



# St. Norbert's



*We strive to nurture and develop the whole child through:  
a love of God, a love of one another and a love of life itself.*

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Friday 15th December 2023

## VIRTUES AND VALUES

**Virtue of the term**  
Hope

**Value of the Month**  
Honesty

LET US PRAY

God of Hope, with your help  
we will try to live good lives.  
We will try to help others,  
especially our mothers and  
fathers, our sisters, brothers  
and friends.  
Amen.

## ARTICLES OF THE WEEK



## A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

As EYFS continue to prepare for Christmas they remember Christmas is Jesus' birthday and have been busy writing a party food list and invitations for the special day. They have used craft materials to create the nativity scene too! As today is our Other Faith day the children have enjoyed learning about how Hindu's celebrate a festival called Diwali and making ice rangoli patterns.

This week Year 1, have created beautiful artwork in their RE to depict the Visitation, when Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth. The children were inspired by artworks of various artists and put their pastel and paint skills to the test. Well done.

Year 2 have been sharing their Design Technology with Mrs Bradley this week - they are super proud of their structures and mechanisms.

In Year 3, the children have worked very hard to learn and sing the hymns and we hope you enjoyed the concert as much as we did. We have finished our Ancient Egyptians topic and I am so proud of the work the children have completed and the knowledge that they have displayed in the class discussions we have had. They have also enjoyed learning about how their bodies work and I am sure over the holidays they will show you how to shake your gluteus maximus.

Year 4 have been exploring how to make musical instruments in their Science learning. They made banjos and harmonicas, children explored how tighter elastic bands and shorter straws made higher notes.

Last Tuesday, Year 5 joined a Space Engineer from NASA in Texas for a meeting via Zoom! We had a fabulous time exploring different types of space crafts and why we need to get humans back on the Moon!

This week Year 6 started to develop their investigation skills in Science. They were exploring the question 'Does the length of wire effect the components in a circuit'. They had great fun creating circuits with different length wires in and observing the effect this had on a motor or bulb, their final circuit had 125 cm length of wire in it! It was challenging to observe the effects and sometimes they needed to compare the circuits o ensure that their observations were accurate. They are now analysing their findings to write a conclusion.

This is a wonderful and relentless time of the year, as we approach the third Sunday of Lent, I hope that you all are able to take time as families over the coming days and weeks to rest, to laugh and to play. We have enjoyed another wonderful week in school with our KS2 Carol Concert and today being our Other Faith Day with a focus on exploring other faith festivals around the world. As we approach the final three days of term, I look forward to awarding lots of prizes next week for the amazing Christmas Jumper Colouring Competition and enjoying the Christmas Non-Uniform on Wednesday. Some children have asked if they can wear Christmas pyjamas and this is absolutely fine, just ensure sensible shoes for playtimes. See you all next week!

Mrs Withers x

### Norbert Bear

Norbert Bear will be going home with a child in reception on a Friday to spend the weekend! Please follow the instructions on Norbert's tag and tweet any photos with Norbert with your child having fun! Norbert must be returned to school on a Monday for a busy week at school!



Norbert Bear will be going home with Ronan.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

John is a man sure of his purpose and mission. We can pray that we may be like him; sure of the path that God wants us to walk. If we are not sure or if we have gone our own way a bit what better time is there to find the path once more and set our feet back on it with renewed resolve.

The single pink candle of Advent, in some places alight reminds us like the pink of the sky before sunrise that a new day is almost upon us. The waiting that is this Advent time reminds us that we are but awaiting the day when in time Jesus will come again in glory. You might ask your children to agree to live for one day after the example of John the Baptist. Perhaps by fasting or being a sign for others of the coming of Christ or by dressing simply without ornament or bright colour. By acting to others as John was to act to Jesus, as a servant. By, for one day at least, preparing for Christ's coming in a special and appropriate way.



**This Year we focus on Encounter**

Nativity Scene Crib Using a basket or box create a manger. When anyone does a good deed and shows the love of Jesus to others, add a piece of straw coloured paper/ cotton/ string to the manger. This helps your community to see how we are preparing a place for Jesus in our own community through our words and actions.

**Joy**

Joy is a feeling of great happiness and pleasure. It is a positive emotion that help us to overcome sadness and despair. In the season of Advent, we rejoice in the coming of Jesus Christ. We know that he is the source of all joy, and we celebrate his birth with great joy.

Think of something you can do for someone else to bring them joy and 3rd Week of Advent find time to make it happen this week.

**SAFEGUARDING**

If you are concerned about a child or need help and support do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Withers and Deputies Mrs. Hibbert and Mr. Morton

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**Online Safety**

Malicious Communications has been an ongoing problem we have had in Lincolnshire for the last few years now. It is one of the top 5 crimes in which our 14-16 year olds have received a criminal conviction for. Online behaviour is something we talk regularly to children and young people about across the county within our online safety sessions. We want to also make sure parents are aware of these laws and the potential consequences our online behaviour can have in the real world, for our children's futures. We have attached a document which outlines the different laws regarding online behaviour, this is to accompany our video aimed at parents [Stay Safe Talks - Malicious Communications](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) ([youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/))



**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**



- EYFS** - Emilie for her excellent use of phonics to write a party list. Lovely to see your confidence grow!
- Year 1** - Shazil for the huge progress he has made in all areas
- Year 2** - Vlad for his exceptional Science recycling sort and recording - great presentation.
- Year 3** - The whole class for the effort and work they have shown in learning the songs and performing them for the Carol Concert.  
Thanks
- Year 4** - Mario for his fabulous letter about the rain forest.
- Year 5** - Maddie for her super engagement in her Science learning this week and for finding different phases of the Moon.
- Year 6** - Perry for excellent knowledge and understanding in Computing this term.

**THE HEART THAT SEES AWARD**



Each week the staff and pupils can all nominate their peers for this award, for those acts of mercy and kindness.

**Hope**- Melanie Y6, she has worked hard to overcome difficulties in Maths and has never given up trying, knowing that if she persevered she would understand and achieve success.

**Heart That Sees**- Oli Y6 is always on hand to support other children during worship and in the mornings. He is always kind and calm with them.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Well done Year 4 for this week's highest scoring attendance!**

Remember our school target is 97% and anything below 90% is Persistent Absence and can result in a fixed penalty notice.. You must inform us when your child is not attending school if we are unable to make contact we will conduct a home visit. Pupils should be at school by 8:45 to avoid being marked as Late.

EYFS	95.82%
Year 1	95.56%
Year 2	96.65%
Year 3	94.07%
Year 4	99.26%
Year 5	90.74%
Year 6	97.69%

**WELLBEING**

Mindful Walk

**Wellbeing activities - Mindful Walk**

The steady rhythm of walking is calming and comforting for many of us. If children are anxious, use this mindful walk to distract them from worries about the future and bring them to the present moment. Walking mindfully allows children to connect with the world and feel more grounded. Walk slowly and deliberately, placing one foot in front of the other.

**Useful Websites**

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

[Mentally Healthy Schools hub by Heads Together](#)

[Our Time](#)

**How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney? - Mac Barnett**

This absolutely brilliant Christmas picture book is just as deadpan and hilarious as you might expect, given this is the team that gave us Circle and Square, and The Wolf, the Duck and the Mouse. New and old fans of Klassen’s will love his adorable, offbeat illustration, and the text is warm and quirky too. A real treat.



**Step Father Christmas- L. D. Lapinski**

Harper suspects Mum’s new boyfriend, Nick, is really Father Christmas. He works with reindeer and has a big white beard, for goodness sake! But can she prove it? A fun, festive read.



**The Lotterys More or Less -Emma Donoghue**

The story about a thoroughly modern family from bestselling author Emma Donoghue. In The Lotterys More or Less, nine-year-old Sumac is determined to make sure all of the family’s Christmas traditions are upheld. But from uninvited guests to weird weather and mysterious power cuts, it seems like everything is against the Lotterys having a ‘normal’ family Christmas.



**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS**

This week we have been celebrating a great number of pupils achievements both in and outside school at extra curricular clubs. Here are some of our KS2 girls proudly sharing their medals for swimming and gymnastics.



**WINTER READING CHALLENGE**

Well done to Mylo in Year 1 for completing the Winter Mini Reading Challenge!

There is still time to register and complete the challenge to receive a certificate too. Please bring your certificate in to school, so we can recognise your achievement here at school.

[Register here](#)



**DIARY DATES**

Swimming Advent 2 every **Tuesday Y3**  
Final week **12th Dec**

**Wednesday 20th Dec**  
End of Term  
**Tuesday 2nd January**  
Start of Term 3

**CURRICULUM FACTS, ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES**

**Geography Club News**

It was the last week of Geography club this week and what fun we have had! Thank you to my geographers for joining me and showing such enthusiasm! This week we were looking at different types of maps and the children made a map of an imaginary island. All the children had some lovely ideas we had an ice cream island with ice cream mountains!

Here are a few facts about maps:

A map is an image of an area, usually of the Earth or part of the Earth. A map is different from an aerial photograph because it includes interpretation.  
The word "map" can also be used to talk about a chart or drawing that shows relationships between ideas, people, events, or anything else you can think about. This is why web developers call a list of web pages on a web site a site map.  
People who make maps are cartographers.  
Many maps today are made using GIS computer systems. These are database systems that are organised by location instead of named records.

**Christmas Writing Challenges**

**Elf Adventure**

It’s that time of year when those mischievous elves are causing mayhem again! Write a story about an adventure you have had with your elf. Or maybe you are the cheeky Christmas elf.

Remember to: • use words such as I, we and our;

- use the past tense;
- describe the characters;
- include dialogue;
- describe your feelings;
- use time linking words such as next, then, first;
- use adjectives;
- have a problem which is resolved at the end.

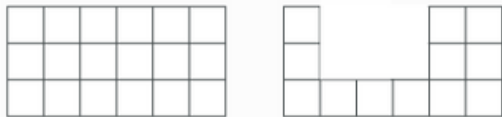


**Maths Challenges**

What can you say about these two shapes?

What is the area of each one? What is the perimeter of each one?

What can you say about the shapes below?



**ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR**

This Advent, Caritas Westminster have created a ‘reverse’ Advent calendar which will give suggestions for items to collect each day to donate to a local foodbank or food poverty project in time for Christmas. Over the past four years many schools have got involved with the calendar, collecting hundreds of boxes of food for local foodbanks and helping to ensure families did not have to go hungry at Christmas. You can download your calendar [here](#). We are collecting here at school if you want to send something we will add to our collection box.



## KS2 CAROL CONCERT



On Thursday, Key Stage 2 performed the annual Carol Concert at church, joined by Fr. Stan, in the absence of Fr. Jim. We keep Fr. Jim, in our thoughts and prayers as he recovers from his injury. We were blessed to have a packed church for the event and the children put on a superb performance. Thank you to all families and friends who attended to support the children, who have certainly put us all in a festive mood and to the Key Stage 2 team, for ensuring it was a resounding success.

## RUNNING CLUB

Friday's Running Club was a festive treat with our involvement in the National Santa Dash being celebrated by over 80,000 children nationally. We ran for 20 minutes then enjoyed hot Winter Spiced drinks and biscuits to warm ourselves up. Great festive feast of jumpers - well done to all our runners.



## Message from Lincolnshire Police



Thinking of buying an e-scooter?

Lincolnshire Police is reminding parents and guardians that e-scooters are not legal to use it on public pavements or roads.

Inspector Jason Baxter said, "Our approach to this will be to engage and educate. When that fails, we will enforce. We know that e-scooters are probably on Christmas lists this year, and may be tempting in the January sales, we just want people to think twice before buying a product that's so limited in where you can legally use it."

Whilst our aim is to engage and educate, penalties for using an e-scooter illegally can include seizure of the e-scooter.

- In Lincolnshire, the only place you can legally use an e-scooter is on private land, with the permission of the land owner. [Read more about our advice on using e-scooters.](#)
- If you are considering buying an e-scooter, please also read this [advice from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue after safety concerns over e-scooters](#) regarding charging and battery storage.
- As part of a trial, rental e-scooters are allowed on public roads and cycle lanes in approved areas in some cities (not currently Lincoln) provided you have the correct licence and follow road traffic regulations. [Find out more about e-scooter trials.](#)