



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

## Volume 14– Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

It has been a lovely week in school this week! Our children have been putting the finishing touches to several Advent theme learning including their Christmas cards. We have also welcome a new member of staff; Mrs O’Shea (Pastoral) I am sure you will see lots of her around the school over the coming months. Finally, Reception and Key Stage 1 shared their Nativity performances. The children did amazingly well and made everyone feel enormously proud. Have a good weekend and we look forward to seeing you for the final week before we break for Christmas.

**Christ Jesus, as Christmas approaches, we look forward joyfully to your coming. Help us to prepare and be ready when you come. Amen**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to Year 1 (Chanel) for having 100% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 95.7% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

#### **Nativities**

Our Reception and Year 1 classes brought the true spirit of Christmas to life with their wonderful Nativity performances. The children worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, songs, and actions, and their enthusiasm shone brightly on stage. Parents and staff were delighted by their confidence and heartwarming storytelling, which reminded everyone of the joy and meaning of the festive season. Thank you to the staff for their dedication and to families for their support. It was a truly magical celebration for all!

#### **Reverse Advent Calendar 2024**

Each morning, starting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)**

Wow, what a busy week we have had in reception! As you know, the children performed their nativity, and they were amazing! In Literacy this week we have continued our learning about the gingerbread man. We have thought about what he says as he is running away and written speech bubbles for him. We have been learning all about 4-sided shapes in Maths and what is the same/ different about squares and rectangles. Then, we went on a hunt around our classrooms with our special shape spotters to see what examples we could find of them both. In computing we have been learning all about keyboards. We were very interested in how they work and had fun looking at how to spell words on the keys. We have also been visiting our school library in small groups on a Friday and have really enjoyed looking at different types of books.



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

This week in Year 1 we enjoyed doing lots of science. We have been on a material hunt around the class, it was brilliant to hear all the questions they were asking about what they found. We have investigated how ice melts and what floats and doesn't – lots of fun had by all. Finally, the whole of the Year 1 team is so proud of how well all the children did in their Nativity performances. They were all brilliant and we could not be any more impressed! All their hard work was seen by all. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help in getting the children ready for their performances.

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

Following our successful Victorian school day last week, we have finished our history unit by stating whether we would prefer to go to school today or in the past. There were mixed results with some children preferring to go to school in the 1900's, being in larger classes with children of all ages, writing on slate and going to the toilet in an outhouse. We have learned how to use exclamation marks in our writing, to show our emotions and have prepared to write a formal letter. In Maths we have continued learning about 2D and 3D shapes where the children have been drawing 2D shapes and learning about lines of symmetry.

### **Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)**

A sporty week in Year 3 meant we had our football tournament on Monday. We split up into teams and played each other. The focus was on teamwork and using our new dribbling, passing and shooting skills. There were certificates for those who showed these skills and positive attitude to the games. In English, we have finished our diary entry and used all of the features of diary writing to show off what great writers we are becoming. We are coming to the end of our book 'The Stone Age Boy' and we have learned lots about life so many thousands of years ago. We have also used this knowledge in our history work, where we looked at artefacts of an ancient archer. We had to work out what the artefacts were and how they were used with what we know from that time in history – we were time detectives!



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

This week we have been completing our English writing tasks, looking at creating a non-chronological report about a Roman God of our choice. The 3 that have been chosen are: Mars, Venus & Jupiter. In Maths we have been consolidating our learning on particular areas that we have been struggling with as a class. These are place value, rounding and estimation. It has been really nice to see all students making some good progress in these areas. In Science we have continued learning about states matter and the names given for each state change – freezing, melting, condensation & evaporation.

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

This week has been full of exciting learning! We began writing our fantastic playscripts for 'A Christmas Carol', bringing the classic story to life with creativity and flair. In Art, we explored futuristic themes using various materials to craft imaginative pieces. Science took us on a journey through space, examining the Earth and our place in the solar system. And finally, we kicked off preparations for our bridges DT project, laying the groundwork for some innovative designs.

### **Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)**

In Maths this week, we have reviewed previous learning of shape. The children have shown an excellent understanding of a variety of 2D polygons such as quadrilaterals and triangles and are able to discuss the properties of each. In Computing, we reflected on having a positive online presence and the importance of this. We discussed a range of ways that we can promote a positive online presence to help ourselves and the feelings of others, such as only posting positive comments and sharing our skills with others. This week also marked the final swimming lesson for Year 6 and we were able to have fun with our friends in the pool!



### **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/Hm7ypIjTYp8B0LmNoYaRQf>

Y5 Hawking

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

### **Autumn Term 2024**

17-12-2024	10.00 Choir Visit to Serpentine Green
19-12-2024	Christmas Jumpers
19-12-2024	Christmas Lunch
20-12-2024	1.30pm Last Day