



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter Volume 4 – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

This week has flown by, with so much happening. We were delighted to welcome our new Reception children and their families in a special Welcome Ceremony. It was wonderful to see our Year 6 children acting as buddies, supporting the youngest members of our school family and helping them settle into their new environment. Our Year 2 Parent Lunch provided an opportunity for families to join us in school and share a meal with their children. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make it such a positive occasion. Finally at the time of reading this, our Year 6 Rashford Class, are representing our school at the Welcome Mass for all Catholic schools in Norwich. Look out next week for a full write up of this special event. Have a great weekend everyone.

**Lord, help us to see others with love, to act with generosity, and to walk in your ways. May we always use our gifts to serve and support those around us. Amen.**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

## **Attendance**

Well done to Year 5 (Hawking), Year 4 (Yousafzai) and Year 3 (Pankhurst) for all having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a very pleasing 98.21% 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.

## **Welcome Ceremony**

On Wednesday, we warmly welcomed our new Reception children and families with a special Welcome Ceremony. This important event, held in the school hall, brought together teachers, parents, and children as we introduced the youngest members of our school community. Led by our Reception teaching staff and Year 6 buddies, the ceremony included prayers and a blessing for the children as they begin their journey here at St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School.



## **Year 2 Parent Lunch**

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, over 50 Year 2 parents joined us for a special parent lunch. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into school, sharing a meal and enjoying time with their children.

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

In Reception, we have settled into the routine of being in school full-time and have had another busy week. We have been exploring sorting objects into groups further, by picking out their key characteristics. Additionally, in Maths we have also been comparing amounts using the vocabulary 'more' and 'fewer'. In our Literacy learning this week, our focus has been on The Colour Monster Goes to School. We have continued to explore feelings in relation to the story and practiced explaining our feelings to others. We have also enjoyed a range of learning within other areas of the curriculum including; mark making with chalk, handwriting, and PE. Thank you for all of your support at the Welcome Ceremony – the children did a fantastic job!

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

We have had another busy week in Year 1; we have orally rehearsed sentences about ourselves before writing these in an autobiography. In Maths we have continued our topic on place value within 10, focusing on greater than, less than and equal to. We have finished our Geography unit by looking in detail at our school grounds and thinking about what we would like to improve. We went on to draw our ideal playground from an aerial view. In Science, we focused on another sense this week – sound. This involved us being really quiet as we walked around the school both inside and out to listen to what sounds we could hear.

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

It has been another busy week in Year 2. We have been watching our shoots grow taller and recording their progress. In our Writing lessons we have been learning more facts about Lewis Hamilton and John Lennon, researching them using the iPads. In Maths we have been learning to estimate numbers using a number line and compare numbers using the 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equals' mathematical symbols. In PE we have been practicing our balancing skills and in computing, looking at where computers are used. The children came up with some great ideas and demonstrated a good knowledge of where computers can be found.

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

This week in Geography we have been building on our knowledge this week by looking at volcanoes and how they are formed- the children found it fascinating how the molten rock rises from the mantle with pressure. In English writing we have been finishing off our Anne Frank biographies and starting to use our editing skills to improve them even more. In Maths we have been looking at numbers up to 1000 on number lines as well as comparing what's bigger and what is smaller. In ICT we have been thinking about different questions and when we need to ask permission from certain people- we have also been thinking more about how to keep ourselves safe online.

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

This week in Maths, we concentrated on the five- and ten-times tables, requiring students to record both multiplication and division facts. Additionally, we explored Roman numerals and practiced rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000. In Writing, we initiated the process of writing biographies and engaged in editing our drafts. In History, we focused on studying the evolution of children's leisure activities, analysing the factors contributing to these changes. In P.E., we focused on activities aimed at improving agility through changes in speed and direction. In reading, we continued our analysis of "The Firework-Maker's Daughter" by Philip Pullman.

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

This week in English, we began our first-person narratives, inspired by our class reading book Odysseus, and we are really looking forward to bringing our writing to life. In Maths, we wrapped up our place value unit by practising rounding and are now preparing to move on to our addition and subtraction unit. In History, we made fascinating comparisons between the Mayans and the Anglo-Saxons, spotting similarities and differences in their ways of life. Our Art lessons have been all about exploring movement and emotion, and we took inspiration from Charlie Mackesy to create our own expressive paintings.

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

We began the week by planning our narrative writing and went on to write our first draft. We endeavoured to make our writing full of description and be aware of our readers. We will go on to edit our writing and make more improvements. Maths involved using addition, subtraction and then multiplication. Looking at lots of examples, we then used our arithmetic knowledge on some large numbers which was fun even for teachers! In Art we experimented with one point perspective drawings and created a street scene using a vanishing point and horizon line. Catching up with chapters of Holes was part of our whole class reading and we went on to find important information from the text to answer comprehension questions. On Tuesday, we went swimming and the session went really well with lots of effort and enthusiasm from everyone in the pool. Also in PE on Thursday we continued to play team building games which are helping become better playleaders in the playground. It's been a busy but purposeful week – great effort all round from Year 6.

**Autumn Term 2025 Diary**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 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               |
| <b>27-10-2025 to 31-10-2025 (Half Term)</b> |   |
| 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                           |