



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 38 – Friday 10th July 2026

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

It has been another wonderful week in school, with our talented Year 6 children delighting both pupils and families with their fantastic performances of *Olivia*! We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and thank everyone who helped make the production such a success. By the time you read this, end-of-year reports will have been sent home. I hope you enjoy celebrating your child's achievements and the progress they have made this year. We now look ahead to our final week of term, including Move Up Morning and our Year 6 Leavers' Mass—two special occasions as we celebrate the end of one chapter and look forward to the next. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Loving God, help us to listen to Your voice, to be thankful for all we have achieved this year, and to continue serving others with kindness and love. Bless our school family as we prepare for the summer holidays. Amen.

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 4 (Yousafzai) for having 99.78% attendance this week. Overall, our school attendance was 96.3%. 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' 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 Autumn 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 ALL the episodes here-](#)

[Newman Voices | Podcast on Spotify](#)

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



Minnie Vinnies

Congratulations to Emilia in Luther-King class who found the Treasure at the Summer Fayre! She won the £20 prize at the Treasure Hunt stall run by the Mini Vinnies. Thank you to all that took part and helped on the stall.

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTFA for gifting our Year 6 children their leavers' hoodies! There were lots of smiles as they proudly received them last Friday. These hoodies are a wonderful keepsake as our Year 6 pupils begin to celebrate the final weeks of primary school.



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week in Reception, we have been enjoying the story *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, reimagining it with different characters and writing our own sentences to retell the story. In Maths, we have been recapping our number bonds and learning how to count on from a given number to help us add more efficiently. In Art, we brought our designs to life by making our clay animal models using the plans we created last week. It was so much fun, and we were very proud of our finished creations! In Computing, we explored coding by programming a mouse bot to move from one location to another. This was trickier than we first thought and helped us to develop our problem-solving skills. As part of our transition to Year 1, we have also started joining the rest of the school outside at playtime. This has gone well; we have enjoyed seeing the older children and becoming more familiar with the big playground.

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

This week in English, we have been learning how to use the prefix un- and the suffixes -ed and -ing to write sentences in the correct tense, helping us prepare for writing thoughtful thank you letters to adults around our school. In Maths, we have been exploring time by learning about seconds, minutes and hours, as well as telling the time to the hour. In Art, our Paper Play project has continued as the children used scrap paper and paper straws to design and build their own imaginative mini beasts, showing great creativity and problem-solving. In DT, we began constructing the base, wheels and axles for the pull toys we will be completing next week, carefully following instructions and developing our practical making skills. As we approach the end of the school year, it has been wonderful to see just how much the children have grown as learners. Their confidence, independence and resilience have developed so much, and it has been a real pleasure to watch them tackle new challenges with increasing determination. They should all be incredibly proud of how far they have come.

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

We've had a great week in Year 2! In writing lessons, the children have written poems all about their time in year 2. They discovered it is very difficult to write a rhyming verse! Some of them managed it very well...here are a selection of lines:

'It was time for break, it was fun, and I got to play with my friend and run' - Sukritya

'My favourite event was Victorian Day when we got to dress up and play' - Toby

'Year 2 is nearly done, but we have had the most of fun' - Emma

'Pancake day was really fun and then we had a bit of a run' - Esme

'When we were eating wraps, we invited our parents to try them, our parents were happy so gave us a clap' - Flynn

In Maths we have learnt how to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes – the children worked hard on this tricky life skill and lots of them cracked it! In Art lessons the children made their clay 'house' tile using impressions with various tools and the score and slip method to create areas of relief.



Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

This week in Year 3 we have been finishing up our Maths learning on statistics using different charts to create our own graphs and answer questions on the data. In English writing we have been finishing our diary entries based on Lucy's blue day- the children have thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and learning more about how our feelings change throughout the day. In History we have finished our learning about the Ancient Egyptians with looking at what change throughout the Egyptian time period and how the tombs where the Pharaohs were buried were set out. In Art we have linked the learning to our history with creating Art based on different symbols and colours from the time to create scrolls.

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

Excitement is building this week as we look ahead to our upcoming trip to Ferry Meadows, where the children will have a wonderful opportunity to put their Geography knowledge into practice — we cannot wait! In Maths, we have made a strong start on our brand new unit on Position and Direction, with the children learning to describe positions using coordinates and plot coordinates accurately — a skill they are taking to with great enthusiasm. In Reading, we have continued to explore Norse Mythology for Kids, this week focusing on Chapter 3: The Nine Worlds, with the children responding to a range of comprehension questions to deepen their understanding of this rich and fascinating topic. In Writing, the children have been planning and drafting instructions for their very own recipe, drawing on everything they have learned about the features of instructional writing and applying it in a creative and personal way. In Geography, we have been exploring the many ways in which rivers are used by people, as well as reflecting on how vital rivers are to the natural environment — knowledge that will come to life beautifully on our trip. In DT, the children have reached a brilliant milestone, completing the sewing of their book covers — a real test of patience, precision, and perseverance, and the results are something to be very proud of.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

A hard push for the last weeks of term, but the end is in sight. After some further work on addition and subtraction, Year 5 enjoyed a fun maths activity from “Taskmaster”, gathering data about their classes on a range of creative topics and presenting it. In reading, we have compared *High Rise Mystery* and *Who Let the Gods Out* with respect to the authors’ creation of tension. We have drafted and edited our letters of complaint in character as Elliot Hooper, in geography have concluded our unit on deserts, and in Spanish have described friends and family members. We also enjoyed watching the dress rehearsal of the Year 6 production, and as if that was not enough, a wonderful concert of the “Four Seasons in One Day” based on Vivaldi’s famous work, presented by Eboricum Baroque; this included some children playing trumpets made out of funnels and hosepipe!

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

WOW! What fantastic performances of Olivia! Despite some last-minute nerves and wardrobe malfunctions, we staged two excellent performances of our end of year production. It was so great to perform in front of parents and carers and the enjoyment on their faces was great to witness. In between our drama-led activities, we have had a chance to reflect on our year(s) here at St John Henry Newman in preparation for our Leavers Mass on Thursday. In Music this week we were lucky enough to have a visit from Eboracum Baroque: The Four Seasons Adventure took us on a magical journey through Vivaldi’s *Four Seasons*, brought to life through live music, storytelling, movement and art. In PE, we played games of rounders which were hotly contested and enjoyed by us all. We made sure we did this in the morning before it became too hot! We have also been working on individual End of Year Leavers booklets as a souvenir/memento of our time in Year 6. As the days get closer to the end of the school year, we are having regular discussions and chats about our feelings as we move on to secondary school. It good to share our concerns or questions about our move to our new schools.

SUMMER Term 2026 Diary

13-7-2026	Year 6 Leavers Experience
14-7-2026	School Heritage Day – CANCELLED
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