Years 2-6 attend swimming sessions. Children will need to have:

- One piece swimming costume or fitted swim shorts.
- Towel.
- Goggles (if children like to use them).
- Swimming cap.

Hair, Jewellery and accessories:

- No jewellery allowed except for a watch and only small, plain studs if children have pierced ears. These need to be covered with tape during PE.
- Watches – to be analogue or digital. No smart watches. Fitbits are allowed.
- Dyed hair or shaved tramlines are not allowed.
- Nail varnish should not be worn in school.

Bags:

- Reception-Year 2 only, school book bag (with or without St Bonaventure's logo) and/or small rucksack.
- Years 3-6, pupils are encouraged to bring one rucksack that can hold all of the equipment they will need for their day.

We are currently investigating the introduction of iron on school logo badges which could be purchased by parents/carers and used on a plain sweatshirt/cardigan instead of a branded sweatshirt/cardigan. More information on this will follow in term 1-2 2023.

In addition, we received several comments about the expectation for all pupils to wear the uniform as set out in the policy. From September 2023 all staff will be reinforcing the school uniform to ensure it is consistent across the school.

The schools governing body is currently reviewing this policy along with the recommendations made. I will be in touch in September once the final policy has been agreed.

Holiday Homework

Attached to this newsletter are details of our holiday homework challenges for this summer. All children are encouraged to take part in at least one of the challenges. See the attachment for further details. The deadline for entries is Wednesday 6th September. Three prizes will be awarded per category.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Best,
Sarah Ballantine
Head teacher

Events from (MENU week 3)

Friday 1st September – INSET DAY – School is closed to all pupils

Monday 4th September – First Day of Term 1 for pupils

Monday 4th – Friday 8th September – Reception Settling in week
and Reception Parent/Teacher Meetings

Friday 8th September – Parent/Carer SIP session with Head Teacher,
9am-10am

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

English as an Additional Language Coffee Mornings



If English is not your first language, please come along, share your views, meet other parents, be a part of your child's learning and relax at our coffee mornings from 9 – 10am on Wednesdays in the School – come to the office.

The group is run by Mrs Cela – if you would like more information, please email her at esmeralda.cela@bristol-schools.uk

**A special invitation is extended to parents/carers of children starting Reception in September.
If you would like more information about the group – please email Mrs Cela.**



Summer Playscheme Update

We look forward to seeing you at Holiday Playscheme from next week.

There are still spaces available.

Term 1 Breakfast Club and After School Club

Bookings are now open
Please ensure you have booked and paid in advance to secure your places.

Clubs and Sports at St Bon's

Week of 4th September 2023



There will be no sports clubs running in the first week of term

Mrs Hinkins would like to continue to offer her Friday Year 5/6 hockey club after school -
If you are interested please email emma_hinkins@talk21.com over the summer,
we can then ensure if we have enough children to make it viable

Coaching with Sophie will resume from week 2 – an email will be sent out during the first week of term about the clubs on offer and how to book.

Running Club



Do you want to get fit and have fun at the same time!
Join us on Wednesday mornings at 7.50am.
Running/walking club
Children and adults are welcome.



Job Vacancies at St Bon's

Would you like to come and work in our wonderful school? We are on the lookout for some talented new people to join our team – details below:

- Site manager – please click on the link for further information:
<https://www.eteach.com/job/site-manager-1346262?src=email>
- Caretaker – please request details direct from the School Office

Message from Chartwells (our School Meals provider) - Pupil Meals Price Increase

Please note from 1st September 2023, the cost of a paid pupil school meal will be £2.70 per meal. Chartwells have assured us that this price will remain the same for the whole of the 2023/24 Academic Year.

Fiver Challenge Update

Fiver Challenge Update: One of our teams, Terrific T-shirts, were finalists in the National Competition for their overall business plan. That means they were in the top 8 in the country. We're so proud of them! Congratulations Vinny, Lewis, Michael, Jason and Vicky.



PTFA News

www.stbonsptfa.com

Email – contact@stbonsptfa.com

Uniform – ptfauniformrep@gmail.com

Facebook – St Bons Parents and Carers

Instagram - @stbonsptfa

Thank You!

A massive thank you to each and every member of the school community, parents, carers and staff, for supporting the PTFA this year. Your generosity, both your time and financially, has benefitted the school immensely with the installation of the incredibly popular trim trail, equipping the new conservation area with everything from pond plants to den making equipment to seating and storage, replenishing library stocks, new resources to help our children learn through play at break times and more. We're already researching new projects with school that the children will love and hope to be able to tell you more in September.

We wish year 6 the best of luck in the next chapter of their lives and look forward to seeing everyone else back after the summer. Have a wonderful holiday!

Coming up from September:

- ✓ PTFA meeting 13th September
- ✓ New reception coffee morning 22nd September
 - ✓ Uniform sale
- ✓ PTFA meeting 10th October
 - ✓ Disco
 - ✓ Movie night (TBC)
 - ✓ Bag2School 31st October
- ✓ PTFA meeting 10th November
- ✓ **Christmas Fair 3rd December**



COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

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A few food pantry statistics for you this week: we've been running the food pantry for **16** months. In that time, we've done **57** shopping trips, spending an average of **£107.72** per shop.

Sadly, that £107 gets us much less for our money now than when we started the pantry in February 2022 because of the rise in food prices. Recently, we've had to slightly scale back on the amount and type of food we can offer in the pantry.

We know everyone is finding times tough, but we are completely dependent on your generosity to fund the pantry. If you feel you can support us with a donation, there is a "Food Pantry" button on the Donation Point inside the church or you can donate cash in an envelope through Jenny Glester's door at 57 Egerton Road.

Thank you, as ever, for all you do to support us.

Please donate:

Cooking Oil

Tuna

Washing up liquid

Toothpaste

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.



Bristol Parent Carers - free training for parents and carers

We wanted to remind you of the training sessions and other events we have coming up for parents and carers. All events are free but most need to be booked in advance.

Training sessions that we are running in conjunction with North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forums can be found and booked here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-n-somerset-and-s-glos-parent-carer-forums-41027867683>

Training Sessions run by us just for those parents and carers who live in the Bristol City Council area can be found and booked here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-parent-carers-7809612275>
