



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 30 – Friday 8th May 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

This week has been full of exciting learning and achievement across our school community. Our Year 6 children are now making their final preparations for SATs next week. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, resilience and determination they have shown throughout the year and ask our school community to keep them in their prayers. We also celebrated a fantastic 12–0 victory for our Year 5 and Year 6 Netball team against Hampton Lakes. The team showed excellent teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the match — well done to all involved. In Reception, children have enjoyed creating some lovely writing linked to the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough, the inspirational person one of their classes is named after. Their work showed great creativity and enthusiasm for the natural world. Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

"Lord Jesus, walk with us on our journey. Help us to recognise you in our daily lives and fill our hearts with joy and hope. Amen."

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Reception (Luther-King) for having 100% attendance this week. Overall, our school attendance was 97.1%. 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. Booking is now available for the remainder of the Summer Term.

SATs Week – Year 6

Next week our Year 6 children will be joining with other Year 6 children across the country in completing their SATs test. The children have worked incredibly hard throughout the year, and they could not be more ready. I know you will join me in wishing them good luck for next week!

Netball

On Thursday after school, we had a return netball match versus Hampton Lakes. We had narrowly lost to them in an earlier match, so we were determined to play well. The game started quite tightly with good defence from both teams; however, we managed to take an early lead and settled into the game very well. Showing lots of movement and great passing, we managed to eventually take control of the game and ran out winners 12-0. The team owe a huge thanks to Mrs Galietti and Mrs Sanzullo who run the netball club every Monday after school. What a great performance all round!



Winning netball team!

Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week in EYFS, we have been learning about David Attenborough as today is his 100th birthday! We have really enjoyed learning about his work and the amazing animals he has helped people discover all around the world. In Literacy, we wrote letters to him explaining which animals are our favourites and why, and in provision we have been busy making birthday cards to celebrate his special day. In Maths, we explored addition through 'first, then, now' stories and worked on finding missing parts by using the total and one known number to work out how many had been added. As part of our Art unit, we created tissue paper flowers using a range of skills including ripping, tearing, scrunching and sticking. It has been a shorter but very busy week in EYFS!

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week, we have been busy with lots of learning. In Maths, we recognised quarters and found quarters of different quantities. In English reading, we read about millipedes and centipedes, comparing their similarities and differences. In writing, we recapped adding -s and -es to words and looked closely at the spelling patterns. In History, we began our new enquiry, “How do explorers change the world?”, by thinking about what an explorer is and where explorers have travelled. In science, we studied plants in our local area and counted the different plants we could see.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

This week in Year 2 the children have really enjoyed watching our caterpillars form pupas! Lots of the children recognised that this is the 3rd stage in the butterfly’s lifecycle and have been checking them at every available opportunity! In Maths we have continued our work on fractions, this week we have calculated one quarter of amounts, recognised and calculated a third and recognised the whole from a given fraction. In writing lessons, we have worked on expanded noun phrases and writing in 3rd person in preparation for our hot task. The children have really enjoyed performing and analysing Robert Louis Stevenson’s ‘A Good Play’. In History, the children have been learning about the different types of castles built by the Normans, including Motte-and-Bailey castles and stone keep castles. They looked at the similarities and differences between the 2 and then enjoyed designing their own castle.



Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

It may have been a shorter one but no less busy and exciting in Year 3! This week we have been creating more experiments in Science based on plants and their growth rate. In Maths we have been working hard on time- with being able to tell the time to 5 minute interval, to the minute and working out how long is left until the next hour- it would be fantastic for the children to build on this learning at home too. In English writing we are linking it to our Science and writing instructions based on planting seeds and the other care plants need as they grow. In P.E we have been practising our athletic skills ahead of sports day with a range of running, jumping and team work games- the children have enjoyed increasing their skills in these areas. In English reading we have been continuing with our learning with stories from different parts of Africa and answering a range of questions to deepen our comprehension.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

It has been a fantastic week back and the children have hit the ground running across all areas of the curriculum. In English Writing, the children have been developing their grammar and punctuation skills, learning how to use expanded noun phrases with prepositional phrases to add detail and precision to their writing, as well as how to punctuate direct speech correctly. In Maths, we have been rounding off our decimals unit with a focus on problem solving, including subtraction, rounding to the nearest whole number, and understanding halves and quarters as decimals. We are now moving into a new unit - Money. In English Reading, the children explored a playscript from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, using retrieval skills to locate and understand information across different scenes. In History, we have embarked on our new topic on the Ancient Maya, with the children beginning to understand how the rainforest shaped and influenced Maya life and making inferences about this fascinating civilisation from the remains of their cities. In PE, the children have been working on two key Football skills — looking to identify their target before passing and moving quickly into a new space after releasing the ball. Please also be aware that MTC assessment is coming up in just a few weeks. Continuing to practise little and often at home will make a real difference — your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

We have fit a lot into four days in Year 5 this week. In Writing, we have planned, drafted and edited our explanation text about the human life cycle, linked to our learning in Science, where we have discussed the changes that happen during adulthood and old age. In Maths, we have completed our unit on geometry by learning to describe and classify polygons and 3D shapes, including measuring angles within shapes, and we have begun a new unit on position and direction, starting by reading and plotting coordinates. In History, we have discussed democracy in its earliest form in Ancient Athens, and compared this with modern British democracy, while in Spanish, we have continued to express likes and dislikes, making simple sentences which include infinitive verbs, and relating this to the several Spanish festivals that we have learned about. PE continues to see us preparing for the various athletic and field events of sports day.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

It's been a short but very productive week in Year 6. As we gear up for the SATs week on Monday, we have been doing some fun revision lessons which ended up being in the hall and even out on the field! We are remembering to be kind and supportive of each other during this time to ensure we stay happy and focused. However, we have also been exploring lots of themes and characters of our writing text – Voices in the Park. We explored the possible back stories of the characters which will help us record their inner thoughts within our writing. We will go on to write as one of the characters in 1st person next week. We have continued to practise tennis in PE this week - despite battling the strong winds at times, we are improving our control and ball striking. On Wednesday, we had a short practise of some hymns to sing at our upcoming Jubilee event later in the term – some of the words from the hymns were '*Jesus is there with us.*' We are confident He will be with us, as we show the depth of our learning, in the important week ahead.

SUMMER Term 2026 Diary

11-5-2026	KS2 SATs Week
18-5-2026	KS1 SATs Week
25-5-2026 – 29-5-2026 (Half Term)	
1-6-2026	Training Day (Report Writing Day)
3-6-2026	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