



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

### Volume 15 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

We have had a wonderful first full week back at St John Henry Newman. All our new children and classes have really settled in now and the school has continued to be a warm, calm, and purposeful place to learn. We have had several visitors in school this week and all of them commented on how kind and polite our children were, which was so pleasing to hear. Finally, thank you for your patience this week with our significantly extended after school club offer; it has been great to see so many children staying behind to continue their school day.

***Jesus, as You led the Three Kings to You by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to You by the light of Faith.***

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to Year 4 (Gandhi) for having 98.9% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was a pleasing 97.5% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

#### **Eco-Committee Visit**

This week we had a joint visit from Viridor and PCC to discuss with the whole school black bin waste, recycling, and food waste. Our Eco Committee then took part in activities including sorting rubbish and used VR headsets to tour round the local recycling centre.



#### **Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)**

Since coming back to school, Reception have been welcoming in the New Year! We have been busy making firework patterns, writing our new year's resolutions on wishing wands and even counting backwards from 10. Last week, we watched the fireworks in London and counted down to 2024, using the fireworks we had made to join in with the celebrations.



#### **Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)**

In Year 1 this week we have started our new book *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt. We have read the story and done some character descriptions of the incredibly angry Red Crayon. We then started to think about how colours could make us feel which we linked to our Zones of Regulation Work and had a look at some poems. Next week we will put this learning together to write our own poetry about the emotions of colours. In maths we have been looking at place value within ten and have started this by focusing on the different representations of ten and how to build ten by adding two and three numbers before moving on to one more and one less of the lower teen numbers. In history we have been looking at toys from the past and present, how they have changed and how we can distinguish old and new toys.

### **Year 2 Learning (Hamilton)**

We have had an exciting week in Year 2. We have enjoyed getting to know our new Hamilton classroom as well as some friendly fresh faces who have joined us. In Maths, we have started our new topic all about money. Within this, we have reviewed the value of different coins and notes and used our knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to help us find the total of an amount. In English we began reading our new book 'The 3 Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig' and made comparisons to the traditional tale. We also completed our first Design and Technology project of the year - designing and making Fairground rides. We learnt how a wheel works and used a variety of materials to bring our designs to life.

### **Year 3 Learning (Yousafzai)**

Year 3 have had a busy start to the spring term. We started the term with a DT Day, we cut and peeled a range of different fruit and vegetables. We went on to taste each of these to decide which of them we would put onto our seasonal tart. Once they were cooked, we got to taste them and evaluate them. It was a terrific way to get us back into the school routine! We have started to read Mary Poppins and next week we will be writing a newspaper report on one of the adventures that happens in the story. In maths we have used known multiplication and division facts to work out more challenging questions.



### **Year 4 Learning (Gandhi)**

Since returning, the class have continued with their science unit – States of Matter. This has moved onto exploring how we use certain types of equipment to measure changes of state in experiments. Last week the class conducted a science experiment looking at the effect temperature change had on how quickly an ice cube melts. Using thermometers and stopwatches, students timed how long an ice cube took to melt in cold and warm water, measuring the initial and final temperature of the water in each beaker. On Wednesday we learnt about the water cycle and how humans today, drink the same water that dinosaurs once did.

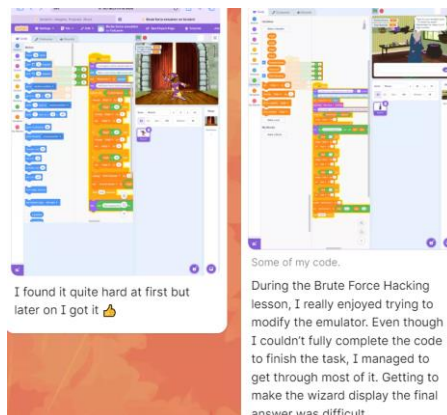


### **Year 5 Learning (Frank and Hawking)**

Despite a change in classes for many, it has been a very settled week in Year 5, and we have all returned to school with a great attitude the Christmas break. We have started a new book this term called Black beauty – a real English classic! After reading the first few chapters we have been exploring the use of the horse in the Victorian era. Using this to create topic specific paragraphs, we are going to be writing a report to show how horses were so important to people at this time in history. In guided reading we have been exploring the context of the book and the themes that run through it.

### Year 6 Learning (Pankhurst)

This week, we have had a great start to our specialist subjects. In Computing, we have begun looking at coding, with a particular focus around the importance of Bletchley Park during World War 2. The children have looked at a Brute Force Simulator in Scratch and have edited coding to allow a system to test more numbers. We have also looked at a range of significant people from the world of computing and will be completing further research on them in the coming week. In PE we have started our new topic of netball. The children showed some great passing skills this week and are already showing progress with their movements and control of the ball.



### Parent Groups

A few classes have parent/carer WhatsApp chat groups as an online space to seek support, ask questions, clarify, or give information. For those interested to join, please click on the applicable links:

Reception

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EsYGRLjf3ry3fdBPdC0O7U>

Year 1

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Dd1gG60RNXw8iRfjcpa49B>

Year 2

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/HnXKAXF2FLJHekeH9aunoM>

Year 3

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ExOh0mSMXbi8haZszKdd6t>

Year 4

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Hm7ypljTYp8B0LmNoYaRQf>

### Spring Term 2024 Dates

29-1-2024 Mock SATs week (Year 6's only)

14-2-2024 Ash Wednesday Liturgy

### Half Term (Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024)

2-3-2024 World Book Day (More Details to Follow)

5-3-2024 Parent Meetings

6-3-2024 Parent Meetings

27-3-2024 Stations Liturgy

28-3-2024 1.30pm Last Day