



Friday 11th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

*May the God of PEACE be on our lips, in our hearts and in our actions.
May the God of ACCEPTANCE be with us, embracing those who feel alone.
May the God of INSPIRATION guide us to uplift each other.
May the God of LAUGHTER be with us, lifting our spirits and helping us to find joy in our work.
May the God of LOVE guide us in everything we say and do.
May the God of COMPASSION be with us today.
Amen.
(Written by the staff at St Bons Thursday 3rd September 2026)*

We've had a wonderful first week with the children. Thank you for ensuring your children come to school wearing the correct school uniform. If you haven't done so already, please make sure their jumpers and cardigans are named. This year we are also asking you to name your child's lunchbox. The reason for this is we have a number of children with significant allergies and naming lunchboxes will help to ensure the correct lunch is eaten.

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Purnell, who teaches in year 2, and her husband are expecting their second child which is due at the end of January. We wish them all the best and will of course keep you informed about who we appoint to cover her maternity leave in due course.

Extra-curricular activities

On Monday Mrs Woolley shared a letter with you, providing you with details of our paid extra-curricular offer. Details of how to book these opportunities are included within the letter.

As we now have more external provision from term 2 onwards, we are no longer able to offer a reduced rate for those children attending our after-school club following their session with Coaching with Sophie. We need to provide the same offer to all of our external providers and this is no longer financially viable for us with the number of external clubs we are offering. For those booking ASC this term on Coaching with Sophie days the reduced rate is in place for term 1 only.

In addition to paid clubs, staff are also running clubs both before and after school. Details of these clubs and how to request a place for your child can be found in the clubs list attached with this newsletter.

Holiday club provision including inset

This year we are opening up our bookings for our half term holiday clubs, summer holiday club and inset provision at the start of the year. Bookings for all childcare we are running will open on Monday 14th September.

If you are looking for a space at our October holiday club and the inset days that sit either side of October half term please book via Arbor.

We hope that opening up the bookings in advance will support you to ensure you have more time to budget for the cost of childcare and avoid any last-minute childcare issues.

Scrapstore membership

We're delighted to announce that our school Scrapstore membership now includes access for parents/carers. This gives you access to the Scrapstore warehouse, where you can get unlimited baskets of scrap, for a suggested donation of £7 per full basket (minimum donation £1). Please see attached flyer for more information.

Key dates for the term ahead:

- WB: 21st September Reception pupils start full time
- Wednesday 23rd September pupil individual school photographs
- Friday 25th September 9.15am Harvest Mass in St Bons church

- Thursday 15th October parents evening
- Tuesday 20th October parents evening

Best wishes,
Sarah Ballantine
Principal

Catholic Life at St Bons this week

It has been a busy, joyous, and uplifting first week within the Catholic life of our school. We gathered on Monday for our first assembly, reflecting on the fresh start of a new year and how each of us can 'let our lights shine' over the coming months. It was wonderful to hear the children share their own thoughtful ideas on how they plan to shine individually, and together we asked for God's guidance and support as we continue to build God's kingdom here at St Bons.

On Tuesday, Mrs Ballantine introduced the children to the beautiful story of the Soul Bird. This poignant story will form the foundation of her assemblies over the next few weeks, guiding the children as they reflect upon and nurture their own spirituality and personal relationship with God. We have already been really impressed by the profound respect the children have shown, particularly in their ability to be perfectly still and prayerful during the 'sacred silence' parts of our gatherings.

In our Celebration of the Word assemblies this week, we listened to the Gospel of Matthew (18:15-20). We asked the children to ponder some big questions: *Why do you think Jesus wants us to let go of grudges and unforgiveness? and As you try to forgive, how can it change things if you realise that Jesus is with you?* The children engaged with these themes of reconciliation and presence with great maturity and empathy.

We were also delighted to welcome Canon Tom, who visited all the classrooms this week to personally welcome the children back to school and offer his blessing for the year ahead. Finally, today we held our very first 'Walk the Walk' assembly of the year to introduce our first Gospel value: *Love Thy Neighbour*. It was a wonderful celebration where teachers awarded certificates to those children who have already been letting their lights shine brightly and modelling this core value in their new classes.

We are so proud of the children for making such a wonderful, spiritually rich start to the term.



Break time snacks

In key stage 1 children are given free fruit for snack. From year 3 children can bring in a healthy, nut free snack from home. Children should not bring crisps, chocolate bars or sweets.

Reading Volunteers

At St Bonaventure's, we have been so fortunate over the years to have many wonderful volunteers give up their time to come into school and hear our children read. The children have really enjoyed being able to read to adults and develop their love of reading. We are now asking for any volunteers who have previously supported the school or those interested in becoming a volunteer to contact the school (FAO Miss Jones) regarding availability to hear our children read where we will get back to you as soon as possible.

EAL (English as an additional language) Coffee mornings **Every Tuesday 2:15-3:20**
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.



A friendly reminder that children are not to bring spray water bottles or fans with a water spray into school/

Hello everyone

Message of the Week – Welcome to the school year 26/27

Welcome to the 2026-27 school year! We hope you had a great summer, and a special welcome to the new parents joining us.

After taking on feedback, we have pulled together a calendar of key events for the school year for you to plug into your diaries. We hope this is useful to you. If you have any questions, please direct them to your class reps or email us at contact@stbonsptfa.com

Feast Fridays

First on the agenda are Feast Fridays. Please see the dates below, with Year 6 first up on September 18th.



PTFA Feast Fridays Autumn 2026
 Snacks and Fun!

Date	Year Group
★ 18th Sept	Year 6
★ 25th Sept	Year 5
★ 2nd Oct	Year 4
★ 9th Oct	Year 3
★ 6th Nov	Year 2
★ 13th Nov	Year 1
★ 20th Nov	Reception

Small amounts of time make a BIG difference!
 All help is very much appreciated!

Food donations
 from the year groups can be homemade or shop-bought
 Sweet, savoury and healthy items are all welcome.
 (Ingredients lists required to ensure allergens and dietary requirements are visible)

2 volunteers from each class are required to:
 Set up the stall → Sell → Pack away at the end

Please speak to your class reps to sign up.



PTFA Event Calendar
 Great events ♥ Stronger together ♥ Support our school

Our PTFA organises fun events throughout the year to bring our school community together and raise vital funds for our children. We'd love your help!

18th September	Feast Fridays Start
25th September	New Parent Welcome
16th October	Autumn Disco
28th November, Saturday	Christmas Fayre
December	Carol Concert Refreshments
5th February	Lets Get Quizical
March	Drama Refreshments
March	Easter Festival Refreshments
30th April	Frozen Fridays Start
21st May	Spring Disco
18th June, Friday	Summer Fayre
1st July, Thursday	PTFA AGM
July	Sports Day Refreshments

Can you help?
 Volunteers make a big difference!
 Fun for all the family!
 Together we can make it happen!

Get involved • Support the PTFA
 YOUR TIME • YOUR SUPPORT • OUR SCHOOL

PTFA management Meetings

We've already kicked off this year's planning in earnest, with the latest PTFA meeting having taken place on September 9th. You can view the minutes [here](#).

Get in touch

If you have any feedback or wish to join the PTFA, please email us at contact@stbonsptfa.com, contact us through your class rep, or catch us in the playground.

With Many Thanks

Johanna Probert – Committee Member (Communications and Engagement)

Community News

Parents/carers prayer group

There is a Christian prayer group that meet once a month in the church next to school. We meet for 30 minutes, on different days of the week and pray together for our school community. Toys available for any little ones who come along. Please contact Harri if you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group 07969059624. *Everyone is welcome to join us.*