



Holy Infant & St Anthony RC Primary School

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

Headteacher: Mrs D Furlong

Newsletter

21st November 2025

Head Teacher's Message

Another week has flown by! Thank you to all those parents who came out in freezing cold weather on Thursday to attend meetings with their child's teacher. We hope you received all the information you need to understand how your child is progressing in school to support at home.

Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Reception	92.50%
Year 1	95.00%
Year 2	92.39%
Year 3	91.07%
Year 4	88.33%
Year 5	99.57%
Year 6	84.86%

This week's winners are



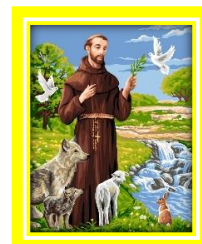
Well done!

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

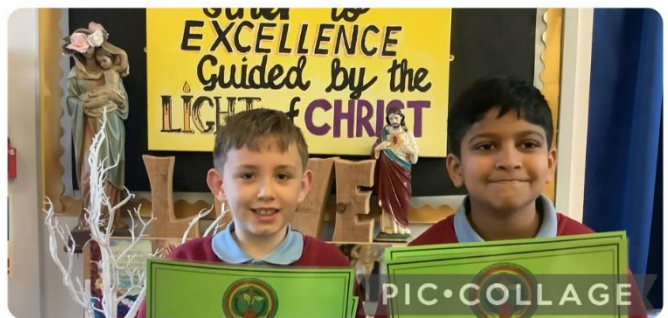
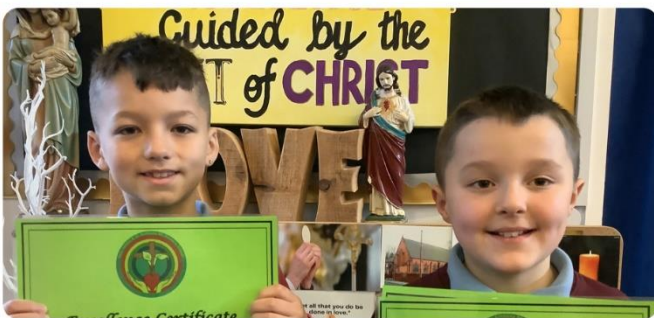
Well done to the winning House Team for this week is ...

St. Francis.





Stars of the Week



First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Programme

The parish sacramental programme will begin in January 2026. The Sacramental Programme allows baptised children to make their own commitment to God and complete their journey into full membership of the Catholic Church. The children will prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time. It is open to Year 3 children, or older children who may have missed out. Further details will be sent out about the registration process nearer the time.



Monday assembly

On Monday, our focus was on how we cope in times of trouble. We listened to a reading from St. Luke's Gospel where Jesus spoke about 'challenging times ahead'.

We reflected on how we all go through times of trouble, but we also have people around us who can help us with our troubles, such as our families, teachers and priests. Other troubles might affect many people, all around the world. We prayed for anyone experiencing troubles in their life.

Key scripture: *"I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict."* Luke 21:15

Anti-Bullying Week



National Anti-Bullying week was a couple of weeks ago, however we will be holding our own Anti-Bullying Week during the week beginning 1st December, as we have invited 'Show Racism the Red Card' into school to carry out workshops in KS2. More details to follow.

Coffee Morning

On Sunday, refreshments will be served in school after the 10 am Mass. This is a great opportunity to attend Mass and meet members of the parish community.

Safety Notice – Drop Off Procedures

We have noticed a few parents stopping their cars on the road and car park entrance and allowing children to jump out before entering school. This is a serious safety concern.

To keep all children safe, please:

- Park your car respectfully in a designated area
- Walk your child into the school gates

We have also been made aware that traffic wardens will be making more visits in the area.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Year 4 Basketball Festival

Well done to our Year 4 children who took part in the basketball festival this week. They played brilliantly, winning all but one of their games and showing great teamwork and determination throughout.

A special mention to our girls' team who were unbeaten across the whole event, winning every match they played.

Congratulations to Pippa, Olivia, Nate, Kian and Chidubem for their fantastic effort, skill and sportsmanship. You represented our school with pride and enthusiasm from start to finish.

myHappymind – Reminder



We are proud to be a part of the myHappymind family!

We are launching this whole school programme which has been designed and dedicated to building positive mental wellbeing. myHappymind helps children understand how their brains work and creates a culture that helps to build children's resilience, confidence, and self-esteem. myHappymind also teaches children how to self-regulate and manage their emotions in stressful times, allowing them to be their best selves!

myHappymind also has a parent app to support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning and activities for you to do together at home, plus so much more! You will receive a separate letter with instructions on how to set up your app.



Parents' Evening



A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended Parents' Evening last night.

We truly appreciate you taking the time to meet with us and discuss your child's progress. Your support and partnership make a real difference in helping every child thrive.

Roblox – pop ups

Safeguarding Alert: Roblox pop-ups are encouraging children to download an app called Pollyfuzz/Pollybuzz. This app has been linked to disturbing and unsafe content. Parents should be vigilant and remind children never to click on pop-ups in games.

Recent reports from safeguarding teams highlight that:

- Pop-ups on Roblox have appeared, directing children to install an app called Pollybuzz (sometimes spelled Pollyfuzz).
- The app initially seems harmless, presenting itself as an AI “friend” that asks simple questions.
- However, the content can quickly escalate to references to suicide, self-harm, and pornography, making it highly unsafe for children.
- Families are being advised to monitor children’s online activity closely, remind them not to click on pop-ups, and report anything suspicious immediately.

What Parents/Carers Can Do

- **Talk to your child** about the risks of clicking on pop-ups or downloading unknown apps.
- **Check devices regularly** for unfamiliar apps like *Pollyfuzz/Pollybuzz*.
- **Report concerns** to Roblox's safety team and, if necessary, to your school's safeguarding lead.
- **Encourage open conversations** so children feel comfortable telling you if they see something worrying.

This situation is part of wider concerns about **child safety on Roblox**, where investigations have shown lapses in protecting young users from inappropriate content and predatory behavior

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-GENERATED VIDEOS

AI-generated videos are increasingly difficult to spot and easy to share. From fake news clips to deepfake abuse, children and young people face new risks every day online. These videos can imitate real people, spread false narratives or even generate harmful content for schools. Understanding these dangers is crucial for schools and families who want to protect children in a fast-evolving digital world.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DEEPFAKE ABUSE CONTENT

Increasingly, artificial intelligence is now being employed to create false content online (AI). Deepfakes: These synthetic images and videos are a form of digital manipulation. They use AI to replace real children's photos, including those shared securely on school intranets, with the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has identified a threat from deepfaking (DFA), where real or AI-generated, this content causes lasting trauma... and its creation or possession remains a criminal offence under UK law.

BLURRED REALITY

Regular exposure to false video evidence can create a child's trust in real-world evidence, if everything can be faked, they may begin to question credible sources – including adult advice or guidance. This is known as the 'Sleece dividend', where real truth is dismissed as fake news. Real deepfake victims from posting forward or speaking up.

USED FOR BULLYING

Deepfake technology is already being used to create explicit clips of celebrities. These videos can be edited to appear to be real, and can be shared and sent to anyone. Once shared, they are more likely to be believed than real footage. AI-generated bullying clips a new layer of harm that is harder to prove and difficult to prove.

RECTOR

EMOTIONAL MANIPULATION

AI-generated videos can be used to generate false news, making it harder for children to separate fact from fiction. These clips may also be used to spread false information, such as disinformation or political influence. Children may feel scared or confused, especially if they are watching news from digitally generated or manipulated sources.

DISINFORMATION

AI-generated videos can spread false news, making it harder for children to separate fact from fiction. These clips may also be used to spread false information, such as disinformation or political influence. Children may feel scared or confused, especially if they are watching news from digitally generated or manipulated sources.

IMPERSONATION AND SCAMS

With just a few photos or voice clips, AI bots can imitate someone's appearance or speech. This makes it easier for scammers, hackers or cybercriminals to impersonate children, teachers or parents. These impersonations can be used to steal personal information, such as passwords or credit card details. Children may feel scared or confused, especially if they are watching news from digitally generated or manipulated sources.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH HOW IT WORKS

Explain to children that videos can be faked – and show them how. Demonstrating clip by clip examples of real vs AI-generated clips helps to build awareness. Introduce how faces, voices and even movements can be copied by machines. Understanding the technology reduces fear and builds confidence in navigating digital content safely.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Help children question what they watch. What clues might they want to look for? It's easy to persuade me! These habits encourage digital thinking, especially when it comes to spotting deepfakes. Encourage children to ask questions by themselves or influencers to help them find clues convincing of real, and that the digital approach should always be one of scepticism.

TALK ABOUT TRUST

Always keep lines of communication open, if a child sees something upsetting or uncomfortable, they should feel safe discussing it without judgement. Create an environment where they can report and be open to seeking questions. This also helps to keep track of quickly if harmful content has been shared and is able to be removed.

STRENGTHEN PRIVACY SETTINGS

Achieve children need to share photos, videos or personal details on public platforms. A healthy online presence can lead to social media or public attention. Create an environment where they can report and be open to seeking questions. This also helps to keep track of quickly if harmful content has been shared and is able to be removed.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to the National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the UK's children had played it. As a "sandbox" title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox contains random players across the world, it can put young players into an environment with other users, some of whom could be malicious for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games encourage players to create avatars that could expose players to inappropriate language in the player chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly evident on smaller games and experiences. But in some cases, the games and experiences offered on the platform encourage inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through in-game purchases or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pence up to (in the case of some of the more popular) up to tens of pounds or more. While some games offer all of content at no charge, others can offer some content for free while making children younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and unwanted sexual advances. While the right players could be making positive contributions to modelling, users can connect with online who are intent on causing trouble. In such requests, it will be very difficult to know who's behind a username in the real-world world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back for more. While some games have been reported to have been used in the past for cyberbullying, with some games being used to spread hate speech, the vast majority of games are designed to be fun and engaging. While some games have been reported to have been used to spread hate speech, the vast majority of games are designed to be fun and engaging.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or avatars. These objects, which can be bought or sold for real money on certain websites, sometimes will attempt to trade with younger players in hopes of getting more items that can be sold for real money. Some games can be used to spread hate speech, with some games being used to spread hate speech.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child is playing. Parents should be aware of the types of games their child is playing, and get a good idea of what content is available in those games.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and search engines. Parents can also use other tools, such as the parental controls within the game itself and search engines. Parents can also use other tools, such as the parental controls within the game itself and search engines.

Meet Our Expert

Don Greenacre is a videogame journalist and author of over 25 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about the games for parents. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMMAGOV.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how moderation works, gauge whether the games could be used to spread hate speech, or see how the moderation between players works. Then sitting down and trying the game for yourself.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving them the tools to be stronger, you can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. And you can be the best role model for your children for handling inappropriate. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help yourself.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

X @wake_up_weds

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@wakeup.weds



Reception Class 2026 Admissions

If you know of anyone who is still looking for a school place, please direct them to contact school to make an appointment to look round.

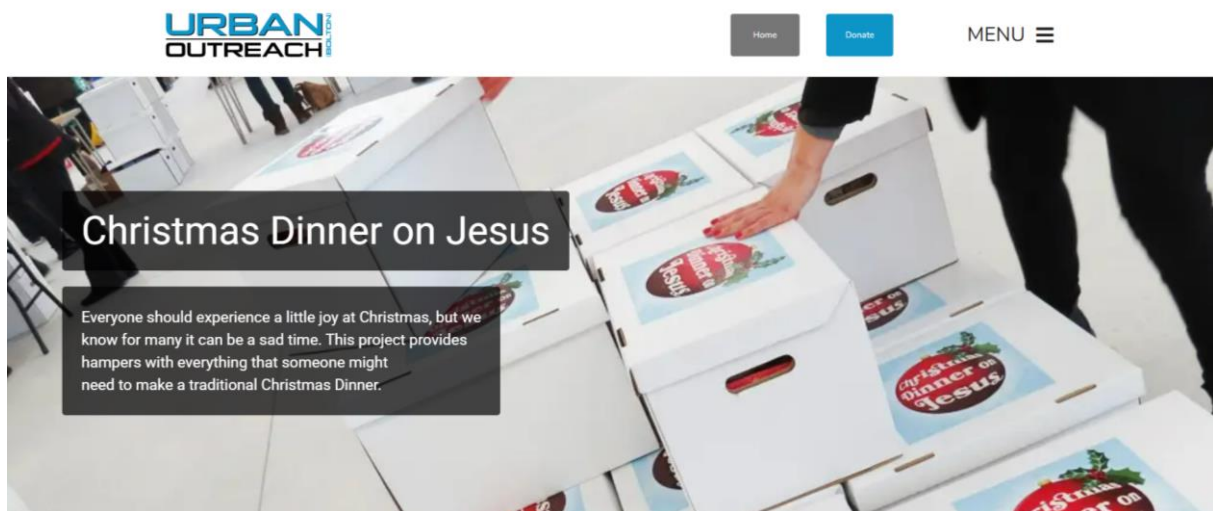
Christmas on Jesus Appeal – Donations Welcome

During the week commencing Monday 24th November 2025, we will be collecting cans of pop in support of the Urban Outreach - Christmas on Jesus Appeal.

This wonderful initiative helps support families across Bolton during the festive season, and your donations make a real difference.

Please send in any donations of canned drinks with your child during that week. Every contribution is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your kindness and continued support.



Year 3 – Hedgehog Woodland Adventure



What a fantastic day we have had! Year 3 enjoyed their trip to Hedgehogs Woodland Adventure today where they became Stone Age people and foraged for food to make a tasty stew. We were also taught how to light a fire using flint, followed by delicious smores by the toasty fire. Well done Year 3!

More Photos on Facebook.

Christmas Fair 2025 – Non-Uniform Days & Donations

To help us prepare for our Christmas Fair on Thursday 4th December, school will be hosting a series of Own Clothes / Non-Uniform Days. We would be very grateful for your support in making this year's fair a great success by donating the following items:

Chocolate & Sweet Tombola – **Monday 24th November** Own clothes day in exchange for a donation of chocolates or sweets for the tombola.

Bottle Tombola – **Monday 1st December** Own clothes day in exchange for a bottle donation (e.g. soft drinks, sauces, toiletries, etc.) for the bottle tombola.

We truly appreciate your generosity and support. Let's work together to make this the best Christmas Fair ever!

Christmas Dinner

We are delighted to be able to offer Christmas lunch on 11th December 2025 and Party Lunch on 17th December 2025, to children who usually have a packed lunch. If your child would like to have either of the lunches, (as shown in the menus below), please email the school office and top up your child's dinner account via the MCAS app, by the cost of the meal which are £2.67.



Breakfast with Santa Tickets – Update

Please note that there has been a change to the previously arranged Breakfast with Santa event.

Due to low uptake, the event will now be held only on Friday 12th December. All children who had purchased tickets for Thursday will automatically be transferred to Friday.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding.



THORNLEIGH'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

GET IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE A STALL AT OUR CHRISTMAS FAIR!

EMAIL:
CENTENARY.COMMITTEE@SALESIANS.ORG.UK

DECEMBER 6TH

FROM 10 AM



Thornleigh
Salesian College



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
Year 4	Tuesday
Year 5	Tuesday
Year 6	Monday

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.

Wednesday Word



SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

A Gift to You & Your Family from Your Catholic School

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In this Sunday's Gospel, the leaders, the soldiers and the people all mock Jesus as God's Chosen One and as king. Jesus' kingship is not one of military or political power, but one of love and mercy. Jesus forgave those who crucified him. He also showed mercy to the criminal who was sorry and called him to share in his kingdom – an offer Jesus also makes to us today.

Dom Henry Walsborough

Wednesday 19th November 2025

In life, we all make mistakes, but we never have to be afraid to ask God for forgiveness – God is pure mercy. Each one of us receives mercy as a gift from God, and it is a gift we are called to share with others too.

Enjoy a special time together this evening exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **MERCY**.

A Word from the Saints

"Trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love and the future to His providence." St Augustine of Hippo

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 23rd November 2025



The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. "He saved others," they said, "let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above him there was an inscription: "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals hanging there abused him. "Are you not the Christ?" he said. "Save yourself and us as well." But the other spoke up and rebuked him. "Have you no fear of God at all?" he said. "You received the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus," he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom." "Indeed, I promise you," Jesus replied, "today you will be with me in paradise."

Adapted from Luke 23:35-43
The Feast of Christ the King

Come and learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church and say a prayer for your family & friends: all are very warmly invited.

Having Hope for Families

Many people who came into contact with Jesus felt the healing power and joy of God's mercy. Today, the Church helps us to experience this mercy (especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation) and encourages us to be 'merciful' to others.

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!

While Jesus was on the cross, the leaders of the people insulted him saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also mocked and made fun of him saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." Above Jesus was a sign which said, "This is the King of the Jews." There were two criminals who were also on crosses alongside Jesus, and one of them said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "I promise you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

What did Jesus say to the criminal?

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...

"Do not doubt, do not hesitate, never despair of the mercy of God."
St Isidore of Seville

MERCY

Mercy is a virtue. Ask your child what the word 'mercy' means to them. You may want to share with your child what the word 'mercy' means to you. Ask your child who they know to be a 'merciful' person. Can you or your child remember a time when you have been merciful - when you gave someone another chance? How did it feel?

Each time we show 'mercy', we open ourselves to receive mercy from God. Being compassionate, being patient with others even if we are being treated unfairly, forgiving others even if we feel they don't deserve forgiveness, sometimes giving people more than they deserve, these are just some ways of showing mercy. Is there someone to whom you could show mercy? Each of you choose one way in which you will try to show mercy at home, at school or in the community in this coming week.

FINDING THREE

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTPHONES FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JESUS KING

CRIMINAL ASKED

REMEMBER TODAY

PROMISED PARADISE

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **h n v** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words:

fondvahy Jevshuns Panravdishe provmishen

said, "I _____ you,

you will be with me in _____.

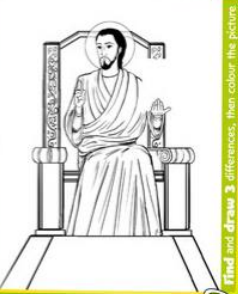
Throughout the gospel, Jesus reminds us that God wants us to forgive and show mercy – just like he did. Merciful people do things out of their love and care for others and this helps make the world a better place.

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley

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

Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture



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

IThrive Parent Peer Support Programme

We understand that being a parent/carer can be difficult, and looking after a child with mental health difficulties can be challenging. It is important for parents/carers to get support and guidance for themselves.

Who is it for?

- Parents looking to improve their wellbeing and receive support and guidance.
- Professionals looking to refer families for emotional/ practical peer support.
- Parents can self refer or professionals can refer via the QR code below.

What do we provide?

- One to one sessions to provide support and guidance.
- Signposting parents to receive practical support.
- Providing emotional support parent to parent.
- Weekly Support Group to meet other parents and chat in a safe space.

Parent Support Coffee Morning

Wednesdays 10-11am
Oxford Grove Family Hub
BL1 3BH

Drop in, no need to book!

For More information please contact Families Together

Email: familiestogether445@gmail.com

Call: 07514 484157

Go to: familiestogether.org.uk

Scan the QR
code to access
referral form

