ST BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Striving to be the best we can, guided by the light of Christ

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Thursday 22nd October 2026

Dear parents and carers,

In this season of change,
As harvests are gathered,
In sharing and giving,
Whatever changes we face Lord, we face them with you.
May we trust in your goodness, whatever we do.
Amen.

Thank you to the parents who attended our information session about SEND on Wednesday afternoon. At this session we were able to explain why we have made changes; share the changes we have started to implement and share what we have planned for the year ahead. Ms Kurzik, SENDCO, will be facilitating parent/carer SEND sessions throughout the year. We will be sharing the dates of these sessions at the start of next term.

Newman Catholic Education Trust annual art competition
As shared in last week's newsletter, a reminder for you that each year the Newman Catholic Education Trust organises an art competition across all of its schools. This year the children have been invited to produce a piece of art work about God's amazing world. This could link to St Francis or could be about why creation matters to us. However the children choose to approach this, it should contain a powerful message about our planet. Children are invited to complete this at home, there are prizes for the winning entries. The deadline is Thursday 5th November.

Attendance
You will have received your child's attendance certificates this week. If you have any queries about these please do speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support and ensuring your children are in school every day that they are well enough to be in and that term time absence requests are kept to a minimum. Thank you.

Key dates for the month ahead:

- Friday 23rd October inset day. Holiday club operating school hours. Please book via Arbor.
- Monday26th-Friday 30th October Kidzone holiday club open. Please book via Arbor.
- Saturday 31st October current year 6 deadline for secondary school applications.
- Monday 2nd November inset day. Holiday club operating school hours. Please book via Arbor.
- Tuesday 3rd November first day of term 2. Pupils in school.
- Wednesday 4th November parents evening for parents/carers with a pupil on the SEND register.
- Friday 6th November parent/carer school improvement plan session with principal 9-10am.
- Monday 16th November Odd Socks Day to mark the start of national Anti-bullying week.
- Wednesday 18th November-Friday 20th November Year 6 retreat to Kintbury.

Wishing you all a restful October half term.
Sarah Ballantine
Principal

Catholic Life This Week:

This week has been a celebration of faith, prayer and action as our school community has lived out the Gospel through worship and service to others.

On Monday, members of our Year 6 Chaplaincy Team joined children from Year 1 who attend our lunchtime Rosary Club to lead the whole school in praying a decade of the Rosary. Together, we reflected on the Joyful Mysteries and asked Mary to add her prayers to ours for peace throughout the world. It was a beautiful opportunity for children of different ages to lead prayer and help our school family grow closer to God.

Throughout October, our pupils have also taken part in Aid to the Church in Need's "One Million Children Praying the Rosary" initiative. Through our daily lunchtime Rosary Clubs and our whole-school assembly, children have united with young people around the world in praying for peace. We are incredibly proud of the reverence and commitment shown by our pupils as they have embraced this global act of prayer.

Today, our school was awash with colour as we celebrated our Brighten Up the Harvest Day. Children arrived in their brightest clothes and brought donations to support CAFOD's Harvest Appeal, helping families and communities around the world who are being impacted by climate change and poverty.

Our fundraising goal is to raise enough money to purchase a significant CAFOD World Gift. A donation of £555 can provide 30 children with nutritious meals for a year**,** helping them to stay healthy and continue their education. We are extremely grateful for the generosity shown by our families and the support already received.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, donations can still be made in cash via the school office, or online through Arbor.

Thank you for continuing to support our children in learning how to pray, care for others and put their faith into action. Together, we are helping to build a more just and peaceful world.





Wet weather clothing

We like the children to go outside for play time in lighter rain as we believe that fresh air is important. Please ensure that your child is prepared for wet and cold weather everyday including a water proof jacket/coat and suitable foot wear.

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.

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





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

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.



ST BON'S PTFA

contact@stbonsptfa.com www.stbonsptfa.com @stbonsptfa St Bons Parents & Carers

Hello everyone

Message of the week – Autumn Disco – Thank you!

A massive thank you to everyone who helped make our school disco such a fantastic event.



A special thank you to all our wonderful volunteers, parents and carers who bought tickets, gave up their time and helped make the evening such a success - we couldn't do it without you. And a **HUGE** thank you to Mr Morgan for putting on such a fabulous music year after year - it simply wouldn't be the amazing event we've all come to love without it.

The final profit is still being worked out (collating totals and deducting spend), and we'll update you on the total after half term.

Matched funding

We're also pursuing additional matched funding contributions, so the final total could be even higher.

If your employer offers matched funding and you haven't used your allowance this year, why not support the PTFA? You may be able to claim matched funding for volunteering at the disco or other fundraising events we've held this year.

Any questions please email contact@stbonsptfa.com or read our matched funding article.

Every extra pound makes a difference…

Thank you again for making our school community so special.

Other PTFA news

Christmas Fair – Save the date!



The Christmas Fair takes place on **November 28th, 3-4PM** at St Bonaventure's Primary School.

Our Christmas Fair team has been busy organising a host of festive fun for everyone to enjoy. There'll be:

- Santa's grotto
- Stalls
- Bouncy castle
- Mulled wine
- Mince pies
- Seasonal storyteller and more…

A letter will go out to all post-half term and we'll notify you when tickets go on sale in early November

Feast Day Fridays

We have raised **£862** raised so far. Feast Day Fridays will continue after half term, with Year 2 up on **Friday, 6th November**.

PTFA management
Meetings
We're in the thick of this year's planning. The latest PTFA meeting took place on October 7th. The minutes will be available soon at St Bons PTFA.

Our next meeting is on November 4th, 8-9.30PM. All are welcome to attend and see what we get up to.

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.

