



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 25 – Friday 21st March 2025

3rd Sunday of Lent (Year C)

As we continue our Lenten journey, each class has been taking part in Lenten reflections, considering how we can follow Jesus' example through prayer, kindness, and selflessness. The children have been thinking about small sacrifices they can make and ways to help others during this special season. This week, Year 1 and Year 6 gathered for a beautiful school Mass, where they reflected on the importance of faith and preparation for Easter. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to come together in worship and prayer. In Year 3, history came to life as the children designed and created their own Roman shields. They explored traditional Roman battle formations and had great fun learning about how the Romans used these shields in battle. Meanwhile, Year 4 have been investigating food miles in Geography, learning about where our food comes from and its impact on the environment. This has encouraged discussions on sustainability and how we can make more eco-friendly choices. Have a great weekend everyone.

Loving God, help us to be kind and generous, sharing our gifts with those in need. May our hearts be open to Your love as we prepare for Easter. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 6 (Biles) for having 100% attendance this week – WELL DONE! Our whole school attendance this week was a 95.01%. Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Big Lent Walk 2025

Last Friday, all the children at St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School took part in a BIG LENT Walk in support of CAFOD. With great enthusiasm, they walked together, reflecting on the journey of those who travel long distances for food, water, and safety. Through their efforts, the children embraced the spirit of Lent—showing compassion, generosity, and faith in action. Thank you for your support in making this meaningful event a success!



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

In Reception, we have been exploring the concept of time, including minutes, seconds, and days of the week. We have been practicing sequencing the days of the week and linking them to the events from Jasper's Beanstalk to reinforce our previous literacy learning. We have enjoyed using sand timers to see how many activities we can do within 1 minute – we have tried lots of things like claps and star jumps in this time.

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week Year 1 have been learning about length and height in Maths. We have enjoyed comparing lengths and heights and measuring length using our hands and cubes. In writing we have written our own colour poem explaining how different colours make us feel. In reading we have started to read poems from the book 'Please Mrs Butler'. We really enjoyed constructing a windmill within DT. In Science we have looked at how we care for the planet.



Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

In Year 2 this week, we have continued learning about personification and have been writing poems using colourful objects and giving them human qualities. In Maths, we have continued learning about Mass, Capacity and Volume. We had great fun using the scale to measure amounts of water and identifying which containers had the greatest capacity. In Geography, we have continued learning about our wonderful world by looking at ordinance survey maps and identifying human and physical features that are shown in our local area, and in science we have been learning about microhabitats.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

We have been editing and finishing our 'thank you letters in English this week and we had lots of things to thank Mary Poppins for within our letter. We used our planning sheets to set out our letter correctly and used specific paragraphs to make it more structured. Our letters really showed how much we have enjoyed the adventures of Mary Poppins. We have started to explore capacity in Maths this week and filled jugs up with water to find values using the scales on the containers to help us. We also solve some challenging problems that involved capacity. History led us out onto the battlefield (school field) and we created our own Roman shields to use in army formations. We marched and formed different defensive positions to help us understand how organised and successful the Roman was. We learned that many of their formations are still used today by the police and army. We also had fun attacking and defending each other too!



The Roman battle of St John Henry Newman!

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

We have been continuing to learn about fractions in Maths, with the lessons increasing in complexity. Most of the lessons centred around converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers, before starting to look at equivalent fractions on a number line. In English reading, we have begun to look at texts about Africa. In the last lesson we read a letter from a girl, telling us all about her country of Nigeria, from the culture, traditions and food to the landscape and wildlife. Writing has seen most of us starting, editing and completing our 'Pancake Day Race' recounts in preparation for producing our hot tasks. In Science, we have started our new electricity topic by first learning about common electrical appliances found in our houses and at school, which we use in our everyday lives. In Geography, we have come towards the end of our unit on 'Where does our food come from?'. At the start of the week, we were told the story of Theo the Cocoa Bean, from growing on a plant, to how he ended up in our chocolate bars. Students created their own storyboard showing Theo's journey, with some lovely pieces of work completed. Children also worked in pairs/small groups to explore where different food from around the world has come from, by investigating food packaging to find out the country that it was made, grown or produced in. Using their maps and atlases, then then calculated the approximate total food miles for each item to get from source to our plates.



Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week in Year 5, we have been developing our understanding of percentages, decimals and fractions, applying our knowledge in problem-solving challenges. In English, we have continued our narrative writing unit, focusing on crafting engaging setting descriptions. In Geography, we explored migration, discussing push and pull factors, while in science, we compared the lifecycles of birds and reptiles. In P.E., we put our shooting and defending skills to the test in competitive games, building teamwork and strategy. Well done Year 5, for another great week of learning!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

This week in Maths, we completed revision activities focusing on the four operations in arithmetic and reasoning contexts. We've made excellent progress, demonstrating a strong understanding and providing well-thought-out explanations. In writing, we began our next unit: non-chronological reports. We started by analysing example reports created by last year's Year 6 students, identifying key features. We then focused on editing and improving these pieces to enhance their quality even further.

Spring Term 2025

21-3-2025	12.00pm Year 4 Parent Lunch
2-4-2025	Stations Liturgy
4-4-2025	1.30pm Last Day