



**St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School  
Newsletter  
Volume 11 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (C)**

We have enjoyed a purposeful and engaging week in school. On Monday, Year 5 visited the New Theatre for the Children’s Book Show and were inspired by SF Said as he spoke about his new book *Tyger*. The children returned buzzing with questions and ideas. Year 4 have continued their swimming sessions and are growing in confidence each week. They also took part in a local hockey tournament, representing the school with teamwork and determination. Our choir is making excellent progress as they rehearse for their upcoming Advent visits, and we are excited to share their beautiful singing with our community soon. Next week, we look forward to welcoming over 200 children to our Film Night on Wednesday—a lovely event that the children always enjoy. As the temperature drops, please make sure children come to school wrapped up warm.

Wishing you all a peaceful and cosy weekend.

**Lord Jesus, our King and Shepherd,  
guide us to live with kindness, courage and hope.  
May your love reign in our hearts, our homes and our school.  
Amen.**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

**Attendance**

Well done to both Year 4 (Gandhi) and Year 5 (Hawking) for having 100% attendance this week – excellent job! Our overall school attendance this week was a very pleasing 96.4% 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.

**Reverse Advent Calendar 2025**

Each morning, starting on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025, there will be an empty plastic box at the school gate, which if you are able to make a few small donations during Advent, they will be used once again to support the “Trussell Trust – Stop UK Hunger”. Suggested food items are shown below. All our food donations will then be taken to our local Peterborough Food Bank.

Tea	Hot chocolate	Long life fruit Juice	UHT Milk
Tinned Meat	Instant Mash	Pasta Sauces	Tinned Fruit
Tinned Fish	Rice Pudding	Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Soup
Tinned Beans	Pasta	Rice	Chocolate

**Year 5 Theatre Visit**

This week, our Year 5 children had the wonderful opportunity to visit the New Theatre as part of the Children’s Book Show. They were thrilled to meet acclaimed author SF Said, who spoke passionately about his new book, *Tyger*. The children were captivated by his storytelling and the insights he shared about the writing process and the inspiration behind his characters and themes. They also had the chance to ask their own thoughtful questions, which SF Said answered with great enthusiasm. It was a fantastic experience that both inspired and encouraged our young readers and writers.



### **Y3 and 4 Hockey Tournament**

On Tuesday, nine Year 3 and 4 children participated in a hockey tournament at the City of Peterborough Hockey Club. It was a great showcase of the skills they have learned in both their PE lessons and through after-school hockey club. Seven short games were played and the children showed great resilience and perseverance when they were not on the winning side. Great sportsmanship was demonstrated when the children shook hands with their opposition and umpires after each game. The best play came from Finley, who scored a goal in the first 10 seconds of the first game. The highlight of the tournament was meeting ex-England and current England O40 player, Gareth Andrew, and current England player, Henry Croft. The children were excited when Henry said he had the same stick as one of the team.



### **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 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.

### **Flu Vaccinations**

Flu vaccinations will take place in school on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Consent forms and further information were 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)**

As the weather has turned colder, we have been practising zipping up our coats independently as well as putting on our hats, scarves and gloves so we can be warm and cosy whilst learning in our outdoor provision! Back inside the classroom, we have been learning all about positional language in Maths, as well as subitising the numbers 4 and 5. Following making our own Biscuit Bears last week (which were very yummy!), we've been sequencing photos of the process in our Literacy lessons and even captioning them with bossy verbs including "mix", "add" and "cut".

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

This week in Year 1 has been full of exciting learning! In Maths, we've been tackling subtraction and using number lines to help us work out answers—why not ask your child to show you how they do it? In Reading, we've started exploring the wonderful book Martha Maps It Out and have loved spotting all the fascinating details the author includes. In Computing, we began learning about online safety and how to make smart choices when using the internet.

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

It has been another busy week in Year 2. In Maths we have been adding and subtracting 2 numbers within and across a ten. In Reading we have continued reading our class book 'Black and White' and have been looking at how all the stories within the book fit together, we have practised the skills of summarising and explaining. We have begun a new topic in English writing where we will be working towards a narrative recount of the picture book 'Journey'. During this week the children have completed the 'Fairground Wheel' DT project. They designed a fairground wheel for St JHN School and used their knowledge of wheels and axles to design and make a wheel that turned as well as pods that rotated!



Hamilton class with their fairground wheels!

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

In Year 3 we have been busy learning about our times tables- so far we have covered the 3 times table and the 4 times table with the 8 times table coming up in the next week. In English Writing we have started to write up our non-chronological reports in our neatest handwriting - the children have done amazing with recalling their knowledge about the skeleton! In History we have been looking at pictures of different artefacts and thinking like a Historian- what does this tell us about this period of time? How did people live? What materials did they have available to use? In English Reading we have continued looking at a range of information texts and answering questions based on them; this has also been interesting for our English Writing unit too. In Science, we have been building on our rock knowledge by thinking about the properties and purpose of different rocks, including an investigation using them too.

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

In our English writing sessions, we have completed our research on Roman gods and are now focused on drafting our first non-chronological reports. In English reading, we are exploring a book about the Romans that offers valuable insights into their way of life. This reading material is helping us identify the key features of non-chronological reports, which will enhance our writing skills. In Maths, we just concluded a unit on multiplication and division. Our studies primarily concentrated on learning times tables and mastering multiplication and division facts. In Science, we have begun a new topic centred on States of Matter. Students are learning to define each state of matter and determine whether each has a fixed shape or volume. For instance, we were investigating whether toothpaste is classified as a solid, liquid, or gas. What do you think? Spanish was enjoyable, as we focused on ‘Where are you going?’ (Adónde vas?) and ‘How are you going?’ (Cómo vas?).

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

We have had another full week of learning in Year 5. We completed our Maya diary entries and began our next writing unit, where we will create a persuasive letter based on the myth of Pandora’s Box. In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting fractions, including those of different denominators, and in Science, we looked at different ways to model and represent the planets of the solar system. In Geography, we have discussed why people travel to the Alps, and in computing discussed the kinds of judgements that can be made about people based on the information available about them online. A highlight of the week was our trip to hear S. F. Said speak about his experience of writing novels including *Varjak Paw* and *Tyger*. It has been great to see so many children enjoying reading their own copy of *Tyger* in the following days.

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

Maths has been another week of exciting fractions, and we have learned how to multiply fractions, multiply fractions by whole numbers and divide fractions – all in one week! It has been a top effort with lots of great number skills at play. In English we have begun studying persuasive writing and we identified lots of features in our model text. We are going to persuade Mr Cooper to give Year 6 some extra break time. We realise that we will have to be VERY persuasive to get him to allow this! Electricity is the focus in Science, where we worked in small groups to create a circuit with current to light a bulb. We were mostly successful, and we made the dark classroom become lit up. We began our History unit all about the role of a census in learning about people and events of the past. In order to understand what a census was, we made one and completed it in the classroom. We found out lots of interesting facts about each other, and it helped us understand how useful this tool can be in studying History. Spanish was fun as we had to describe people by looking at their features eg: hair colour, eye colour etc. We then had to write down their features in English and Spanish.

**Autumn Term 2025 Diary**

24-11-2025	Reverse Advent Calendar Starts
26-11-2025	3.30pm – 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
16-12-2025	Carol Singing at Serpentine Green (All Choir)
17-12-2025	Christmas Lunch
18-12-2025	Christmas Jumpers
19-12-2025	1.30pm Last Day