



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

You will be aware from last week's newsletter that we have launched our new school rules with the children. A week in, the children are responding well and developing a growing awareness of what it means to **Be Respectful**. Please can I ask that you reinforce the same language we are using in school, at home. For example, when listening in assembly this week, I praised the KS2 children for their engagement and listening, I told them I noticed they were being respectful. In school, children and classes are receiving raffle tickets for respectful behaviour outside on the playground and house points in the classroom. Raffle tickets are picked at the end of Friday lunchtime and the winning ticket holder is able to choose a reward from suggestions agreed by school council. In class, the same applies - the top house point earner is able to choose a reward.

A priority for me this year is to start re-introducing some of the face to face events that we would usually offer in a 'normal' year. Therefore, I am dedicating the rest of my update in this newsletter to some important upcoming events:

#### **How to support your child's spelling**

We will be running two face to face, socially distanced sessions for parents and carers. This event will be led by Miss Tudhope, our English leader. This session will provide you with practical advice and strategies which you can use at home to support and reinforce the spelling work completed in school. This session is for parents and carers of pupils in KS1 and KS2.

The first session will run at 2.30pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March and the second session will run at 9am on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Numbers will be limited to 50 per session. Everyone who attends will be required to complete a lateral flow before attending and wear a face mask for the duration of the session. To book a place please email [clare.benians@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:clare.benians@bristol-schools.uk) requesting **How to support your child with spelling** and stating which session/date you would like to attend. If numbers exceed capacity we will look at options for a further date.

#### **Parents/carers curriculum information session**

This was previously in the school diary for term 3. However, it has now been moved to 4.00-5.00pm on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. At this session, subject leaders will provide parents and carers with an update on our new behaviour policy, English and Maths updates alongside an update from our History leader. More details about this event will be shared at the start of term 4.

#### **How to support your child with early reading**

We will be running two face to face, socially distanced, sessions for parents and carers. This event will be led by Mrs Rees, our school Reading Champion, alongside other members of our school Reading team. The session will provide practical advice about how you can support your child as they move through the early stages of reading. The session is aimed at parents of Reception and KS1 children.

The first session will run at 9am on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and the second session will run at 2.30pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Numbers will be limited to 50 per session. Everyone who attends will be required to complete a lateral flow before attending and wear a face mask for the duration of the session. To book a place please email [clare.benians@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:clare.benians@bristol-schools.uk) requesting **How to support your child with early reading** and stating which session/date you would like to attend. If numbers exceed capacity we will look at options for a further date.

### **Inset day dates**

I want to draw your attention to the publication of our 6<sup>th</sup> inset date. This will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Children do not attend school on this date. A final inset date is yet to be confirmed.

Best,

*Mrs Ballantine*

Sarah Ballantine  
Headteacher

### **Events week commencing: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (MENU week 1)**

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> January: Don't forget home clothes on Friday!

### **Message from Mgr Bernard at St Bon's church**

Dear parents and carers,

I need your help please. As I'm sure you're aware, every year the children in Year 3 have a special course to prepare them to make their First Holy Communion. We are hoping to start this in February after half term.

I need a group of adults (male and female) to help with this programme. Ideally what I need is about six or more people, with one or two being prepared to take the main lead. This number of people means that you shouldn't need to be there for every session and given the busy lives that you have, this can often make it a lot easier for people to volunteer.

The course has three books – one for the child, one for the parents (so they can follow and help their children) and finally one for the team leaders (to show them what they need to do).

The course will run on a Saturday (whether this is morning or afternoon will depend on what the volunteers decide.)

Please email me if you can help or want more information at [bernard.massey@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:bernard.massey@cliftondiocese.com)

Thank you in advance, Mgr Bernard

### **INSET day – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Bristol City Council has added two INSET days to the school calendar on top of the usual five this academic year. Mrs Ballantine has selected Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June as one of these – this is the Monday after the May half term. We have one remaining INSET day to announce.

### **February Playscheme**

Our Kidzone team will be running a Playscheme this February half term from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. Bookings will be open next week and need to be made by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. The prices remain £28 for a full day and £21 for a short day.

## Dogs on the school site

We have noticed an increase in the number of parents bringing dogs onto the school site. We do have a 'no dogs' sign on the gates and would politely ask that you do not bring dogs with you to pick up. Please also do not tie dogs up and leave them unattended at the gate – this could easily result in a dog becoming stressed if children want to say hello. We would not want to see any child being bitten by a dog in distress.

## Vacancy for School Meals Supervisory Assistant (SMSA)

We are looking to recruit an SMSA to work every lunchtime (12.15pm to 1.15pm). This involves supervising the children in the school hall and on the playground as part of a team of SMSAs. Please contact the school office if you are interested in finding out more.

## PTFA News

[www.stbonsptfa.com](http://www.stbonsptfa.com)

Facebook – St Bons Parents and Carers

Instagram - @stbonsptfa

Email – [ptfa.stbons@gmail.com](mailto:ptfa.stbons@gmail.com)

Hello and happy new year to you all! We are very excited to kick off 2022!! **We want to hear YOUR ideas, suggestions for events, fun activities for pupils and parents – this is your PTFA!**

With that in mind, we will be holding a Zoom call **on Tuesday 25th Jan at 8pm** to discuss our aims for this year as well as start planning some amazing events. Zoom details will follow shortly!

**New Year, New You? Why not cut down on the lattes and Friday night takeaways - donate to your kid's school instead!!**

Did you know you can set up a monthly donation towards your PTFA? For the equivalent of what many of us spend on takeaway coffees per month... \*definitely not me, ahem\*... you could make a real difference to St Bon's and its pupils. Check it out at [www.stbonsptfa.com/plans-pricing](http://www.stbonsptfa.com/plans-pricing)

## Make a monthly donation

<p>£ <b>5</b> Every month</p> <p>Select</p>	<p>£ <b>10</b> Every month</p> <p>Select</p>	<p>£ <b>20</b> Every month</p> <p>Select</p>
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A regular monthly donation is a great way to support the PTFA and will really help us deliver more of the items on the school's wish list.

If you'd like to donate and none of the options above work for you, please get in touch and we can arrange a different amount.

We'd also be delighted to take one off donations via BACS payments as well if that's your preference.

This also makes a great suggestion for a present if you just don't want more 'stuff' in your life!

## 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](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

### Babysitting

Hi, my name is Amelie Paul. I am 15 and an old St Bon's pupil. I'm currently at RGS and am looking for babysitting work. I have two younger sisters, one of whom is still at St Bon's, and I have been volunteering at St Bon's Brownies as part of my DofE. If you are interested, please text my mum on 07766 366569.

### Second hand violins for sale:

1/2 size Primavera violin in good condition, a few scratches on underside. £40

1/2 size Mayflower violin in good condition. £40.

Please contact Mel 07908 085283.

### Sinead Pelley Health & Wellbeing

I would like to thank all the wonderful St Bonaventure's families that visit my clinic - it has been so rewarding to see the improvement in both children and parents, greatly benefiting from my Kinesiology and well-being sessions. Kinesiology is incredibly effective for children and parents are amazed at how quickly results are achieved.

Please do have a look at my website should you wish to understand a bit more....

<https://www.healthandwellbeingbristol.co.uk>

I will continue to offer a free 10 minute consultation and 10% off all initial treatments for St Bonaventure's families.

For a chance to win a FREE initial consultation and appointment in January- please like and follow my Facebook page. The winner will be contacted before Christmas!! Good luck!!

<https://www.facebook.com/Sinead-Pelley-Health-Wellbeing-107579514955197/>

*The essence of health is inner balance.*