



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

### Volume 23– Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent (B)

We have had a wonderful week in school this week with once again so much happening. On Thursday, our Mini-Vinnies led a beautiful Mass which was well attended by our families. Also, Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 children have been taking part in their end of term assessments and we are so pleased with the amount of progress they have made over the last 12-weeks. We also managed to fit in celebrating National Science Week, with all children completing a series of lessons. Finally, I am really looking forward to our school community taking part in our Big Lent Walk this afternoon. Enjoy your weekend everyone.

**Jesus, be my path. As I continue my journey through Lent, help me to walk in your way. Be my guide as I GIVE to others. Be my strength as I ACT by making good choices. Be my friend as I PRAY and get to know you more. Amen**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to Year 3 (Yousafzai) for having 100% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 97.8% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

#### **PTA Development**

This week you will have received a letter informing you about our plans to develop a School Parent, Teacher Association. Please complete the expression of interest questionnaire found here: - <https://forms.office.com/e/ZpHziusU5k>

#### **Pioneer Cadets**

As part of the Pioneer Cadets award, cadets are required to undertake an activity of service that benefits others. Cadets painted and added plants to the benches that are used by students during break and lunchtimes.



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

Retelling the story of 'The Three Billy Goats' using story books and puppets has been one of our favourite activities of this week! We have been joining in with the speech in the story and particularly enjoyed putting on bellowing voices for the troll's parts- "who is that trip trapping on my bridge?!" In our construction area, we have also investigated how to make bridges for the troll to hide underneath and the goats to cross over. Next week we will be reimagining our own versions of The Three Billy Goats, choosing our own monsters to write about under the bridge!



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

In English this week, Year One have completed their reports from the interview they had with the dancers last week. The Year 1 team are so proud of the amazing work they have produced! In Maths this week we have continued to look at making and breaking numbers up to 50 and have been blown away with the children's understanding of tens and ones. As it is Science week, they have all spent time learning about the length of time it takes for an apple tree to grow and then they have tried some different apples to see if there is any difference and discussed the experience using their senses!

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

This week we have had great fun developing our programming skills using Scratch Jr. We used complex algorithms to create animated versions of the 3 Little Pigs. Within this we used the microphone 'block' to add voices to our characters! We then began looking at the importance of internet safety and differentiating between what is safe to share online and what is not.

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

This week in year 3 we have celebrated British Science Week by taking part in a couple of activities related to this year's theme of time. The activities included testing our reaction times and finding out the length of day and year of the other planets within our solar system. In guided reading we have continued reading the pebble in my pocket and are learning lots about the pebble's journey, currently within the book it is 300 million years ago. In maths we have started learning about grams and kilograms, we have been reading scales and working out equivalent masses. In writing we have enjoyed writing our own version of the magic box and sharing these with the class.

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

This week in Science, Year 4 finished their unit about volume, by completing a class practical activity, where we looked at the effect distance has on volume. We collectively predicted that the further away we are from a sound source the quieter it will be, which our results supported. The practical activity involved using a decibel metre (dB) reader app on an iPad, to measure the volume produced by a sound source at set distances, ranging from 0–8m away.

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

This week has been full of exciting learning adventures! In our English lessons, we have been busy mastering the use of transition adverbs to make our writing flow smoothly and express our ideas clearly. It has been amazing to see how these little words can help connect our thoughts and create cohesive stories. Additionally, we dove into the world of science during Science Week! Our curious minds explored the fascinating realm of pendulums, learning how they swing and what makes them tick. It has been a week of discovery and growth, and we cannot wait to see what next week has in store for us!

**Year 6 Learning (Pankhurst)**

In English, we began looking at non-chronological reports and the children have looked through a range of examples, identifying key features such as subheadings, parenthesis, and technical vocabulary. We have also deconstructed sentences by looking at subjects and verbs and how we can move these around the sentences to change between passive and active.

**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**

25-3-2024	5.00pm – KS2 (Key Stage 2) SATS Meeting (Year 6 Parents only)
27-3-2024	Stations Liturgy
28-3-2024	1.30pm Last Day