



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 20 – Friday 7th February 2025

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

This week has been a very busy and exciting one at St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School! Our Year 6 pupils have shown great determination and perseverance during their Mock SATs week. Well done to all of them for their hard work and positive attitudes! Meanwhile, Year 2 had a fantastic trip to Sacrewell Farm, where they enjoyed meeting the animals and learning about life on the farm. In sports, Year 5 and 6 have been training for their NFL Flag competition next week. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and effort! Finally, Miss Spaven and I have been visiting classes across the school to explore our RE learning. They have been delighted to see the deep thinking and spiritual reflections taking place in all year groups. Have a great weekend everyone.

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow You and share Your light with the world. Help us to trust in Your plan, work together in faith, and always share Your love with others. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 6 (Biles) for having 100% attendance this week. Our overall school attendance this week was 94.1% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

DfE Primary School Breakfast Club Scheme

This week you will have received information about the DfE Primary School Breakfast Club Scheme. **Please complete the short questionnaire found in the original information or using the link below.** Your feedback is invaluable in helping us explore how we can make this DfE Scheme work effectively for the school community.

<https://forms.office.com/e/fDah4Y1K64>

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

For Children's Mental Health Week, we learnt about mental health: what this phrase means, how we can look after our mental health and how everyone experiences different emotions each day. We have introduced the book 'We're Going on a Lion Hunt' and have been busy learning the story, creating story maps and sequencing events. Many of us could make links to 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' as we were already familiar with that story. In maths our focus has been on numbers 6, 7 and 8. We have been doing a range of things with these numbers including subitising, representing them and finding one more and less. Please ask us some questions at home!

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week in we have accomplished so many fantastic tasks. In the mornings as part of Children's mental health week, we have focused on how we can support each other by offering kind words. In DT, we have started to experiment with different mechanisms that move up and down and side to side, which is going to help the children to create their own moving story books, based on Humpty Dumpty. In reading we have started to read Dogs don't do ballet and in writing we wrote a letter. We imagined we were Duncan from the story the day the crayons quit and wrote to blue crayon about how we can make him happy. In maths we have been focusing on our number bonds to 20 and looking at doubles and near doubles.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

On Tuesday, Year 2 had a fabulous time at Sacrewell Farm. The children completed a plant hunt in the garden, looking for vegetables, fruits and herbs, and they all got to plant a pea seed to watch grow in the classroom alongside our beans. The children learned how grain was milled into flour; they were able to feel how soft and warm the flour was when it came from the miller. The children were taken into the Water Mill to look at the milling stones and water wheel. They had a go at turning a hand mill – this was very tricky! They were able to look around the farm and see all the animals, as well as having a turn in the Play Barn before we returned to school. The Year 2 team as very proud of the children for their impeccable behaviour during the visit.



Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week in maths we have been looking at fractions and we started by recognising different ways fractions are represented. We then went on to compare the fractions to see which were greater, equal to or less than each other. In English, we are building up to writing our 1st person narratives and we looked at how to include spoken words in our stories. Using inverted commas and coming up with great speech verbs will make sure we have excellent speech in our writing next week. Geography has been exploring the Amazon rainforest and this week we focused on the indigenous people and how their lives are affected by changes in their environment. Next week we are going on a field trip; Unfortunately, Mr Cooper said it was too expensive to fly to Brazil so we are going to do a local study near the school and compare the two places. In PE we have continued to do gymnastics and handball – it was quite challenging throwing the handballs in the wind outside but we are improving our accuracy all the time.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

Year 4 have completed the learning on Multiplication & Division and have now moved on to their new topic in maths – Length & Perimeter. In English writing we have been finishing off our writing pieces on the short, animated story called Ruin, with the students coming up with some brilliant endings. In reading we have continued to learn about the world of Narnia in the Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe which the class are really getting into and enjoying. We have now begun our new Science topic on Sound. Pupils have enjoyed learning about how sound is produced through vibrations and how it enters and is detected by the ear, including exploring specific parts of our ears.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This term, Year 5 have been developing their journalistic skills by planning newspaper articles. We have been working on using a formal register and experimenting with varied sentence structures to make our writing more engaging and informative. In maths, we have begun our learning on fractions and percentages, exploring how they are connected and how they appear in real-life contexts. Pupils have been developing their confidence in calculating and reasoning with these concepts. Our history lessons have taken us back to Tudor times as we investigated the six wives of Henry VIII. We explored the reasons behind his many marriages and the impact they had on England. The children have been particularly fascinated by the dramatic events surrounding each of his wives! It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we look forward to more exciting learning ahead!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

This week, Year 6 have put in their best effort as they completed their Mock SATs assessments, and it has been fantastic to see the results of their hard work. These assessments serve as a wonderful opportunity to see just how much they've absorbed from their lessons and to reflect on all the progress they've made in both Reading and Maths. Results will be shared in due course.

During the afternoons, Year 6 has had the opportunity to unwind and have some fun while engaging in meaningful activities for Children's Mental Health Week. They have also continued to make great strides in their Spanish learning. As part of their ongoing unit on describing the physical appearance of others, the children have been practicing how to use the language to describe people's looks in a variety of ways.

Spring Term 2025**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