



**St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School**  
**Newsletter**  
**Volume 28 – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and joyful Easter break. It has been a pleasure to see the children return this week so full of energy and focus in their learning. Their enthusiasm and determination have set a wonderfully positive tone for the term ahead. As a school community, we have paused to remember and pray for Pope Francis, whose passing has touched us all. His legacy of compassion, humility, and love for the poor continues to inspire our mission as a Catholic school. We are pleased to have launched our new 30-minute free Breakfast Club, open to all children. It has already been a lovely way to start the day, with a warm welcome, a healthy meal, and calm preparation for learning. I would also like to express my heartfelt thanks for your kind messages following our recent Outstanding Ofsted report. Your support means so much to the staff and reflects the strength of our partnership. Have a great weekend everyone. Let us continue to walk in hope this Easter season.

**Risen Lord, In this second week of Easter, help us to recognise you in our daily lives. Fill us with peace and joy, and guide us in your light. Amen.**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

**Attendance**

Well done to Year 2 Lennon for having 100% attendance this week – WELL DONE! Our whole school attendance this week was a 96.4%. Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

**A Prayer for Pope Francis**

Eternal Father,  
We thank You for the life and service of Pope Francis,  
Your humble shepherd and faithful servant.  
Grant him rest in Your eternal peace,  
And welcome him into the joy of Your Kingdom.  
May his words, witness, and love for the poor  
Continue to inspire Your Church.  
Comfort all who mourn, and strengthen our hope  
In the resurrection and life everlasting.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



**Breakfast Club**

Our Breakfast Club will run daily throughout the entire Summer Term from 8.10am. Booking is now available via ParentMail (Iris). The booking process runs exactly the same as our school meals booking system and is located within the 'Account' section of your Parent Mail account. The booking window will close 2 days before the booking is due to take place. It is imperative that your pre-book to help us manage our preparations and provide an optimal experience for all participating children.

**Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)**

Reception have come back to school after the Easter break ready to learn which has been fantastic. In literacy, our learning is based on the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We have been orally rehearsing the story to ensure we are confident in retelling it and have even been innovating our own version. Our ideas included having three sheep, dogs, cats and cows and then a scary dragon, lion and snake! We are looking forward to writing our innovated stories next week. In Geography, we have used all of the different flowers, plants, grass and other natural things we collected to make nature catchers. We have been thinking about the texture, size and colour of the different natural resources.

### **Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)**

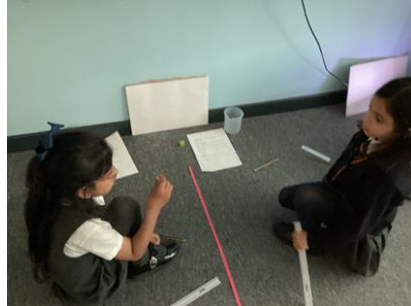
It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back for the final term of the year. In writing, we have focused on using and within sentences and looked at how -ing changes the meaning of words. In Reading, we have started exploring non-fiction texts about explorers from both the past and present. This ties in beautifully with our new History topic, which also focuses on explorers! In Maths, we have been counting in 2s, 10s and 5s. We have enjoyed counting forwards and backwards as well as finding missing numbers on a number track. We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about their journeys, how they travelled, and the incredible discoveries they made. In Science, we were excited to see how much our beans had grown over the Easter break. This week, we examined their structure and learned more about how plants grow. We're looking forward to applying this knowledge during our upcoming trip to Ferry Meadows next week.

### **Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)**

Year 2 have returned to school after the Easter break ready to learn. The children have started a new unit in maths, learning about fractions. So far we have looked at equal and unequal parts and we have been recognising half of an object. In our reading and history lessons, the children are learning about William the Conqueror and this will continue into a writing unit later in the term. In Science the children are learning about the differences between bulbs and seeds and will soon be planting bulbs and seeds to watch them grow, investigating whether they grow best in cooler or warmer temperatures.

### **Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)**

A short but busy week in Year 3. In reading, we have started a new book called '*Malala's Magic Pencil*' and we have started our study by learning about Malala Yousafzai's life. We had lots of great discussion about children's rights and the rights of other people around the world. In writing, we have started the Summer term by watching a short film called the *Dreamgiver*. The film will be the inspiration for some stories of our own using lots of description and super sentences. In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting fractions and we used pizzas to help us understand fractions in a fun and practical way – unfortunately they were paper pizzas! Ancient Egyptians are the topic area in our History this week and we looked at different artefacts from that time. We have continued our cricket unit in PE study and we played diamond cricket which proved to be lively and great fun! In Science, we planned and conducted a science experiment which investigated the length of shadows – we kept the lights in the classroom off and used torches to create shadows to measure.



**Measuring shadows in Year 3.**

### **Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)**

This week in Year 4, the pupils began with learning about playscripts in writing and adding drama and emphasis to their reading. The children have enjoyed thinking about different stage directions as well as developing their teamwork skills with different characterisation. In Maths, the children have been building on their knowledge of fractions and have been linking this to new learning on decimals. They have been enjoying the challenge of extending their learning and showing decimals in different ways. In Science, the children thoroughly enjoyed going on a school energy hunt and thinking about how we can improve our energy usage and become more eco-friendly with the different devices that we use.

### **Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)**

This week in Year 5, pupils began our new chemistry unit in science, exploring the concept of dissolving. We learned key vocabulary such as soluble, insoluble, and solution and carried out an investigation into how temperature affects the rate at which different substances dissolve. In Maths, we focused on statistics, learning how to draw, read, and interpret line graphs and tables. In English writing, we explored tone, purpose and audience in geographical reports as part of our explanation unit, laying the groundwork for our own report writing. In Spanish, we practised identifying conversational language by listening to Spanish conversations and using context—including tone of voice—to deduce new vocabulary. It was tricky, but by listening out for familiar words, we were able to understand the gist of what was being said. Another fantastic week, Year 5!

### **Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)**

In Science, we started our new Biology unit, focusing on the different aspects of the circulatory system. As part of this, we learned about the different types of blood vessels and the important roles they each play within the body. We also had great fun drawing labelled diagrams to help represent and explain how the circulatory system works. In Maths and English, we've been tackling a variety of fun and challenging revision activities to make sure we're feeling confident, prepared, and ready to shine in our Year 6 SATs!

<b>SUMMER TERM 2025</b>	
5-5-2025	Bank Holiday
12-5-2025	KS2 SATs Week
19-5-2024	KS1 SATs Week
22-5-2025	School Disco – Details to follow
23-5-2025	Friends Association Non-Uniform Day
<b>Half Term (26-5-2025 to 30-5-2025)</b>	
2-6-2025	Training Day
4-6-2025	5.00pm Welcome Meeting (New Reception)
9-6-2025	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Week
9-6-2025	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
12-6-2025	Year 6 Residential
13-6-2025	Year 6 Residential
18-6-2025	1.45 Stay and Play Session 1 (New Reception)
19-6-2025	9.30am Class Photos
24-6-2025	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 2a (New Reception)
25-6-2025	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 2b (New Reception)
27-6-2025	Sports Day (ALL DAY)
2-7-2025	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 3 (New Reception)
9-7-2025	2.00pm Year 6 Production
10-7-2025	5.30pm Year 6 Production
11-7-2025	Reports Out
12-7-2025	Friends Summer Fayre
15-7-2025	3.30pm Open Session for Reports
16-7-2025	Move Up Morning
17-7-2025	9.30am Yea r6 Leavers Mass
18-7-2025	Last Day (1.30pm Finish)