

# GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

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## Welcome to our Spring Newsletter!

At least we hope it is now spring – the Beast from the East parts 1 and 2 certainly did their best to convince everyone that winter was here to stay, and fingers crossed the cold weather has now gone! We hope everyone had a restful Easter and managed to get through all the mountains of Easter eggs without too much difficulty.

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## Chair's overview

It is hard to believe that it is already the start of term 4 – this academic year has flown by. The run up to Easter at St Bon's is in many ways as busy as the run up to Christmas, what with the school play and the Easter Festival that keep the pupils and staff so busy in the last few weeks of term.

The Easter Festival is, to my mind, one of the highlights of the school year. The children (and, to a certain extent, their parents!) put a huge amount of effort into their creative projects, and the singing, dancing and poetry performances are wonderful to see. The confidence that the children display in getting up on stage in front of the whole school to demonstrate their chosen skill is amazing, and the universal support that each and every performer is given by their fellow pupils is a credit to our children. It is very time consuming, and undoubtedly exhausting, for all the staff as well, and we must all be grateful to them for their help in making the last day of a busy term as fun as possible for the children.

The other highlight of the term for me was the performance of Beauty and the Beast. Every year it is difficult to see how the drama team will top the previous year's performance, and this time they excelled themselves. The acting, the singing, the costumes, the props, the sets – all outstanding and what an incredible culmination of many weeks' hard work.

As governors, we work with the teaching staff throughout the year to keep an eye on the academic side of the school, but we are also very keen to see that the school's mission to provide pupils with a rounded education is met – the drama performance is one of the best demonstrations of this that I can think of. It also highlights the wonderful school community we have – clearly the pupils and staff (particularly Mrs McGrath) put a huge amount of work in, but there are many other volunteers behind the scenes who make the stunning costumes, incredible props and the sets that, without which, the play could not go ahead. So a huge thank you to each and every one of you from the governors – we are always grateful for your help.

**.Jacob Preisner, Chair of Governors**

*"Christ's cross,  
embraced with love,  
never leads to  
sadness, but to joy,  
to the joy of having  
been saved and of  
doing a little of what  
He did on the day of  
His death."  
Pope Francis*



## Fundraising

Across the country school budgets are tight, following years of local authority cuts that have seen funding slashed. As a result fundraising, be it through applying for grants and donations or raising money through events and activities, is more in the news now than ever before.

The process of fundraising really helps our children reach their potential, by paying for new equipment, helping maintain our facilities or supporting educational enrichment programs that may struggle to gain funding otherwise. It can also help promote positive behaviours by being a worthwhile group activity for pupils to observe and be involved in.

However fundraising isn't easy, it's not all about shaking the charity box at the school gates, although this helps! Coming up with ideas to successfully generate new funding streams can be tricky, especially when it seems that everything has been done before

Successful fundraising ideally needs resource and coordination, to create sustainable ways to help fund our school.

We as Governors recognise this need and in order to help St Bon's we have created a Funding Committee, chaired by myself as parent Governor, with membership made up from Governors, the school and the PTFA chairs. We have approved a formal school fundraising and income generation strategy with the aim of improving the educational, health and emotional wellbeing outcomes for all pupils of St Bon's through fundraising.

Its early days but we have held our first meeting and started a range of initiatives. However we appreciate fundraising isn't easy, and we are keen to learn from any parents who may have solid experience in fundraising for schools. If you think that's you, then please contact myself, or our Clerk, Alexandra Casley, so we can discuss.

**Jonathan Kidd**  
Parent Governor

## Your support



We're raising £1,000 to help fund a reading support teacher at St Bonaventure's School

In the spirit of Jonathan's article, there are two upcoming events where we would welcome your support. The first is the Bristol 10k – Mrs Ballantine and Mrs Noto are running it to raise money for St Bon's and any sponsorship would be very welcome indeed! A link to their fundraising page is below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mrsbandmrsn?utm\\_id=2&utm\\_term=6eGWDaNMm](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mrsbandmrsn?utm_id=2&utm_term=6eGWDaNMm)

The second is the St Bon's celebration, a flyer for which is on the next page. Hope to see you there!

## ST BON'S CELEBRATION 2018

FRIDAY, 8TH JUNE



### FEATURING MUSIC FROM THE VELVETONES

COMPLIMENTARY FIZZ SERVED FROM 6:45 PM

THREE COURSE MEAL AT 7:30 PM

DISCO UNTIL 11:30 PM

DRESS CODE : SMART

THE BRISTOL PAVILION (THE GLOS CRICKET GROUND) , NEVIL RD  
BRISTOL BS7 9EJ

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED BY EMAILING [ptfa.stbons@gmail.com](mailto:ptfa.stbons@gmail.com)

PRICE £40 PER PERSON

LynneFernandes  
Optometrists

SANTUS MEDIA



*"Let us give thanks  
to the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus  
Christ! Because  
of his great mercy  
he gave us new  
life by raising Jesus  
Christ from death. This  
fills us with a living hope.*

*1 Peter 1:3*

## And finally

Our wonderful school in the pristine snow!

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