



## St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School Newsletter

### Volume 9 – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025 The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school following the half-term break. The children have quickly settled back into routines and have shown great enthusiasm for their learning. This week, we joined together to mark All Saints' Day, taking time to remember and celebrate the lives of the saints who inspire us to live with faith and kindness. Our Year 2 children had an exciting opportunity to take part in a Britten Sinfonia orchestra workshop, where they explored music and rhythm in a fun and creative way. Year 3 have enjoyed their cricket coaching sessions, developing their teamwork and sporting skills, while Year 4 continued to make great progress in their swimming lessons. We were also delighted to welcome new families to our second Reception 2026 Open Session. It was lovely to see so much interest in joining our school community. I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

***Loving God, help us to stay ready in heart and mind, using each day to grow closer to You and to share Your love with others. Amen.***

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to both Year 2 (Hamilton) for having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a very pleasing 96.7%. 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 the same as our school meals booking system and is located within the 'Account' section of your Parent Mail account. It is imperative that you pre-book to help us manage our preparations and provide an optimal experience for all participating children.

#### **Census Week**

Breakfast Club Census Week is happening next week (**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025**) and we're excited to let you know that we will be serving a Special Menu to mark the occasion. We'd love to see as many children attend Breakfast Club as possible! As you may know, student attendance uptake on Census Week has a direct impact on our school's funding, so we really encourage you to take part if you can. Please note you CAN still book via ParentMail now for all of next week.

#### **Anti-Bullying Week (10<sup>th</sup> November 2025)**

Next week (10<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> November), our school will mark Anti-Bullying Week by exploring kindness, fairness and respect. We'll begin with Odd Socks Day on Monday to celebrate difference, followed by class books focused on inclusion and belonging—from It's Okay to Be Different in EYFS to The Day War Came in Year 6. To finish, children will design wooden bookmarks reflecting what they've learned. Together, we'll celebrate that everyone belongs and kindness matters.

#### **Poppies**

In the lead up to Remembrance Day, our school will once again be supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. From Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025, poppies will be available for children to purchase in school. All donations will go directly to support the vital work of the Royal British Legion. We suggest a minimum donation of 50p, but families are welcome to contribute any amount they wish.

#### **Movie Night Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

We're excited to announce that our Friends Association will be hosting a Movie Night on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. Children will be able to enjoy a fun after-school film experience with their friends in one of several movie rooms across the school. Details and booking are now LIVE on ParentMail!

#### **Flu Vaccinations**

Flu vaccinations will take place in school on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Consent forms and further information was shared with families on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025. Please look out for this email and return your completed online forms promptly.

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

This week in Reception we have been busy learners! In Literacy, we have been reading *Biscuit Bear* and we have been focusing on writing initial sound shopping lists and some CVC words like 'mix' and 'chop'. In Maths, we have been exploring circles and triangles — we have been creating colourful artwork inspired by Kandinsky and using our shape spotters to find shapes all around the classroom. In Science, we enjoyed tasting a wide range of fruits and vegetables, including pineapple, kiwi, lemon, peppers and blackberries. We were very excited to try them and many of us found new things we liked! On Thursday we had the chance to plant a Hyacinth bulb and we're excited for these to grow!

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

This week in Year 1, we have been busy building our skills across all areas of learning! In Writing, we have been consolidating our understanding of simple sentence structure by identifying the subject and verb in sentences and then writing our own. We have been working hard to remember our capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops every time we write. In Reading, we have started learning about biographies – real-life stories about important people – and explored examples about Neil Armstrong and Coco Chanel, thinking about what makes their lives special. In Maths, we have been learning how to add two amounts together and use maths stories to show when we are adding more. In History, we have been finding out how special events are remembered and discovering what life was like for children in the past, comparing it to our own experiences today.

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

Year 2 have had a very busy and exciting first week back! In Writing we have started looking at writing questions and answers, we interviewed each other to practise asking and answering questions and finished the week writing questions for our interview partners. In Reading, we have started reading the book 'Black and White' by David Macaulay, we looked at the meaning of the saying 'black and white' and predicted what we thought the book might be about from the front cover. In Maths we have been working on subtraction across and 10 and from a multiple of 10, we found our knowledge of number bonds very handy. In Geography we have been looking at where it is hot and cold on Earth. We used atlases and a globe to locate the North and South poles and the equator. The highlight of our week has been a very special visit from some members of the Britten Sinfonia. They came to start working on a composition based on the book 'The tale of the Whale', which they will come back next year and perform to us. In PE we have started our unit of dance, inspired by the rainforest. We will be developing a dance routine incorporating movements such as jumping, ducking, stepping and climbing.



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

What a fantastic first week back! The children have been busy with their new learning in English writing as we have been looking at non-chronological reports which will be building up to write and remember their knowledge from our first Science topic on the human body and the skeleton. In Maths, we have finished addition and subtraction and will be starting our new topic of multiplication and division, starting with looking at our times tables. We have also started our first topic of History with looking at prehistory and thinking about the stone age, iron age and bronze age. In P.E the Year 3 children have a very exciting opportunity to work on their cricket skills with a cricket coach who now comes in to teach them on a Tuesday- this will be instead of a Friday for this term.

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

This week in Maths, we were focusing on the 3s, 6s, and 9s times tables. We are learning both multiplication and division facts. It is important for your child to know all the times tables, as they will be taking the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), which is mandatory for all Year 4 students in England. To support this, please ensure that your child completes the 21 assigned homework games each week. In English reading, we are reading a non-chronological book about the Romans. The information we gather will help us in our upcoming writing unit, where the children will write their own non-chronological reports. The children are loving the swimming lessons and starting to make good progress. Please ensure your child has a swimming kit every Tuesday. Finally, we have an exciting opportunity to attend a performance of "The Snowman," with animation accompanied by the Peterborough Youth Orchestra, at the New Theatre on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. In preparation for this event, we are learning the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and creating a display to take with us. This event is being organised by the Peterborough Music Hub.

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

This week, we began lots of exciting new units in our learning. In Writing, we started a new unit that links to last term's History topic — we will be writing a diary from the perspective of a Maya child. In Science, we began our new topic on Space, exploring the solar system and learning about the different planets. In Maths, we started our Fractions unit and have been focusing on finding and understanding equivalent fractions. In P.E, Year 5 have been given the opportunity to work with a cricket coach on a Tuesday, where they will develop their cricket skills and knowledge! This means that PE will no longer be a Tuesday and a Wednesday, but just on a Tuesday from now on. It's been a great first week back, full of new learning and discoveries!

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

In English this week we have been looking at the genre of playscripts. We read various plays and discussed why playscript are important and what makes this writing unique. We then created short playscripts of our own using correct punctuation and stage directions. We also acted out part of a play based on our whole class reading book using stage direction. Next week we will write our own plays as a playscript. In Art, we finally completed our street art project and displayed them in the classroom – they were very impressive and had strong messages behind the excellent artwork. Adding and subtracting fractions has been the focus in Maths and we have completed lots of examples of both common and differing denominators. In Science we began our new unit of Electricity and we made diagrammatical drawings of series circuits. It has been a very busy and productive week in Year 6 – keep it up.

<b>Autumn Term 2025 Diary</b>	
10-11-2025	Anti-Bullying Week
12-11-2025	12.00pm Year 5 Parent Lunch
24-11-2025	Reverse Advent Calendar Starts
26-11-2025	3.30 – 5.30pm Movie night
27-11-2025	8.45 - Flu Vaccines
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