



Friday 21st November 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Lord, inspire us to live in such a way that our choices each day
And our commitment to live in a positive way
May transform the negative into something positive,
And the ordinariness of daily life into something extraordinary.
Amen.

Our year 6 cohort have returned from their three-day residential in Kintbury today, where they have been on retreat. The pupils have engaged in a range of spiritual activities and have had the opportunity to spend time in a beautiful setting. My thanks go out to the staffing team who accompanied the children.

On Thursday twelve of our year 5 chaplains had the opportunity to go to Clifton Cathedral to represent our year 5 chaplaincy team and take part in a Chaplaincy commissioning Mass. We are so proud of them all.

Show you care, park elsewhere signs

Thank you to our PTFA who have funded our new 'show you care park elsewhere' signs. The signs have been purchased to remind parents/carers not to use the top of Egerton Road as drop off and/or turning spot. Unfortunately, we do have a small number of parents/carers who are continuing to ignore my requests to park further away from school in our 5 minute drop off zone. [St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School - Active travel to school and parking](#) I would like to thank the residents of Egerton Road who have supported us to reduce the number of vehicles using the top stretch of Egerton road to drop off and collection times in order to ensure our children have a safe and accessible route to school.



Reception and KS1 nativity tickets

Tickets for this year's Reception and KS1 nativity performances have been sent home today. Each family will receive three tickets for one performance. If you wish to change the day of your ticket please do this between your class, the office do not have spares. If you do not need all three tickets, kindly offer these to your class.

- Monday 24th November pupils nasal flu immunisations- please sign the consent form if you want your child to receive this.
- Wednesday 26th November Bristol Old Vic theatre performance funded by the PTFA.
- Friday 28th November:
 - Parent/carer SEND support group 9-10am. Drop in, all parents/carers are welcome to attend.
 - 6G class assembly 10am.
- Friday 5th December:
 - Bring a bottle for the Christmas fair bottle stall. Pupils wear non uniform.
 - 9-10am parent/carer school improvement session with the principal. All parents/carers are welcome to attend and find out about the school's priorities for the year.
- Sunday 7th December 2-5pm St Bons Christmas Fair.

- Tuesday 9th December Year 6 height and weight checks.
- WB: 15th December Reception & KS1 nativity performances
- Wednesday 17th December KS2 Christmas Carols.
- Friday 19th December:
 - School Christmas dinner. Wear a Christmas jumper.
 - Advent Mass in St Bons Church 9.15am. Parents/carers welcome to attend.
 - Last day of term.

Best,
 Sarah Ballantine
 Principal
 St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary

Catholic Life at St Bon's this week: Kingship, Service, and Hope

Celebrating Christ the King This week, our Celebration of the Word focused on the Solemnity of Christ the King. We reflected on the Gospel of Luke (23: 35-43), where we find Jesus in a place we might not expect a King to be: hanging from the cross. The children explored why the cross is not a sign of defeat, but a glorious victory over sin. To conclude our assembly, we "crowned" Jesus as King in our hearts, through singing his praises with the song '*King of Kings*.'

Welcome to our New Year 5 Chaplains It is that special time of year when we appoint our new Chaplaincy Team. The application process was rigorous; children were asked to write a letter explaining why they wanted the role, what gifts they could offer, and how they wish to change the school and the world. We were overwhelmed by the response and are delighted to announce we have 25 new Chaplains in Year 5 who are keen to make a difference!

Yesterday, I had the privilege, alongside Mrs Ballantine, of accompanying 12 of these new Chaplains to Clifton Cathedral. There, they were commissioned by Bishop Bosco alongside chaplains from schools across the diocese. It was a wonderful occasion. We look forward to seeing the remaining chaplains commissioned by Canon Tom at St Bonaventure's in the next few weeks.

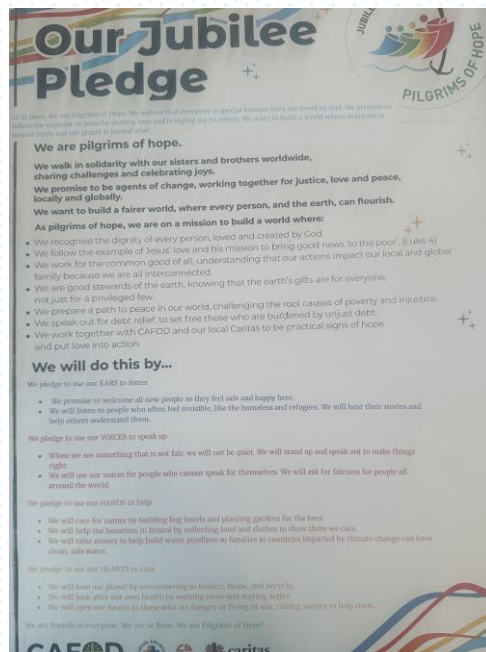


5SK Class Assembly: Love Thy Neighbour Today, 5SK shared their class assembly on the theme of '*Love Thy Neighbour*.' They linked this Gospel value to their History learning on World War II and the experience of evacuees. They closed their assembly with a beautiful prayer, asking for God's help in standing up for what is right, showing kindness, and holding onto hope for a peaceful world.

Pilgrims of Hope: Jubilee Year Celebrations This afternoon, we celebrated the conclusion of our Jubilee Year as 'Pilgrims of Hope.' We took time to look back at the actions we have taken on our Jubilee journey and reflected on the impact these have had on others.

The celebration culminated in a special concert where each year group performed a song and a prayer of hope. Crucially, we made a commitment that our journey does not end here. Through our 'Walk the Walk' awards and our new Jubilee Pledge—filled with ideas from the children themselves—we will continue to be pilgrims of hope for our community.

Faith in Action: Boxes of Hope Putting our faith into immediate action, Year 5 and 6 children have started bringing in 'Boxes of Hope.' These will be distributed to refugees in Bristol as part of our *Walk the Walk* award for 'Love Thy Neighbour.' Thank you to all families who have supported this generous initiative.



UP COMING DATES:

Week beginning 24th (menu week 1)

Monday 24th - Flu Vaccinations

Wednesday 26th - Bristol Old Vic performance to school

Friday 28th - 6G Class assembly 10:00-10:30
- Bake sale after school (year 2)

Week beginning 1st December

Friday 5th - Bake sale after school (year 1)
Sunday 7th - Christmas Fayre 14:00-17:00

Dates
for your
DIARY

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



Girls Football team

Well done to the girls who played at Imperial sports ground, they braved the cold and did amazingly!



Applications are open on your LA website for Reception 2026.

The deadline for applications is 15th January.

If you are applying on Faith grounds, please do not forget to bring the Baptismal certificate to the office before the 15th January.



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

THIS SCHOOL IS NUT FREE



We would like to remind parents that we are a nut free school. Children should not bring in food or snacks that contain nuts, **this includes hazelnut spreads such as Nutella.**

Well done to our kitchen team, we had a food hygiene inspection last week and we have once again been awarded 5 stars.

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

0

1

2

3

4

5

VERY GOOD

Hello everyone

Message of the Week – Your money making a difference

Thanks to your fundraising efforts, the PTFA has been supporting the school with various purchases:

Show you care, park elsewhere

Following concerns raised by parents to make the roads leading up to the school safer for our children, the PTFA funded the purchase of some lovely new signs to discourage parking close to the school. Please support the school and local community by respecting the signs and parking elsewhere.



Ready, steady, TRIKE!

The PTFA has funded the purchase of some lovely new durable trikes (including some dual trikes) to replace the previous ones, which were rusting. They've been delivered and are proving to be a big hit with the children:



“What we can achieve for the school and our children is a collective effort and we welcome anyone who wishes to join and engage”

PTFA Activities

Disco total

We have the final totals in from the October disco, and we are over the moon with the whopping **£1830** raised by the event. This is a core PTFA activity and we can't deliver it without the fantastic team and your support so thank you, that money will make a huge difference.

Year 3 bake sale

A huge thanks to the year 3 bake sale team who managed to raise **£172.18** in some very soggy conditions. All bake sale proceeds go into a collective pot which will be split equally between classes once all bake sales are complete to spend on classroom enrichment materials, so thank you for your ongoing support.



PTFA management Meetings

Minutes from our last meeting can be found on the [PTFA website](#). Our [next meeting](#) is scheduled for 25th November 7.30PM start. All are welcome to attend.

Get in touch

Anyone who is interested in undertaking a committee role or joining one of our project teams (Grow With It, Christmas Fair, Disco to name but a few), please email us at contact@stbonsptfa.com, contact us through your class rep, or catch us in the playground.

Dates for your diary

- **Grow With It gardening afternoon:** This Saturday, 22nd November, 2pm onwards
- **Friday Feast Day:** The next bake sale is **Friday 28th Nov (Year 2)**. Year 1 take on the bake sale on Friday 5th December
- **Christmas Fair:** Sunday 7th December, 2-5pm
 - Do you have an idea? Would you like to help plan? Please email the

Christmas Fair key dates



HAMPER Bring goodies to school/give to class reps **24-28th Nov**

GOODIE BAGS Bring to school drop off **28th Nov**

RAFFLE TICKETS Bring money and stubs to school by **5th Dec**

BRING A BOTTLE To school drop off in exchange for non uniform day **5th Dec**

CAKES/BAKE OFF Bring to the fair by 2pm **7th Dec**

NOTE: WE ARE NO LONGER COLLECTING PRE LOVED TOY DONATIONS!

Tickets on sale now:

<https://www.stbonsptfa.com/events-1/christmas-fair-2025>

Class reps will be in touch to sort the rota for your class stall.

Thanks for your support!

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

First Holy Communion.

If your child is in year 3 or above, application forms for First Holy Communion 2026 at both, Sacred Heart and St Bon's, are now available to collect from Canon Tom after Mass. Please return completed forms to Canon Tom after Mass, the closing date for applications is 12th January 2026. The first session of preparation will take place in January 2026.

