



St. Bernard's Newsletter

'A unique family in faith, love and learning'

Autumn Term – 26th September 2025



*'Jesus is the heart of our Catholic school and church family.
In Jesus' footsteps, we reach out to others with love and respect.'*

This week at St. Bernard's

In our weekly Celebration of the Word Assembly, we listened to the Gospel reading and thought about the meaning of the message. We also considered two of our school values, love and integrity. We thought about the meaning of these two words and how we put them into action. Our question for consideration was, 'Are we always doing and saying the right thing, even when no one is watching?'

It was wonderful to see our year 6 children putting Faith into Action by supporting our Macmillan Coffee Morning. The children hosted the event, serving our parents and community with cakes, coffee and the opportunity for a chat. Thank you to everyone that turned up and for all your cake donations - they helped make this event a great success.



Please see the information on the following page about eligibility for Free School Meals for your child and the possibility of up to 85% refund of payments for breakfast club. If you think you qualify, click on the link at the end of the information.

Have a lovely weekend everyone

Next week at St. Bernard's

Our Mission for the week:

To take part in the Rosary Challenge during October

Height and weight measures on Monday 29th September

Year 6 only

Own Clothes Day on Friday 3rd October

If you can spare a £1 voluntary donation, our dance troupe will be extremely grateful as this will go towards the cost of their costumes for upcoming festivals. Please send your donation in with your child.

Thank you

STARS OF THE WEEK

Reception: **Lottie and Tommy**
Year 1: **George D and Minnie**
Year 2: **Alfie and Chanae**
Year 3: **Ivy B and Harry S**
Year 4: **Mary and Zach**
Year 5: **Isabelle and Elsie**
Year 6: **Khadeeja and Olivia**



PUPIL LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our newly elected members of our school council.

Meet our new School Councillors



REMINDERS

Please remember to take your child's earrings out on PE days if they cannot remove them on their own.

We are a nut-free and healthy-eating school. Please encourage your children to eat healthy snacks at break and lunchtimes.

We have a family who are highly allergic to latex. Therefore, we do not allow balloons or any other items on our premises that may contain this ingredient.

OUR SCHOOL VALUES	LOVE	FAMILY	RESPECT	FORGIVENESS	COMPASSION	WELCOME	FAITH
	JUSTICE	INCLUSION	CHARITY	SERVICE	HUMILITY	INTEGRITY	DIGNITY

Could you be entitled to Free School Meals for your child? Do you know you could be entitled to up to 85% refund on your payments to Breakfast Club?



Free [school](#) meals provide vital nutrition for children during the school day. We've just announced that many more families will be eligible. Here's what parents need to know.

Who will benefit from the expanded free school meals?

Over half a million additional pupils will become eligible for Free School Meals under the new eligibility criteria. The change means that all households receiving [Universal Credit](#), above the current £7,400 income cap, will qualify for this support.

This expansion builds upon the existing provision which already covers:

- 2.1 million disadvantaged children
- 90,000 low-income students in Further Education
- Around 1.3 million infants under the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme

When will these changes take effect?

The new eligibility will take effect in September 2026. Families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals starting from the 2026/27 school year. This will give schools time to prepare for the increased number of meals they'll need to provide.

How will this help families financially?

This expansion will provide significant financial relief for families. If your household receives Universal Credit, you could save up to £495 per year per child on school lunches. For families with multiple children, these savings can make a substantial difference to household budgets.

How will children benefit?

Beyond the financial benefits, this programme ensures children receive nutritious meals during school hours, which supports their learning and concentration in the classroom, physical health and development and overall wellbeing. The government is also acting quickly to revise the School Food Standards, so every school is supported with the latest nutrition guidance.

How will this tackle child poverty?

The expansion is expected to lift approximately 100,000 children out of poverty by the end of this Parliament. This is part of other policies to help with child poverty such as:

- [Free breakfast clubs in primary schools](#)
- [Expanded government-funded childcare](#)
- [Caps on branded school uniform items](#)
- Support through the Fair Repayment Rate on Universal Credit deductions

How do I apply for free school meals?

It's important to note that while eligibility will be automatically granted to all Universal Credit recipients, families will still need to actually apply to receive the benefit.

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/free-school-meals-clothing-allowance/free-school-meals-help-school-uniform>