



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear parents and carers,

*Father, teach us to help young people appreciate their own worth.  
Enable us to touch their hearts and empower us to reveal your love for them.  
Inspire us to support and encourage and build others up as members of one body.  
Help us to follow Christ, our teacher, and be credible witnesses of your love.  
Amen.*

I hope you have all had the chance to take a look at our recently planted raised beds. My thanks go out to the parents who helped plant this area last Saturday. There are plans for more planting to take place in a couple of weeks time, if you want to get involved please contact the PTFA.



### **Use of the Church car park**

St Bons pre-school are currently using an entrance accessed through the church car park due to their usual path being closed due to safety works. I have been informed that some of our school parents/carers are not parking in allocated spaces which is causing issues for pre-school parents and their children as they are having to navigate their way through abandoned cars in what is an already busy car park. Please can you all be mindful of this for the safety of the families and children who are attending St Bons pre-school.

### **Expression of interest to join the Newman Catholic Education Trust**

I hope you will have had the chance to read the letter sent out on behalf of our chair of governors and myself earlier this week. A series of meetings for parents and carers have been planned, the first meeting is scheduled for 9am-10am on Friday 3rd May in the school hall. Please do come along if you'd like to find out more about the Trust and have the opportunity to talk to St Bons governors and Newman Trust leaders.

### **Parent/carers school Improvement session**

Apologies but I am changing the date of this session to Friday 24th May 9-10am. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

### **Crowning of Mary**

On Wednesday 1st May our youngest and oldest pupils will crown a statue of Our Lady, Mary in a whole school service. Please can I invite all children to come to school with donations of flowers which we use to

decorate our statue. After the service our year 3 children will take some flowers to St Bons church and present them to the statue of Mary in Our Lady's chapel.

### **Service to celebrate the sacrament of First Holy Communion**

On Wednesday 15th May at 2.45pm we will be holding a service in school. This service will be a celebration to recognise all those who have made or are yet to make their First Holy Communion. All parents and carers of year 3 pupils and those in other year groups who have prepared to and/or made their First Communion this year are welcome to join us.

### **Slapped cheek syndrome**

We have had a number of cases of slapped cheek this past week. This starts as very red cheeks with cold like symptoms although there can be no other symptoms at all. The NHS guidelines are that until a rash appears on the body it is contagious. Slapped cheek can cause complication in pregnancies and you will be aware with do have pregnant staff at present. If you believe your child may have slapped cheek please do not bring them into school and speak to your GP.

For more information on slapped cheek: [Slapped cheek syndrome - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Best,  
Sarah Ballantine  
Head teacher

#### **UP COMING DATES:**

#### **Week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> April (menu week 3)**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>- Newman Trust parents meeting 9:00 9:55  
3J Class assembly 10:00  
Year 2 bake sale

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Monday 6<sup>th</sup>- May Bank holiday- SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>- KS1 summer sing

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – 1P Class assembly

Year 5 bake sale

Dates  
for your



# Celebrating Catholic Life at St. Bonaventure's!

This week has been full of opportunities to explore our faith and how we can live our Catholic Values.

During Monday's ethos assembly we talked to the children about what makes St. Bonaventure's so special. The children engaged in discussion reflecting on our values. From the kindness that we show towards one another to always trying our best, the children were keen to share their ideas.

Back in classes the children brainstormed ideas for the mural for the front of the school. Their ideas and creativity were truly inspiring. Their proposals have now been sent to the mural artist who will see them to develop a design that reflects the essence of our school.

Can't wait to see the final artwork come to life on the front of the school, serving as a daily reminder of the special community we share.

**In our key stage 1 celebration of the word** we explored the story of Jesus as the true vine.

They learned about the Fruits of the Spirit- love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

With these fruits in mind, the children had a chance to reflect on how they could nurture their own growth in these qualities.

**Key stage 2: Showing God's love.**

In the key stage 2 celebration of the word assembly the children were inspired by the story of Jesus as the good Shepherd. They learned about how Jesus knows and cares for each of us individually, this led to some thoughtful discussions about how we in turn can show compassion to those around us.

**Walk the Walk assembly: Putting faith into action**

On Friday we celebrated the outcomes from Seek the Truth. We were all incredibly proud to hear about the fantastic impact our children have made through their work on earning our faith awards during terms 3 & 4.

A special shout out goes to everyone who participated in the CAFOD Big Lent walk! Together you walked 1,008km and raised an amazing £460 to support CAFOD's vital work. This is a wonderful example of how even a small contribution can make a big difference to the lives of others.

We are so inspired by our children's dedication to their faith and their eagerness to make a positive impact to those around them. Keep up the fantastic work!





Well done to Reuben Smith and Robin Germain who went to Badminton school last week for the Challenge Bristol Final. This was a STEM event aimed to equip children with practical engineering skills and understanding.

They all had to design and build a crane to install a model wind turbine using K'nex pieces. They were assessed not only on their design and building skills, but also their communication, teamwork and perseverance. Robin and Reuben were up against 14 other primary schools and came second! They did a fantastic job and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



### 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 Mondays 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](mailto:esmeralda.cela@bristol-schools.uk)



### Running & Walking Club

Do you want to get fit and have fun at the same time?!

Wednesday mornings at 7:50

Meet outside the office foyer

Children and adults welcome

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We now have a designated walker so if you do not want to run please come along for a walk.

# Sports and clubs at St BONS



## Sport and club's - week starting 29<sup>th</sup> April

*If your child is on the register for any clubs and isn't going to attend for any reason could you please let the office know so their absence from the register is noted.*

Club...	Is it running...	Day and year group...
Netball	YES YES	Mondays- Y 3&4 - 3:15 - 4:15 Tuesdays- Y 5&6 - 3:15 – 4:15
Circuits	YES	Thursdays - Yr2-6 - 7:50am in hall with Mr Morgan
Running club	YES	Wednesdays – 7.45am – all welcome – meet outside foyer Definitely on this week
Football	YES	No training – Match, letter will be sent to those invited.
Tag Rugby	YES	Thursday 8:00 - Y5 & Y6
Chess Lunch break	NO	Fridays 12:15 -Y5 & Y6 fortnightly
Hockey with Mrs Hinkins	YES	Fridays- Y5 & 6 - 3:15 Paid club Booked through Mrs Hinkins.
Dodge ball	YES	Fridays – Y3 &4- 8:00 in hall with Mrs Ballantine
Art/Drawing- lunch	YES	Tuesday lunch - KS2 – 12:15 In 4H
Debating Club- lunch time	YES	Wednesday lunch- Y5 & Y6 - 12:15- In 3B/3J
Well-Being Singing- lunch time	YES	Tuesday lunch 12:15 whole school - in 1P
Choir – Lunch time	KS1 YES KS2 YES	Mondays – KS1 - 12:15 in 2TW Thursdays – KS2 –12:15 in 2TW

Bookings for Coaching with sophie are made through the website, [www.cwsophie.co.uk](http://www.cwsophie.co.uk) , the time tables is below:

**TERM 5- CWS AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

**MON**

FOOTBALL CLUB  
3.30PM - 4.30PM  
RECEPTION, Y1,Y2

£20 FOR 5 WEEK COURSE  
(BANK HOLIDAY)

**TUE**

FOOTBALL CLUB  
3.30PM - 4.30PM  
Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6

£24 FOR 6 WEEK COURSE

**WED**

MULTI SPORTS CLUB  
3.30PM - 4.30PM  
RECEPTION/Y1/Y2/.Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6

£24 FOR 6 WEEK COURSE

**THU**

GIRLS ONLY SPORTS  
3.30PM-4.30PM  
RECEPTION/Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6

TAG RUGBY/CRICKET  
3.30PM-4.30PM  
Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6

£24 FOR 6 WEEK COURSE

PLEASE VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE TO BOOK -  
[WWW.CWSOPHIE.CO.UK](http://WWW.CWSOPHIE.CO.UK)

CLUBS WILL START  
BACK WEEK  
COMMENCING MONDAY  
15TH APRIL 2024 (FIRST  
WEEK BACK TO SCHOOL)

PLEASE NOTE  
THURSDAYS GIRLS ONLY  
SPORTS AND TAG  
RUGBY/CRICKET ARE  
TWO DIFFERENT CLUBS  
AND TAG  
RUGBY/CRICKET ARE FOR  
EVERYONE .

**COACHING**

**WITH SOPHIE**



## Kids and Smartphones



Many of you will already be aware of the national conversation that's sprung up since February about the age at which we give our children smartphones. There's a growing movement of parents who are concerned about their kids using smartphones, particularly at primary school age.

Some St Bon's parents have got together to begin talking about how we might raise awareness of the issue at our school. While we recognise the huge benefits of technology, we're concerned that spending too much time on smartphones at a young age, and particularly social media, is harmful. We certainly don't have all the answers, but we hope to get St Bon's parents talking about this in a non-judgemental way.

The school is already embracing the conversation. Last week we were visited by Susie Davies from Papaya, a charity which specialises in teen mental health and technology, who gave an excellent talk setting out the risks of smartphones and gaming. If you're interested in finding out more, Susie's slides are [here](#).

We'd also highly recommend a talk by social psychologist Jonathan Haidt, who has been featured on Radio 4 and in other mainstream media.

We are working on more ways to offer support and information, and in the meantime, you can expect to hear from us more regularly in future.

If you'd like to find out more about the Smartphone Free Childhood movement go to [www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk](http://www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk) and you can join the community on WhatsApp [here](#).



## PTFA news

### Disco tickets on sale next week

Buy your tickets for the disco via our [website](http://www.stbonsptfa.com) from **Monday 29 April to 3 May**.

The discos will take place on Friday 17 May. The Reception / KS1 disco will be from 5pm to 6.15pm, and the KS2 disco from 6.45pm to 8pm. Once again, a raffle system will be used to randomly allocate tickets **if** we reach capacity. If you are not successful in this then you will be refunded. We require a ratio of **1 adult to 4 children** for the disco. To free up space please consider buddying up with other parents to allow more children to attend. Classes will also be asked to fill in a volunteer rota (so if you secure a ticket, please consider volunteering. Many thanks). See you on the dance floor!

**The Big (St) Bon's Quiz of the Year, TONIGHT:** It's not too late to come along to the quiz tonight! You can still buy tickets on our [website](http://www.stbonsptfa.com). Doors open at 7pm. See you there.

**We've planted our raised beds!** Our newly planted raised beds are now full of pollinating plants, herbs and veg. Huge thanks to Heather Turner from [Gaia Garden Design](http://www.gaia-garden-design.co.uk) for our lovely planting plan, and to [Henleaze Garden Shop](http://www.henleaze-garden-shop.co.uk) for donating veg plants and compost, and of course our wonderful volunteers for planting in the sunshine last weekend [@plantscapesbristol](https://www.instagram.com/plantscapesbristol) – thank you! You can watch a video of Heather telling us more about the plants in the raised beds on Instagram ([@stbonsptfa](https://www.instagram.com/stbonsptfa)).

**Grow With It - next planting day:** We'll be revealing a date soon for our next planting day. We still need to plant our final raised bed with veg, and there's planting planned for other areas of the grounds. We'll also be adding little signs to the raised beds with fun facts for the children about some of the plants.

**Bake sales:** The year 2 bake sale will be on **Friday 3 May** and the year 5 bake sale will be on **Friday 10 May**. Proceeds from year group bake sales will go directly to class teachers to buy resources for their classes. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Other upcoming dates:** Bag 2 School, Friday 7 June; Summer fair, Sunday 23 June, 2-5pm







## **COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**

We're so lucky to be supported by the members of St Bonaventures Church and School and the local residents: there's been an increase in donations to the pantry recently and we couldn't be more grateful. We must say a big thank you in particular to the wonderful Mary who recently dropped off a really generous donation of food for our store cupboard.

If you're able to pop a couple of items into your trolley next time you shop, we'd appreciate any of the following things:

### **Please donate:**

Long life milk  
Dried lentils  
Tinned tuna  
Other tinned fish  
Oat cakes  
Crackers  
Oil  
Flour  
Washing up liquid

### **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 Trish's door at 55 Egerton Road.

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St. Bon's Hygiene Bank provides families of children at the school with bags of hygiene products every half term. We have an amazing group of parents who regularly donate supplies of things like toothpaste, shampoo and washing up liquid to the bank, but it would be great to have some new people in the group. If you think this is something you would like to help with, please scan the QR code below to join the St. Bon's Hygiene Bank WhatsApp group:

We would also love to hear from anyone who is interested in volunteering to help run the hygiene bank. Call or message Nicola on 07947 690569 or Katie on 07792 420999 to find out more.

