



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 2 – Friday 12th September 2025

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

It has been another positive and purposeful week at St John Henry Newman. Our Year 6 pupils have begun their swimming lessons with great determination. Whilst our Reception children are now attending full time and have settled beautifully into school life, showing growing confidence as they learn and play together. We're also extremely grateful to our parish community for the generous donation of 60 new Bibles, which will support the children in deepening their knowledge and love of God's Word. Across the school, it has been wonderful to see the children continuing their calm and focused return, working hard and supporting one another. I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Lord Jesus, You teach us to forgive as You forgive us. Help us to be kind, patient, and merciful in all we do this week. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 4 (Gandhi) and Year 4 (Yousafzai) **AGAIN** for having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a pleasing 97.1% Our school target this year is 97%, so let us keep working hard with our school attendance.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club runs daily from 8.10am. Booking is 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 4 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)

What an amazing week we've had being in school full-time! We have settled into school life very quickly and have been doing so much learning this week. In Literacy, we have been reading Elmer and learning new vocabulary linking to the story. We are getting good at remembering events from the story and next week we will be sequencing these. In Maths we have started our learning on matching, sorting and comparing. Our focus has been on matching and using the vocabulary 'match', 'same' and 'different' to help match objects and pictures. We have also been so busy within the wider curriculum too; we have had PE, Music, Science (learning about the human body) and Art (mark making with crayons) just to name a few lessons. We have also been busy getting to know our new friends in within reception! Well done on a wonderful first full week of learning!



Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week we have started our Maths learning on place value. We have been sorting objects and impressing our teachers with our counting. In Writing we have been learning the difference between common nouns and proper nouns. We know all proper nouns need to start with a capital letter. In guided reading we have predicted what we think our guided reading book will be about it; the name of the book is 'Coming to England.' In Science we drew and labelled parts of the body, we enjoyed singing head, shoulders, knees and toes and playing Simon says. We have started our Geography topic – Where in the world are we? It was great fun using google Earth and google maps to find different places in the world as well as where we go to school and live. Well done year 1 on your first full week of learning!

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

Year 2 have made a great start with their learning this week. In our Reading lessons, we are reading and learning about the text *When the Rain Comes* by Tom Pow. The children have learned some facts about Malawi where the story is based and have made predictions about what they think may happen in the story. In our Writing lessons, we have been learning to use the conjunctions 'and', 'but' and 'so' to make our sentences more complex, in preparation for the biography written task. We have started our science learning with a unit about Plants; we will be investigating whether plants need light to grow. The children enjoyed planting the seeds and we placed some pots on the windowsill and some in a dark cupboard, we await some shoots to appear. In our computing lessons we have been learning about online safety. The children demonstrated good knowledge of the types of information we can share and should not share online.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week we have been doing some exciting learning in Year 3! In Science we had a fantastic first lesson where we looked at the human skeleton and learnt the scientific name for the main bones that make up the body. In Geography to begin our learning we looked at the four different layers of the Earth and looked into tectonic plates and how earthquakes occur. In Maths we are reviewing our learning on place value and ensuring we can count in numbers up to 1000 thousand. In English writing we are looking at our class namesake Anne Frank and are starting to build up towards being able to write a biography on her; the children are very intrigued about life for Jewish people during WW2 and it's been lovely to see the compassion that they have.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

This week in Year 4, the children are exploring various subjects. In Writing, students are learning to write biographies, focusing on key features. They will soon write biographies about Malala Yousafzai and Mahatma Gandhi. In Maths, we are working on place value, helping students represent numbers up to 1,000 and break them down into hundreds, tens, and units. In History, the children are studying the lives of children during the Tudor and Victorian periods. They compare daily life aspects to understand how society has changed childhood. In P.E., we are developing balance through fun activities and team games, promoting coordination and teamwork. In Science, we are classifying living organisms, grouping animals into categories like mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week, we have begun preparing to write biographies of our class figures, Marie Curie and Stephen Hawking. We have learned about key features to include and have practised writing summary introductions and conclusions. In Maths, we have extended our knowledge of place value to include numbers up to 1,000,000, adding the ten thousands and hundred thousands columns to our place value charts. In art, we have found ways to represent movement in drawing; in Science, we have begun to learn about forces, focusing on friction; and in history, we have begun our study of the ancient Maya civilisation of central America, placing them in the context of other civilisations around the world at the time. We have begun to read the *Adventures of Odysseus*, an adaptation of Homer's *Odyssey*, as our first class text for the year, making links with children's previous learning about Ancient Greece. It has been an exciting start to the year and we're looking forward to learning much more.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

In Maths this week, we explored place value and used this knowledge to help us round numbers including decimal numbers. After focusing on the cover and blurb of our new text (*Holes* by Louis Sachar) we went on to make predictions about the characters and the plot. There was great excitement about the book and what it might contain! During English Writing we have been focusing on punctuation in preparation to write a narrative story including dialogue. We are looking forward to writing exciting and engaging stories starting next week. In Science we continued to look at living things and we began the classification process by sorting the living organisms into groups. It was a very rich discussion about why some animals are grouped together and some exceptions to the rules. It was our first swimming lesson this week and everyone enjoyed getting into the water and showed some real confidence in their own swimming ability. In PE, we have also been preparing to become playleaders at lunchtimes as a way we can show leadership and responsibility. Year 6 are showing how they can be real examples and role models of our school – Keep it up!

Autumn Term 2025 Diary

24-9-2025	12.00pm Year 2 Parents Lunch
24-9-2025	4.30pm Welcome Ceremony – Year 6 and Reception Families only
26-9-2025	Schools Mass in Norwich – Selected Year 6s only
14-10-2025	Parent Meetings
15-10-2025	12.00pm Year 6 Parent Lunch
15-10-2025	Parent Meetings
23-10-2025	11.00am Harvest Celebration
27-10-2025 to 31-10-2025 (Half Term)	
4-11-2025	9.30am School Photos
10-11-2025	Anti-Bullying Week

12-11-2025	12.00pm Year 5 Parent Lunch
24-11-2025	Reverse Advent Calendar Starts
4-12-2025	6.00pm Peterborough Schools Carol Service
8-12-2025	Reception and Yr1 Nativity – Whole School
9-12-2025	2.00pm Nativity Reception
10-12-2025	2.00pm Nativity Reception
10-12-2025	5.00pm Advent Service
11-12-2025	2.00pm Nativity Year 1
12-12-2025	2.00pm Nativity Year 1
17-12-2025	Christmas Lunch
18-12-2025	Christmas Jumpers
19-12-2025	1.30pm Last Day