



## St Bonaventure's Pre-school Newsletter

Term 1 3<sup>rd</sup> September – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

### Welcome to your first St Bonaventure's Pre-school newsletter

It has been wonderful meeting and getting to know all the children. They have been doing really well as they settle into their new routines, make new friends, and grow in confidence. We have loved seeing them explore the Pre-School room and garden and become more comfortable in their new surroundings.

Thank you for being so brilliant at drop-off time. We know that every child settles differently, and we appreciate that each family's routine will be unique. Once children are settled, it really helps if parents say goodbye and leave promptly, allowing the children to continue their day and helping us keep the room calm and welcoming for everyone.

### Photos

Every day, we do our best to display photographs on the whiteboard so that you can see some of the exciting activities and experiences your children have enjoyed during their day in Pre-School. We hope these photos give you a lovely insight into their learning and play. They also provide a great conversation starter at pick-up time, allowing you and your child to look through the photographs together and talk about their day.



### Gate Safety

Please can we remind all parents and carers to ensure that the gate is closed securely, pulling the bar across, after being buzzed into Pre-School at both drop-off and collection times.

We are getting to know all of your faces, but there may be occasions when a grandparent, childminder, friend, or another authorised adult is collecting a child. For this reason, it is important that everyone uses the buzzer so that we know who is coming up the path.

We would also ask that an adult is responsible for opening and closing the gate. The gate can be quite heavy and difficult to manage, and we want to avoid any little hands or fingers becoming trapped.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep all of our children safe.



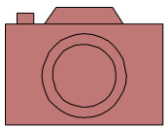
### Labelling Items

Please can we ask that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled, including bottles, lunchboxes, uniform, coats, bags, and any other items they bring to Pre-school. We have noticed that some lunchboxes and belongings look very similar, so ensuring that everything is labelled will help us return items to the correct child quickly and easily. Thank you for your support with this. It really does make a big difference and helps us avoid any mix-ups.

### Check the Trolley

We have a black trolley located just outside the front of Pre-school where we place any items that have been left behind. Please check the trolley regularly, as any lost property will be placed there.

Please also feel free to borrow any books from the trolley. We kindly ask that you return them once you have finished reading them so that others can enjoy them too.



### Photos of Family

We have a special board in Pre-school dedicated to displaying photographs of the children and their families. These can be photos of family members, pets, special events, holidays, favourite activities, or anything that is important to your child.

The photos provide wonderful opportunities for conversation and storytelling, while also helping children feel connected to home during their time at Pre-school.



### **WOW Forms**

We love hearing about the wonderful things our children achieve at home and celebrating them in Pre-School through our WOW forms.

Whether your child has learned a new skill, reached a milestone, or done something they are particularly proud of, please share it with us. You can complete a WOW form, available in the black trolley or from a member of the team. We will then celebrate their achievement together during circle time.

### **Contact Information:**

Pre-school Office – 01173532887

Pre-school Mobile – 07395078728

Marie (Manager) email –

[marie.taylor@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:marie.taylor@bristol-schools.uk)

Joanne (Office) email -

[admin.stbonaventures.ey@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:admin.stbonaventures.ey@bristol-schools.uk)



### Birthday Celebrations at St Bon's

Birthdays are very special, and we love helping to celebrate them at Pre-School!

To support children with allergies and to promote healthy choices, we kindly ask that, instead of bringing in treats, families donate a favourite book to our setting. If you wish, you can write a special inscription inside, such as:

*"From [child's name] on my 4th Birthday."*

On their special day, the children and practitioners will sing *Happy Birthday* and enjoy reading the donated book together. We celebrate birthdays during both our morning and afternoon circle times, ensuring that the birthday child enjoys special celebrations throughout the day



### Important Reminders About Our Sickness Policy

To help keep our children, families, and staff healthy, we would like to remind everyone of our sickness policy.

To help prevent the spread of illness, please keep your child at home if they have:



- A fever (temperature above 37.8°C)
- Sickness and/or diarrhoea (children should remain at home for 48 hours after their last episode)
- A contagious infection
- Any illness that makes them too unwell to fully participate in activities

This year, we have a child in our setting with **Cystic Fibrosis (CF)**. Cystic Fibrosis is a genetic condition that mainly affects the lungs and digestive system. Our priority is to ensure that all children feel safe, included, and supported, and this includes ensuring all children are keeping healthy.

We kindly ask for your support in encouraging good hand hygiene at home that we will support in Pre-school and keeping your child at home when they are unwell. These simple steps help protect our more **vulnerable** children and contribute to a healthier environment for everyone.

**If your child becomes unwell during the day, we will contact you and ask that they are collected promptly.**

Your cooperation helps us maintain a safe, happy, and healthy environment for all. Thank you for your support and for helping us care for our whole Pre-School community.



### Absence

It is very important that we keep our attendance records up to date when children are not in Pre-School.

If, for any reason, your child will not be attending Pre-School, please let us know as soon as possible. You can contact us by text message, email, or phone call.

### **Our Committee needs you!!!**

*Would you like to be part of our Pre-school Management Committee? We are looking for new members to join our Committee, **particularly a treasurer.** Please do let myself or Sian (current Chair) know if you or anyone you know would like some more information*  
[sian\\_waters@hotmail.com](mailto:sian_waters@hotmail.com)



In previous years, parents have set up a Pre-School WhatsApp group, which many families have found helpful for arranging playdates, sharing information, and getting to know one another.

While I do not usually organise or manage the group myself, I am happy to support families in connecting with each other if needed. If there is enough interest, I can help facilitate the initial contact so that parents can set up a group together.

### **Next Steps**

As we progress through the year, we continually support your child's learning and development through play, observations, and interactions. Each term, we focus on key areas of development known as **Next Steps**. We would like to share these Next Steps with you and invite your input. If you would like to contribute comments, anecdotes, or photographs from home, please share them with a member of the team. This helps us build a complete picture of your child's development both at home and at pre-school. This term, our main focus is on helping children settle into pre-school and develop new friendships. We will spend plenty of time getting to know the children and providing opportunities for them to become familiar with the staff, their peers, and their new pre-school environment. Your child's Key Person will observe them throughout the term to gain a clear understanding of their interests, abilities, and stage of development. These observations will help identify appropriate Next Steps to support their ongoing learning. At the end of each term, we will share these Next Steps with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the team.

**Please note I am always here if you need to chat.  
Please always feel free to email or call at any time.**

**Many thanks  
Marie**