



Friday 25th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

*Dear Lord Jesus,
You led by example in serving others.
Please help us to serve those around us in any little way,
that we can as we try our best to love, learn, share and respect in your light.
Amen.*

Attendance

As the colder months approach, we can expect to see increases in common airborne viruses. I therefore want to share with you the guidance from the NHS about deciding whether to keep your child off school or not if they present as unwell: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

In school we are reminding the children to blow their nose and wash their hands regularly. We also have hand sanitiser available throughout the school for the children to access if appropriate.

Meeting for parents of children with SEND

I would like to invite parents/carers of children with SEND to a meeting in the school hall 2.30-3.15pm on Wednesday 21st October. Last year, we know that we did not get some things right, however we have listened carefully to the feedback you have given us over the past year and have made some significant changes to our internal processes and procedures. We would like to share these changes with you, and our revised approach to supporting pupils with SEND at St Bons. There is no need to book a place.

Parents evening

Booking for parents evening on Thursday 15th and Tuesday 20th October will open on Monday 28th September. We are only able to accommodate one appointment per child, we are not able to accommodate separate appointment for dual households.

A separate parents evening for pupils with SEND, this is those with an EHCP or a learning plan will take place on Wednesday 4th November. If this applies to your child you should NOT book an appointment on the 15th or 20th October. You will receive a separate letter which will provide you with details about how and when you can book your appointment.

School Improvement sessions with the principal

This year I will be holding three sessions for parents and carers to attend. This is an opportunity to hear about the school's current priorities. There will be an opportunity to look around the school and to ask questions. There is no need to book, simply sign in at the office.

The dates for this year's sessions are as follows:

Friday 6th November 9-10am

Friday 29th January 9-10am

Friday 23rd April 9-10am

Parking

Please can I remind all parents/carers who drive and park near to the school to do so considerately and safely. I have received reports this week of parent/carers parking on the pavement on Birchall Road which has caused an obstruction for people using the pavement with pushchairs.

Key dates for the term ahead:

- WB: Monday 28th September parents evening appointments open online booking
- Wednesday 30th September 2.30-3.15pm EYFS parent/carers information session in the school hall.
- Thursday 15th October parents evening 3.45-6.45pm
- Tuesday 20th October parents evening 3.45-6.45pm
- Wednesday 21st October SEND meeting in hall 2:30-3:15
- Saturday 31st October current year 6 deadline for secondary school applications.

Best wishes,
Sarah Ballantine
Principal

Catholic Life at St Bon's: A Week of Service, Leadership, and Gratitude

What a spiritually rich and busy week we have had! Our pupils have been deeply engaged in reflecting on how we can live out our Catholic faith through action, leadership, and prayer.

CAFOD National Assembly & Harvest Fundraising This week, we joined pupils from Christ the King Primary School in Birmingham for the CAFOD national Autumn assembly, which marks the focus for our Harvest fundraising this term. We learned about continuing our Jubilee journey and putting Catholic Social Teaching into action, reflecting on a powerful message from Pope Leo about caring for those most in need.

The children watched an inspiring film about Maggie and her community in Zimbabwe. This prompted some thoughtful discussions about the daily difficulty of not having access to water at school, and the children clearly understood the real difference our fundraising could make to Maggie's community.

To support this, we will be holding a 'Go Bright for Harvest' day at the end of this term, where children can come to school dressed in their brightest clothes and make a financial contribution to the World Gifts campaign. However, we would love the children to take ownership of this! Rather than simply asking parents for a contribution, we want them to show initiative and think of ways they can earn the money themselves. Hopefully, you will have lots of eager offers for help with chores at home over the coming weeks!

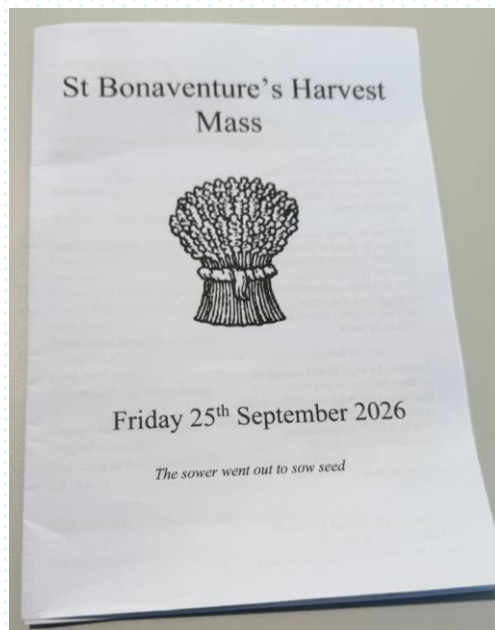
Celebration of the Word & Our Mark 10 Mission Our Celebration of the Word assembly focused on the Gospel of Matthew (20:1-16) and the parable of the master of the house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. The children explored some empathetic questions: How do you think the people left waiting in the marketplace felt when they were finally hired? How might working for a generous landowner change the way you feel about the work?

Following this, the children received their Mark 10 Mission for the week: to pray each morning, asking God to help them serve Him throughout the day. We discussed how making each day an act of service helps us to build God's kingdom on earth.

Pupil Leadership: Letting Our Lights Shine We are incredibly proud of the pupils who put themselves forward for leadership roles this week. Our Year 6 House Captain candidates delivered speeches to their houses, focusing on how they intend to live out the school's mission, let their lights shine this year, and encourage others to do the same.

Similarly, children from Year 5 applied to join our Chaplaincy Team. This is a vital role that calls them to be excellent role models and put their plans into action to build God's Kingdom at St Bon's and beyond. Reading their application letters, it is clear they have already given deep thought to how they will serve our community.

Harvest Mass Finally, today we gathered at the church to celebrate our Harvest Mass, which was our first whole-school Mass of this academic year. It was a beautiful celebration of gratitude for all that we have. A special thank you to Joe's Bakery, who very kindly donated a magnificent Harvest loaf, which was shared and enjoyed among the children later in the day.



Lost Property

Please can we remind parents to clearly name jumpers and cardigans, those left in the classroom can then easily be given back.

Lost property is put into the black box outside the school office, this is cleared at the beginning of every month so please check regularly

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.

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 – PTFA volunteering

As we get into the swing of things and ramp up our project teams for delivering our calendar of events, we are looking for parent volunteers who have ideas or are keen to help with anything PTFA-related – no previous experience is required, just a willingness to pitch in!

If you're interested, please contact Lynsey Francey on 07540537502 or contact the PTFA via contact@stbonsptfa.com.

Upcoming PTFA events

Feast Day Fridays



A huge thanks to the Year 6 team who took on the first feast day Friday last week. They raised a fabulous first week total of **£128.50**, which will go to into the PTFA pot and get put towards school enrichment activities throughout the year.

Year 5 took up the challenge for this week, with Year 4 due next **Friday, 2nd October**.

Your class reps will be reaching out shortly to start arrangements, and we'll share the totals raised on a weekly basis.

Autumn Disco

The team is busy putting together the plan for the upcoming Autumn disco, which takes place on **October 16th**.

3:35-4:30 – Reception

5:00-6:00 – KS1 (Years 1&2)

6:30-7:45 – KS2 (Years 3 onwards)

Tickets on sale at [St Bons PTFA](http://www.stbonsptfa.com) as of 3pm today!

Christmas Fair

Yes, we know it's only September and we're already mentioning Christmas, but the planning is already well under way for the Christmas Fair, which takes place on **Saturday 28th November**.

We'll be sharing more information over the coming weeks but if anyone can spare the time to help the project team on the logistics, please reach out to us via contact@stbonsptfa.com.

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*

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.

