



Friday 10th October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

*Lord Jesus,
Help us to grow more aware of your life-giving presence,
So that our attitude, words and actions may better reflect yours.
Enable us to live in such a way today that, however dimly, others may see you in us,
And ever-renew their desire to follow you:
The Way, the Truth and the Life.
Amen.*

KidZone holiday club October half term

Bookings are now open on Arbor for St Bon's families. Please see attached poster for details. Book now to secure your place.

NSPCC 'Talk Pants' resources

I have asked all class teachers to deliver the NSPCC 'Talk Pants' resources to their classes this term. These materials help staff to deliver the important safeguarding messages which includes helping children to understand their rights, know that their body belongs to them, and learn how to speak out if they feel uncomfortable.

I encourage you all to follow up on this work at home using the NSPCC parent/carer resources found here: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/pants-underwear-rule/?utm_old=pants

School Nurse to attend parents evening

Mary Hitchcock our school nurse has agreed to attend our parents evening on 16th October from 3.40-5.10pm. All parents/carers are welcome to pop along and speak to Mary about any concerns or advice they need related to their child/ren. Mary will be located in the school hall, you are welcome to come along even if you do not have an parents evening appointment on that day. You do not need an appointment to see Mary, it will be a drop in informal opportunity.

Year 6 secondary school applications

The deadline for current year 6 secondary school applications is 31st October 2025. This date falls in half term. If you need support completing your child's application please come and speak to the school office next week.

Dates for the month ahead:

- Friday 17th October 6WA class assembly 10am.
- Thursday 16th & Tuesday 21st October parents evenings 3.40-6.30pm.
- Friday 17th October parent/carer school improvement session with Principal 9am in school.
- WB 20th October: Celebrating Cultures week in school- more information on page 3
- Thursday 23rd October Harvest Mass 9.15am in church all parents/carers are welcome.
- Thursday 23rd October CAFOD Go Bright fundraising day. Pupils are invited to either wear bright clothes or dress to represent their cultural heritage. Donations of £1.
- Thursday 23rd October last day of term 1 for pupils.
- Friday 24th October inset day. School is closed to all pupils.
- Monday 3rd November first day of term 2.
- Tuesday 4th Adopt a Saint day, pupils invited to come dressed as their favourite Saint.

Best,
Sarah Ballantine
Principal
St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary

Catholic Life at St Bons this week

The Catholic Life of Our School this week

This week at St Bons, our Catholic life has been filled with examples of gratitude and love in action. Inspired by the Gospels, we have been reflecting on the importance of thankfulness and how we can show our love for our neighbours, both near and far.

The Power of 'Thank You'

In our Celebration of the Word assemblies, we heard the story from the Gospel of Luke where Jesus heals ten lepers. While all ten were healed, only one returned to thank Jesus. This story showed us the value of thankfulness and invited us to show our love for God through gratitude. The children had the opportunity to reflect on all the good things in their own lives and to thank God for them in prayer.

Gratitude in Action: Our Hope International Project

Our theme of gratitude came to life in a very special way this week as we celebrated the incredible amount raised for the Hope International water project in Ethiopia. Thanks to your amazing generosity, we raised just under £10,000!

We were delighted to welcome Tim Baines to a special assembly, where he presented a cheque from the Rev Ted Baines charity for 50% match funding, bringing our total raised to £14,680. The children were thrilled to hear a message of thanks directly from the community in Ethiopia and to learn that work on the new water pipeline has already started because of their efforts.

We also recognised the children from each class who had raised the most money, who proudly wore their H2O t-shirts. A special mention must go to Sophia Grace in Year 6, who single-handedly raised over £800 for this life-changing project. What a fantastic achievement!



A Mission of Love: St John Henry Newman

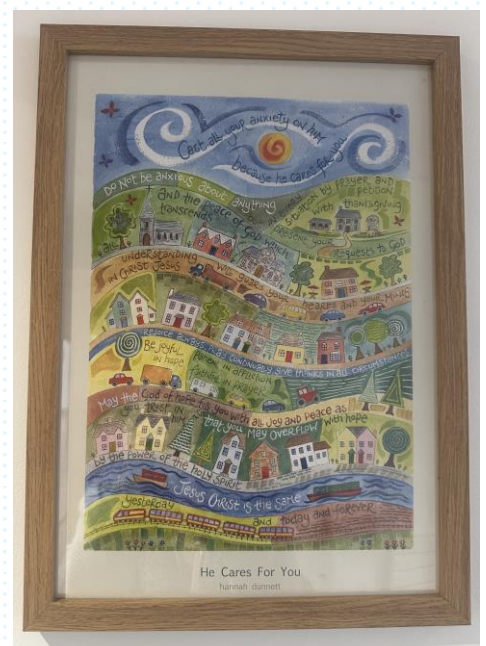
This week, we also celebrated the feast day of our trust patron, St John Henry Newman.

In a special assembly, we remembered his important message: that God has a special mission for each and every one of us.

St John Henry Newman believed we can discover our mission by listening quietly and allowing God to speak to our hearts, and that his mission was to show love to others by helping them.

In honour of our patron, all schools in our trust were presented with a beautiful painting by the artist Hannah Dunnett.

The painting reminds us that God loves and cares for us all, and encourages us to reflect on how we can show that same love to others.



Loving Our Neighbour with 3J

Finally, a huge well done to 3J for their wonderful class assembly today! They supported our Gospel theme of 'Love thy Neighbour' and shared this message so clearly through their thoughtful drama, joyful songs, and heartfelt prayer. They gave us a perfect example of this theme in action by modelling positive playground behaviour, helping us all to create a school environment where everyone feels loved and cared for.



Get Ready to Celebrate! Our 'Celebrating Cultures' Week is Coming Soon!

In the final week of this half-term, from **Monday, 20th October to Thursday, 24th October**, we will be holding our 'Celebrating Cultures' Week. This is a special time for us to celebrate the wonderfully rich and diverse community at our school. We have a range of exciting events planned and would love for you to be involved.

Monday 20th October: Story Time From Around the World

We would like to invite parents who speak another language at home to come into school at **2:45 pm** to share a story with their child's class. You would read a short story in your home language, and then explain the story in English, perhaps sharing a little about your country and culture. This is a powerful way for our children to hear different languages and appreciate the stories and traditions of their friends.

How to get involved: If you would be willing to share a story, please speak to your child's class teacher. We would be delighted to have you! Should we have lots of volunteers, we will happily arrange other times for you to visit.

Thursday 23rd October: A Day of Colour, Creativity, and Community

Thursday will be a particularly vibrant day with several events taking place.

Dress to Express: Thursday is also our Harvest Appeal day, for which children are invited to wear bright clothes. As part of our 'Celebrating Cultures' Week, children are also welcome to come to school wearing traditional or cultural dress that represents their heritage, should they wish to.

Classroom Art Showcase (from 2:45 pm): Throughout the week, every child will create a piece of artwork in their art lesson. The theme is 'Celebrating Me', encouraging them to express what makes them unique, including their family, their faith, and their cultural heritage. We invite all parents and carers to visit their child's classroom from **2:45 pm** to see their wonderful creations at their desks.

Cultural Fair (from 2:45 pm): At the same time as the art showcase, there will be a Cultural Fair in the school hall (or outside, weather permitting!). We are looking for parent volunteers to set up and run stalls sharing food, displaying artefacts, or providing information about the countries and cultures represented in our school family. This is a fantastic opportunity to share a piece of your heritage with our community. Children can visit the stalls with their parents after school after viewing the art in the classrooms.

All donations from the stalls will go towards our school's **CAFOD** fundraising appeal.

How to get involved: If you would be interested in running a stall to represent a country or culture, please contact Esme Cela (EAL group co-ordinator) through the school office. We would be incredibly grateful for your support!

Fundraising for CAFOD: The 'Tree of Hope'

Our wonderful Language Ambassadors are also organising a special fundraiser for **CAFOD**. They are coordinating the creation of a beautiful art piece called the 'Tree of Hope', which will feature a fingerprint from every single child in our school. This unique piece of art will be raffled off during the week. Look out for more information on how to buy tickets soon!

We are so looking forward to a week of learning, sharing, and celebrating the global family that makes our school so special.

Help Us Support Our Community!

Thank you for your continued support of our school community. We have three appeals this week where you can make a difference.

1. Harvest Appeal: In the spirit of 'Love thy Neighbour', we are supporting our church food pantry. We would be grateful for donations of: **pasta/curry sauces, coffee, tinned soups/peas, washing up liquid, and shampoo.** Please send items in with your child.

2. Rosary Appeal: Do you have any spare or unwanted rosary beads at home? Our rosary prayer groups would put them to good use! Please hand any donations into the school office.

3. Godly Play RE Resources: We are building our classroom resources for Godly Play, a hands-on method for teaching RE. If you have any unwanted **small world figures (people/animals) or natural items (shells/stones)** that could be used to retell Bible stories, please bring them to the school office.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

UP COMING DATES:

Week beginning 13th October (Menu Week 1)

Tuesday 14th - Level 1 Bikeability (groups 3&4)

Thursday 16th - Parents evening

Friday 17th - Reception, KS1 & KS2 discos
- 6WA Class assembly 10:00-10:30

Week beginning 20th October

Celebrating cultures week

Tuesday 21st - Parents evening

Wednesday 22nd - Open day for prospective parents

Thursday 23rd - Harvest Mass - 9:30 - parents welcome

Friday 24th INSET day school closed to pupils

Dates
for your



EAL (English as an additional language) Coffee mornings.

Every Monday 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



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



Applications are open on your LA website for Reception 2026.

The deadline for applications is 15th January.

We still have spaces on our open days if you would like a tour of the school, please find dates on our website and book with the office.

Hello everyone

Message of the Week - Consumption of food and safeguarding at PTFA events

Mrs Ballentine has made us aware of new government guidance, effective September 2025, which makes supervised eating for children in reception settings more rigorous. There is a requirement that children in Reception class need to be sat down and supervised by someone who has a Paediatric First Aid certificate in order to minimise the risk of choking (Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework for Group and School Based Providers).

With the up-coming School Disco, the PTFA has had to make the decision to **Not Sell Food at the Reception Disco 3:45 - 4pm on the 17th October.**

We apologise if this is upsetting for the children and yourselves as parents, carers, and guardians however, at this moment in time, it ensures that we as a PTFA organisation are complying with this guidance and have minimised the risk of choking at this PTFA event.

If adults bringing children to the Reception Disco bring their own food to the Disco event you do so at your own risk and the adult providing the food will be responsible for ensuring that the child is seated, and closely supervised when eating.

We are continuing to review our health and safety procedures and how this guidance impacts future PTFA events to ensure all of our children's health, safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your support.

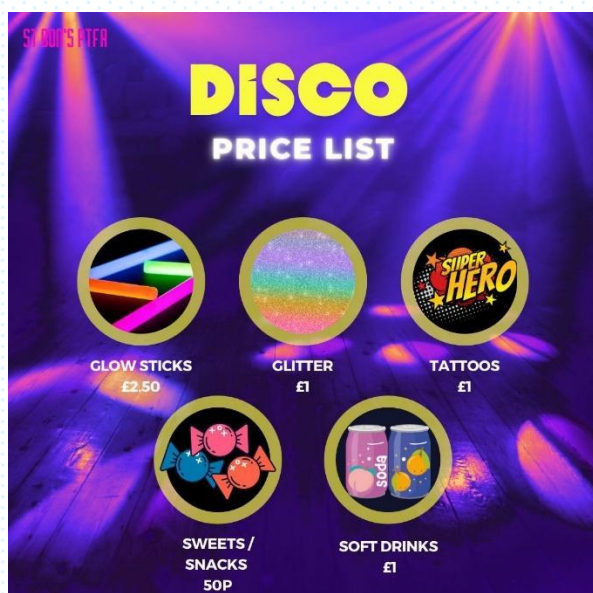
Events update

Disco

Taking place October 17th, we will be throwing open the doors to the hall with DJ Morgan at the helm. Please note the announcement above regarding food at the Reception disco.

There are still tickets available via the [PTFA website](#)

Those who have an adult ticket please sign up to your allocated class rota which can be accessed [here](#). Your support is required in order to ensure that the children have the best time, please support your children and the PTFA by getting involved and signing up to your allocated class rota.



ST BON'S SCHOOL



DISCO

FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER

RECEPTION DISCO: 3.45 - 4.30PM

KS1 DISCO (YRS 1 & 2): 5 - 6PM

KS2 DISCO (YRS 3, 4, 5 & 6): 6.30 - 7.45PM

BUY TICKETS AT:

WWW.STBONSPTEFA.COM

ST BON'S PTFA

Bake sales

The Year 6 bake sale took place last Friday. You raised a fantastic **£175.31**. A huge thank you to all of those who donated, manned the stand, and bought items.

All proceeds from bake sales will go into a collective pot, which will be split equally between classes once all bake sales are complete, to spend on classroom enrichment materials. Teachers will be asking our children what they would like to enhance their classroom experience in the next few weeks.



The Year 5 bake sale took place today, with Year 4 taking the reins on November 7th. Happy munching...

PTFA Vacancies

The PTFA is now working in a collective leadership model and will continue to do so until anyone wishes to stand in a Chair or Co-chair position. We still have the opportunity to co-opt up to four more Committee Members.

Key vacancy – Shopper



Do you love a good bargain?

Are you an ace at kitchen cupboard management?

If so, this could be the role for you. The PTFA needs someone who will take charge of our shopping: buying stock, restocking and organising the PTFA cupboard.

If you are interested in supporting the PTFA with this vital role, get in touch.

Get in touch

We actively encourage anyone and everyone who is interested in undertaking a committee role to email us contact@stbonsptfa.com, contact us through your class rep, or catch us in the playground.

Dates for your diary:

- **Friday Feast Day:** Year 5 continued the Bake sales today. The next bake sale is **Friday 7th Nov (Year 4)**
- **Disco: 17th October** buy your ticket and find more info on the ptfa website / classrep whatsapp.
 - Everyone with an adult ticket sign up to your class allocated rota.
- **Christmas Fayre:** Sunday 7th December, 2-5pm
 - Do you have an idea? Would you like to help plan? Please email the PTFA

With Many Thanks

Johanna Probert - Committee Member (Communications and Engagement)

Community Food Pantry Update

September has come and gone and by now the new routines of our individual lives and that of family life should be settling down after the long, hot summer break. With this in mind, perhaps we could consider a new routine, that is to remember to donate to our community food pantry on a regular basis?

To remind you about the food pantry or to introduce you to what it is, here are some pointers:

- The food pantry is found at the back of the church, it is open six days a week, during church opening hours.
- The food pantry operates on a basis of trust, it is not staffed and anyone is able to use it. The uptake is huge, the shelves are emptied on a daily basis.
- The food pantry is intended for people to use when they are finding it hard to make ends meet, it is a short-term solution to providing a simple family meal and / or toiletry. We request the users take no more than they need for a meal, a carrier bag is enough.
- The food pantry provides literature to signpost users to seek longer term solutions to affording the basic needs for family life.
- The food pantry is run by volunteers from our parish and from the residents of Egerton Rd. The residents of Egerton Rd were responsible for initially setting up the food pantry, which has now been running for four years. The volunteers do a weekly shop and restock the food pantry four days a week.
- The food pantry also orders a 'Click and Collect' delivery each week and then delivers this to 'Aid Box Community,' which offers support for refugees and people seeking asylum in Bristol. Aid Box Community is located in St. Andrews, Bristol.

How can I donate?

You can donate non-perishable food and toiletries (*please note we cannot accept fresh food as we can't safely store it.*)

For example: tinned fish, cooking oil, flour, cooking sauces, cereal, oats, tea, coffee, UHT milk, tinned vegetables, shampoo, sanitary products, washing up liquid etc.

Please put these items 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.

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 Canon Tom or put it in an envelope through Jenny's door at 57 Egerton Rd. Jenny is a long standing volunteer.

Thank you for your ongoing support and donations for the Community Food Pantry

Community News

Prayer group; If anyone would like to join a Christian prayer group to meet up and pray, from 9-9.30am, for the school once a month please contact Harri on 07969059624 or Lorna on 07855108729

Decorate your window for October half term, and help create a streets of light window trail in Bristol for neighbours to enjoy. Bringing a message of Light Love and Hope.

Find out more at
www.streetsoflight.co.uk

SIGN UP BY THE 15TH OCTOBER



to join in locally visit our Bristol Streets of light Facebook page

