



Holy Infant & St Anthony RC Primary School

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

Headteacher: Mrs D Furlong

Newsletter

19th September 2025

Head Teacher's Message

We have had a lovely week in school despite the weather! Unfortunately the Year1 trip to Hedgehogs was postponed due to warnings about strong winds. We will let you know when a new date has been agreed. Year 5 are there next Monday (22nd) and hopefully the weather will be better. There has been a lot of exciting learning in school and our '**Wonderful Work**' wall displays some of the best work produced since we came back. Well done to the following children who are the first to have their work displayed: Edie, Yared, Emily, Ethan, Elliott, Nora and Esmail!

Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Reception	96.30%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	98.21%
Year 3	98.28%
Year 4	95.42%
Year 5	99.14%
Year 6	94.50%

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](#)

Winning House Team

Well done to the winning House Team this week...

St. Anthony!





Stars of the Week



Assembly this week

On Monday, we listened to the children from Year 6 who are hoping to be elected to the positions of Head Girl, Head Boy and deputies. All of them deserve praise for putting themselves forward and for standing up in front of the whole school to explain why they would be the best child for the job. Voting isn't quite complete so we will announce the results next week.



Be Part of Our New Football Team's Journey!

For the first time, our school is forming an official football team! In the past, children have represented the school without training or playing as a dedicated squad — but now, we're building a real team, with trials, training, and proper kit.

Our current kit is old, worn, and frankly a bit dull! To help them look and feel their best on the pitch, we are hoping to purchase a brand-new football kit.

We are currently looking for local businesses or families who might be interested in sponsoring the kit. Your support would make a real difference and could even include your business name or logo featured on the team's shirts, giving you great visibility within our school community and beyond.

If you or someone you know would like to help, please contact the School Office for more information. We would be incredibly grateful for any support you can offer!

After-School Sports Club Reminder

A quick reminder for all pupils attending our after-school sports clubs: Please ensure your child brings their full PE kit to change into before the session begins.

As always, we kindly ask that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name to help avoid any mix-ups or misplaced belongings.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our clubs run smoothly and keeping our lost property pile to a minimum!

The clubs this half term as follows:



- Y1 & Y2 – Multi-sports – Mondays – 3.30 pm – 4.30pm
- Y3 & Y4 – Basketball – Tuesdays, with the exception 30th Sept, this session will be on the 1st Oct, due to competitions taking place. 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm
- Y5 & Y6 – Basketball – Wednesdays – 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm

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	Thursday
Year 2	Friday
Year 3	Thursday (Friday on /09/25)
Year 4	Tuesday
Year 5	Tuesday
Year 6	Monday

School Uniform

The children look fantastic in their uniforms and it is so pleasing to see that the uniform policy is being adhered to. This was very noticeable on photograph day. Thank you for your support with this.



Feast of St Francis – Non-Uniform Day for St Francis House



To celebrate the Feast of St Francis on Friday, 3rd October, children who are part of the St Francis House Team (Yellow) are invited to attend school in their own clothes for the day.

This is a lovely way to honour the values of kindness, care, and community that St Francis represents. We look forward to seeing our Yellow House pupils enjoying their special celebration!



Please ensure clothing is comfortable and appropriate for school activities.

Year 3 – Maths

Year 3 have been partitioning numbers to 1000 in Maths today.



Year 1 Maths

Today in Maths, year 1 were learning to find one less within 10. We are also practicing counting forwards and backwards and making sure our numbers are formed correctly.



Year 6 – Reading

Today in Reading, Year 6 have been clarifying vocabulary before they begin to read Chapter 3 of 'When we were warriors' by Emma Carroll



Solihull Information

10 FREE SESSIONS

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD

SOLIHULL APPROACH

2 HOUR SESSIONS

BABIES & CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

Autumn Groups 2025

Bright Meadows Family Hub
Greenroyd Ave, BL2 5DD
Tuesdays 12.30pm-2.30pm starting 16th September

Harvey Family Hub
Shaw Street, BL3 6HU
Wednesdays 10am-12pm starting 17th September

Farnworth Family Hub
King Street, Bolton, BL4 7AP
Thursdays 10am-12pm starting 2nd October

Oxford Grove Family Hub
Shepherd Cross Street, BL1 3BH
Fridays 10am-12pm starting 10th October

Scan here to book



TO BOOK CALL:

07514 484157

Part of Bolton Family Hubs Network

THE FLOWHESION FOUNDATION



Wake Up Wednesday

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence has seen significant development over the recent months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat). One form of AI that has become especially popular has been the AI friend or chatbot. There are now numerous 'virtual friend' apps available, with other successful platforms likely to adopt it soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. As a result, there's a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could possibly hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or reacting insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour. As many chatbots originate from the USA or UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview. This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours if they interact with the AI consistently.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child's own powers of critical thinking, their creativity and their ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts warn that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (for instance, the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties).

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If a child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, then a relevant, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with children and perhaps do your own research to ensure that you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit and explore the range of AI chatbots together.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If a child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside children to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children still get plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or device, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps children can download and interact with. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to them, emphasise that AI isn't a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something inaccurate or skewed by bias.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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Wednesday Word



THE Wednesday Word

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

While on earth, we are given 'free will' and God our Father trusts us to use it wisely. There may be times when we make a wrong choice, but we can trust that God is always there to help us start again.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us about the value of being trustworthy people. We can show this by making good choices - especially when it comes to the use of money.

Wednesday 17th September 2025

When we give God first place in our lives - using our talents, our time and our money to serve God - we are blessed here and now, and can be certain that we will be rewarded in the life to come too.

Enjoy a special time together hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **TRUSTWORTHY**.

Dom Henry Wandbrough

"Trust the present to God's love and the future to God's care." St Augustine of Hippo

A Word from the Saints

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 21st September 2025



Jesus said, "The one who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the one who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."

Adapted from Luke 16:1-13
The 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope in our Families

God wants us to place our trust in him, so that he can guide our lives. Following God's ways shows God that we are trustworthy and provides a secure foundation for our lives and for the lives of our children too.

SPREAD THE WORD and bring GOOD NEWS to your friends by sharing THE WEDNESDAY WORD



Good News for Families

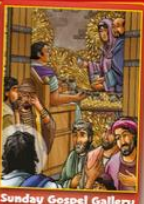
TOGETHER TIME

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

One day Jesus was talking to his disciples about choosing to put God first in their lives - about not becoming a 'slave' to the love of money, but rather using money in a way that is pleasing to God. Jesus said: "If you can be trusted with little things, then you can be trusted with big things. To God, money is a little thing. If you can't be trusted with that, how can you be trusted with real riches? The choice is yours, but you cannot be the slave both of God and of money."

How does Jesus want us to use our money?

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.



Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

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

"Those who trust in God can do all things."
St Alphonsus Liguori

Being a trustworthy person and also knowing who to trust is really important. Ask your child what the word 'trustworthy' means to them. A friend who can be trusted is a gift from God! Who are the most trustworthy friends in your child's life and why do they trust them? What do their friends do which shows they are trustworthy? Perhaps you can tell your child about those people in your life whom you trust the most, and say why they are trustworthy.

We can show God and others that we are trustworthy by making the most of our gifts - to make the world a better place. In this coming week, what can each one of us do to show that we are trustworthy people? Perhaps we can be generous with our God-given gifts of time, talent and money; always try to tell the truth; say our daily prayers asking God to guide us to do the right thing; keep our promises.

TRUSTWORTHY

3 Dear Lord Jesus, help us use our gifts well - to be your trustworthy sons and daughters who always put you first in our lives. Amen.

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHES FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JESUS WARNS SLAVE MONEY TRUST GOD REAL RICHES

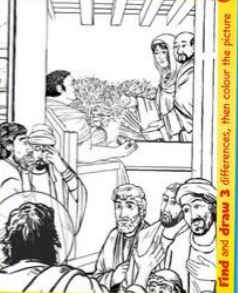
SUPERSEARCHES FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **ocm** in the jumbled words below to find 5 real words.

bomieg frumstoced tchinnogs othcenm

If you can be _____ with little _____ you can be trusted with _____ things."

Jesus is trustworthy! We can always trust Jesus to help us make the most of our lives - enjoying them and using them to love and care for others. Jesus leads us to live our best life - full of peace, joy, and kindness.



FINDING THREE

Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture.

More about the Catholic Faith: wednesdayword.org & catholic.org.uk

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

Year 5 – Hedgehog Woodland Adventure Reminder

We're excited for our upcoming visits to Hedgehogs Woodland Adventures, where pupils will explore nature, enjoy outdoor play, and take part in forest school activities!

Year 5 – Monday, 22nd September 2025

Please ensure children come dressed appropriately for outdoor activities:

- Waterproof coat and wellies (if wet weather)
- Comfortable clothing suitable for woodland play

We can't wait for the children to enjoy a day of adventure, creativity, and connection with nature!

For more about the venue, visit Hedgehogs Woodland Adventures.



Child financial Exploitation

WHAT IS CHILD FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION ?

Have you got your own bank account? Do you have a bank card? If you do, you need to know about CFE.

CHILD FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION or **CFE** for short, is when criminals groom children, so they can exploit them and use their bank accounts to commit crimes like money laundering or fraud.

They want to hide money made from crime, and they use children and young people to do this.

USING PEOPLE LIKE THIS IS A CRIME AND IT IS ABUSE!

LOOK OUT FOR!



A stranger or "new friend" asks for your bank account details.

They message you through games or social media.

Promise of "easy money" for doing nothing.

They ask you to open a bank account or use your card.

Tell you not to tell your parents or teachers.

HOW TO STAY SAFE



Don't share your bank account or card details with anyone.

Never agree to receive or send money for someone.

Tell a trusted adult if someone makes you feel unsure.

Block and report strangers who ask you weird questions online.

Remember... real jobs don't ask you to move money!

IF YOU ARE WORRIED REMEMBER...

To tell a parent, teacher, or trusted adult right away.

They can help you check if the person is trustworthy or if they are trying to get you to do something wrong.

They can help you report something suspicious to the police.

The police will listen, they will not judge you and they will help.

If something feels strange or makes you uncomfortable,

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO SAY NO!

You can be smart. You can be strong. You can protect yourself and your friends and you can....

PTA

We'd love to invite you to our next PTA meeting on Friday, 26th September. Whether you have a little time to spare or simply want to put your name down to help at future events, your support makes a huge difference.

We're hoping to bring back our much-loved Christmas Fair this year—but as many of you know, our Summer Fair had to be cancelled due to a lack of volunteers. With just a few more helping hands, we can make sure our festive events go ahead and bring joy to the whole school community.

Date: Friday 26th September at 2.30 pm

No pressure, no long-term commitment—just come along and see how you can get involved. We'd love to have you!

Photos from previous events



Parent Governor Vacancy

We are currently seeking a new Parent Governor to join our school's governing body. This is a fantastic opportunity to play a key role in shaping the future of our school and supporting the success and wellbeing of all our pupils.

Further details have been sent out via email today, including how to express your interest and what the role involves.

You don't need specialist knowledge—just a commitment to the school, a willingness to ask questions, and a desire to make a difference. Whether you're passionate about education, community, or simply want to be more involved, we'd love to hear from you.

The closing date for registering interest is **9 am on Friday 26 September 2025**.



Measles

Vaccination Reminder

There has been a rise in measles cases across Greater Manchester. Please ensure your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations.

- The MMR vaccine (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) remains the best protection.
- Two doses are required for full immunity.
- If you're unsure whether your child is up to date, check their Red Book, the NHS app, or contact your GP practice

Symptoms of Measles

The first symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a runny or blocked nose
- sneezing
- a cough
- red, sore, watery eyes
- Spots in the mouth – small white spot may appear inside the cheeks and on the back of the lips a few days later. These spots usually last a few days.



- Measles rash – a rash usually appears a few days after the cold like symptoms – the rash starts on the face and behind the ears before spreading to the rest of the body.



- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

i mmunisation
the safest way to protect your child

Some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine are listed on the back of this leaflet

Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/

NHS