



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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Wednesday 20th December 2023

A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

VIRTUES AND VALUES

Virtue of the term
Hope

Value of the Month
Honesty

LET US PRAY

Lord, come into our hearts
this Christmas so that we will
be the place where you live
forever and ever. Amen.
Amen.

ARTICLES OF THE WEEK



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from EYFS

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and fun-filled Christmas this year. We are so proud of what the children have achieved so far this year. We can't wait to see you in 2024! Christmas prayers and blessings to you all, from Miss Whyles, Mrs Wilson and all the Year 1 team. Xxx

In Year 2 this week we have enjoyed sharing Christmas cards and stories this week, retelling the nativity and recalling our roles as we get closer to Christmas. We have also discussed the best Christmas gift of all - The baby Jesus.

Year 3-1 would like to wish all the children and their families a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year! I look forward to seeing you all in 2024 and have lots of fun in all our learning! A big thank you to my Geographers who made Geography club an absolute delight and so much fun! From Mrs Simons

Mrs Franklin, Mrs Beavis and Mrs Barnes would like to wish Year 4 a very happy, peaceful and spiritual Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Year 5 have had an incredible two terms, we've had so much fun and laughter, alongside all the amazing learning and progress that's been made. Wishing you all a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

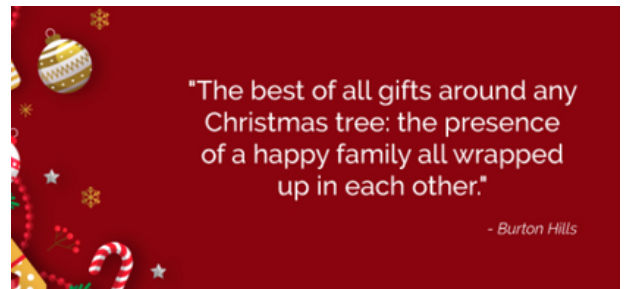
Wishing all the families of the children in Year 6 a magical and love filled Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

We have made it to the end of another busy term and on this last day on behalf of us all I would like to say a fond farewell to Mrs Fairbanks and we send her with our thoughts, prayers and best wishes as she starts her new teaching position next term.

I hope amongst the hustle and bustle of this time of year you are as families able to find time to rest and enjoy quality time together reflecting on 2023 and focusing on the possibility of new joy and adventure as we move into 2024!

From myself and the entire St.Norbert's Family we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Mrs Withers x



GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Building a house for the Lord. Let us make a house in our hearts for the Lord of our lives. We could pray to Mary the Mother of God to help us make such a place in our hearts for her son.



The Gospel speaks of an event that is very different from the ordinary and Mary's reaction to it. Joy is an emotion that is not commonly expressed these days. Mary's commitment is something else that is not now common. Her acceptance of the will of God for her provides an example of obedience that has inspired the lives of thousands of people down through the years. She is the perfect model of the perfect Christian. Accepting her call in life as God's will for her, accepting with joy, having faith and hope in the favourable outcome of this divine intervention in her life, without understanding or questioning. We are told she pondered these things in her heart. Well might we draw an example for our own behaviour from that of the mother of Jesus. How often we question and worry away at something we are told to do, how often we argue against some decision that we dislike or that inconveniences us, unwilling just to accept and live with it. Mary's example is to do the opposite. Accept and try to live with what life gives us.

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

jenna.withers@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk
sarah.hibbert@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk
sam.morton@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk

Online Safety

Christmas is such a wonderful time of year, excitable children and time to relax with family and friends. And of course, there are new toys to play with.

With a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13 million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) it is important to ensure that you and your children are safe when playing with new kit. To help, we've set out a few top tips to help keep your household safe online over the holidays.

The Tech: Learn your way around

Most devices have controls to ensure that kids can't access content you don't want them to. [Make sure your "in-app" purchases are disabled](#) to avoid a nightmare surprise in the new year.

Tablets

Tablets are really popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared towards child friendly content. When it comes to using them, start slowly; only download games and apps you have checked out carefully (sites such as www.net-aware.org.uk, or www.common sense media.org provide useful advice!) and steer them towards age targeted content such as, www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids or YouTube Kids.

Mobile devices

If you have older children, and are thinking about getting them a new phone for Christmas, this can pose its own challenges: The old online safety message about having your home computer in a communal place becomes defunct, because phones are literally mobile computers and have the power of most traditional desktop PCs.

Set boundaries

Our advice is to set some ground rules, and ensure they understand them. For example:

Screen Time

Agree a time limit or number of games beforehand, to avoid repeated disagreements around how long they can spend online.

Sleep comes first

It is advisable that the phone stays out of the bedroom to avoid those night time interruptions.

Ask for access

If you're genuinely concerned about them, ask them to allow you access to the phone.

Monitoring vs having a conversation

It is possible to install software onto devices that monitors online activity, alerts you to inappropriate behaviour, and can block access to certain content. This type of software is becoming increasingly popular, but while this might sound tempting, it does pose a number of issues around your child's right to privacy & could have an impact upon your relationship with them. [SWGfL published this blog](#) earlier this year, which covers the subject in some detail and raises some interesting points.

**EATING OUT**

- **Asda**-Children's hot or cold meal in their cafes for just £1 until the end of the year and Ella's baby food pouches are free with any cafe purchase. Over-60s can also get the 'Winter Warmer' for £1. That includes soup, a roll and unlimited tea or coffee. And emergency responders on shift and in uniform get a free tea or coffee from Asda's cafes or their self-service machines. That includes paramedics, police and firefighters – and the offer's on every day until the end of the year.
- **Morrisons**-kids under 16 eat free in their cafes every day, at any time, when an adult spends £4.50 on a meal.
- **Sainsbury's**- a children's hot meal or lunch bag is just £1 when an adult buys a meal at £5.20 or more. The deal is on every day from 11.30am.
- **Ikea**-is offering kid's pasta and tomato sauce and a soft drink in their cafes for 95p. The deal also includes other meals with a drink for £1.50 and it's on every day after 11am. For adults, a bowl of soup with a roll and butter is just £2 every day between 11am and 4pm.
- **Dunelm**-a kid's meal in their Pausa cafe is free with every £4 spent.
- **The Hungry Horse** pub chain offers children's meals including sausages, chicken nuggets and fish fingers for £1 with every full-paying adult. There's also a range of meals, including tacos, katsu burger and double cheeseburger at £1.50.

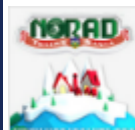
THE HEART THAT SEES AWARD

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

A huge thank you to the families that were so touched and inspired by the Christmas Present Appeal Email they offered to anonymously donate further gifts. Your acts of kindness is truly inspiring, humbling and on behalf of the entire school community I thank you xxx

CHRISTMAS WEBSITE FUN

Some Christmas themed websites to explore... Ho Ho Ho

**Official NORAD Santa Tracker**

Follow Santa Claus as he makes his magical journey around the world!
noradsanta.org

**CBeebies Christmas fun and games - CBeebies - BBC**

bbc.co.uk

**Family activities and ideas**

CAFOD's family hub has information, activities, ideas and resources for families. Find out what we do, how to fundraise and campaign, and learning resources.

WELLBEING**Kind Christmas Wellbeing activities**

Christmas is a wonderful time to encourage children to think about what they can do to spread kindness. Thinking of others not only helps to take the focus off material goods, but it will also bring the child a great deal of joy as well! Kindness benefits everyone – the giver and receiver.

We have a range of kind Christmas Activities, encouraging children to be kind to themselves, to others and to the planet! Click [here](#) to download the Kind Christmas Activity Pack.

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Five presents were bought for Christmas



The **red** and **purple** presents together cost **£43**.

The **purple** and **blue** presents together cost **£40**.

The **blue** and **gold** presents together cost **£31**.

The **gold** and **green** presents together cost **£15**.

The **green** and **red** presents together cost **£31**

What is the total cost of all five presents?

You Can't Let an Elephant Pull Santa's Sleigh - Patricia Cleveland-Peck

The hugely popular rhyming picture book series gets a festive twist as raccoons, buffaloes and - of course - elephants attempt to engage in all manner of inappropriate Christmassy activities.



Adventures of a Christmas Elf: The brand new festive blockbuster - Ben Miller

Father Christmas needs a holiday. He isn't feeling well and someone seems determined to ruin the festivities. It's up to Christmas Elves, Tog and Holly, to find a way to deliver the presents on time and bring the Christmas magic back for everyone.



The Christmas Pig - J.K. Rowling

Bursting with festive charm and imagination, this magical adventure written by J.K. Rowling and illustrated by Jim Field, revolves around a boy's determined quest to find his missing toy pig before Christmas Day.



PE KIT DAYS LENT 2024

EYFS-Monday
Year 1-Tuesday (Swimming) and Wednesday
Year 2- Wednesday and Friday
Year 3- Wednesday and Friday
Year 4- Monday and Friday
Year 5- Monday and Wednesday
Year 6-Wednesday and Friday

PE kits should be suitable for the season and activity.

PE kits should be plain ideally navy, black and grey in colour. With plack black, white, navy trainers.

No jewellery to be worn and long hair should be tied back.

If you have any questions please speak with your child's class teacher.

WINTER 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

Tuesday 2nd January

Start of Term 3

(Please remember Winter Uniform)

WHAT'S ON AT SPALDING LIBRARY?

Regular Activities

Messy Morning – Every Monday during term time, 10.30am – 11.30am
Enjoy the creativity of messy play with your child without the mess in your home! For babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers

Story Time - Every Tuesday, 10.30am – 11.00am
Join us for Story Time, sing songs, recite rhymes & create crafts. For babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Jigsaw Club - Every Tuesday 1.00pm - 4.00pm Come and help us complete our current jigsaw.

Connect over a Cuppa - Every Wednesday, 10.00am – 11.30am .Reconnect with your local community and have a catch-up with others over a cuppa and biscuit. All refreshments provided.

Databank Surgery - Every Wednesday, 10.30am - 12noon
Collect your data voucher as part of the National Databank initiative for those experiencing digital hardship. Find out more here <https://www.better.org.uk/library/lincolnshire/spalding-library/news/lincolnshire-libraries-battle-digital-exclusion-with-free-sim-card-scheme>

Baby Rhyme Time - Every Thursday term time, 10.30am - 11.00am. Join us with your little ones for songs, rhymes and music!

IT Help - Every Thursday, 2.00pm - 3.00pm Do you need help with IT or a device? If you do, book an appointment with us and we can help you.

Knitting Corner – Every Friday, 10.00am – 12.00 noon. Knit, natter and share you current work in progress with like minded knitters.

Lego Club - Every Saturday, 10.30am – 12.00 noon. A place for children aged 5 and upwards to use their imagination and build their own world using LEGO.

Events not to miss!

Festive Crafts For Children Saturday 23rd December 10.00am - 12 noon
Every Saturday in December we will have a different Christmas craft for children to make plus there'll also be a festive picture hunt to do. No booking required and its all free!

Click [here](#) for more information.



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.

