



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

### Volume 5 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

### 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

This week has been another busy week. Year 2 and Year 5 gathered to celebrate Mass, focusing on our new monthly value of **Kindness**, a theme which will guide us in our words and actions throughout October and beyond. In Science, Year 1 have been exploring the senses their learning to life through hands-on activities. We were also delighted to welcome over 25 families to our first *Reception 2026 Open Session*, and it was lovely to celebrate our school with them. More ‘Open Sessions’ will take place throughout this term. Finally, a gentle reminder to all families that bookings for Parents’ Evening appointments are now open – more information can be found later in this newsletter. Have a great weekend everyone.

**Lord God, strengthen our faith, even when times feel uncertain. Help us to live out kindness in all that we do, trusting in Your guidance and love each day. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to Year 5 (Hawking) for having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a very pleasing 97.7% 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.

#### **Parent Meeting Bookings (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025)**

Hopefully you’ll all be aware, bookings for the upcoming Parents Evening went live on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 at 6.00pm. We’re delighted by the overwhelming response and the number of bookings already made. If you’ve not yet booked your appointment, there is still time to do so. You can make appointments via the ParentMail (Iris) app. Please click on ‘Parents Evening’ and follow the process to book your appointment. If you require any assistance with the booking process, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

#### **Act of Service**

We would like to congratulate Elliott for giving up his time last weekend to support at a local MacMillan Coffee Morning. By helping to raise money for such an important cause, Elliott has shown great kindness and a real commitment to serving others. His actions are a wonderful example of how our school values are lived out beyond the classroom, and we are very proud of him.



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

This week in EYFS, we enjoyed exploring the story of *The Three Little Pigs*, retelling it through play and discussion. We investigated mass in Maths, using balance scales and explored capacity by guessing what objects could be hidden inside different boxes. We know that the heaviest item goes down to the ground, and the lightest item goes up in the air. Our farm animals learning and small world play inspired imaginative storytelling, and we had the chance to do observational drawing, noticing and recording detail carefully. It has been a week full of creativity, problem-solving and curiosity!

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

This week in Year 1, we have continued learning about place value in Maths. We have been using  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$  as well as ordering numbers on a number line. In English, we have read the tiger who came to tea. We have enjoyed retelling this story using actions. We have also written sentences about key parts of this story using adjectives. In Science we learnt about another one of our senses – taste. We thought about what foods are sweet, bitter, salty, savoury and sour. We have started our art unit and have explored a range of different lines including wavy, straight, dotted, dashed, zig zag and curved. We used pencils, whiteboard pens, pastels and chalk to create these different lines.

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

This week in Year 2 we have been consolidating our Maths Year 1 learning, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, and will be learning to skip count in 3s next week. The children have also been using  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$  to compare numbers, and sequence numbers in order. In our Writing lessons, we have planned and written our biographies about John Lennon and Lewis Hamilton. The children have clearly demonstrated their learning so far in Year 2. In our Science lessons, we have completed our learning about plants and concluded that plants need light to grow healthy. We have started an Art unit of learning with the children having great fun mark-making with different materials including pencils, pastels and charcoal. They learned about how applying differing levels of pressure can make the marks darker or lighter.

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

This week in Year 3 we have moved on to a new topic in Maths looking at addition and subtraction, as well as adding to singular columns in our place value charts. In Writing, now that we have finished our biographies, we have started looking at narratives and narrative features. The children have been working hard building their vocabularies and pushing their description even further. In Geography we have looked at the positives and negatives of living near a volcano- the children were surprised at how many good reasons there were! In Science we have started looking at nutrition and diet and learning about the different food groups that we consume.

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

We had another busy and productive week. In Writing, we published our biographies and are now moving on to composing a narrative. For spelling, we are focusing on the suffix -ation. In Maths, we started a new unit on addition and subtraction. Students will be developing their skills to add and subtract four-digit numbers with exchanges. In History, we explored historical diseases that affected children and investigated how these conditions were treated in the past. In Science, we studied how plants can be grouped and classified. In PE, we continued to explore movement, emphasizing the importance of bending the knees during take-off and landing to maintain balance, while also using the arms to provide momentum.

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

This week has been full of exciting progress across our subjects! In English, we developed detailed descriptions for our narratives, building strong foundations that have made us eager to begin writing soon. In Science, we carried out an engaging experiment on air resistance, testing parachutes of three different sizes to see how their speed of descent changed. In Spanish, we had fun designing our own café menus, applying the vocabulary and skills we learned in previous lessons. Finally, in Maths, we started our new unit on addition and subtraction, focusing on formal written methods of calculation while also using rounding and inverse operations to check our answers.

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

We have had another purposeful week in Year 6 which included writing our final draft of our narratives in English. There was such fantastic description which led to lots of engaging stories written. In Maths we have focused on multiplication and division and had a chance to challenge ourselves in problem solving. We continued to read more our class text of Holes and we are enjoying the different characters and storylines. We continued our swimming lessons and we are looking forward to our swimming assessment week next Tuesday. We had a fantastic TTRS day of activities and fun about our times tables on Friday. A great way to end a busy week.

**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                           |