



ST. NORBERT'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

"It always seems impossible until it is done." Nelson Mandela
Advent Term 1

Welcome Back to a new Academic Year 2019-20

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome Back! I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. The children have certainly had lots of exciting stories to share. Welcome to our new EYFS children and their families who are settling in really well. We wish all our new families a special St. Norbert's welcome, and we hope they will continue to enjoy their time at St. Norbert's School with the rest of our staff and pupils. We look forward to working with you. I know you will continue to work with us, so your child can grow in confidence, with a love of learning, and a determination to be the best person they can be.



As you may be aware we experienced a disastrous water leak in the week following summer closure. This led to devastating effects on the ICT suite, library, hallway and year 2 classroom. A valiant team effort mitigated against our loss. The team at our Multi-Academy Head Office were instrumental in working with myself, Mr Matchett and Mrs Bowser and the wider staff team to ensure the school could be repaired and open on time. They enlisted the help of CPA who in turn jumped to our aid, plumbing was fixed within a week and the damaged parquet flooring and mastic were removed. ISS restoration sent in drying equipment to mitigate further damage and Brown's who have worked on our school previously came in and laid a full asphalt floor, put in new skirting boards and repaired the two suspended ceilings the leak had destroyed. We send our great thanks and prayers to all these teams that have made the re-opening possible. The School is looking better than ever and the children particularly like the "new carpet" smell.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Fr. Jim who has organised a second collection at Masses this weekend for school that we will use to replace damaged items from the library. It is Education Sunday this Sunday and I hope I will see you at the 11am Mass at which our very own Mrs Szczygiel is talking to the Parish, followed by cake and refreshments in the hall afterwards. Our St. Norbert's merchandise will also be on sale to raise further funds, please give generously if you can.

Hot Drinks Containers £5 Water Bottles £2.50 Tote Bags £1.00 Keyrings £0.50

Your children are your most important gift from God, treasure them, help them, guide them and support them. Start this new term with this commitment with us so we can help your child to shine like the stars they are.

Thought of the Week

Friendships can be very important to new beginnings. They may help us in our transition or they may help encourage us to awaken dreams. It's also important to consider our friendship with God who meets us wherever we are. When we look back on a past year or past relationship or past situation, we may nostalgically long to return to that place. But the graces of those times and the memories of the past can come with us. And God, most importantly, is never left behind. God moves with us from the present moment into the future, into new and hopeful beginnings. The verse from Isaiah says that God is going to do something "brand-new". What brand new thing is God doing for me now?

Let us start our new beginning with a prayer attributed to St Teresa of Avila and St Thérèse of Lisieux:

May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us.

Right of the month for September 2019



Article 4:
Governments must provide extra money for children of families in need.



School News



Worship Together

We have come together as a school family this week to celebrate our new term and launch our Faith Journey Project this term focused on St. Francis. We will be celebrating the Start of the New School Year with a Mass led by Fr. Jim on Monday 9th 9.30pm. Our Parents and Parishioners are welcome to join us.

Rights Respecting School and Mission

As you know we are a values school and we endeavour to ensure that all learners show respect for everything (friends, adults, property) and we constantly remind learners of the values that underpin our every action. We as a school will continue to support you in reminding your child to say please, thank you, excuse me and to call a person by their name ie Mr, Mrs etc... also to be patient when adults are talking, to learn to wait, to knock on the door before entering, to stand back for adults if there is no room to pass, to hold the door and to offer to help. Please remind your children about following instruction and treating everyone as they would like to be treated.

Education Sunday is this Sunday 8th September. Thank you to Fr Jim and our St. Norbert's Parish Family as the second collection this weekend will be for the Flood Damaged Resources Fundraiser.

School Council

The School Council is made up of two representatives from each class. The Council meet regularly to discuss any issues that may be of concern, or that have been brought to their attention by other pupils. These issues are then forwarded to the Headteacher for consideration. The School Council is very popular with all the pupils, as it gives them a voice in school, and enables the whole school community to work together, and we shall be electing a new School Council for this school year.

Governors

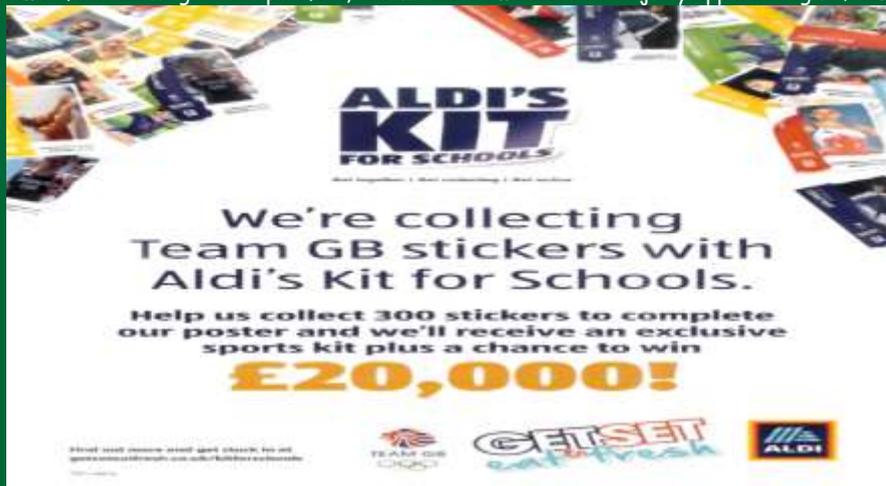
All the Governors at St. Norbert's School work very hard, voluntarily, to ensure our school continues to serve the whole school community at a consistently high level. Governors visit the school on a regular basis, attending meetings, undertaking training, attending interview panels and touring the school, looking at children's work, achievement and progress. We thank the Governors for all their continued hard work and support for the school, and look forward to working together in the forthcoming school year.

Word of the Week



Make time to...

The following link provides ideas to set your children free with our 50 things to do before you're 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ activities. Let them feel the wind in their hair, smell food cooking on an open fire, track wild animals and eat a juicy apple straight from the tree. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/50-things-to-do>



This September, Aldi is giving primary schools a chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school, through their Kit for Schools promotion.

For us here at St Norbert's to be in with a chance of being entered to win this amazing amount of money we need your help, please! For every £30 you spend in Aldi you will be given a Team GB sticker....we need 300 stickers to complete the poster which will be displayed in school. Once we have received 300 stickers our school will receive a free sports kit for the children and be in with a chance to win £20,000.

So why not head over to Aldi and "GET SET to eat fresh" whilst helping St Norbert's too.

The promotion is starting today and being run until 3rd November - please hand your stickers into the school office. Thank you for your continued support!

Liz McMurray -TA/Sports Apprentice

Dates For Your Diary:

After School Clubs will start 16th September – details to follow.

8th September – Feast of Our Lady
8th September – Education Sunday
9th September – Whole School Mass 9.30am
9th September – Reception 2019 Class Photograph
11th – 13th September – Year 6 Briars Retreat
13th September-Roald Dahl Day-Bring a Roald Dahl inspired picture to school and share with your class.
14th September-11+ Verbal Reasoning Test
21st September-11+ Non-Verbal Reasoning Test
23rd September- NSPCC Workshops in School Y5/6
30th September- Start of Little Way Week
1st October-Feast Day of St. Therese of Lisieux
9th October-Year 6 Class Mass 9.30am
10th October-Year 4 Class Mass
15th/16th October-Parent Consultation Evenings and Book Fair
16th October Y2 Class Worship 2.50pm
18th October – End of Term 1/Harvest Service 1.30pm
28th October – INSET Day
29th October – Start of Term 2

October is the month of the Rosary

Finally, thank you for your support, and we look forward to another successful year, for your child, for you and for our whole school community.



Priorities for School Improvement for 2019-2020:

Key Improvement 1: Catholic Life of the School -SMSC To improve the quality of the R.E. teaching so that it is consistently good / outstanding in all classes. *Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.*

Key Improvement 2: Quality of Education Improve the quality of teaching in order to increase rates of progress and raise standards for all groups of pupils. *Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.*

Key Improvement 3: Personal Development To improve the personal development of all pupils *Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.*

Key Improvement 4: Leadership and Management Develop the effectiveness of all middle and senior leaders *Article 6: All children have the right to life and develop healthily. Article 28: All children and young people have a right to a primary education, which should be free. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of.*

Key Improvement 5: Outcomes for children and learners. To improve the teaching of English in order to raise standards of attainment and rates of progress for all pupils across the school. *Article 13: You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, and writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.*

Pupil of the Week

EYFS- All of Reception for settling in so well this week.

Year 1- Alice for helping the reception children to settle in at playtime and helping other Year 1 children with their learning.

Year 2- Kristiana for already taking her time and learning at home.

Year 3- Darija for settling into Year 3 and being Year 3 ready.

Year 4- Samanta for being kind and caring to her friend in need.

Year 5- Marta for settling excellently into the challenges of Year 5 and showing a caring nature towards others by always being ready to lend a helping hand.

Year 6- Ethan for his exemplary knowledge and application of Roman Numerals.



Family Faith Journey

This term's Saint of the Term is one of our house saints- St Francis. St Francis's Feast Day is on the 4th October. He was canonized as a saint just two years after his death, on July 16, 1228, by his former protector, Pope Gregory IX. Today, Saint Francis of Assisi is the patron saint for ecologists — a title honouring his boundless love for animals and nature. St. Francis loved all God's creatures and followed God's example of kindness, mercy, compassion, and love for all creation. To decorate our prayer web this term let's fill it with images, models and collages of different animals and birds to share our love of nature and remember St Francis's love of God's Creation that we are all stewards of.

Attendance

Remember as we start the school year our school target is 97% and anything below **90% is Persistent Absence and can result in a fixed penalty notice**. We are also required to report any families to the local authority whose children have had 10 consecutive days absent from school or any that take unauthorised/absence or holiday.

All children must be collected on time at the end of the school day, by the designated parent/carer. Please ensure your child is aware of home time arrangements, i.e. if they are to wait for an adult to collect them, or they are to go home alone or to go to the after school club. You must also ensure that arrangements are made for the care of your child once they return home. You MUST contact the school office if there is a change, i.e. another adult will be collecting your child – we will not let your child go home unless we are notified. Please ensure you complete and return the ‘home time arrangement’ contact form that has recently been sent home.

Your child must wear the correct school uniform, with sensible black school shoes (no markings/colours etc...). Please ensure you write your child’s name on all uniform and PE kit. The correct PE kit must also be worn – navy or white polo shirt (no sports tops) and plain black/navy bottoms (no markings or brand names).

For children who choose to have a packed lunch, please ensure it contains a healthy balance, with no fizzy drinks or chocolate.

Safeguarding Messages: Working together to stay safe!



JRSO Message

<http://thinkdirect.gov.uk/education/early-years-and-primary/parents/7-to-11/Be-bright-be-seen/>



E-Safety

Visit our E-Safety page on the school website. <http://www.st-herberts.hoos.sch.uk/e-safety.asp> O2 and the NSPCC have teamed up to launch a brand new website and app called netaware. The site offers insights and easy to follow guidelines on how the most current and popular apps and games can be made safer. It also offers key information and 'need to knows' as well as thoughts, likes and dislikes from both parent and child views. The O2 gurus also give their tech savvy advice and there are risk ratings that are thought provoking. A very worthwhile tool for parents for understanding modern day apps and games and a great way to start a dialogue with children about their understanding of how to stay safe.

To find out more follow the link <https://net-aware.org.uk>

Or download the Net Aware app for android and iOS.



Make sure your child knows what to do if they come across cyberbullying. Encourage them to be an upstander not a bystander with the Stop, Speak, Support code. Developed by the Royal Foundation, we've been working in partnership with a coalition of organisations, including O2, and young people themselves. The code gives advice on how to respond to online bullying. Use the link below:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying-and-cyberbullying/?utm_source=Adestro&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Video&utm_campaign=12-10-17-cam-netaware_LFS

House Points

1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	4 th Place

Starting next week!

Prayers Please!

As we start the exciting journey of a new school year, Let's Pray:

A Prayer for the New School Year

Heavenly Father

At the start of a new school year, we give you thanks for the work of all schools (and particularly in our own parish).

We pray for all children starting at new schools, and for those returning. Help them to explore what they can achieve, and give them confidence to play their part in shaping our world.

We pray for all those who work in schools. Care for them as they care for our children.

We pray for all governors of schools. Grant them wisdom and sound judgement, and help them to keep children's well-being at the heart of everything they do.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen



Mrs. J. Withers (Head of School)