



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 22 – Friday 28th February 2025

8th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)

What a wonderful week it has been in our school community! We have been delighted to welcome new children into our classes, and it has been heartwarming to see how kindly and warmly our pupils have embraced their new classmates. Their acts of kindness truly reflect the spirit of our school. On Tuesday, we gathered for a special CAFOD assembly to prepare for the season of Lent. The children reflected on the importance of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. They were encouraged to think about small sacrifices they can make to help others in need. Our Year 3 and Year 5 classes lead Mass this week, celebrating together in faith and prayer. The children participated reverently, listening attentively to the Gospel. It was a lovely opportunity for them to deepen their understanding of the liturgy. A reminder that parents' meetings will take place next week – we look forward to discussing your child's progress with you. Have a great weekend everyone.

Lord, help us to trust in You and to live with hearts full of love and kindness. May our words and actions reflect Your goodness. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

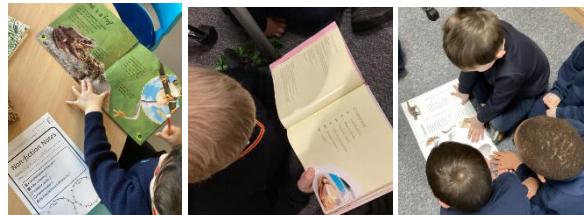
Well done to Year 3 (Frank) for having 100% attendance this week – WELL DONE! Our whole school attendance this week was a much improved 96.4% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March.

Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day as a whole school! Children should attend in their normal school uniform and bring along their "book in a box" creations (see letter sent out on Friday 14th February). If any parents would like to come in from 2.30pm to read a book in your home language, please complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/zBnsvadh5a> Thank you in advance for your efforts with this!!

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week, we explored the fascinating world of plants! We have been investigating them by using microscopes to identify the features and differences between types of plants. We have also been introduced non-fiction books and have been finding the contents page to help us search for information. We have been enjoying reading *Jasper's Beanstalk*, a delightful story that brings the planting process to life. This will continue to help our learning next week when we plant our own beans! We enjoyed an exciting visit to the school library, where we explored a variety of non-fiction books about a range of topics.



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week, we have been very busy! We have started to look at Babette Cole's brilliant book *Prince Cinders*. This book is so funny, and they all love the modern twist on a classic fairytale. In Maths, we were starting to look at numbers up to 50 and how to make them, the children wowed us with their work. Finally, in Art, we all had lots of fun exploring secondary colours and how to make them into different hues of green. There are lots of fantastic artists in the year!

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

It was great to welcome the children back into school on Monday! This week in Maths, we have finished our learning on multiplication and division. The children have completed a short quiz on Kahoot to check their knowledge which they enjoy and showed some good results. We have also completed our history unit where they have answered the question – How did we learn to fly? They have enjoyed learning about the Wright Brothers, Bessie Coleman and Amelia Earhart. We have started a new maths unit which focusses on measuring length and height. The children have been measuring objects in the classroom and recording their results in centimetres and metres. In PE, we have started our Fitness unit, and we completed lots of exercises this week; we will be building up our fitness as the term progresses.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week in English we have begun a new book! Mary Poppins written by EL Travers is a classic and is packed full of adventures and fun. We began reading the first chapters and already Mary Poppins is proving to be entertaining and engaging. We are going to be writing letters based within Mary Poppins and we will continue to keep our sentences varied and well punctuated. We are still focused on fractions in Maths this week and we used fraction walls to find lots of equivalent fractions which we displayed on posters. Romans are the focus in History this week and we tried to be 'St John Henry Newman historians' and used historical sources to explore Roman life. PE was exhausting this week as we dribbled basketballs in teams and focused on controlling the ball despite twisting between cones and coping with the windy!

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

Both classes have returned from the half term break refreshed, with great energy and enthusiasm, which has been brilliant to see. This week has been a finishing off week, which has seen us planning, drafting and publishing our explanation text writing pieces, linked to some form of a robot or invention idea, building on previous learning. The children have come up with some really good problems at home, school or in wider life, which can be fixed or supported by their wonderful and creative inventions. In Maths, we have also been completing our Length & Perimeter Kahoot Test. Students demonstrated great understanding and knowledge of shapes and on perimeter of polygons earlier in the week, with students attempting some problem-solving based questions in a lesson specifically designed to really stretch and challenge. The children showed great perseverance and determination to keep at these, even if finding it rather tricky. The year group have also started a new specialisms topic called Power Prints in Art. This will see everyone learning different ways to produce artwork, by sketching, shading, rubbing charcoal, scratching and printing, to produce some different pictures. They are really enjoying this so far!

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

What a week! Year 5 have returned from their break ready to learn and get stuck into our half term! This week, we began our poetry unit in English, exploring various poem types and their distinctive features. We discussed what we enjoyed about poetry and dissected our chosen favourites. In Mathematics, we continued our work with decimals and fractions, focusing on strengthening our ability to compare these different number forms. Our science lessons investigated how materials have different properties that make them suitable for specific purposes, helping us understand why particular materials are chosen to make different objects.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

This week has been full of exciting learning across all subjects! In English, we began a new unit on formal speeches. We watched and analysed different examples, focusing on how modal verbs and adverbs of possibility can change the meaning and impact of a message. In Spanish, we continued developing our vocabulary by learning how to describe people. We practiced using singular and plural nouns and applied our knowledge by labelling portraits. Maths has challenged us to think logically as we explored ratio and algebra. We examined how numbers relate to each other in different formulas, helping us understand patterns and problem-solving strategies. Across all subjects, we have engaged in discussions, activities, and problem-solving tasks that have deepened our understanding. It has been a fantastic week of learning, and we are excited to build on our knowledge in the weeks ahead!

Spring Term 2025

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