



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter Volume 12– Friday 29th November 2024 First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

What another busy week in school we have had! The Nativity performances are coming together brilliantly, and children are getting increasingly excited to be able to perform this to you. Our Year 5 and 6 children have been thinking very scientifically this week and have completed some great science experiments. Mrs Lopez, Miss Spaven, and I have had the pleasure of spending some time in Reading lessons this week and we have been really impressed with the levels of concentration and the detailed answers we saw. Next week brings the start of the season of Advent and with it, as a school, we will be preparing for the birth of Jesus. I hope you can join us for as many of our school events as possible over the coming weeks. Have a great weekend everyone.

**Loving God, you sent your Son Jesus into the world to show us how to live. Help us to be ready when he comes.
Help us to make all visitors feel welcome and cared for. Amen**

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 3 (Frank) for having 98.7% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 95.8%. Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Sport Update

Our development Year 6 boys team attended a tournament at Jack Hunt secondary school on Thursday and played well in the 3 games they played. They narrowly lost the games but competed well and represented our school extremely proudly.

Thursday also saw the first competitive game for our Year 5 and 6 girls football team. We were visited by Fourfields school who have had a team for quite some time. It was great that the girls had the chance to play another team and, despite early nerves, played some good football. Having lost 5-1, we know we have to work on a few things on the training field, however, the girls had a fantastic team ethic and enjoyed themselves. As a brand new school, we are really competing well in our sporting endeavours!



Reverse Advent Calendar 2024

Each morning, starting on Monday 2nd December 2024, there will be an empty plastic box at the school gate, which if you are able to make a few small donations during Advent, they will be used once again to support the “Trussell Trust – Stop UK Hunger”. Suggested food items are shown below. All our food donations will then be taken to our local Peterborough Food Bank.

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|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Tea | Hot chocolate | Long life fruit Juice | UHT Milk |
| Tinned Meat | Instant Mash | Pasta Sauces | Tinned Fruit |
| Tinned Fish | Rice Pudding | Tinned Tomatoes | Tinned Soup |
| Tinned Beans | Pasta | Rice | Chocolate |

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week we have continued our learning on 'The Little Red Hen' by retelling the story, writing speech bubbles as characters, and instructions for making bread. We then made our very own bread rolls just like the Little Red Hen! In Maths we have continued our learning about the numbers 4 and 5 and have been focusing on 1 more and 1 less. We enjoyed singing Five Little Speckled Frogs! We have had many opportunities in the provision to further our learning, including making our very own Little Red Hens by using our cutting skills.



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week we continued practicing our nativity and were so excited to see and use the stage in the hall. In Maths, we have been amazed by how well everyone can tell us all about 3D and 2D shapes. They have enjoyed creating mathematical artwork to show how much they know about the topic. It has been great to hear that they understand the differences between 2D and 3D shapes.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

This week in Year 2, we have introduced the new History unit about how schools were different in the past. They have been looking at old photographs of schools and learning about what it was like and are really excited for the Victorian school day we have planned for next week. The children have completed learning about our classroom namesakes, John Lennon and Lewis Hamilton, and have shown what they have learned by writing biographies. In Maths, the children have completed their addition and subtraction unit of learning and will be starting their learning about 2D and 3D shapes next week. We had lots of fun in PE this week, playing a game of fitness bingo. The children had a bingo card with different exercises and had to complete the exercises to be able to cross them off their card.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

Dodging the rain and wind, in Year 3 we practised more football skills in Monday's PE and had a chance to shoot goals after dribbling the ball into the box! In English we have started a new guided reading book called 'The Stone Age Boy' and predicted what we thought it was about from the front cover, blurb and book reviews. We then went on to look at the Stone Age to help understand the book a little better. Alongside the study of the Stone Age, we have begun a unit of Art called Prehistoric Painting and we began this week drawing animals both in pencil and scaling them up in charcoal. They certainly look impressive displayed on our windows in the classrooms! Multiplying and dividing by 2, 4 and 8 has been the focus in Maths this week and we have been using this knowledge to solve some challenging word problems.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

Year 4 have now completed their computing unit about online safety and have moved on to History – How have children's lives changed? The first 2 lessons saw the classes looking at what sources tell us about how children's lives have changed and why did Tudor children work and what was it like? In English writing, they have started to publish their finished newspaper reports linked to The Firework Maker's Daughter, the book we read last term as a class. It has been a very busy week, with both classes completing their Autumn end of term assessments. They have all worked really hard and should be proud of their efforts.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week in English, we explored the play scripts of 'A Christmas Carol', focusing on how dialogue and stage directions bring the story to life. In Maths, we practiced adding fractions within 1, developing our skills in finding common denominators and combining parts of a whole. Art took us into the world of retrofuturism, where we learned about its unique style and created our own space-inspired artwork. Finally, in Geography, we compared life in the Alps to our local area, examining differences in climate, activities, and daily living. It's been a fun and creative week of learning!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

This week saw the end of our History unit in Year 6, where the children were able to make comparisons between two census' and use the information provided to help build a story about a person's life. We have been really impressed with the engagement and enthusiasm in this unit of learning! In English writing we have planned and drafted our Explanation text; really focusing on embedding key skills such as adverbials to develop cohesion and bullet points to list facts or information. Maths this week has been focused on finding percentages of amounts – something many of us have found tricky!

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 (both classes)

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/F8PAcyHBkfB754dth6Ap61>

Y1 Armstrong

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DugarZYurh810e95pGd48y>

Y1 Chanel

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EckDaF74QvmDdumYb1gi3z>

Y2 (both classes)

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

Y3 Frank

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BdglqY4TFPaH0Xg4jEOoq2>

Y3 Pankhurst

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DZNgjpNrlI6GagkE1qGLQS>

Y4 Mr. Gandhi

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ICRpp2BldtMD8PXKKyiq51>

Y4 Yousafzai

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BnKc8HdbA1VFPrt9t7E7vZ>

Y5 Marie Curie

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

Y5 Hawking

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DISHbH2oNwAD7p6bLgfQBb>

Autumn Term 2024

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|-------------|---|
| 2-12-2024 | Reverse Advent Calendar Starts |
| 4-12-2024 | 4.30pm Advent Service |
| 5-12-2024 | 6.00pm Peterborough Schools Carol Service |
| 10-12-2024 | 2.00pm Nativity Reception |
| 11-12-2024 | 2.00pm Nativity Reception |
| 12-12-2024` | 2.00pm Year 1 Nativity |
| 13-12-2024 | 2.00pm Year 1 Nativity |
| 19-12-2024 | Christmas Jumpers |
| 19-12-2024 | Christmas Lunch |
| 20-12-2024 | 1.30pm Last Day |