



Friday 7th March 2025

Dear parents and carers,

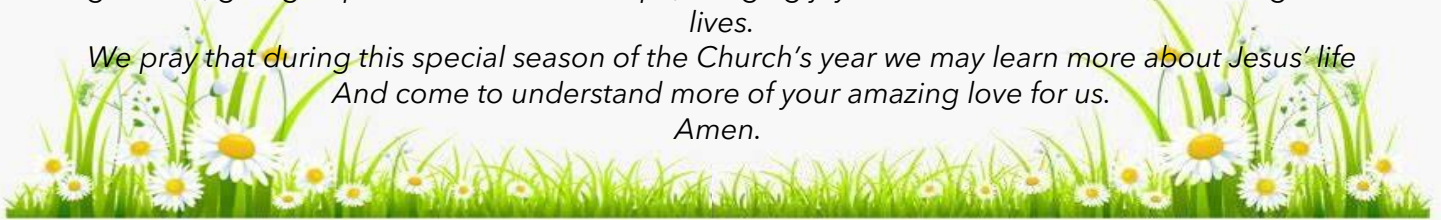
Loving God at the beginning of Lent,

We thank you for the precious gift of your Son Jesus Christ and for his life here on earth.

We thank you that Jesus went around doing good, healing people, welcoming the stranger, offering your forgiveness, giving hope to those without hope, bringing joy to those who were sad, mending broken lives.

*We pray that during this special season of the Church's year we may learn more about Jesus' life
And come to understand more of your amazing love for us.*

Amen.



We joined the parish for Ash Wednesday Mass this week. I was so incredibly proud of our KS2 pupils whose behaviour and attitude was exemplary. They were all letting their lights shine brightly!

Window Wanderland

You may have noticed that we have spent this week transforming the classroom windows ready for our launch event on Saturday 6-7pm. Please come along if you can to see the children's artwork lit up. Children from the drama production will be singing a number of their songs and the PTFA are selling refreshments, raising money for books for our classrooms. I look forward to seeing you.

Thank you for everyone's amazing efforts with world book day costumes, we had a fun day with lots of reading.



Dates for your diary:

- Friday 21st March parent/carer school improvement plan session with the principal 9-10am.
- WB 24th March school performance of Willy Wonka
- Friday 28th March parent/carer SEND support group 9-10am
- 31st March and 1st April Year 6 parent evenings
- Wednesday 2nd April Passiontide mass in church 9.15am
- Thursday 3rd April Easter Festival all day
- Friday 4th April inset day- school closed for pupils

Best,
Sarah Ballantine
Principal
St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary

St. Bons: Faith in Action This Week!

This week at St. Bons, our school community has been deeply immersed in the spirit of our Catholic faith, marking significant moments in the liturgical calendar and embarking on our Lenten journey.

Celebrating St. David:

We began our week with a celebration of St. David's Day. The school was awash with yellow as our St. David's house members proudly honoured their patron saint. Our house captains led a thoughtful assembly, sharing the inspiring story of St. David and reflecting on how his example of faith and service continues to guide us today.

Entering Lent with Ash Wednesday:

Wednesday marked the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection and renewal. Key Stage 2 students participated in a moving Ash Wednesday service in the church, led by Mgr. Bernard. He explained the significance of the ashes, reminding the children that the cross on their foreheads is a visible sign of their commitment to following Jesus. He encouraged them to live out their faith through acts of kindness and compassion during this special season.

Mgr. Bernard then joined our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children at school for a special service. They were sprinkled with ashes and reminded of the importance of being good and kind during Lent. Our Reception class began to understand the meaning of Lent, learning that it's a time to grow closer to Jesus. They created beautiful prayer hearts, reflecting on moments and places where they feel close to God. These hearts will serve as a tangible reminder of their connection with Him throughout Lent.

Lenten Reflections and Chaplaincy:

From next week, our Year 6 chaplains will be leading Lenten reflections for the whole school. They will guide their peers in thinking deeply about how they can make positive changes in their lives, strengthening their relationship with God through prayer and acts of service.

CAFOD Big Lent Walk: Walking in Faith and Solidarity:

On Friday, we launched our CAFOD Big Lent Walk with an inspiring assembly. This initiative will culminate in a school walk during the final week of term. We are excited to raise funds to support a community in Ethiopia, providing them with the resources to establish a community garden and access clean water. We are hopeful that our collective efforts will make a real and lasting difference in their lives.

This week has been a powerful reminder of the importance of our faith and the strength of our community. We are grateful for the opportunity to walk together in faith during this Lenten season, striving to grow closer to God and to serve others with love and compassion.

The children were told about this year Big Lent Walk in assembly today, they will be raising money for Cafod. More information will follow in the next few weeks but if you would like to start fundraising now the link is below;

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-bonaventures-fundraising-page>



Chaplains Chat - What have the Chaplains been talking about this week?

Planning for the Big Lent walk:

'We're working together to walk in solidarity with people in Ethiopia who don't have clean water nearby' (Hannah)

'We want to inspire other people to do good things for others' (Sofia)

'We could have posters with QR codes so that people can join in the fundraising' (Jacob)

Planning for a Warm Welcome group:

'We want to welcome new people to our school by using chaplains working with our language ambassadors to make them feel happy. The language ambassadors can help us to communicate if they don't speak English' (Sofia)

'The chaplains can meet them to give them a tour of the school and introduce them in assembly' (Lorenzo)

'A chaplain could be their buddy' (Jacob)

UP COMING DATES:

Week beginning 10th March (*Menu week 1*)

KS1 & KS2 assessment week

Tuesday 11th - Year 4 swimming

- Rosa's Big Cut sale - Little princess Trust

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Thursday 13th - Wonderlicious chocolate bar event

Friday 14th - 4L Class assembly 10:00 - 10:30

- Wonderlicious chocolate bar event

Week starting 17th March

Monday 17th - St Patricks day - St Patricks house wear green

Tuesday 18th - Year 4 swimming

Friday 21st - Parent/carer SIP session 9:00-10:00

- Drama cast rehearsal all day
- Year 6 cake



EAL (English as an additional language) Coffee mornings.
Every Wednesday 9:00-10:00 Please come along to the office and sign in.

If English is not your first language, please come along and join us for our weekly EAL coffee mornings.

All parents and carers are very welcome. This is a great chance to meet other parents, ask questions and be part of your child's learning.

Feel involved in the school life and up to date with what's going on in a relaxed and friendly environment.

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



Sports and clubs at St BONS

Sport and club's - week starting 10th March



Please fill out a club permission slip from the office to register your child to a club.

If your child is signed up for a club but won't be attending at any point please let the office know.

Club...	Is it running...	Day and year group...
Netball	Yes Yes	Monday -year 3 & 4 Tuesday - year 5 & 6
Hockey	Yes	Friday- Year 5&6 - 3:20 - 4:30 Paid club Booked through Mrs Hinkins
Gymnastics	Yes	Tuesday 3:20 - 4:20 Year 3 & 4 This club is full and running a waiting list
Circuits	Yes	Thursdays - Y's 2-6 - 8:00am in hall with Mr Morgan
Drama	Yes Yes	Monday 3:20-5:30 All Cast A Thursday 3:20- 5:30 All Cast B
Running club	Yes	Wednesday - 7.45am - all welcome - meet outside foyer.
Dodgeball	Yes	Friday -Year 4 & 5 - 8:00-8:30
Football	Yes	Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30 Yr. 5 & 6 - girls practice
Rugby	Yes	Thursday - 8:00 - 8:30 year 5 & 6
Chess	No	Friday Year 5&6 - lunchtime.
Choir	Yes	Mondays 12:15- during lunch break

Well done to our year 4 netball team who played at a netball festival on Monday. Lots of matches were won!





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

For runners and walkers of all abilities

Household items needed.

KidZone are looking for household items such as kettles, keyboards, pot and pans, telephones etc. to be used in our play pod. If you have any such items please bring them to the school office. Thank you ☺

Extreme Reading Competition

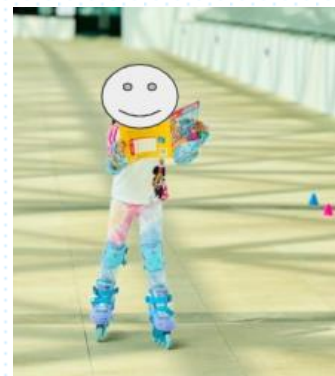
The theme for World Book Day this year is: Read Your Way. As part of this, we are running an Extreme Reading Competition!

Children can take part by having a photo of them reading in a fun place. Be as imaginative as you can! Certificates will be given to everyone who participates and an overall winner will be chosen for KS1 and KS2

Please send entries via email to st.bonaventures.p@bristol-schools.uk for attention of Mrs Reeves, the deadline for entries is Tuesday 22nd April – making this a great Easter holiday activity.



**READ
YOUR WAY**



Books, Books, Books!



Watch our [Instagram reel](#) of children preparing the new books for the school library and read our [blog](#).

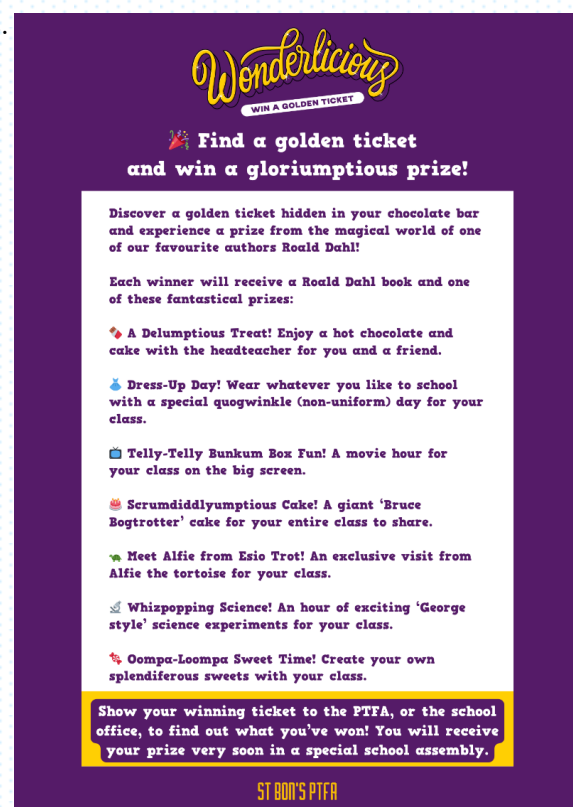
We're also excited to be part of the Window Wanderland event tomorrow evening with St Bon's contributing special book-themed window displays, and the money raised from our PTFA refreshment sale going directly towards buying more books for classes.

Wonderlicious - find a golden ticket!

In support of the St Bon's book theme this month, we're delighted to be hosting a Wonderlicious Chocolate 'Find a Golden Ticket' event inspired by Roald Dahl's 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', and of course the upcoming school play!

Discover a golden ticket hidden in your Wonderlicious chocolate bar and experience a prize from the magical world of one of our favourite authors Roald Dahl!

Wonderlicious bars go on sale **Thursday 13th and Friday 14th March from 3.20pm** in the playground. £2 per chocolate bar. Cash and card accepted. We'll also have some dairy free options. Read more about the event in our [blog](#) and [watch us](#) on Instagram wrapping 620 chocolate bars...





Spring Refresh: Spring is nearly here, and it's the perfect time to press 'reset' on your mind, body, and soul. So why not book a ticket to Spring Refresh, a women's wellness event on Friday 28 March from 7 to 10pm? We've invited the experts in to share some top tips on topics such as self-care, and decluttering. There will also be an opportunity to refresh your wardrobe, and indulge in some well-deserved pampering! [Buy your tickets](#) on our website (it's Mother's Day a few days after this event so it might be the perfect gift for someone!). Read more about the event in this [blog](#).

PTFA meeting: Thanks to those who came along to the meeting last night. The minutes will be available soon. As well as all the usual items, we had a good discussion about plans for spending on the back playground, how we might like to support the development of the school garden and the greenhouse, and the summer fair on Sunday 22 June.

If you would like to be part of the summer fair planning team looking for sponsorship / donations and coming up with ideas for stalls, please get in touch and we can add you to the team Whatsapp group (contact@stbonsptfa.com).

Dates for your diary: We've got some great [events](#) lined up for the rest of this school year.

- 🌸 **Window Wanderland refreshments:** Sat 8 March.
 - 🌸 **Wonderlicious chocolate 'Win a golden ticket' event:** 13 and 14 March.
 - 🌸 **Bake sales:** Next up is Year 6 on Friday 21 March.
 - 🌸 **Spring Refresh:** Friday 28 March, 7-10pm
 - 🌸 **Quiz night:** Friday 25 April
 - 🌸 **Discos:** Friday 16 May
 - 🌸 **Frozen Fridays:** May to July
 - 🌸 **Summer Fair:** Sunday 22 June, 2-5pm
 - 🌸 **Sports Day refreshments:** 8 and 9 July.
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COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The first few glimmers of Spring sunshine have been peeping through the clouds this week, bringing the hope of warmer and longer days to come. It's a bit like the hope you, our brilliant donators, bring to the families who rely on the food pantry to help them through the lean times.

Helping out is so easy - just take a look at the list below of food and toiletry items we really need and chuck a couple in your trolley next time you're doing your weekly shop.

For those in need, the Pantry is open between 8am - 5pm every day except Monday.

Please donate:

Pasta sauces

Curry sauces

Coffee

Tinned soups

Tinned peas

Washing up liquid

Shampoo

Please DO NOT donate:

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

Where do I leave food donations?

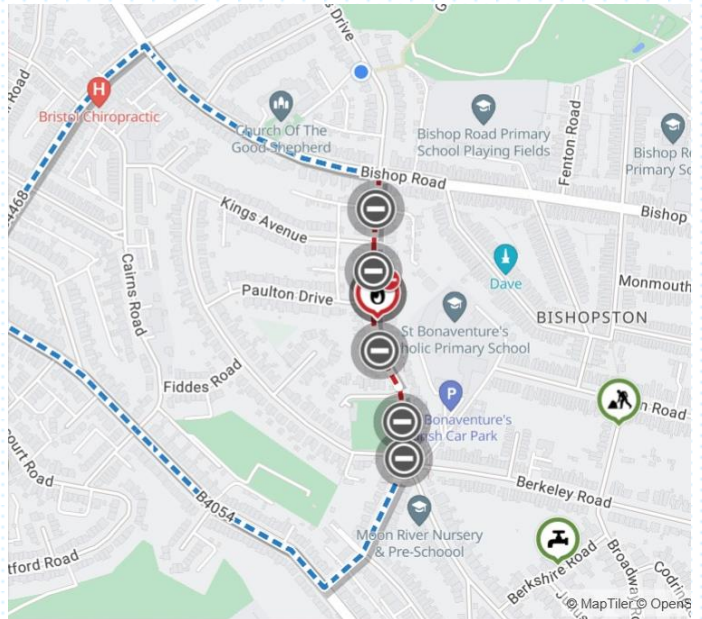
Please put food donations either in the clear box labelled "Community Food Pantry Donation Box" at the back of the church or in the box outside the front door of the Presbytery.

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.

Community News

The lower part of Kings Drive from the Bishop Road roundabout to the tennis courts is going to be shut in sections from 3rd March to 14th May.



Hi, my name is Freya. I am 14 and am an old St Bons pupil. I'm currently at Badminton school and am looking for babysitting work. I live locally. I am just about to start volunteering at the St Bons Brownies as part of my Bronze DofE. If you are interested please text or call my mum, Sarah, on: [07766366569](tel:07766366569)