



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 16– Friday 10th January 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

We hope you had a joyful and restful Christmas break! It's wonderful to see all the children return to school full of energy and excitement for the new term. This week, we've focused on settling back into routines and starting the term in a calm and purposeful manner. In collective worship, we reflected on the Epiphany, considering how we can be a light for others in 2025. It's been heartwarming to see the children embrace these messages with enthusiasm and kindness.

We're looking forward to a fantastic term ahead filled with learning, growth, and fun! Have a great weekend everyone.

Jesus, as You led the Three Kings to You by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to You by the light of Faith.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 5 (Hawking), Year 4 (Gandhi), Year 4 (Yousafzai) and Year 1 (Armstrong) for all having 100% attendance this week – WOW!!! Our overall school attendance this week was 97.6% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

The Reception children have come back to school ready to learn, which is fantastic! In RE, we have been learning all about the Wise Men's journey to visit baby Jesus when he was born - they travelled a very long way! We have started our literacy unit all about Penguins, Antarctica and Winter and have been learning key vocabulary to help us. Our Maths focus has been exploring the number zero and understanding what it means when there are zero of something. We have also been creating firework pictures in ART to celebrate the New Year and learning all about mouse control in Computing. In the provision, we have practiced our typing skills on keyboards in our classroom!



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

We've had a busy first week of the new year. In Reading, we've started reading Quentin Blake's book Mrs Armitage on wheels. We absolutely enjoyed this book, especially when we were able to create our own bikes and what we would put on them. There were some excellent suggestions! This week at DT, we got to make our own smoothies! We all had a try at slicing strawberries, mashing bananas, and pouring apple juice to make some wonderful smoothies.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

We are very proud of how the children have returned to school ready to learn. We have started a new unit of maths – money – so have been looking at coins and notes and recapping their values. In our writing lessons, we have been looking at what an adventure is and the features of an adventure story in preparation for writing our own adventure stories in the coming weeks. We have started to read The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig in our reading lessons, making predictions about what will happen, and retrieving information from the text to answer questions. In Science, we are starting to look at plants and what they need to grow. In Computing, we are learning about coding to create an animation.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

Year 3 have come back to school after the Christmas break with lots of enthusiasm and drive which has been so pleasing to see. In English we have started a new book called The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. It is quite an adventure story and we have been gripped, even though we have only read one chapter! We are hoping to write our own adventure story in the coming weeks and create an Iron Man of our own. Division has been the focus in Maths and we have divided whole numbers leaving some answers with remainders. We learned lots of greetings in Spanish and used them to greet each other. Science has been interesting, as we are exploring different types of soils and why soil is so vitally important to life on Earth. In PE we are learning how to play handball and we focused on throwing and catching this week. Hopefully we will keep our enthusiasm high over the Spring term!

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

The New Year has begun with a very busy first week back to school, with students returning straight into lessons covering lots of new learning for the term. In maths, we are continuing to further develop our multiplication and division knowledge, with a particular focus on factors and factor pairs, before moving on to multiplying by 10 and 100. In science, we have been learning about how to use equipment in preparation for our science melting experiment next week. DT has seen us begin to design the bodies for the slingshot cars, based on our car design templates. In PE, we will begin looking at fitness. The class have returned with lots of energy, enthusiasm and importantly 100% attendance this week, which we will hopefully maintain throughout the Spring Term. Wishing you all a Happy New Year for 2025!

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

In Year 5, we've been working hard across all subjects! In maths, we are learning long multiplication using the area model and formal methods to solve 2-digit by 2-digit problems. In writing, we've been exploring non-chronological reports, focusing on using colons in lists and parenthesis to add extra detail. In reading, we're enjoying Black Beauty, developing our understanding of its historical context and Victorian life. In art, we are creating self-portraits using a variety of techniques, with some fantastic results already taking shape. It's been a great start to the term!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

This week has brought us a week of new units in Year 6! In Maths we have began exploring decimal numbers in more depth, comparing, ordering, multiplying and dividing. In English writing, we have started looking at 3rd person narratives – using Beowulf as a stimulus. The children have used some fantastic vocabulary to help them describe Grendel, such as bloody-thirst and terror-stricken. In reading, we have begun to dissect SATS style questions to help us better understand what we are being asked to do.



Spring Term 2025

3-2-2025

Mock SATs week (Year 6)

Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

4-3-2025

Parent Meetings

5-3-2024

Ash Wednesday

5-3-2025

Parent Meetings

6-3-2025

World Book Day

2-4-2025

Stations Liturgy

4-4-2025

1.30pm Last Day