



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School
Newsletter
Volume 10 – Friday 14th November 2025
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

It has been another busy week across the school. Our Year 5 children represented us at the joint Catholic schools tag rugby event – showing great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day. Year 6 led our beautiful Remembrance Liturgy, helping us to pause, reflect and pray for all those who have given their lives in the service of others. Amidst all of this, we also had our very first Catholic Schools Inspection. It has been an important milestone for our growing school community, and we are so proud of how everyone came together this week. Have a great weekend.

Loving God, help us to use the gifts you have given us to bring kindness, peace and hope to others. May we always serve you with joy in all that we do. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to both Year 4 (Gandhi) for having 99.6% 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.

Anti-Bullying Week (10th November 2025)

As part of **Anti-Bullying Week**, children across the school have been reflecting on this year’s theme of ‘*Inclusion, not Exclusion*’. Each class took part in special activities and discussions linked to a year group text exploring friendship, empathy and standing up for others. From collaborative art projects to story-based reflections, children thought deeply about how our words and actions can make everyone feel valued and included. It has been a wonderful week of learning and kindness in action.



Movie Night Wednesday 26th November 2025

We’re excited to announce that our Friends Association will be hosting a Movie Night on Wednesday 26th November from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Children will be able to enjoy a fun after-school film experience with their friends in one of several movie rooms across the school. Booking is available via ParentMail now and will close on 21st November 2025.

Catholic Schools Inspection

This week, we welcomed inspectors for our first Catholic Schools Inspection. Over two days, they spent time in lessons, collective worship and around the school, talking to children, staff and governors about our Catholic life and mission. We would like to sincerely thank our staff for their dedication and hard work, our children for the way they shared their faith and learning so confidently, and our parents who took the time to complete surveys and speak to the inspectors. Your support is always so greatly appreciated. Our final inspection report will be shared with you once it is received in the coming weeks.

Flu Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will take place in school on Thursday 27th November. Consent forms and further information was shared with families on 20th 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've had lots of fun and learning! We loved baking our own biscuit bears, carefully following a recipe and practising our measuring and mixing skills. As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we explored *It's Okay to Be Different* by Todd Parr, celebrating what makes each of us unique and special. We shared our ideas about differences and created bright, colourful artwork in Todd Parr's distinctive style to celebrate our wonderful differences.

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week in Year 1, we have been learning how to use past-tense verbs ending in *-ed* and write in the third person to create our own biographies about a classmate. We also became little historians by asking our teacher questions about what birthdays were like when they were a child, helping us compare life in the past and present. In Maths, we explored fact families and used maths stories to understand subtraction, seeing how addition and subtraction are linked. In Reading, we enjoyed *The Same But Different Too* and talked about the similarities and differences that make each of us special.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

This week has been very busy in Year 2! In Maths we have been adding 2-digit numbers, first within a 10 and then exchanging across a 10. Our writing lessons on 'questions and answers' concluded this week with a hot task using the questions we asked Father Jeffery when he came in to talk to us about Baptism. In Science lessons, we have continued the topic of 'materials', this week we have learnt about the properties of glass, plastic and metal. This week's geography lessons have been about the equator and comparing Kenya with the UK. We enjoyed 'packing' our suitcases to go on holiday to both destinations! For anti-bullying week we have read the book *The colours of us* by Karen Katz and then explored our different hair colours and skin tones to create a class collage.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week in Year 3 we have been enjoying applying our Science knowledge from the beginning of the year when we learnt about skeletons to put this information in our non-chronological report for English in writing. Matching up with this, in English reading we have been looking at a range of different texts such as muscles to further our knowledge here. In Maths we have started learning about the different times tables and developing our division skills too. In History we have been learning about Skara Brae and what evidence of prehistory was discovered there and what it reveals about how people lived.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

This week in Maths, we concentrated on the 3-, 6-, and 9-times tables, delving into both multiplication and division facts. In English writing, we explored the characteristics of non-chronological reports and practised using apostrophes for possession in both singular and plural forms. Additionally, we initiated a research project on Roman gods, which will inform our upcoming non-chronological writing. In English reading sessions, we continued to analyse non-chronological texts about the Romans to enhance our comprehension and writing skills. In our foundation subject, we studied Spanish with a theme focused on "Journey around Latin America." The students are also actively participating in swimming lessons, which they are enjoying.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

This week in Year 5, we have written our diary entries in character as children of the Maya civilisation, focusing on text features including the perfect tense and relative clauses. In Maths we have been comparing and ordering fractions, and in science we have learned about the planets of our solar system. In Geography we have discovered more about the sorts of physical features and environments which are found in the Alps, and in computing we have discussed the pros and cons of online communication, and when it can be harmful. For anti-bullying week, we read the story *The Proudest Blue* by Ibtihaj Muhammed, and discussed the choices of words and actions we make that can include others rather than excluding them, and how to be an upstander rather than a bystander.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

We have spent part of our week finishing our playscripts which were based on an imagined chapter of *Holes*. Remembering to include all the correct features and punctuation, we wrote out a scene using the characters. We also had a chance to read them out within groups and share our ideas about what happened next in the story. In Maths we have been finding fractions of amounts, and we explored lots of challenging word problems together. Non-fiction texts are our focus in whole class reading and we started by reading a non-chronological text about volcanoes – this was interesting as we also watched a video showing a volcano erupting recently in Hawaii! Earlier in the week, we finished our Geography unit of work by comparing the geographical features of Peterborough and the Mojave Desert. We went on to write a paragraph about where we would prefer to live – most of us decided to remain here in Peterborough as the thought of life in Death Valley did not appeal to any of us!

Autumn Term 2025 Diary

24-11-2025	Reverse Advent Calendar Starts
26-11-2025	3.30 – 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