



Friday 18th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

(Matthew 5:15-16)

We have enjoyed welcoming our new reception pupils to St Bon's this week. Pupils have been busy making new friends and getting to know their classroom, and a tour of the school.



Attendance and punctuality

We have had a great start to the new school year and have seen good school attendance and punctuality. Every day in school is an opportunity to learn, belong and thrive. Thank you for your continued support in this area. It is particularly important at this time of year when classroom routines and expectations are set with the children. We simply do not want any child to miss out!

Please can I ask that requests for planned absence are completed and returned to the school office two weeks in advance of the planned absence. In addition, please can I ask that routine appointments such as dental appointments are made for after school hours or holiday periods. Your support is really appreciated.

Year 6 Secondary school applications

The deadline for our current year 6 cohort to make their secondary school applications is fast approaching, 31st October 2026. With this in mind I'd like to remind you to explore the open days that our feeder secondary schools are offering.

We were fortunate to have Mr King, principal at St Bedes, visit us on Wednesday and talk to our year 6 cohort about what St Bedes can offer.

If you are booking an appointment for your child to attend an open day tour in the school day please can you inform the office in advance.

Parent information session

Parent information sessions will take place next week as follows:

Monday 21st September 3.30-4.00 Year 1 classroom
Monday 21st September 4.00-4.30 Year 2 classroom
Tuesday 22nd September 3.30-4.00 Year 3 classroom
Tuesday 22nd September 4.00-4.30 Year 4 classroom
Wednesday 23rd September 3.30-4.00 Year 5 classroom
Wednesday 23rd September 4.00-4.30 Year 6 classroom

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide a crèche for these sessions. Copies of the presentation slides will be made available on Google Classroom for those parents/carers who are not able to attend.

Key dates for the term ahead:

- WB: Monday 21st September Reception pupils start full time
- Wednesday 23rd September pupil individual school photographs

- Friday 25th September 9.15am Harvest Mass in St Bon's church. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.
- WB: Monday 28th September parents/carers evening appointments open online booking
- Wednesday 30th September 2.30-3.15pm EYFS parent/carer information session in the school hall.
- Thursday 15th October parents/carers evening 3:45-5:15pm In person, 5:30-6:30 online
- Tuesday 20th October parents/carers evening 3:45-5:15pm In person, 5:30-6:30 online
- Saturday 31st October current year 6 deadline for secondary school applications.

Best wishes,
Sarah Ballantine
Principal

Catholic Life at St Bons this week

This week at St Bon's, our Catholic life has been rooted in our school mission statement: "Striving to be the best we can guided by the light of Christ." Across the school, we have been thinking about how we can truly let our lights shine in our daily actions.

In our Ethos Assembly, we reflected on what it means to work together to build God's Kingdom right here at St Bon's. During a moment of sacred silence, the children closed their eyes and imagined our school as a place that reflects God's Kingdom, asking for His help and guidance in making this vision a reality.

To put this into practice, every class has spent time this term co-constructing a 'Relationships Charter'. Created collaboratively by the children and their teachers, these charters build on our shared ideas of how we want our relationships to look and how we want our school community to feel every day.

Mrs Ballantine led a Headteacher's Assembly, building upon the story of the Soul Bird that she shared with the children last week. She spoke to the children about God's continual, loving presence in our lives through all seasons: during the challenging times (the 'Ows'), in the present moment (the 'Nows'), and during the joyful times (the 'Wows'). It was incredibly moving to listen to the children confidently share some of their own Ows, Nows, and Wows with one another.

Our Celebration of the Word assemblies this week focused on the powerful theme of forgiveness, guided by the Gospel of Matthew (18:21-35). Key stage 2 children reflected on two questions:

- How do you think it feels to be completely forgiven?
- Do you think it feels better to be the person who is forgiven or the person who forgives?

The children have been given a special mission to take away with them: to be a person of forgiveness. We have challenged them not to hold onto anger or try to get even, but rather to forgive others as they have been forgiven, letting God's love shine through them.



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/

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*

First Holy Communion 2027

Application forms for First Holy Communion 2027 for children in year 3 and above are now available to collect from Canon Tom after Mass. Please collect, complete and return the form to Canon Tom.

