



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 18 – Friday 24th January 2025
3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

This week seems to have gone by in a flash, with exciting activities and learning at St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School. Our Year 5 children are showing fantastic progress and resilience with their swimming lessons. Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a special visit from our local police officers, learning about safety and the important work they do in our community. Key Stage 2 had the pleasure of attending an inspiring assembly led by Peterborough United. The team shared valuable lessons about teamwork, perseverance, and healthy living. Across the school, Miss Spaven and I have visited several reading lessons. It has been great to see the children immersing themselves in wonderful stories and developing a love for books. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Lord, open our hearts to Your Word, that we may share Your love and hope with all. Help us to walk in Your light and serve others with joy. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 4 (Gandhi) for having 100% attendance this week. That is their THIRD WEEK IN A ROW! Our overall school attendance this week was 96.7% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

What an exciting week we've had in reception! We had a visit from the Police on Monday who told us all about their role in keeping us safe. We got to try on their police hat, look at their kit and very excitingly, see their police car! We couldn't believe how loud the sirens were! In literacy, we have focused on Peace at Last and explored the different noises keeping Mr Bear awake. We have been writing speech bubbles as him to show our understanding. One of our focuses in maths has been conceptual subitising which is learning about how numbers are made up of smaller numbers. We have also been exploring mass with balance scales demonstrating our understanding of which item is the heaviest and which is the lightest.



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel) What an amazing week! On Monday, we had the police visit us and help us answer some great questions we had planned last week. The police officers showed us their car and set off the lights and siren, which we all loved. They then came into each class to tell us what they do and how they help people, and they also kindly answered the questions we had written. They showed us what they wore, and they even put the handcuffs on Miss Stokes! She was arrested because she didn't listen. However, the question we all liked the answer to was: the police love doughnuts and coffee!



Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

This week in Year 2 we are continuing to closely observe our bean seeds for growth for our science unit. Lennon class's seeds are well on their way to have a stalk, whereas Hamilton's class's beans are just starting to shoot. In Maths we completed our money unit of learning where the children have been calculating change and working out two-step problems and have started to learn about multiplication and division. In our English lessons we have written our own adventure story using all the grammatical features we have learned so far in Year 2. We continue to read *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig*, and have been answering retrieval, inference and vocabulary questions about the story. In Art, we have been exploring textures and have had great fun recreating these textures with paint. If you have any loose change or notes in your pockets, please ask your child to count it to show you their knowledge of money.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

It has been a week of construction in Year 3 as we have been building castles. After some designing, we have used lots of skills to create a scale model of a castle of our choice. We managed to bring in lots of boxes and we have used them in a variety of ways to replicate castle buildings – inside and out! The classroom has been very messy; however, we managed to make some excellent constructions! In Reading, we have continued to enjoy the next chapters of the Iron Man and have enjoyed hearing about his adventures. Our reading corner has had some additions which has helped us with our independent reading this week. Whilst in writing, we have been creating noun phrases to help us with description in our sentences. Maths has seen us comparing, adding and subtraction lengths. We have become more familiar with millimetres, centimetres and metres. We are going on to solve lots of challenging problems involving length.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

The start of this week saw both classes complete their Spanish unit – Journey Around Latin America. We ended with a multiple choice Kahoot quiz, where students had to try to translate some key English vocabulary that we had been learning or vice versa. As a challenge, some questions involved the students listening to an audio recording and then translating the sentence, before selecting an answer. They all put lots of effort into this and really seemed to enjoy it. In writing, we have continued learning about and developing our knowledge of different literary features in preparation for our writing piece about the ending of the short animation – Ruin. Maths has seen the class continue to develop their knowledge of multiplication and some more challenging division calculations. In science, we have almost finished the States of Matter topic. It has been clear to see students' knowledge of the different states and names given for the state change processes, improve throughout the topic. There have been some really deep and insightful comments or questions from students, in particular this week, which has been great to see!

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week in Year 5, we've been sharpening our Maths skills by learning and consolidating the formal methods of multiplication and division. We've also been exploring other efficient strategies, such as using factors and partitioning, to enhance our problem-solving abilities. In reading, we've continued our work on *Black Beauty*, focusing on Ginger's upbringing and reflecting on how her experiences may have influenced her behaviour towards humans. This has led to some thoughtful discussions about empathy and understanding. Last week, we enjoyed an exciting visit to Imperial War Museum Duxford to consolidate our history learning. The trip was a fantastic opportunity to bring our lessons to life and the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the exhibits. It was a valuable and memorable day for everyone!



Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

In Year 6 this week, we have reviewed our knowledge of time by converting between analogue and digital clocks, as well as between 24-hour and 12-hour clocks. We then extended this by looking at timetables to find out how long things take or what time we need to be at a bus stop. Although this has proven difficult, we have seen some great progress! In Specialisms, we have started our Spanish unit, where we have been describing family members using phrases such as "*tiene ojos azules*" and "*tiene el pelo castaño.*" In writing, we have completed our third-person suspenseful narrative, and we now have a lot of children excited that we can continue reading *Beowulf*!

| Spring Term 2025 | |
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| 31-1-2025 | 12.00pm Year 6 Parent Lunch |
| 3-2-2025 | Mock SATs week (Year 6) |
| Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February | |
| 28-2-2025 | 12.00pm Year 5 Parent Lunch |
| 4-3-2025 | Parent Meetings |
| 5-3-2025 | Ash Wednesday |
| 5-3-2025 | Parent Meetings |
| 6-3-2025 | World Book Day |
| 21-3-2025 | 12.00pm Year 4 Parent Lunch |
| 2-4-2025 | Stations Liturgy |
| 4-4-2025 | 1.30pm Last Day |