



Holy Infant & St Anthony RC Primary School

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

Headteacher: Mrs D Furlong

Newsletter

16th January 2026

Head Teacher's Message

What a lovely week in school! A number of children have been to see me this week with examples of fantastic progress in their learning across the curriculum. In Year 3, I observed two children talking knowledgeably about the Ancient Egyptians using a PowerPoint they had made themselves. The enthusiasm of the children within school is fantastic.

Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Reception	84.94%
Year 1	94.96%
Year 2	93.75%
Year 3	92.86%
Year 4	90.52%
Year 5	99.14%
Year 6	89.81%

This week's winners are



Well done!

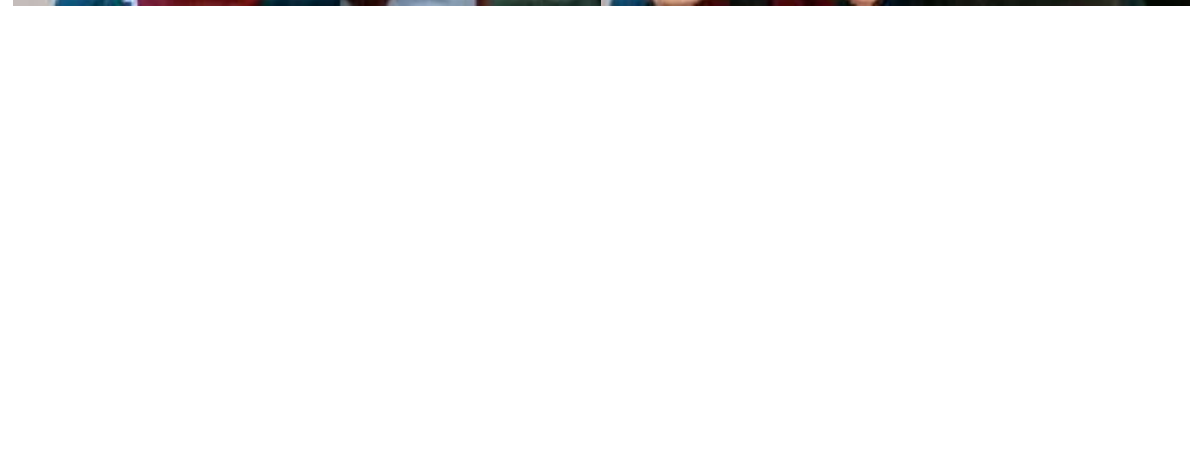
Is your child too ill for school? To help improve attendance we are working very hard to encourage children to attend if they are able to, please follow the advice in the link below, to determine, when your child should be off school. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

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.

Stars of the week



Assembly this week

On Monday, we began by thinking about the meaning of the phrase 'bold statement'. We listened to the Gospel account of the baptism of Jesus and reflected on how this was a clear and bold statement that each person of the Holy Trinity was present: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We learnt that this event marked the start of Jesus's mission to share the Good News. We reflected on how, when we are baptised, we become part of God's family.

Key scripture: 'And when Jesus was baptised, immediately He went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on Him; and behold, a voice from Heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."' Matthew 3:16-17



First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Programme



This will start next Tuesday after school. Those children who have sent in a registration form will already have taken home a letter with all the dates and times on. If parents/carers have any questions, please contact the school office.

Dodgeball Tournament

Six children from Year 5 and Year 6 took part in a dodgeball festival this week and represented the school brilliantly. Well done to the Holy Infants team for their effort and teamwork throughout the event.

Although the UV lamps were unfortunately not working, this did not dampen spirits and the children still thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They played extremely well, winning most of their games and showing great determination and sportsmanship throughout.

We are very proud of the way they represented our school. Well done to everyone involved.



Year 3 Romans Workshop



Year 3 have started their history topic this term with a Roman workshop. Children explored life as a Roman soldier by making battle formations and learning battle tactics, something that helped the Romans invade and take over so much of Europe! The children learned how to scribe like a Roman and play board games just as they would have been played at the time. Children were engaged, curious and inspired throughout the day and have enjoyed the fantastic start to such an interesting topic. Well done Year 3, I can't wait for us to learn more over the next few weeks!

Year 4 Swimming reminder

Year 4, will be starting their 10-week swimming programme on Wednesday, 21st January.

Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit to school on swimming days, including:

- Swimming costume
- Towel
- Swimming cap (required if hair is shoulder-length or longer)



As swimming is part of the National Curriculum, we are unable to exclude any child from participating in this activity. It is therefore essential that all pupils come prepared with the correct kit.

Thank you for your support.

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

THE WORD Share the Gospel

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

A Gift to You & Your Family from Your Catholic School

Wednesday 14th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we return to the beginning of Jesus' mission. The humble witness of John the Baptist gave people a sense that something exciting was about to happen.

John the Baptist is one of the best known saints. He never pushed himself forward. He encouraged his own followers to leave him and become followers of Jesus. His life (and death) witnessed to the truth about Jesus and, because of him, many people came to know and follow Jesus.

Don Henry Omdrough

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 18th January 2026

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, "Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me.' I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to us that I came baptising with water." John also declared, "I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.' Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God."

Adapted from John 1:29-36
The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

Seeing to know Jesus makes His light warm more about His Sunday's Gospel in your local parish Church. All are very warmly invited.

Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME

Wednesday 14th January 2026

1 READ & REFLECT: Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God! He is the one who will take away the sin of the world. When I baptised him, I saw the Spirit come down on him from heaven like a dove. God had said to me, 'One day, when you are baptising with water, you will see the Spirit come down and rest upon a certain man. He will be the one who will baptise people with the Holy Spirit.'" Then John said, "I saw this happen and I am the witness that Jesus is God's Chosen One."

What did John the Baptist say that he was the witness to?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

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

"People today listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."

St. Ignace of Loyola

Did you still hear the word 'witness' mean to them, which will mean people of spirit that your child knew who have been great witnesses for Jesus in e.g. Mary the mother, St. Joseph, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. David, St. Francis who was your child knew to be a great witness today in e.g. our present Pope - Leo XIV, a family member, a priest, a teacher, a friend? Who has recently brought the message of Jesus to your child at home, at school or in the parish?

Through our words and especially through our actions, we can be God's witnesses, through being our lives the way Jesus showed us. (Choose a word/way to be God's witness - during and sharing time in everyone you meet this week. Perhaps you can be kind and being in your simple everyday words and actions, pray for help to be a good witness, tell others about the Gospel, goodness and peace that Jesus can bring into their lives, be fair and generous with everyone you meet.)

3 FINDING THE WORDS

Dear Jesus, please bring us to be your witnesses, so that we can be your witnesses and share the Gospel with everyone we meet.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

Search for the words in the grid below. The words are hidden in the grid. The words are: JOHN, WITNESSED, JESUS, BAPTISED, CHOSEN ONE, SPIRIT, LAMB OF GOD, DOWNSIDE, BAPTIST, WITNESS, GOSPEL, WORD, SEARCH, FIND, THE, WORDS, IN, THE, GRID, BELOW.

Write down the letters of the words you find in the grid below. The words are: JOHN, WITNESSED, JESUS, BAPTISED, CHOSEN ONE, SPIRIT, LAMB OF GOD, DOWNSIDE, BAPTIST, WITNESS, GOSPEL, WORD, SEARCH, FIND, THE, WORDS, IN, THE, GRID, BELOW.

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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](#)

