



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 6 – Friday 10th October 2025

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

This week has been full of energy across the school. Our Year 5 and 6 pupils represented St John Henry Newman brilliantly at the local football and netball tournaments, showing fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship. Some of our Year 6 children also took part in a city-wide Mathematics competition, tackling some very challenging problems with great determination. Finally, on Thursday we joined together as a school community to celebrate the Feast of St John Henry Newman — reflecting on his message “Heart speaks to Heart” through our words and actions each day. Have a great weekend everyone.

Lord Jesus, open our hearts to your word and our lives to your call. Help us to trust in your goodness and to use our gifts to serve others. May we walk in faith, hope, and love this week. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to both Year 2 (Lennon) and Year 2 (Hamilton) for having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a very pleasing 97.4% 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 Meetings 14th and 15th October 2025

Next week we look forward to welcoming all our families into school for our Parent Meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new class, celebrate their achievements so far, and talk about the next steps in their learning journey. Thank you in advance for taking the time to attend.

Feast of St John Henry Newman

This week we also came together to celebrate the Feast of St John Henry Newman, our school’s patron saint. The children led a prayerful liturgy, reflecting on Newman’s message that “heart speaks to heart.” Throughout the day, each class took part in activities exploring how we can live out this message through kindness, friendship and faith. The children also enjoyed a special feast day treat — a lovely way to mark such an important day in our school community.



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

To continue our learning about the Three Little Pigs, we have been explaining events of the story using ‘first, then and next’. We have also been labelling pictures from the book with initial sounds, for example /m/ for mummy pig. In Maths, we have been learning all about patterns! We have been learning what a pattern is and then all about repeating patterns. We have been copying and continuing patterns, as well as creating our own. In the wider curriculum we have been very busy! One of the things we have been learning is how to complete an observational drawing. Thank you to those of you who attended the EYFS curriculum meeting, we appreciate your time and support!

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

We have had a busy week of learning in Year 1. We have started addition and subtraction in Maths, this has involved us learning about parts and wholes. We have been writing number sentences using the + sign. This week we rewrote the story 'The tiger who came to tea'. We then enjoyed reading our written stories to a friend in the classroom. In Science we have been learning about touch and were intrigued to know that we can touch with our whole bodies. We have started reading a new book in our reading lesson called 'We're all wonders'. This gave us the opportunity to think about how we are all wonderful and unique. In Art we have been working with chalks, pastels and coloured pencils to create different shapes.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

Year 2 have had a busy week of learning! The children have started a new unit of learning in Maths - Addition and Subtraction. They have reviewed their number bonds to 10 learning from Year 1 and have been looking at the similarities and differences between this and number bonds to 100. In our Writing lessons we have been learning about imperative (or bossy) verbs in preparation for writing a set of instructions. In our Science lesson, we have started a new unit, looking at animals and their needs for survival. We have started to practice singing for the Harvest Festival which we are all looking forward too!

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

It's been a busy week for learning in Year 3! We have moved onto adding and subtraction in Maths, which the children are really enjoying learning about. In English writing we have started learning our Year 3 grammar with fronted adverbials ready to add them into our narrative writing next week. In English reading we have been reading more of Malala's magic pencil and answering questions based on what we've read. In Geography, we have started learning about earthquakes and how they can affect the land as well as people; the children were very interested in earthquake drills and how a building can be designed to help prevent as much damage as possible. In Science, we have been learning more about different aspects of our diets and how we have balanced meals.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

This past week in Year 4, the children read 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter,' where they discovered that the main character faced a significant challenge to save her father's life. During writing sessions, they practised their narrative skills, focusing on how to effectively incorporate direct speech into their stories. In computing lessons, the students deepened their understanding of online safety, emphasising the importance of making informed judgments about what they read and see online. In spellings the focus was on the use the suffix 'ion'. In Maths, they practised adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers, both with and without exchanging. In Science, the children completed the unit on classification of animals and plants, gaining valuable understanding of the natural world. Finally, both classes had a great time in PE, where they learned how to skip—a fun new skill!

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

In Year 5 this week, we have been planning and beginning to draft our first-person narratives of a seafaring adventure to an island, based on our current class book 'The Adventures of Odysseus'. In Maths, we have completed our unit on addition and subtraction. In History we have looked at the religious beliefs of the Maya, and in Art have explored showing depth in drawing. A highlight of our week was St. John Henry Newman's feast day yesterday, when in addition to the whole school celebration, we made collages based on Newman's motto "Heart speaks to heart", focusing on our school gospel values.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

Another busy however, enjoyable week in Year 6. It has been an assessment week with lots of tests to do. We have been very impressed with the resilience and focus by Year 6 which we are confident will be apparent in their results. What has also been evident, is the supportive and kind nature of everyone through this week. Away from the tests, in English we began to look at biographies and how they are written. We looked at some examples and picked out the features as we prepare to write our own biographies about a very recently canonised saint. In Science, we looked again at classification of animals and created our own classification chart using closed questions relating to characteristics of each animal. It was the penultimate swimming lesson this week and the instructors assessed our swimming ability and there has been lots of improvements right across all the class. We are hoping to have a fun swimming session next Tuesday. On Thursday, we had St John Henry Newman feast day which we all enjoyed. We created some heart posters using cardboard and other decorations to show the different ways our school patron saint showed God's grace which are inspirational to us.



Autumn Term 2025 Diary	
13-10-2025	No afterschool clubs all week, due to parent meetings
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