



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 36 – Friday 26th June 2026

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Phew what a warm week it has been, however it has not stopped it being another productive week at St John Henry Newman. Our new Reception (September 2026) children enjoyed their second stay and play session – it was lovely to see their growing confidence as they explored their new classroom and made new friends. Year 6 have been working hard to get ready for their end-of-year production OLIVIA! It has been lovely hearing the singing echo down the corridors. At the time of reading this our Sports Day will be drawing to a close. A full write up of this event will be in next weeks newsletter. Have a great weekend everyone.

**Lord, give us the courage of St Peter and the faith of St Paul, so that we may follow you with strength and love.
Amen.**

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 6 (Rashford) for having 100% attendance this week. Overall, our school attendance was 96.5%. 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.

Newman Voices Podcast Has Launched!

We are delighted to announce that *Newman Voices*, our school podcast created and hosted by Year 6 pupils, has officially launched and is now available on Spotify!

New episodes will be released every Tuesday morning at 7:30am, bringing listeners interviews, school news, special guests and plenty of pupil voice from across St John Henry Newman School.

Why not give our very first episode a listen and hear our hosts introduce themselves and share their plans for the podcast? We would love your support, so please don't forget to follow our Spotify profile to be notified whenever a new episode is released.

 **Listen to Episode 1 here:**

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/0yg1vij0nCS2iNQPolnyzF>

We hope you enjoy listening to *Newman Voices* as much as our pupils enjoy creating it!



Summer Fayre

Our Summer Fayre on Friday was a wonderful success and it was fantastic to see so many families and friends come together to support our school community. A huge thank you to our dedicated Friends Team for all their hard work in organising such an enjoyable event. We are also grateful to everyone who attended, volunteered and contributed to the day. Your support helps make events like this so special and successful.



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week in Reception, we have continued our learning based on the story *What the Ladybird Heard*. We have been writing sentences about the different noises the animals make, using our phonics and sentence-writing skills. In Maths, we have been giving instructions to others to build models. This was trickier than we first thought, as we had to be very specific with our instructions, particularly when using positional language such as *in front of*, *behind* and *to the right*. At the beginning of the week, we spent some time practising for Sports Day and demonstrated fabulous sportsmanship throughout. We were especially proud of how well the children coped with the hot weather and encouraged one another. In Music, we have continued learning how to hold and play the recorder, building our confidence and musical skills. It has been a busy week, and we have been very thankful for our air conditioning, which has helped to keep us cool while we learn!

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

We have had another busy week in Year 1, in Maths we have focused on money giving us the opportunity to look at the different coins and notes that we use in this country. In our reading lessons we have continued to read the story the summer my father was ten. In writing we have focused on different aspects which can make our instruction writing better including expanded noun phrases and using imperative verbs. We have also completed a wonderful DT project where we looked at a range of different fabrics, designed a bookmark and finished with stitching a bookmark. We look forward to using our bookmarks within our reading books.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

It's been a busy week again in Year 2. We have finished our statistics unit in Maths, learning how to read, plot and interpret pictograms where the symbol represents 2, 5 or 10. In writing lessons we planned and completed our hot write; a non-chronological report about butterflies. The children worked very hard and have created some very interesting, informative and eye-catching reports. We have continued reading about Robin Hood in reading lessons, including discussing if we think the legend of Robin Hood is fact or fiction! In art lessons the children have started working on their final collages; using their texture paintings they did last week, alongside bits of paper and magazines.

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week has been a busy week in Year 3. In English writing the children finished writing their non-chronological reports in their neatest writing. In English reading we have started to read a new book called Lucy's blue day- the children are really enjoying this so far and have related well to Lucy! In Maths we are finishing looking at 2D and 3D shapes and identifying different properties of shape including perpendicular and parallel lines as well as whether shapes have right angles. In Science we have been learning about friction and have created an experiment on deciding which materials create the most amount of friction. In History we have been expanding on the Ancient Egyptians and learning about what they believed in relation to different Gods and Goddesses.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

In Maths, it has been a particularly busy week, covering three areas of geometry. The children explored the properties of quadrilaterals and polygons, before moving on to lines of symmetry and completing symmetric figures. In Writing, an exciting new genre has begun — the children are embarking on instructional writing, learning how to use fronted adverbials, descriptive language, and well-structured sentences to guide the reader clearly and effectively. In Geography, we have continued our rivers unit, this week identifying the key features of rivers and locating the longest rivers both in the UK and across the world. In Reading, our journey with *The Children of Swallow Fell* continues, with the children moving on to Chapter 6 this week and remaining thoroughly engaged with the story. In DT, the children explored the advantages and disadvantages of different types of fastenings before putting their creativity to work designing their own book covers — some truly imaginative ideas have emerged! We are also delighted to share that the results from the official Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) were fantastic. We will be sharing individual results with families very soon — thank you once again for all of your support throughout the year in helping the children reach this point.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

A busy week as ever in Year 5. We have reviewed, edited and written up our free choice narratives, showing a wide and diverse range of creative ideas, while also continuing to read and discuss *Who let the Gods out*. In Maths, we have continued with more advanced number and place value learning, including negative numbers and multiplying by multiples of 10. In Science, we have continued our learning about reproduction by discussing asexual reproduction, for example in some plants, as well as the famous example of Dolly the sheep. Our study of deserts in geography has continued to look at the uses of deserts, including for recreation, mining, the military and human settlement. In Spanish, we have learned about using the third person singular to describe another person, including their name, age, etc. Finally, we have enjoyed a curtailed and quite warm sports day!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

It is all go on our end of year production as we find time to practise our scenes and remember our lines! We have been singing some great songs and adding actions to keep the show fun and engaging. We are getting our costumes ready and bringing them in for our dress rehearsals next week as the following week we have to perform it to everyone. This week was also busy in Science as we carried out an experiment on our focus of adaptations. Taking research from Charles Darwin, who studied the finches in the Galapagos Islands, we looked at the beaks that would be the most successful on each island depending on the main food source. Using different 'bugs' (marshmallows, toothpicks, cereal and paperclips) tried to 'eat' them using various beaks (tongs, spoons, straws and tweezers) It was a lot of fun but also helped us understand about the evolution of a species through natural selection. In English, we finished our 3rd person narrative stories based on the short film and published them using laptops.

SUMMER Term 2026 Diary

1-7-2026	2.00pm Stay and Play Session 3 (New Reception)
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	School Heritage Day
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