



# St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

### Volume 26 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A)

It has been a lovely week in school this week! Our children have been putting the final additions to several Lent theme learning including their Easter cards. We also led a Stations of the Cross service at St Luke's Church. The children did amazingly well and made everyone feel enormously proud. As our Spring Term draws to a close, we reflect on what had been a busy and enjoyable term. Our children enjoyed exciting trips to the farm and museum, enhancing their understanding of nature and history. They also shone in sporting events, music concerts, dance shows, and a drama festival performance, showcasing their talents and teamwork. In school, pupils have demonstrated strong learning and progress across all subjects. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

**Jesus, be my path. As I continue my journey through Lent, help me to walk in your way. Be my guide as I GIVE to others. Be my strength as I ACT by making good choices. Be my friend as I PRAY and get to know you more. Amen**

Mr Cooper  
Headteacher

#### **Attendance**

Well done to Year 3 Pankhurst for having 100% attendance this week. Overall, our school attendance was 95.3%. 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 & Products' 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. Booking is now open for the Summer Term.

#### **Stations of the Cross Service 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

On Wednesday evening we led a Stations of the Cross service at St Luke's Church. Children from all year groups, including from Reception class shared readings, reflections, and prayers. All the children read beautifully and did an amazing job leading this reflective service.



#### **Mini-Vinnies**

It was lovely to see our Mini Vinnies group welcoming residents from our local care home for a special afternoon tea on Thursday, following a series of visits to the care home. It was a wonderful opportunity to truly live out our values of kindness and service in action.



### **Music Concerts**

The school was filled with music on Tuesday 24th March as we hosted our music concerts across the day. In total, almost 130 children performed in three concerts, showcasing the fantastic range of musical talent we have here at St John Henry Newman. The children did an incredible job—performing with confidence, enthusiasm and real pride. It was a joy to see their hard work come to life and the concerts truly felt like a celebration of music within our school community. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support. Whether helping children to practise at home or coming along to watch and encourage, your support makes a huge difference and is greatly appreciated.

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

This week in Reception, we have been busy building our Maths and Literacy skills. In Maths, we have been learning about *one less*, enjoying singing “10 Little Men” to help us understand the concept. We have also been exploring the composition of numbers to 10, learning how numbers can be made up of smaller parts. In Literacy, we continued our work on **Rosie’s Walk**, writing simple sentences to retell the story. We have also continued planting and caring for our sunflower seeds as part of our Science and Reading learning, and are excited to watch them grow.

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

It has been another creative and hands-on week of learning in our classroom. In Art, we created work inspired by Clarice Cliff, painting concentric circles and using colour mixing to explore different hues. In Maths, we have been measuring and comparing volume and capacity, using cubes to help us estimate and understand how much different containers can hold. In English Reading, we continued exploring poems from Please Mrs Butler, developing our understanding of rhythm, language and meaning. In English Writing, we practised sentence sense and punctuation by working with jumbled sentences, helping us to build clear and accurate sentences. It has been great to see the children engaging so thoughtfully and practically across all areas of learning this week.

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

Year 2 have had a brilliant last week of term! We began the week by putting together all the final ideas for our compositions for the upcoming collaboration with Britten Sinfonia. In writing lessons, the children worked really hard on their final ‘hot write’ of the term, their adventure stories written in 1<sup>st</sup> person. They came up with some very exciting ideas! We started a new topic in Maths, mass, volume and temperature, and have begun by comparing the mass of objects. Our big focus this week has been our art unit on using maps as a stimulus for creating artwork. The children have used their ‘journey to school’ fantasy maps from last week to create 3D models, stained-glass windows and printing tiles!



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

Year 3 have had a very busy and creative week. In English, the children have been writing their own Easter poems, working hard to include alliteration, repetition and rhyming patterns. We were so impressed with their imagination and hard work. In Maths, we have continued our learning on fractions, focusing on adding and subtracting fractions as well as finding fractions of amounts using objects. The children are becoming more confident with these skills each day. Both classes also enjoyed making beautiful Easter cards to take home, showing great care and creativity in their designs. In Science, we have been continuing our topic on light, exploring how it helps us to see and how it behaves.

We are now ready for a well-deserved Easter break. We hope you all have a wonderful and restful holiday!

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

Another busy and rewarding week is behind us, and the children have been fully engaged across the curriculum. In Maths, our new decimals unit is well underway, with the children exploring decimal numbers using place value and number lines to deepen their understanding. In Writing, an exciting new chapter has begun as the children have embarked on a brand new genre — Explanation Text. This week they have been identifying the key features of the genre and analysing a range of examples in preparation for their own writing. In Reading, our exploration of non-fiction texts continues, with the children building on the knowledge and skills they have been developing over recent weeks. In Geography, the children have been investigating just how far the food on our plates has travelled, calculating distances and developing a greater awareness of where our food comes from around the world. In Science, the hands-on learning continued as the children progressed with building their own circuits and created a fact file about Electricity. In PE, the children put their developing Rugby skills to the test, enjoying a small-sided game and applying everything they have been practising in recent weeks. We hope all Year 4 students enjoy a well-earned rest over the holidays, and we very much look forward to welcoming everyone back for an exciting Summer term.

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

A busy end to a busy term in Year 5. In English, we completed our third-person cliffhanger narratives, reviewing each other's work and revising our own before the final version. In Maths, we completed our unit on perimeter and area, we also attended a helpful online lesson along with many other schools, focusing on how to break down problem solving questions involving multiplication and division. This included some very useful techniques! In Science, we focused on irreversible changes, such as the chemical reactions produced by fire and acid. In Geography, we concluded our unit on the world's oceans by learning about plastic pollution and considering what we can do about it, and summarising what we have learned across the unit. We also learned from our Brain Buddies some techniques for addressing worries and continued to learn some statistical facts about the world in our Reading lessons on *If the World Were a Village*.

We hope all Year 5 students enjoy a well-earned rest, and look forward to seeing everyone back for an exciting Summer term.

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

This week has been a mixture of fun and great learning. In English, we have finished our non-chronological reports after some very considered and careful editing. Maths focused on coordinates and we used different points to record the location on the x and y axis. We looked at some challenging problems with shapes and worked out the location of points using coordinates. We also attended an online workshop which looked at complex problem solving – it was challenging but very thought provoking. Science proved to be exciting as we dissected a pig's heart. Using our knowledge from previous lessons, we located the different working parts of the heart and discussed how it all works to keep the blood circulating around our body. Year 6 certainly have earned a break after a busy few weeks and will hopefully return after Easter ready and motivated for the Summer term.



### **SUMMER Term 2026 Diary**

13-4-2026	School Starts
29-4-2026	11.45am Reception Parent Lunch
4-5-2026	Bank Holiday
11-5-2026	KS2 SATs Week
18-5-2026	KS1 SATs Week
<b>25-5-2026 – 29-5-2026 (Half Term)</b>	
1-6-2026	Training Day (Report Writing Day)
4-6-2026	5.00pm Welcome Meeting (New Reception)
8-6-2026	Year 4 MTC
8-6-2025	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
11-6-2026	Year 6 Residential
12-6-2026	Year 6 Residential
17-6-2026	1.45 Stay and Play Session 1 (New Reception)
18-6-2026	9.30am Class Photos
18-6-2026	1.30pm Expressive Arts Concert
19-6-2026	3.00pm Summer Fayre
23-6-2026	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 2a (New Reception)
24-6-2026	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 2b (New Reception)
24-6-2026	Report Deadline to be handed in
26-6-2026	Sports Day
1-7-2026	1.45pm Stay and Play Session 3 (New Reception)
2-7-2026	School Heritage Day
8-7-2026	2.00pm Year 6 Production
9-7-2026	5.30pm Year 6 Production
10-7-2026	Reports Out
13-7-2026	Year 6 Leavers Experience
14-7-2026	3.30pm Open Session for Reports
15-7-2026	9.30am Move Up Morning
16-7-2026	9.30am Leavers Mass
17-7-2026	1.30pm Last Day