



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 20– Friday 16th February 2024

1st Sunday of Lent (B)

Today marks the half-way point of our school year and so much has happened over the last 20-weeks. There have been a many school events that we can be pleased with. However, for me it is all the simple things I see each day that make me most proud. Things like, how welcoming our children have been when a new child has joined our school, how many children thank the cook each day for the meal they have just eaten and how many children go out of their way to ask adults how their day has been. All these really demonstrate our St John Henry Newman way. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

**Jesus, You are the light of the world. Thank you for showing me Your light through Your love for me.
Help me shine Your light through my gifts and talents, so others can see your love too. Amen.**

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 1 (Armstrong) for having 99% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 94.5% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday we gathered as a school to mark the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday. Our Mini-Vinnie's beautifully led our service alongside Fr Jeffrey and children were invited to receive ashes.



Peterborough Dance Show

On Wednesday 14th February, the STJHN Performing Arts Club took part in the Primary Dance Showcase at The Cresset Theatre. The children, who danced to Spice Girls and Take That, did an **INCREDIBLY** good job and danced with confidence on stage in front of hundreds of people! It was a proud moment for us as a school and we cannot wait to do it again! Well done to all involved!



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week in maths we have been learning about measures. We discussed that height means how tall or short something/someone may be. We used the words shorter, shortest, longer, and longest to compare different objects as well as one another. We got into partners and compared our heights, using the sentences “___ is taller/shorter than ___.” We enjoyed predicting who was the tallest in each class too before checking to see if we were right. We have learnt about non-standard measures too! We chose a friend to lie down on the carpet and we measured their height using different sized sheets of paper. We learnt that we needed more sheets of smaller paper to measure from head to toe. Fun fact- did you know we are the same length from head to toe as we are from finger to finger? We enjoyed proving this fact!



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

Year 1 have really enjoyed working hard on creating their moving story books this week. They have been investigating sliders for mechanisms in DT and used painting to create a beautiful book to represent Humpty Dumpty. This was their opportunity to become real illustrators by designing their book covers and are looking forward to taking them home!



Year 2 Learning (Hamilton)

What a lovely week in Hamilton class. We completed our 2nd hot task of the term - writing a letter as Farmer Boggis, Bunce or Bean hatching a plan to catch Fantastic Mr Fox. We really got into character and have shown this through our adventurous vocabulary choices. In Maths, we enjoyed using a range of resources to support our recognition of odd and even numbers as well as answering worded problems based on the 2, 5 and 10 timetables.

All the staff in Hamilton class hope you all enjoy a well-deserved rest and look forward to welcoming you back after half term.

Year 3 Learning (Yousafzai)

Year 3 enjoyed a sunny walk around the local area on Monday as part of their geography topic. We took clipboards out with us and tallied different physical and human features we could see as we walked round. When we returned, we highlighted on a map the route we took and discussed why looking at geography features in our local area is important. In maths we have finished our length and perimeter unit and are looking forward to learning about fractions after half term. In reading we have continued reading Stone Age boy and in writing we have looked at different features of letters as we will be writing a thank you letter to Mary Poppins when we return to school. In science we have started learning about light.



Year 4 Learning (Gandhi)

Year 4 have very excitedly moved onto the next computing unit which is an introduction to scratch. As there are differing levels of experience with Scratch among the group and it has been a while since many used it, if at all, we have started to learn the basics. In the first lesson we looked at how to access Scratch, how to select a Sprite and background, how to change the background and change or edit more Sprite's and how to change the size of our sprites (characters) on our screen. After being shown and taught how to use these features, the students were given some free time to explore the coding program and began to include sounds and add small movement or speech patterns into their code. They will continue to develop their skills on this platform when we return from half term.



Year 5 Learning (Frank and Hawking)

A busy week! In English we have been planning and writing a 3rd person narrative and leaving the readers on a knife edge with a cliffhanger ending. We have included speech, description, action and made our stories really engaging to read. The stories are loosely based on Black Beauty, which we are finishing reading this week. We have also continued netball in PE this week and are competing in teams in a mini-Year 5 competition. We will be displaying all the skills and tactics we have been learning since Christmas.

Year 6 Learning (Pankhurst)

In Art this week, the children have been inspired by the Maya civilisation and have created pieces of art that represent them as a person using their Wayob (Maya spirit companion). In Maths we have been exploring shapes and angles, looking at everything from properties of 2D shapes to how to find the area of a circle. We have completed our writing unit this week, where we have produced a newspaper report about an event. The children have been very creative in their work and have carefully considered a range of writing features to uplevel their work.

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

Half Term (Monday 19th February 2024 to Friday 23rd February 2024)

2-3-2024	World Book Day
5-3-2024	Parent Meetings 3.30 – 6.30
6-3-2024	Parent Meetings 3.30 -6.30
15-3-2024	Big Lent Walk (More details to follow)
25-3-2024	5.00 – KS2 (Key Stage 2) SATS Meeting (Year 6 Parents only)
27-3-2024	Stations Liturgy
28-3-2024	1.30pm Last Day