



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Volume 13 – Friday 6th December 2024 Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

We have had a wonderful week in school this week with the start of Advent. We held a joint Advent and Carol Service on Wednesday, which was a beautiful service attended by many families. We also joined together with the other Peterborough Catholic School to have a joint schools Advent Carol Service. The choir represented the school brilliantly and it was an incredibly special moment for everyone who attended. Finally, this week has also seen all our classes begin their daily Advent Reflections. These have been carried out in a very prayerful and reflective manner and has led to all the children sharing how they are preparing during this Advent Season.

**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.

Nativity Ticket Booking

Thank you for taking the time to book your seats for your child's upcoming Nativity Performance. I am pleased to confirm that we have been able to accommodate *all* seating requests, and you will be able to attend your child's Nativity performance on your selected day.

Please note that we will not be issuing physical tickets as we are aiming to reduce the amount of paper/card used in school.

Advent Service and Join Catholic School Carol Service

On Wednesday evening we marked the first week of Advent by leading an Advent and Carol Service for our school community. Our children and choir led a beautiful service consisting of prayers, readings, reflections and hymns. Then next evening we joined together with the three other Catholic Schools in the city for a shared Carol Service. Our choir did a brilliant job with their Hymn and in leading other carols. Thank you to Mrs McEvoy for leading the children in this event.



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.

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 started our learning on The Gingerbread Man. We have read the story and joined in with the words that the gingerbread says in the story. We have looked at key vocabulary and sequenced pictures from this story. In maths we have continued our learning of numbers 1 to 5, we have played different games to show how we can make the number 5 using 2 numbers for example 1 bean bag lands in the hoop and 4 bean bags land outside the hoop. In provision we have had the chance to print with gingerbread cutters, weave thread around a gingerbread, use tweezers to place buttons on the gingerbread and retell the story of the gingerbread using finger puppets. We have all been in our costumes in preparation for our Nativity performances next week and we cannot wait to share this with you.



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

We have had a good week rehearsing for our Nativity performance which is on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th November. We do hope to see you there! The children have been working hard to learn the songs and their lines as well as knowing when to come on and off the stage. We hope you enjoy it. In maths, we have made repeating shape patterns which has been lots of fun. We are good at the different shape names now. We have started a new book called 'Martha Maps It Out' and have been remembering what a map is and when we might use one.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)



This week in Year 2 has been very exciting! On Tuesday, the children and staff came to school dressed in Victorian-style clothing for our Victorian school day. The children took part in some learning activities similar to those that the Victorian children would have participated in, including arithmetic, handwriting, singing and sewing (for the girls) and drill and construction (for the boys). We had some very special visitors in during the afternoon to tell us what it was like when they went to school as children.



Also in year 2, we have started new units of learning in Maths and English. In Maths we are learning about 2D and 3D shapes and have been looking at shapes, naming them and counting sides and vertices. In English we have been reading a non-fiction text about Meerkats and retrieving information from the text to answer questions. In our writing lessons we have started to learn how to write a formal letter so that we can thank our special visitors for coming into school to talk to us.

Year 3 Learning.(Frank and Pankhurst)

What a week in Year 3! We have been spending our time in the Stone Age where we are writing diary entries based on the story we have been reading. We have been looking at writing in past tense and using emotive language to show how the character is feeling. We have been studying the Stone Age in History and we looked at a timeline and how it shows us relevant dates over thousands of years. We found where the 3 parts to the Stone Age fitted in a prehistoric timeline. We then looked at a place in Scotland called Skara Brae and looked at the remains of a Stone Age village. We were lucky because Mrs Jordan provided us with photos of her trip there and we were able to see lots of parts of the village and discover what they were like thousands of years ago. Science also was based in past years, as we looked at fossils and how they're formed. We found out there are plant and animal fossils and we decided to create our own fossils in the classroom.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

Year 4 were very excited this week, to go on the music trip to The New Theatre in Peterborough. On Wednesday afternoon, the children were treated to a performance by the Peterborough Youth Orchestra. They played some festive songs and well-known theme music from popular films, followed by a screening of The Snowman and The Snow Dog, with a live performance of the short film's soundtrack by the orchestra themselves. It was brilliant for the children to experience such an event, and they were thrilled to be a part of it.



Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week in Year 5, we've been busy with a mix of creativity and hard work! In English, we've been writing playscripts and bringing them to life by acting them out. It's also been Assessment Week, and everyone has been working hard, particularly on their Maths assessments. In Geography, we've been creating informative leaflets about the Alps to showcase our knowledge of this fascinating topic. Meanwhile, in Art, we've been continuing to develop our final futuristic pieces, incorporating our collagraphy backgrounds to create unique and imaginative designs. It's been a week full of effort and creativity!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

Another busy week for Year 6 this week! In Writing we have edited and written out our explanation texts, where both classes have done an excellent job in putting their best effort into what they have written – we have already read some superb pieces of work! In Reading, we explored the life of Frida Kahlo – learning about the meaning of surrealism and commissions. It is safe to say that our retrieval skills are improving across the year and the children are generally becoming very quick in extracting information from the text. Within our computing unit, we have looked into how we can stay safe online and how we can 'Take Control' and what we engage in when using devices.

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/DLSHbH2oNwAD7p6bLgfQBb>

Autumn Term 2024

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