

ST BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Striving to be the best we can, guided by the light of Christ

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear parents and carers,

May the God of strength be with us, holding us in strong hands; May we be the sacrament of strength to those whose hands we hold.

May the God of gentleness be with us through sunshine and rain; May God's tenderness shine through us to all who are hurt or lonely.

May the God of compassion be with us, opening us to a clear vision of what is real and true; May our dealings with others be marked by honesty and love.

May the God of peace be with us stilling our fears, doubts and confusion; May our peace cover those who are troubled or anxious. Amen.

Welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and new year and found time to rest and recharge. It has been wonderful welcoming the children back to school this week.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to our Norbot sculpture fundraising today. We will let you know how much we raised <u>once we have counted your coins.</u>



SEND parent/carer support group

We have our first SEND parent/carer meeting of 2025 on Friday 17th January 9-10am. We will be reviewing the information that is available for parents and carers on our school website as well as providing time for parents to talk to each other about their own experiences.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend. Please come to the office reception to sign in. Tea and coffee will be available and younger siblings are welcome to attend.

Our second meeting of the term will take place on 7th February 9-10am and will be facilitated by Bristol Parent Carers who are able to provide advice and signposting.

Parking on Friary Lane

There are a small number of parents/carers who are parking on the lane between the church and gates to the school car park in the morning or at the end of the school day. If you have been parking in this area please can you park elsewhere, it is adding to congestion at the top of Egerton road and is a risk to our children as they enter/leave the school grounds. I have also noticed that some parents/carers are now in the habit of using the staff car park to collect their children after 4pm. The barrier to the school car park has now been replaced and will remain down. Please do not use the staff car park, it is for staff and visitors only due to its size and accessibility. Thank you in advance for your support with these matters.

Window Wanderland

As you will know we are hosting Bishopston's Window Wanderland again this year, this on the weekend of the 8th. 9th and 10th March. We would love s many of St Bon's families to take part as possible. Please do sign up to the trail by following this link: <u>Bishopston, Bristol 2025 - Window Wanderland</u>. For inspiration follow our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>

We really need your help spreading the word and getting as many windows involved as we can, please share the website with your neighbourhood WhatsApp groups, follow Bishopston Window Wanderland page and share our posts, and encourage your local family, friends and neighbours to get involved.

Best, Sarah Ballantine Head teacher

Catholic Life at St Bon's this week

This week, our school community joyfully celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany. We gathered for a special school Mass, where Mgr. Bernard shared a powerful message about the importance of recognising God's presence in the lives of ordinary people. He reminded us that while the Magi are often celebrated, it was humble shepherds who first visited the Christ child, highlighting Jesus's message of love and acceptance for all.

This message resonated deeply with our children, who consistently demonstrate their own commitment to service. We are incredibly proud of the many children who eagerly volunteer to read at Mass, lead worship, and serve as altar servers. Our dedicated team of eleven altar servers, trained by Mgr. Bernard and parish volunteers, exemplifies this spirit. Their dedication and reverence are inspiring.

Looking ahead, our Gospel value for the next two terms will be "Seek the Truth," building upon our previous focus on "Love Your Neighbour." Through the planned curriculum and assemblies, our children will explore the root causes of inequality and injustice in the world. They will delve deeper into the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, including solidarity, the common good, and a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. Faith Awards during this period will recognise children who embody these values and strive to make a positive difference in their community and beyond.

As we embark on this journey of "Seeking the Truth," we are also entering a Jubilee Year, a time of reflection and renewal. This year's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," will guide our exploration of how we can, as a school community, become beacons of hope for others. Our Year 5 chaplains are already hard at work developing an action plan that will translate this theme into tangible acts of service and compassion.

We invite all families to join us in embracing these opportunities for spiritual growth and service. Together, we can build a more just and compassionate world, one small act of kindness at a time.



UP COMING DATES: Week beginning 14th January (*Menu week 3*)

Tuesday 14th - Year 5 Swimming

Friday 17th - SEND parent/carer support group 9:00-10:00 - After school fundraising sale

Week beginning 20th January Tuesday 21st - Year 5 Swimming Friday 24th - 4G Class assembly

We are Emma, Scarlet and Sofia from 5SK, we have started a charity group called The Chocolate Truffles.

We want to care for our global neighbours and we have chosen to support the charity 'For Ethiopia'. This Bristol based charity helps teenage girls in Ethiopia complete their Secondary school education.

We are holding a sale after school on Friday 17th January to raise money to support this special charity. Please come and support us! We will be selling bracelets, cake pop (vanilla/ red velvet), chocolate truffles, Ethiopian pots, and raffle tickets to win a signed Bristol Bears jersey. We will be taking card and cash.





Dates

DIAR

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

Sports and clubs at St Bons

Sport and club's - week starting 14th January



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	Monday - year 3&4
	Yes	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	Monday 3:20-4:30 Change of schedule , only mike TV,
	Yes	Mrs TV, narrator 12, reporter 4.
		Thursday 3:20- 5:00 Whole cast
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 boys training
Rugby	Yes	Thursday - 8:00 - 8:30 year 5 & 6
Chess		Friday Year 5&6 - lunchtime
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Choir	YES	Mondays 12:15- during lunch break





Why not join the St Bon's PTFA Committee and make a real difference in the life of our wonderful school?!

Our AGM will be held on **Thursday 6 February at 8pm online** and we will need to vote in a new Treasurer and a Secretary, as well as new committee members. Without volunteers for these important roles, it will be hard to run the PTFA!



Committee members support the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, make decisions, contribute to discussions, bring ideas, support events, and they might take on responsibility for different things – for example, shopping for food and drink for events, or running a specific event each year.

We are a friendly and supportive committee (you can see who we are <u>here</u> on our website!) and would really welcome anyone who would like to join!!

Interested?

If you are interested in putting yourself forward for any of these roles, or just want to find out more, please get in touch with Helen Albon directly (<u>contact@stbonsptfa.com</u>).

You might also want to come along to our next regular/ monthly PTFA meeting which will be next **Thursday 16 January at 8pm online** to find out what's in store this year (!!) and how you can get involved.

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