



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear parents and carers,

*Loving God,  
On this day of Pentecost,  
Bring us together in Your love and peace.  
Help us to be one in spirit and purpose.  
Amen*

I hope you all had a great half term and are ready for the busy term ahead of us. Please make a note of the key dates listed below but note that there will be other events specific to your class or year group to look out for.

### **Attendance and punctuality**

I'd like to thank you all for your continued support in ensuring your child/ren are in school every day and arrive at school on time. If you would ever like to meet with me to discuss any difficulties you are having getting your child/ren to school or ensuring they arrive before the bell please do reach out to me.

Requests for term time absence must be submitted using the form available on our website or school office two weeks in advance of the absence.

If you do need to take your child out of school during the school day the office team will ask you for a copy of the appointment so that I can consider if it will be authorised. Please note not all requests for appointments in the school day can be authorised due to statutory legislation.

### **Uniform**

It has been brought to my attention that a number of children are wearing items of their own clothes to school, sweatshirts in particular. Can I please remind you that children must wear full school uniform, this includes a navy sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo on, in warmer weather they can wear a white polo shirt on its own. They should not be wearing home clothes whilst in school.

### **Parking**

I have received several emails this week from parents and local residents about parking.

It has been reported to me that there was an incident in the church car park last term where a parent has driven too close to a parked car and has hit the open door whilst a child was waiting to get in. Luckily no one was hurt. Please can I remind all parents/carers who use the church car park to do so with care and consideration.

I have also been made aware that several cars parked close to the school have had leaflets placed on them advising them not to park on pedestrian routes. If you are responsible for the distribution of these fliers please be mindful of the local residents who live close to the school as I would not want to cause upset to our neighbours.

### **Dates for your diary:**

- Friday 13th June 9-10am SEND parent/carer group. Bristol Parent carers facilitating the session. All parents/carers are invited to attend.
- Sunday 22nd June 2-5pm St Bons summer fair
- Thursday 26th June changeover morning for pupils in current year 3, 4 and 5.
- Wednesday 2nd July changeover morning for pupils in current Reception, year 1 and 2.
- WB: 30th June Year 6 residential.
- Friday 11th July 9-10am SEND parent/carer group. School nurse facilitating the session. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.
- Friday 18th July last day of term for pupils.

Best,  
Sarah Ballantine  
Principal  
St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary

## Catholic Life at St Bons: A Week of Compassion and Action!

What a busy first week back we've had at St. Bons,! Our Chaplaincy Team has been at the heart of many of the activities, embodying our school's commitment to faith in action.

The week began with an assembly led by our Year 5 and 6 Chaplains. They shared their vision for the re-opening of the St. Francis Garden, a tranquil space for prayer and reflection during lunchtimes. Their enthusiasm was infectious as they outlined their ideas and expectations, and we were delighted to see the garden officially re-opened for Year 3 pupils on Monday. The feedback from both the Chaplaincy Team and the Year 3 children was overwhelmingly positive.

On Wednesday, some of our Year 5 Chaplains led another inspiring assembly, this time to launch the next exciting stage of our "Pilgrims of Hope" journey. Every child in the school is invited to produce a piece of art on the theme of hope. This initiative not only encourages creativity but also allows our children to reflect on what hope means to them. Some of these artworks will be selected to go forward into the Cardinal Newman Trust Art Competition. The response has been incredible, with entries already flooding in all week as many classes have already completed their masterpieces!

Wednesday afternoon saw the entire Chaplaincy Team attend training with Jane from Bristol Schools Connection and volunteers from local churches. This session was crucial for planning our own school pilgrimage for the upcoming Jubilee Year of Hope. Our Chaplains engaged enthusiastically in prayer and reflection-based activities, identifying the key features of effective prayer stations. They then began the process of planning their own prayer stations, all centred around the theme of hope. Their collaborative spirit and the thoughtful, reflective activities they're creating are inspiring. Over the next few weeks, they will continue to refine their plans for the pilgrimage walk, which will take place in the last week of term.

Today, we took another significant step in our "Live Simply" plan with a "Buy Less, Share More" event, organised by our Stewardship Team. Children brought in good quality toys and books they no longer needed and then had the opportunity to choose a "new" treasure from the donated items. It was heart-warming to see so many children overjoyed with their new acquisitions, fostering a spirit of generosity and resourcefulness within our school community.

Beyond these official initiatives, the spirit of service and fundraising is alive and well across St. Bons! In addition to our "Run for H2O" next Friday, many groups of children are organising their own fundraising activities to help us reach our ambitious £10,000 target for H2O. A special plea comes from a group of Year 4 girls who would love your help with their fundraising efforts: they are asking for any old t-shirts you have at home to be left in a box by the office. These resourceful girls will then transform the donated t-shirts into stylish tote bags for a sale on July 4th - what a fantastic idea! Not to be outdone, a group of Year 5 boys will be holding a raffle in the week commencing June 16th to win a signed Bristol Rovers shirt, and they'll also be selling delicious cakes after school on June 19th.

As you can see, our St. Bons community is thriving with faith, service, and a boundless spirit of hope. We are incredibly proud of all our children for their commitment to living out our Catholic values each and every day.





## UP COMING DATES:

### Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> June (menu week 1)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Dr Bike for those booked in

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year 2 swimming  
- Year 5 St Bedes taster morning

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Run 4 H2O  
- SEND parents/carers support group meeting  
- 1CR class assembly 10:00-10:30  
- Frozen Friday - year 3

### Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> June

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Year 2 swimming

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 St Bedes transition morning  
- New reception parent's information evening

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - 5SK Class assembly  
- Frozen Fridays - Reception

Dates  
for your



### 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*

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](mailto:Esmeralda.cela@bristol-schools.uk)





Dear supporters - This year with your help I hope to raise £10,000 to support another water project in Ethiopia, Arat Ber (last year we raised £8,055). We are really lucky this year as we have someone who is going to **match fund** the monies raised by the children up to £5K (more information here (<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/RunforH2O2025>) we have been given us a target of £10k which means for every £1 raised, each child will get an additional 50p, £10 = £5, £20 = £10 etc. AMAZING!!

In the week leading up to Friday 13th June - the day of the event - there will be an opportunity to buy tickets to enter into a raffle to either win a signed Bristol Bears top or a signed Gloucestershire Cricket T20 top. Cash or card will be accepted.



A sponsorship form has been given to each child - All monies raised should be brought into school on the day of the event or the week after. Many thanks.

If you would like to donate online and are a taxpayer, the government gives an **extra 25%** through gift aid to the amount donated - please put the child's name and their class in the comments. There is a **prize** for the top fundraiser in each class.

Please visit to donate online:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/RunforH2O2025>

HOPE international development agency believes that all people, regardless of their geographical setting, have basic rights and should be given the opportunity to achieve their potential. HOPE is dedicated to working alongside poor communities, helping set up programs which enable people to cultivate their skills and knowledge, taking advantage of existing resources (when available) to develop self-reliance. With this in mind, the majority of HOPE's energies and resources are expended in favour of development rather than relief. More information can be found at: <https://www.hope-international.org.uk/>





## For this year's project:

- £1 will buy 1m of pipe and
- £18 will bring clean water to 1 person in the community.

Everyone's commitment will be appreciated and valued to make this possible

The Arat Ber Project will provide water for a population of 3,048 people. This includes:

- 11 water points
- 10 water basins
- a pipeline measuring 3.42km
- Plus:
- 100 women will receive basic business training
- 80 farmers will receive agricultural training
- 1,200 trees and 500 fruit trees will be planted

## Story

Run 4 H2O is a fundraising initiative generating money for HOPE's next water and sanitation project in the rural Ethiopia village of Arat Ber. Pupils from St Bonaventure's will be participating in a sponsored run to help bring clean water to this remote community. Local clean water access will bring improved health and time for education and earning needed money.



This year the Rev Ted Baines Charity will match each 1 donation with an additional 50p! This charity aims to encourage generosity BY and FOR the benefit of the next generation.

<https://www.revtedbainescharity.org.uk/>

Thank you for your donations! Your contributions will change lives.

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/RunforH2O2025>

A massive well done to Ben who was thrilled to have been selected to exhibit his artwork at the Oxo Tower in London this July.

*For The Love of Art* will be open from Wednesday 9th to Sunday 27th July at the OXO Gallery in London.

The exhibition is free to attend and aims to share the creativity of the students with as many visitors as possible. What amazing art work Ben! We are so proud.



## Summer Fair countdown!

A letter has been emailed out to all parents via the school office with details on how you can help with preparations for this year's Summer Fair on Sunday 22 June from 2-5pm. If you missed it, you can [read a copy here](#). Read about [what to expect at this year's fair](#), and [buy your tickets now](#).

### Stalls

Class reps will soon be in touch to ask for stall volunteers - please sign up to help! We can't run the fair without your support.



### Bid now at our silent auction!

We've got an amazing line up of items in this year's auction - from use of a portable sauna, a signed Bristol Bears shirt and family days out, to holiday camps, a family photography shoot, and more. [Browse the items and place your bids](#) - we'll hopefully be adding more in the coming days, so keep checking back!

### Goody bags collection, Friday 13 June

It's time to start collecting up all those little bits and bobs for goody bags! These are incredibly popular at the fair. We'll be collecting bags next Friday 13 June at school drop off.

### Pre-loved clothing and soft toys - it's not too late to donate!

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in donations. We would love to receive more items, so if you have anything to contribute, please ensure it's in excellent condition.

Donations can be placed in the box or bag provided outside the school office. Many thanks.

### Raffle tickets

Raffle tickets should have come home before half term in envelopes - if not, don't worry the office have plenty more. Please return raffle tickets and money to the school office / drop box.



## Sunflower competition

Are your sunflowers still going? There's a prize for the tallest sunflower – simply measure the height of your sunflower and [email us](#) the details by **5 September**. Good luck!

## Matched funding

If you're a St Bon's parent or carer and you work for a company that offers matched funding, we would love to hear from you. Matched funding makes a massive difference to our fundraising totals each year. We know that Barclays and Lloyds offer matched funding schemes so if you work for either of these, please do [get in touch](#)! [Read our blog](#) for more info.

## PTFA meeting

[Read the minutes of the last PTFA meeting](#) to catch up on all the latest developments.



## Dates for your diary

- ✚ **Frozen Fridays:** Year 3, Friday 13 June.
- ✚ **Summer Fair:** Sunday 22 June, 2-5pm
- ✚ **Sports Day refreshments:** 8 and 9 July.



Dear parents and carers,  
year 4 girls kindly request to bring  
old t-shirts that you don't use  
anymore. Only bring in 1 or 2  
t-shirts. There will be 2  
boxes outside the office  
to put in the t-shirts  
please bring them in by Friday 13th of  
Thank YOU June.

**PAPAYA**   
Parents Against Phone Addiction in Young Adolescents

# “LET’S TALK ABOUT OUR KIDS AND THEIR TECH”

FINDING A HEALTHY BALANCE FOR YOUR FAMILY

**Tuesday 10th June at 9am in St Bon's school hall**

Two parents and members of Papaya will be here to unpack the complex issues around smartphone use in a non-judgemental way. To help you find solutions that work for your family.