



# 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 5th January 2024

## VIRTUES AND VALUES

### Virtue of the term

Patience

### Value of the Month

Self-discipline

LET US PRAY

Lord, you revealed your Son to the world by the guidance of a star. Lead us too, by the light of faith, that we may bring others to you as well.  
Amen.

## ARTICLES OF THE WEEK



## A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

In EYFS, the children have been enjoying their new topic castles and have been learning a song that tells the story of Sleeping Beauty. They have been naming materials and what materials were used to build a castle. In Maths they have been learning about a square and a rectangle.

Year 1 were so excited to begin their sessions dancing with Miss Wilmot. They have started a beautiful routine to 'Starry, starry night' that links to our art learning about Vincent Van Gogh. There was some excellent partner work, signing while dancing and making different circular movements.

In Year 2 this week we have been retrieving and recalling information and skills learnt last term. We have used and applied our understanding of shapes to answer questions and solve problems in Maths. We have been reading and writing our own reports in English, improving our sentences and word choices. In Computing we have been learning how to sequence instructions and control our own 'Human Robot' in the classroom!

In Year 3, the children have been very supportive of their classmate who unfortunately sustained a leg brake over the holidays. They have kept him company at lunch time and playtimes, making sure he is not on his own. They have also shown great interest in the new topics we are introducing.

Year 4 have been learning all about teeth. They have been learning about types of teeth, names of teeth and their functions at the beginning of their new Science topic.

Year 5 have had a great start to the new term despite the changes within their classroom and its location. They have been learning.

This week in Year 6 the children have got straight into new topics. In Geography they have started learning about the importance of trade and the different goods and services that the UK imports and exports. They learnt that the import and export of goods and services is worth billions of pounds that support the UK's economy.

Welcome back everyone to a new term and a new year- Happy 2024! We are ready for another busy term filled with new learning and experiences. Please do remember our school website (see link above) is a great place to find out term dates, events and information about the curriculum and school life. Today you will receive your child's class Newsletter from the teacher, this provides a great insight into the term ahead and can help you support your child in their learning.

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 Dominic



## GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Who were the wise men and where did they come from? What gifts did they bring to Jesus? Gold is a precious and costly metal, often worn by kings. Gold was to indicate the royalty of the child. Frankincense is a type of incense which gives off a perfumed, pleasant smelling smoke, to indicate the holiness of the child. Myrrh is a perfumed ointment often used to prepare the dead for burial. This was to indicate the humanity of the Christ child, and symbolise his suffering and death. Why did the angel warn them not to go back to King Herod?

Today is a time to reflect on how far we have travelled in our own journey towards Jesus. What is leading you? How much progress have you made? What gifts do you bring? How open are you to the possibility of finding the divine in the ordinary? As we think on the story of the wise men, and reflect on how thrilled and excited they were to see the star, we might reflect back on times of pure delight in our own life experience. Did they cause us to take a new road?

We might also think about how open we are to welcoming foreigners' who come to seek Jesus. What hospitality ministries are present in your faith community?

How important are they?



**A Year of Prayer and Preparation: This year we focus on Encounter...**

The Three Kings arrived bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, pointing to Christ as king, priest, and sacrifice. However, the most precious gift was the very presence of The Magi themselves, the journey they undertook to be there, and their humble homage before a new-born baby.

As we begin a New Year, it's the perfect opportunity to think of the future, any changes we'd like to make to our lives, new challenges to embrace, or certain habits we'd like to move away from.

This year, why not make that change in your faith life? Whether that's trying a new way of praying, dedicating more time to prayer, or embracing the graces of regular confession.

**Epiphany**

Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. It is a time to reflect on the mystery of Christ's birth and to renew our commitment to following Him. For us, Epiphany is a time to recognise that Christ came for everyone and we see this reflected in the visit of the Magi and the gifts that they brought.

What is a gift that you can give to others? Think of a way to share your gift with your community 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**

**SMART Rules for Adults to Share with Children**

When you are dealing with children there are no hard and fast rules. A child's ability to understand safety rules and to put them into practice depends on a number of things including how old the child is, how the child has been educated or even how confident the child is. To help a child learn any set of rules it is important to go through them and explain why you want the child to remember them. There is no 'one-size-fits' all but here are a few suggestions.

**Secrets** These can be good fun, but if they make us sad or confused it's best to check them out with Mum or Dad or someone else you trust.

**Mates** Take someone with you when you are going somewhere and stay together.

**Always** tell your parents, carer or someone else you trust where you are going, who you are with and when you will be back.

**Respect** your body and remember it is private. No one has the right to touch you on your private areas (those covered by your swim suit).

**Tell** your parents, carer or someone else you trust if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or frightened.



**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**



**EYFS** - Ronan for settling back into learning quickly, joining in all learning and completing many of the class challenges.

**Year 1** - Neitas for working so hard and engaging with all his learning.

**Year 2** - Emily for her amazing arithmetic skills using and applying these to solve problems.

**Year 3** - Oliver for his effort and enthusiasm in science, including his eye for detail.

**Year 4** - Oskars for beginning the new year with such a positive attitude.

**Year 5** - All of Year 5, for their polite and courteous attitude towards visiting staff.

**Year 6** - Nicole for a positive start to the new year. Excellent understanding in Maths and English.

**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.

All of Year 5 - they could not do enough this week to support staff - well done.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Well done Year 1 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	90.73%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	92.34%
Year 3	88.57%
Year 4	93.81%
Year 5	93.99%
Year 6	95.07%

**WELLBEING**

**Wellbeing activities for January**

1. Develop a positive attitude—people with positive attitudes are apt to be happier, more successful, and better able to handle crisis and stress. And in concert with the positive attitude, get an attitude of gratitude for what you have instead of dwelling on what you don't.
2. Avoid negative self talk—laugh at your mistakes and say I'll remember next time.
3. View a crisis situation as an opportunity—creative problem solving can expand your options. Try to make a list of good things that could result from the problem you're having to solve.
4. Laugh—Humour is a great stress reducer. Studies indicate laughter can make you healthier.

**Useful Websites**

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

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

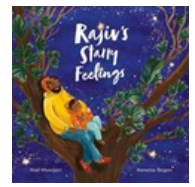
[Our Time](#)

## Recommended Reads

## READING CORNER

### Rajiv's Starry Feelings - Niall Moorjani

Rajiv doesn't know why he's thrown his toy against the wall, so his dad shows him a way to identify his feelings. Gentle and beautiful, this could spark conversations about emotions with pre-schoolers.



### Wonders of the Wild- Éanna Ní Lamhna

Discover why spiders don't stick to their own webs, why rabbits eat their own poo and why frogs don't drown when they hibernate at the bottom of ponds, in this fascinating, fully-illustrated nature book.



### Beastlands - Jess French

On the island of Ramoa there are three great cities separated by the Beastlands: a wild, untamed wilderness that's home to terrifying and deadly creatures. Can three disparate young people navigate the dangers and succeed in their individual quests?



## WINTER READING CHALLENGE

Ends 19th February

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

From Tuesday 9th Jan Start of Swimming Year 1

Tuesday 23rd – 30th Jan  
School Book Fair in school open 3:15pm each day

Tuesday 23rd Jan Parents Evening 3:30pm- 6:30pm

Wednesday 24th Jan Parents Evening 3:30pm- 5:30pm

Wednesday 24th Jan Year 3 Class Worship - Parents Welcome 2:50pm

Tues 30th – Tues 6th Feb National Storytelling Week

Wednesday 31st Jan  
EYFS Class Worship - Parents Welcome 2:50pm

## CURRICULUM FACTS, ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES

Read a book with a purple cover!

Read a book with a green cover!

Read a book with an orange cover!

Read a book about the weather!

Read a book outside!

Read a book whilst eating a colourful snack!

Read a book by an author that has a colourful name (like Miss Brown!)

Read a book with a blue cover!

Read a book with a yellow cover!

Read a book wearing your most colourful clothes!

Bonus points if you can find a book with a picture of a rainbow!

Read a book with a red cover!

### January Writing Challenges

1. What are your top ten favorite things about the previous year? Can you list each of your points and explain why they're so special to you?
2. What's something you're hoping to do in the month of January? This can be a playdate with your friends, visiting family, trying new foods - you name it!

### Maths Challenges

I want to draw a square in which the perimeter is numerically equal to the area.

Of course, the perimeter will be measured in units of length, for example, centimetres (cm) while the area will be measured in square units, for example, square centimetres (cm<sup>2</sup>).

What size square will I need to draw?

What about drawing a rectangle that is twice as long as it is wide which still has a perimeter numerically equal to its area?



## PARKING REMINDERS

Please can we ensure we are respectful in and around our local community at drop off and pick up times:

- NO parking on Zig Zags at any time (including after clubs and school events)
- NO blocking driveways or reversing on private property and driveways
- NO parking on verges, lawns, grass
- NO mounting pavement and driving along pathway
- NO dropping off in zig zag zone stopping on them to collect or drop off pupils.
- NO parking in staff car park unless you are a Blue Badge Holder and have permission from Mrs Withers
- In the morning children should get out cars driving through car park not adults-it is a drop off point when you get out it causes delays and queues. I will monitor this term and if no improvement the gates will be locked and you will need to park further away and walk in.