



St John Henry Newman Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Volume 39 – Friday 17th July 2026

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Can you believe it? We have made it to the final day of the year! From our exciting school trips and sports days to amazing art projects and science experiments, what a fantastic school year it has been. Our classrooms have been filled with learning, hard work and fun. I would also like to take a moment to celebrate all the hard work, creativity, and growth we have seen in all our children. Today also marks the final day for our Year 6 cohort. They have been a great cohort and are very much ready to step into secondary school. Finally, I would like to thank all our hard working and dedicated staff; they really do work so, so hard every day. I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing summer break and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Heavenly Father, as we come to the end of an academic year, we thank you for giving us the opportunity to be a part of the lives of our students; may they be mindful that their steps make an impact, and their words carry power. Amen

Mr Cooper
Headteacher

Attendance

Well done to Year 3 (Pankhurst) for having 100% attendance this week. Overall, our school attendance was 96.1%. Our final end of year attendance figure was a satisfying 96.13% Well done and thank you very one for your efforts.

Miss Lemon

A huge congratulations to Miss Lemon, who will return after the summer break as Mrs Esposito following her wedding during the holidays. On behalf of the entire St John Henry Newman family, we wish her and her fiancé every happiness as they begin this exciting new chapter together. Congratulations, Mrs Esposito!

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 first half of the Autumn Term.

Goodbye Year 6 (2026)

Today we say goodbye to our Year 6 children. From their first day to their last, they have grown in knowledge, confidence and character. It has been lovely to see their achievements and friendships. As they move on to their secondary school, we send our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes. Thank you for being an unforgettable part of our school community. Farewell, Year 6—you will be missed!



Reception Learning (Attenborough and Luther-King)

This week in Reception, we have been preparing for our exciting transition to Year 1. In Maths, we have enjoyed taking part in lessons that are similar to those we will experience next year, helping us to become familiar with new routines and expectations. In Literacy, we have been learning how to use a purple pen to edit our writing, checking for capital letters, full stops and correct letter formation. We have also spent a morning in our new Year 1 classrooms with our new teachers, which was very exciting and helped us to feel confident about the move. Alongside all of this, we have been making the most of our final week together by enjoying time in our classrooms, playing with our friends and reflecting on all that we have achieved this year. As we come to the end of Reception, we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for all of your support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure to work with both you and your wonderful children. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and know they are more than ready for the exciting adventures that Year 1 will bring. We hope you all have a wonderful, restful summer break!

Year 1 Learning (Armstrong and Chanel)

What a fantastic final week we've had! In DT, the children designed and made their own monster pull toys, carefully using axles and wheels to make their creations move. In Maths, we completed our learning on time by telling the time to the half hour, and the children's confidence has grown so much. In English, we wrote thoughtful thank you letters to the adults in school who have helped us throughout the year, using all of the writing skills we have developed in Year 1. We couldn't be prouder of everything the children have achieved. They have grown into confident, kind and resilient learners who are ready for the exciting challenges of Year 2. Thank you for all of your support this year. Have a fantastic summer!

Year 2 Learning (Hamilton and Lennon)

Year 2 have had a brilliant last week! We have finished our unit of work on 'Time' in Maths and lots of the children can now tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes! In Maths we have also done some consolidation work on multiplication and division in word problems. We finished our English writing unit by writing an informal letter to a friend about how we feel about moving into Year 3. The children expressed what they were looking forward to, anything they were worried about, as well as how they feel about leaving Year 2. In reading lessons, we reached the end of 'Fantastic Mr Fox'. The children have really enjoyed it and did some great comprehension work and a discussion activity about how the book links to our theme of 'perseverance'. The children enjoyed their 'move up morning' in Year 3 and are ready for the challenges the year brings! We have really enjoyed teaching this cohort and would like to wish you all a fantastic summer holiday!

Year 3 Learning (Frank and Pankhurst)

What a final week for Year 3! The children have worked hard finishing off their Art projects based on Ancient Egyptian scrolls- they had great fun painting these! In Maths we have finished off with extra measurement lessons to ensure the children are secure on time as this has been an area we have struggled on this year. The children thoroughly enjoyed their transition morning with their new teachers Miss Taylor and Mr Lima, expressing how excited they are about next year. It has been a pleasure to teach the children in Year 3 this year and get to know all of their wonderful personalities. We wish our families a wonderful summer break and know they will return to a fantastic year in Year 4!

Year 4 Learning (Gandhi and Yousafzai)

It has been a busy and memorable final week! A real highlight was Transition Morning, where the children met their new teachers for September — Mr Wright, Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Grice. They handled the morning with great maturity, and it was lovely to see their excitement for the year ahead. In Maths, we reached the end of our unit this week, with the children learning to translate shapes on a grid and describe translations accurately. In Writing, the children finished and published their instructional writing. Some children even took the initiative to create their own PowerPoint presentations to share their instructions with the rest of the class, which was brilliant to see. In Reading, we continued our journey through *Norse Mythology for Kids*, with the children answering comprehension questions on Chapter 3 to deepen their understanding. In Science, we began exploring the human body, learning how the digestive system processes food. In PE, the children played several games of rounders and got very competitive — a great way to enjoy the summer sunshine together.

We wish you and your families a very happy and restful summer holiday.

Year 5 Learning (Curie and Hawking)

We have had a busy final week in Year 5. We completed remaining work in our core subjects, writing up our letters of complaint, "hot seating" as characters from *Who Let the Gods Out* and *High Rise Mystery*, and concluding the year's science curriculum with a discussion of global warming. We have also completed activities in Art – creating installations using PE equipment; DT – learning about bridges and attempting to build truss bridges from spaghetti; and computing – composing musical soundtracks (Hawking) and making stop-motion animations (Curie). The children also enjoyed "move up" morning on Wednesday, meeting their new class teachers Mr. Pepper and Miss Slater, and beginning to settle into the routine of Year 6. Congratulations to all our Year 5 students on a successful year, and best wishes for the summer and the coming year.

Year 6 Learning (Rashford and Biles)

What a week! Combining having fun and preparation for our Leavers Mass. We also had time to reflect on our year and discuss the highs and lows. Earlier in the week we handed over the responsibility of play-leading to the Year 5 cohort. We had a chance to show them how the playground games are played and how to look after a game involving younger members of the school. We also had a fantastic time at the local park on Monday which was a Year 6 reward for our year. Abby provided a wonderful picnic and we also played some games and relaxed for the whole afternoon. It was a great way to spend one of our last afternoons together. Thank you St John Henry Newman for a fabulous year and all the best to us all going on to our new schools!

AUTUMN Term 2026 Diary

1-9-2026	8.45 – 3.30pm Staff Training Day (School Closed)
2-9-2026	8.35 School Restarts
2-9-2026	Reception in until 11.45am
4-9-2026	Reception in until 1.00pm
7-9-2026	Reception in Full-Time
23-9-2026	4.30pm Welcome Ceremony for Reception and Year 6 Buddies
25-9-2026	Schools Mass in Norwich – Year 6 Biles Class
25-9-2026	Languages Day
30-9-2026	12.00pm Year 2 Parents Lunch
9-10-2026	Feast of St John Henry Newman
13-10-2026	Parent Meetings
14-10-2026	Parent Meetings
21-10-2026	12.00pm Year 6 Parent Lunch
22-10-2026	10.00am Harvest Celebration
26-10-2026 to 30-10-2026 (Half Term)	
9-11-2026	Anti-Bullying Week
17-11-2026	9.30am School Photos
18-11-2026	12.00pm Year 5 Parent Lunch
30-11-2026	Reverse Advent Calendar Starts
3-12-2026	6.00pm Peterborough Schools Carol Service
7-12-2026	Reception and Year 1 Nativity – Whole School
8-12-2026	2.00pm Nativity Year 1
9-12-2026	2.00pm Nativity Year 1
9-12-2026	5.00pm Advent Service
10-12-2026	2.00pm Nativity Reception
11-12-2026	2.00pm Nativity Reception
15-12-2026	10.00am Choir at Tesco
16-12-2026	Christmas Lunch
17-12-2026	Christmas Jumpers
17-12-2026	1.30pm Year 2 – Year 6 A Song for Christmas
18-12-2026	1.30pm Last Day