

# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

# Volume 16 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

It has continued to be an incredibly busy and purposeful week in school this week. All the children have shown extremely high levels of engagement with their learning and have approached all their learning with real determination. Finally, throughout the week I have shown several prospective new families and visitors around the school, and in every case, they have all commented of the 'warm and welcome feel' they got when touring the school. They also commented on how welcoming and polite the children were – this made me immensely proud! I

Father in heaven, Grant us the inner help to be victorious in the Savior, rejoicing to be by his side with faith and loyalty, and with the strength of soul that frees us from all burdens by laying them in your hands. Amen

Mr Cooper Headteacher

#### Attendance

Well done to Year 5 (Hawking) for having 100% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 95.6% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

#### **Pioneer Cadets**

The first cohort of Year 5 Pioneer Cadets have started their bronze award over the last two weeks. We have looked at presenting ourselves and why people wear a uniform. The Cadets had to sew a cap badge onto their headdress at home and have done a fantastic job.





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

For the last 2 weeks Reception have been learning all about Winter time! We have been making the most out of the chilly weather and have explored the frost in our outdoor learning area, looking closely at the patterns it makes under magnifying glasses. We have also been practising independently zipping up our coats and putting on gloves to prepare ourselves for the chilly weather. Back inside the classroom we talked about the changing properties of water as it melts and freezes. We even watched time lapse videos of this happening- it was very mesmerising! We used this opportunity to look for places on Google Earth which are always cold, such as Antarctica. We learnt all about penguins including how they hatch and grow though 'The Little Penguin' story from our literacy lessons. Some of us even began to write out first short sentences; using our Fred Fingers to sound out each new word and leaving spaces in-between them.

# Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

For History, Year 1 have been investigating toys. We have explored toys from a variety of decades and have learnt a lot about the development of materials and how we interact with them. This week we even designed our own toy that we think children should have in the future!

#### Year 2 Learning (Hamilton)

In Hamilton class we have worked extremely hard this week! We have continued our learning all about money, using a coins and notes to support us when making the same amount in different ways. In our reading lessons, we have completed a range of comprehension tasks which have really deepened our understanding of the story 'The 3 little Wolves and the Big Bad pig'. We started our latest D&T specialism this week, learning all about the importance of having a balanced diet. We are extremely excited for the coming weeks, where we will be making our own healthy wraps!

#### Year 3 Learning (Yousafzai)

Year 3 have had another busy week of fun and exciting activities to complete. Last week we started to construct castles from recycled materials and nets of 3D shapes. This week we have added a flag and painted them; we are so excited to be taking them home today! In writing we have written a newspaper report on the chapter called laughing gas from Mary Poppins. In maths we have multiplied a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number and divided a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. We have started our Spanish topic and have learnt to say the name of ten different animals.

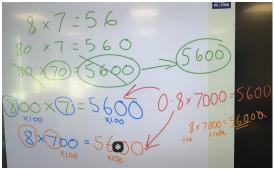






## Year 4 Learning (Gandhi)

Year 4 have had an impressive week of Mathematics! This week they have been looking at related facts and have put their times tables skills to clever use to identify known facts as a 'springboard' for further calculations. Here is an example of the level of mathematical discussion which occurred in the classroom on Tuesday... excellent job Gandhi class!



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

This week we have been writing topic paragraphs about horses. After reading about the plight of horses in Victorian times we have decided to write about these amazing creatures. After reading lots of research, we have organised it into distinct sections and are creating a non-chronological report to show lots of information about horses. We have continued to read Black Beauty in guided reading and exploring lots of subject specific phrases and vocabulary together.

#### Year 6 Learning (Pankhurst)

We have continued our Computing topic this week by researching historical figures and creating presentations on those, which we will share next week. In English, we have moved further into our unit of suspense narrative, looking at more example texts and making changes to key parts. We have practiced writing speech with a narrative, ensuring that it is purposeful and helps move the story on. In Maths, we have reviewed our knowledge and understanding of time, using timelines to calculate the amount of time between give given dates and timings.





# **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

 $\underline{https://chat.whatsapp.com/ExOh0mSMXbi8haZszKdd6t}$ 

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