



Holy Infant & St Anthony RC Primary School

Inspiring each other to excellence, guided by the light of Christ.

Headteacher: Mrs D Furlong

Newsletter

9th January 2026

Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the New Year and the spring term! We hope all our families had a happy and relaxing Christmas and we wish you all a wonderful year in 2026.

We had a busy start to the spring term, with notification on Monday that our Ofsted Inspection was taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Although we cannot comment yet on the outcome, we are pleased with how the inspection went and look forward to sharing more details with you in due course. Also, we would like to commend our wonderful children, who have been fantastic ambassadors for school this week!

The inspection framework, process and grading has completely changed this year and we are one of the first schools in the country to be inspected under this new framework. The link below provides more information.

[New Ofsted report cards and grades: a guide for parents](#)

Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Reception	82.95%
Year 1	88.33%
Year 2	85.57%
Year 3	89.29%
Year 4	94.85%
Year 5	88.79%
Year 6	94.44%

This week's winners are



Well done!

Is your child too ill for school? To help improve attendance we are working very hard to encourage children to attend if they are able to, please follow the advice in the link below, to determine, when your child should be off school. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)



Stars of the Week



Pupil Achievements

We believe every child's success deserves recognition - whether it happens inside or outside of school. From sports triumphs and music performances to community volunteering and personal milestones, these experiences help shape confident, well-rounded individuals. Here are some photos showcasing some of our pupils' amazing achievements this week.



Assembly this week

On Monday, we spent some time reflecting on our New Year resolutions. We then focused on how Jesus came to Earth to live among us as part of God's great plan. Through his life, death and resurrection, we too have the chance for a new beginning, where we live our lives following His example.

Key scripture: *'And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.'* John 1:14

School Values

This term we are focusing on our school value of 'LOVING' and we will be encouraging children to be happy, kind, caring, helpful and friendly.



Reception Class 2026 Admissions

The closing date for applications for a school place in Reception Class September 2026 is **15th January**. Please use the link shown to ensure that your child's application has been completed using the online process:



Bolton Council – Primary School places information page:

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/admissions/primary-school-places-1>

If you have any queries please contact Mrs Eckersley in the School Office.

School Uniform

The majority of children have returned to school looking very smart in full uniform. Please make sure this continues throughout the year. It is an outward sign of belonging to our school 'family'. For our Year 6 children, getting into the best habits now with uniform will prepare them for the expectations at high school. Remember, trainers are only to be worn on PE days. If children are wearing wellies or other footwear for walking to school during the wintry weather, please send school shoes to change into.

Year 4 Anglo-Saxon Workshop

Year 4 took part in an amazing Anglo-Saxon workshop this week to kick start our new history topic. We met a real life Anglo-Saxon warrior, took part in an archaeological dig and played some games from Anglo-Saxon times. Year 4 also trained for battle and created formations to defend ourselves against enemy fire. We ended the day as the Witan council, deciding the fate of Britain following Viking invasion!



Year 6 – WWII Workshop

Year 6 recently took part in an exciting and immersive World War II workshop to enhance their learning in history. They looked at artefacts, looked at how ARP wardens disposed of bombs and did some basic first aid training.



Bringing History to life

This week, following our World War II workshop, one of our pupils proudly brought in his great-grandad's medals from the World War II to share with his class. It was a wonderful and meaningful moment that helped bring history to life, giving pupils a real connection to the past and the people behind the stories we learn about. We are very grateful to him and his family for sharing such a special piece of history with us.

Y5 History Topic Launch Day

This term, we kicked off our new history topic with an exciting Tudor Workshop day. The experience was designed to immerse the children in Tudor life and provide a memorable starting point for their learning.

Throughout the day, the children took part in a range of hands-on activities including weapons and armour investigation, archery, Tudor board games and traditional Tudor dancing. These sessions helped bring the period to life and gave the children a strong sense of what life was like during Tudor times.

The workshop was a fantastic way to spark curiosity, build background knowledge and set the scene for our history learning this term.



NEW - PE Days

Children can come into school wearing their PE kits on PE days. Please support us by ensuring the kit is as specified on the website. **Earrings should not be worn on PE days.**

<u>Class</u>	<u>P.E Day</u>
Year 1	Wednesday
Year 2	Wednesday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday
Year 5	Thursday
Year 6	Tuesday

Wednesday Word

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and a Happy New Year to all. January is traditionally the month of beginnings - a time for making a new start. In Church this Sunday we celebrate a special feast - The Baptism of the Lord. In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist didn't see the need to baptise Jesus, because Jesus was sinless. But Jesus insisted because he wanted to stand alongside the community - to help them make a new start and give them an example to follow.

Don Henry Goodrough

Wednesday 7th January 2026

Jesus, God's beloved Son, came for everyone to show us all how to live in God's love. Jesus came to show us all how to live in God's love. Jesus came to show us all how to live in God's love.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 11th January 2026

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him, "It is I who need baptism from you," he said, "and yet you come to me!" But Jesus replied, "Leave it like this for the time being: it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands." At this, John gave in to him. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him."

*Adapted from Matthew 3:13-17
The Baptism of the Lord, Year 4*

Starting to know Jesus makes his light. Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church all are very warmly invited.

Good News for Everyone

Regardless of our past, God makes each one of us to make a new start, each and every day. Baptism sets us on a new start with God and that they grow closer together and begin to love and share the joy that Jesus brings.

1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus went to the River Jordan to be baptised by John the Baptist. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven saying: "This is my beloved Son and with him I am very pleased."

2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Words

"Every day we must begin anew. Have patience with all things - but first of all with yourself." St Francis de Sales

3 NEW START!

Do you have a new start or opportunity for us to make a new start? Tell us about it! We will be happy to hear about it! We will be happy to hear about it! We will be happy to hear about it!

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

JOHN BAPTIST
HEAVEN VOICE
BELIEVED SON

ENDING THOUGHT

This week I will try my best to...

Facebook

Our page is a fantastic way for you to stay up-to-date with all the latest news, events, and updates from our school community.



Why Follow Us on Facebook?

- **Timely Updates:** Be the first to know about school events, important announcements, and any changes to schedules or procedures.
- **Celebrating Achievements:** Join us in celebrating the achievements and successes of our pupils and staff. From academic awards to sports victories, we'll share it all!
- **Fun and Informative Content:** Look out for fun posts about school trips, interesting visitors, and behind-the-scenes glimpses of school life.

How to Follow Us:

1. **Visit Our Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61568209816401>
2. **Click 'Like':** By liking our page, you'll start receiving our posts in your newsfeed.
3. **Share Our Page:** Spread the word! Share our page with other parents and family members so they can join our growing online community.

We hope to see you on Facebook soon!



Please look out for our #WakeUpWednesday posts on Facebook, which provides the knowledge and skills parents and carers need to keep up with the latest information and issues when it comes to online safety and mental health & wellbeing.

Parent Workshop: Supporting Children with Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance

On Friday 13th March, Woodbridge SEND Service will be hosting a parent workshop focused on supporting children who experience emotionally based school non-attendance.

Time: 9:30–10:30am

Cost: £15 per family

Please use the booking link here:

[Woodbridge SEND service / Training](#)

