



Holy Infant & St Anthony RC Primary School

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

Headteacher: Mrs D Furlong

Newsletter

20th March 2026

Head Teacher's Message

This week in school, we have been trying to spread 'joy' to others and it has been lovely to do this by supporting our neighbours in the community. Years 4 and 6 have produced some eye-catching Easter Art work for Astley Grange Nursing Home. A group of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children have started Art work for the Drummond Street Community Centre as they prepare to celebrate 40 years of community support.

Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Reception	96.25%
Year 1	90.08%
Year 2	94.15%
Year 3	88.70%
Year 4	91.32%
Year 5	89.67%
Year 6	94.23%

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. Teresa of Calcutta.



Stars of the week



Pupil Achievements



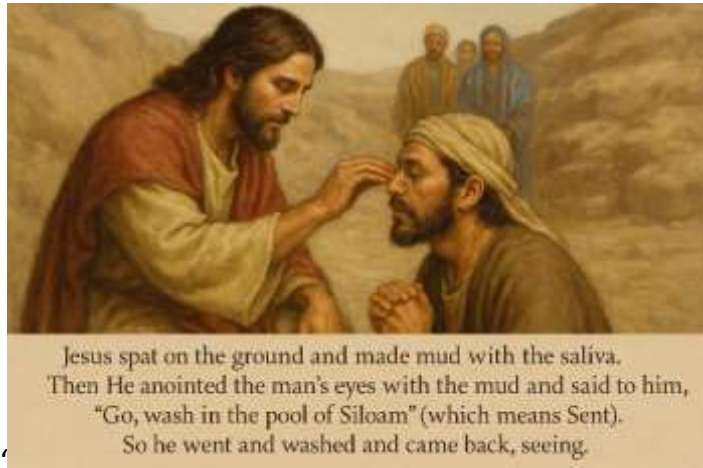
We believe every child's success deserves recognition - whether it happens inside or outside of school. From sports triumphs and music performances to community volunteering and personal milestones, these experiences help shape confident, well-rounded individuals. Here are some photos showcasing some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

A pupil brought in the patches, of a close relative who was one of the very first paramedics in Bolton. Their dedication, service, and commitment to caring for our community continue to inspire us today. What an honour it is to celebrate a legacy like this.

Monday Assembly

On Monday, we reminded ourselves that the season of Lent is a time to prepare ourselves to remember Jesus' death and resurrection. We are invited to **give, act and pray** to help us become closer to God. At Mass on Sunday, we celebrated 'Laetare Sunday', the mid-point of Lent. 'Laetare' means 'rejoice' and we rejoice because Easter will soon be here. During our assembly, we listened to the Gospel story of Jesus healing the blind man. Jesus not only gave the man the gift of sight, he gave him the gift of faith. This week we have tried to recognise the good things God has given us and to share our joy with others.

Key scripture: John 9:6-7



Easter Service

Our Easter Service, will be held in school on Tuesday 31st March at 10.45 am. This will be a whole school reflection on the Stations of the Cross. Parents/carers and family members are welcome to join us.



Caritas in Action – St. Joseph's Penny Boxes

We have another week before the deadline for Caritas, St. Joseph's Penny money boxes to be returned to school. **Year 2 are currently in the lead, with 14 boxes returned.** Remember, money boxes can be returned up until 30th March.

Could boxes be returned to school by

Monday, 30th March.

Outdoor Resources

We kindly ask that all children refrain from touching or playing with the resources set up outside the EYFS and KS1 playgrounds and outdoor areas during morning drop-off and afternoon collection. These resources are prepared specifically for use during the school day.

Unfortunately, the school does not have the funds to replace items that become damaged or go missing, nor the staffing capacity to reset these areas after morning drop-off. Your support in ensuring children do not handle the resources at these times is greatly appreciated and helps us keep everything ready for learning.

Thank you for your cooperation.

A Reminder about “Keep Clear” Markings Outside the School Gates



We kindly remind all parents and carers **not to pull up on the yellow “Keep Clear” markings** outside the school gates, even if it is just for a quick drop-off.

These markings are there to **keep sight lines clear**, ensure children can **enter and exit safely**, and prevent congestion at the busiest times of the day. When cars stop on the yellow lines - even briefly - it creates hazards for pupils crossing the road and makes it more difficult for families and staff to see approaching traffic.

Please ensure you **park safely and walk your child to the gate**.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and ensuring a calm, smooth start to the school day.

Year 6 – Gymnastics Lesson

Year 6 had a fantastic gymnastics session this week, focusing on balance, coordination, and controlled movement. Pupils practised a series of floor routines, building confidence as they explored new shapes and travelling techniques. It was wonderful to see such determination and teamwork throughout the lesson. Well done to everyone for giving their best effort!



Kit Car Sponsorship Appeal



KIT CAR SPONSORSHIP APPEAL

**We are aiming to raise
£600**

to support the children who will be designing
and building our kit car, giving them a fantastic
opportunity to race it at Croft Circuit.



If you are able to donate any amount or know
any business willing to sponsor us, it would be
greatly appreciated.

We would also love to hear from you if you
have any amazing fundraising ideas - all
support is gratefully received.

office@holy-infants-bolton-sch.uk

Kit Car Club Sponsorship Update – Thank You!

We're delighted to share that our Kit Car Club has now raised £570 of our £600 target!

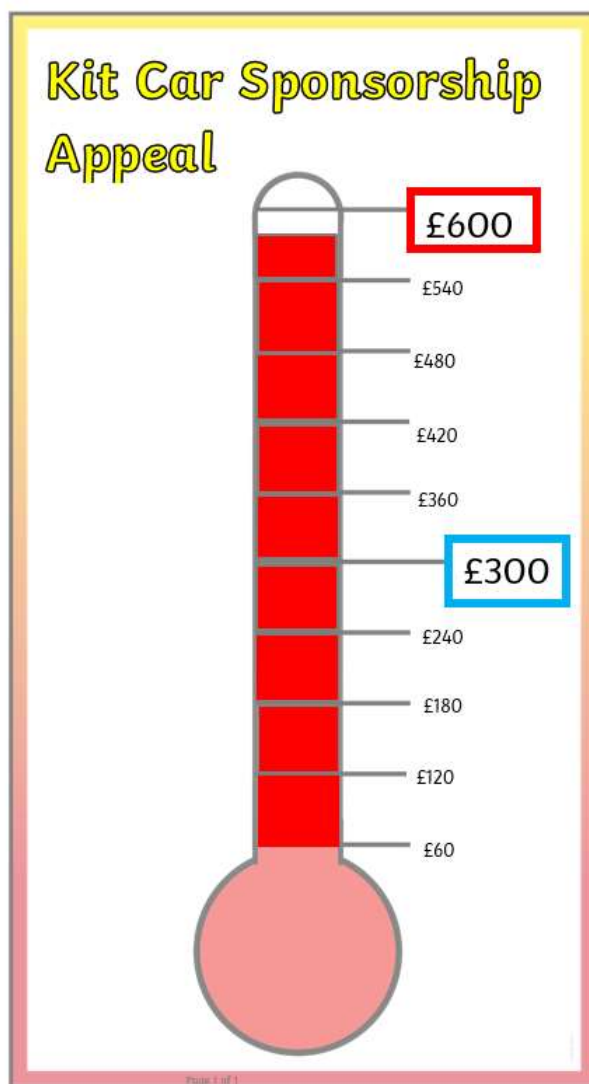
A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us so far. Your generosity is helping us get closer to completing our project and giving our students an exciting hands on engineering experience.

We would like to give special thanks to:

- Miss H McIlroy
- Dr F Cave
- Mr A Dunlevy
- LM17 Media
- Local Roofing Supplies
- Context Pneumatic Supplies Ltd
- UPT Studio - Personal Training
- NH Fitness

Your donations and support mean so much to us, and we truly appreciate every contribution.

We're nearly there - just £30 to go! Thank you again for helping keep our Kit Car Club moving forward!



Easter Egg-stravaganza

Egg Painting

For those children in Years 3 to 6 who don't have access to painting materials, but would still like to enter the KS2 egg decorating competition, we will have an egg painting session on Monday, 30th March. **Children will need to bring in a hard-boiled egg to take part.**



Easter Egg-stravaganza

To be held at school on:
Thursday 2nd April at 9:00am

KS1: Decorate an Easter bonnet
Class parade in their bonnets

KS2: Decorate an egg competition
Decorated eggs on display for class voting



Easter Bingo – 31st March 2026

We are excited to be hosting our Easter Bingo again this year! The event will take place on **31st March 2026 at 3.45 pm**. Tickets are now available to purchase through the **MCAS app** in the store section. We look forward to seeing you there for an afternoon of fun and prizes!

Prize Donations Needed

We are still short on some prizes for the event. If you are able to donate **a new teddy, Easter eggs, or any other small prize**, we would be extremely grateful. If you know a **company** that may be willing to support us with a donation, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support—it makes a big difference to our school community.



RAFFLE FOR A GIANT DOG TEDDY



50P A TICKET
CASH ONLY
TICKET SALES START ON
MONDAY 23RD MARCH
WINNER TO BE DRAWN AT
EASTER BINGO

Class Assembly Dates

Class assembly dates are listed below. Parents are welcome to attend all assemblies.

All assemblies start at 9.00 am and last for approximately 30 minutes.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>
Year 4	24 th April 2026
Year 2	15 th May 2026

Please note: due to class assemblies, if your child receives a **Star of the Week certificate** during that week, it will be presented in class. A separate parental invitation will not be sent for these certificates.

Glow in the Dark Sport Workshop – Monday 30th March 2026

We're excited to welcome back **A1 Sports** to school on **Monday 30th March 2026** for a unique and inspiring **Glow in the Dark Sport Workshop**.

All Children will be taking part.

Please ensure your child comes to school in their **full PE kit** and brings a **water bottle**. This promises to be an engaging and inclusive experience for all involved!



Year 4 Swimming reminder

Year 4, swimming programme continues until with the last session being on Wednesday 1st April 2026.

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.

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	Tuesday
Year 2	Tuesday
Year 3	Monday
Year 4	Wednesday – Swimming
Year 5	Thursday
Year 6	Thursday

Thank You to All Who Attended Parents' Evening



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Parents' Evening. We truly appreciate the time you took to meet with staff and discuss the progress, achievements, and next steps for your child. Your support and partnership make such a positive difference, and we are grateful for your continued involvement in school life.

A Huge Thank You to Mrs Montell

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Montell for sharing such incredible artistic talent with our school community. Her creativity, passion, and dedication shines through in every piece she creates, and she always does our school proud. We are truly grateful for all she brings to our pupils and to our wider school family - her work continues to brighten and inspire us all.



Reminder – Year 1 Trip to Manchester Museum

This is a reminder that the Year 1 trip to Manchester Museum is Thursday 26th March. Consent and payment can be made through the MCAS app in the trip section. Please note that **without consent, your child will not be able to attend the trip.**

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

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.



Wednesday Word

SHARING
SUNDAY'S
GOSSPEL

**A Gift to You & Your Family
from Your Catholic School**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As well as showing the power given to Jesus by his Father, this Sunday's Gospel reminds us of Jesus' humanity. Jesus was upset by Lazarus' death and wept for him.

His compassion for Lazarus and Lazarus' family reminds us of compassion for each one of us when we are upset, we too can experience Jesus' compassion through other people and through spending time with God in prayer.

Compassion is an attractive quality. Our own example

Wednesday 18th March 2026

It is daily life can help our children become more compassionate. St Vincent de Paul reminds us, "You should strive to keep your hearts open to the sufferings of other people and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion."

Enjoy exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **COMPASSION**.

Dear Mary Elizabeth

A Word from the Saints

"Compassion for the suffering is the beginning of holiness."

St. Maximilian Kolbe

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 22nd March 2026

There was a friend of Jesus named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with his two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was very ill. The sisters sent a message to Jesus, but, by the time Jesus had arrived at their home, Lazarus had died. As soon as Lazarus' sister, Mary, saw Jesus she threw herself at his feet, crying, "At the sight of her heart, Jesus sat in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, "Where have you put him?" So they took Jesus to Lazarus' tomb. Jesus wept. "Lord the stone away," he said. Then he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" Then Lazarus, who had been dead, came out with his feet, hands and face wrapped in strips of burial cloth. Jesus said, "Untie him let him go free." Many of the people there saw what Jesus had done and believed in him.

*Adapted from John 11:1-45
The 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A*

Swelling to tears Jesus motioned him joyful. Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church, all are very warmly invited.

Good News for Everyone

Jesus is compassionate, he came to take away fear, sadness and loneliness - to help us feel loved, accepted and supported. The acts he do to notice when others are in need and to show compassion by doing what we can to help and support them.

**Good News for Families
TOGETHER TIME**

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

Lazarus, a friend of Jesus, was very ill. So his two sisters, Mary and Martha, sent a message to Jesus. But, by the time Jesus arrived, Mary threw herself at his feet, crying because Lazarus had died. At the sight of her heart, Jesus said, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, "Where have you put him?" So they took Jesus to Lazarus' tomb. Jesus wept. "Lord the stone away," he said. Then he cried out, "Lazarus, come out!" Then Lazarus, who had been dead, came out with his feet, hands and face wrapped in strips of burial cloth. Jesus said, "Untie him let him go free." Many of the people there saw what Jesus had done and believed in him.

What did Jesus do so soon to see how Lazarus' family?

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...

"Blessed are the compassionate."
(St. Christopher of Padua)

Ask your child what the word 'compassionate' means to them. Who is the least compassionate person they know, who really believes what they have a problem? Ask them if they can remember a time when someone showed them care and compassion - what did they do?

To be compassionate is to share someone's suffering - to feel sorrow for their situation and to be concerned to help them.

If you can talk about a person whom you know to be compassionate.

Jesus knew that Martha and Mary were sad and he did what he could to help them. People saw this and started to follow him. Today we can show people how good Jesus is and help others to believe in him by the way we live. Ask your child if they can remember when they felt sad, sorry for someone and helped them. As a family, list purposes. To them anyone who needs our compassion and our help or this time? What could we do?

3

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for the gift of everlasting life. Please help us to be more compassionately as we journey through Lent together Amen.

FINDING THREE

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH
SEARCHED SPACES FROM THREE WORDS
SHARED PHRASES ACROSS OR DOWN

MARY MARTHA
BROTHERS
SISTER

JESUS COMPASSION
LAZARUS ALIVE

SEARCHED SPACES FROM THE WORDS
SHARED PHRASES ON THE WORDS

Fill out the letters **ONE IN ONE** in the provided spaces below to find 10 words.

L A M Z A R U S W R T S U M M A T C R I M E M O D I N O U S

Then Jesus _____ and in a _____ voice, _____, saying _____.

Compassion is a virtue and it brings out the best in us. It means being in sympathy to the pain others undergo for people who are lonely or in need. It is the ability to come along with them, taking pleasure in the fact that they are in need.

This week I will try my best to...

People at the Catholic Centre: www.catholiccentre.org.uk or catholic.org.uk

Let's be a family & share a big smile on Sunday

Reception Class Eggucation

This week, the eggs for our Eggucation project were delivered, and the children have already begun observing them closely - spotting the different colours, patterns, and sizes. There has been lots of curiosity and great discussion around what might be happening inside each egg.

We're looking forward to an egg-citing week ahead as the eggs are expected to start hatching very soon. The children can't wait to meet our new arrivals!

Support from our families helps us continue to offer these enriching experiences - like egg incubation - as well as other exciting opportunities that enhance the children's learning across the year. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a real difference. Reception class parents can **contribute through the MCAS app**.



Science Week in Reception!

Reception have had a *stellar* time during Science Week! We've been busy exploring one very big question:

Can we grow food on the moon?

The children shared brilliant ideas, thought hard about what plants need to survive, and even carried out their own little investigations.

To make our learning even more exciting, the children planted seeds of their own. Now we're all waiting to see what begins to sprout - maybe we'll discover the first plants fit for Moon gardens!

It's been a fun, imaginative, and curiosity-filled week in Reception - our young scientists are definitely shooting for the stars!

