



# 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 2nd February 2024

## VIRTUES AND VALUES

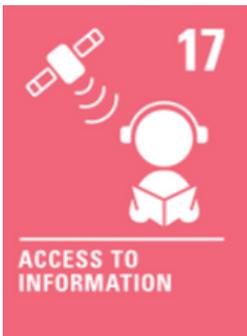
**Virtue of the term**  
Patience

**Value of the Month**  
Trust

## LET US PRAY

God our Creator, You show us how to live. Help us to follow the life and teachings of Jesus, your Son, so that our lives will be pleasing to you and helpful to others.  
Amen.

## ARTICLES OF THE WEEK



## A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

Reception have been subitising with number 6, 7, and 8. The children have shared the book Paddington at the Palace and have been reading a letter from the Queen and writing a thank you letter from Paddington. In PE they have been throwing and catching bean bags. The children really enjoyed putting together their class worship and showcasing their learning to their family and the rest of the school.

In Year 1 Geography, the children were very excited to use their fieldwork skills to explore the different famous places, roads and landmarks in London. They were tasked with being map detectives to find different human and physical features.

Year 2 have been learning about Multiplying and dividing in mathematics this week. We have been looking at arrays and grouping, solving some simple number problems. In English we have been editing and improving our Non- Chronological reports about Kenya and adding more interesting vocabulary and sentence starters to engage the readers. In Physical Education we have been learning about rebound and how to control and tennis ball, alongside this we have also been learning different ways of travelling across a mat in Gymnastics.

Year 3 have been able to sing number song in French and they have also undertaken some soil investigation to discover what they will find in it.

Year 4 have been using clay this week in their art topic to make tiles that represent the sea bed.

Year 5 have been using stop motion animation in their computing learning this term and have looked at ways to debug a programme to make changes. In art they have added different effects, experimenting with techniques used by other artists and applying ideas to their own pieces of art.

Year 6 this week in PE have been exploring using counterbalance and part-weight balance to create different formations. They worked in pairs practicing the balances before teaming up to work as a four to combine their ideas and skills to create mountain range shapes. Everyone really enjoyed the session and learnt a lot about teamwork and trust when performing some of the balances.

**YEAR 6 NOTICE:** Just a reminder to Year 6 families to email or call the school if you wish to confirm your child's place at next terms Maths Club on Wednesdays until 4:30pm with myself and Mr. Morton and daily Wake Up Shake Up Maths club 8:15-8:45.

Today mark's Candlemas and I am very much looking forward to Mass today in Grantham, where Bishop Patrick will bless our school candle. I hope as we move into a new month we enjoy those moments of daylight and look for the snowdops, crocus and other signs of Spring looming.  
Have a great weekend!

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 Melanie

## GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Mark reveals for us a Christ who prays and is close to God, a compassionate Christ who works day and night at the work that has been assigned him. We contrast Jesus' attitude to that of Job who speaks of his days in complaining tones as being "swifter than a weaver's shuttle", Jesus personifies the busyness that Job speaks of. We might ask if our lives are founded on prayer and as full of the Lord's work as those of whom we would follow.

Mark seems to be emphasising the purpose of Jesus' mission – to teach and to heal so that we might be free to serve God. We too need to look to healing people both by our physical support and by helping free their spirits from any material and psychological bond. We are reminded that the cure of a person, the setting free from sicknesses of the body and mind, is a freeing to serve others and God in a more complete way. daily prayer in our lives, can help us to be connected each day to God's love and by being connected we can then do the work of following in the footsteps of our Saviour



## A Year of Prayer and Preparation: This month we focus on Mental wellbeing...

'I make all things new' (Revelation 21:5)

Have I checked in with my family, friends, fellow parishioners, my parish priest? Who needs me to be with them in their time of need?

Do I know that God is with me now, that he loves me and that there are people in my parish who want me to know this too?

## Diversity

Diversity inspires us to celebrate our differences and to respect the dignity and value of everyone. We are all made in the image of likeness of God and we can recognise God in all people, however different they may seem. Diversity reminds us that we are all called to love one another and to create a world where everyone feels loved, accepted and included. Think about those people in your community who may feel left out. Week 5 in Ordinary Time This week, try to find a way to help them feel loved and included.

## 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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E-SAFETY FROM ALAN MACKENZIE

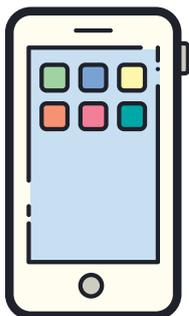
### Assessing Smartphone Readiness

"Is my child old enough to have a phone?" It's a common, understandable question that I get from many parents, but it's also one that is very difficult to answer as there are so many factors involved. For younger children it's often peer pressure, with older children social isolation is very common. Often, advice has to be given particular to that child/family, rather than a one-size-fits-all solution.

The Institute for Digital Media and Child Development have put together some tip sheets for parents which I think are really useful. There are 3 parts:

- Assessing readiness.
- Preparing for healthy use.
- What now?

You can view all the tip sheets [HERE](#).



## PUPIL OF THE WEEK



**EYFS** - Oliver for his excellent focus during lessons and wanting to consolidate his learning by choosing to complete class challenges!

**Year 1** - Ashley for always being kind and thoughtful to his classmates.

**Year 2** - Caroline for her use of number bonds to calculate and solve larger number problems.

**Year 3** - Gustas for his participation and contribution to class discussions in maths and science.

**Year 4** - Signe for her lovely English learning.

**Year 5** - Alex for effort in his learning and showing resilience.

**Year 6** - Daniel for engaging positively with his learning in Maths, not only in class but in Booster Club with Mrs Withers.



## 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.

Bhagavad Year 5, for being polite and conscientious when offering to swap places and hold the door instead of his classmates, so they could get their things ready for the end of the day.

## 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.

## Well done Year 2 for this week's highest scoring attendance!

EYFS - 94.34%  
 Year 1 - 90.37%  
 Year 2 - 96.48%  
 Year 3 - 95.93%  
 Year 4 - 93.7%  
 Year 5 - 96.3%  
 Year 6 - 96.67%

## WELLBEING



The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

Click [HERE](#) to find out more and resources for families.

## Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

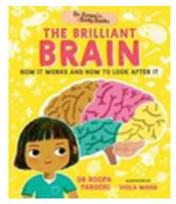
[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

**Dr Roopa's Body Books: The Brilliant Brain- Dr Roopa Farooki**

A simple introduction to the way the brain works, with gorgeous bright illustrations. Ideal for young, curious children.



**Weird and Wonderful Nature- Ben Hoare**

Discover more about strange and fascinating species and behaviours, with colour photographs and bite-size facts. Perfect for fact-obsessed children who aren't squeamish.



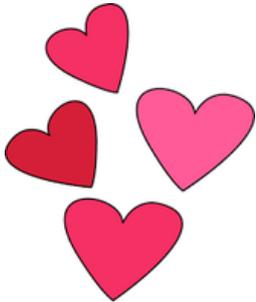
**The Clockwork Conspiracy- Sam Sedgman**

Isaac's life is thrown into disarray when his dad mysteriously vanishes from the belfry of Big Ben. As they search for him, Isaac and his friend Hattie uncover a sinister plot which threatens Time itself. A fast-paced mystery, which will have readers on the edge of their seats.



VALENTINE'S NON-UNIFORM

A reminder that the **last day of term, Thursday 8th February** will be a pink and red, Valentine's themed, non uniform day in aid of the Friends PTA . £1 donation.



DIARY DATES

**From Tuesday 9th Jan** Start of Swimming Year 1

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

**Monday 5th - Sun 11th Feb**  
Children's Mental Health Week

**Thursday 8th February**  
Last day of Term

**Friday 9th February**  
School CLOSED

**Monday 19th March**  
Term 4 starts

CURRICULUM FACTS, ACTIVITIES AND CHALLENGES

Geography

Fun geography facts:

- California's population is larger than all of Canada's.
- Ninety percent of Earth's population lives in the Northern Hemisphere.
- Africa is the only continent to sit in all four hemispheres.
- Australia is actually wider than the moon.
- The deepest place on Earth is in the Pacific Ocean.
- The Dead Sea is sinking at a rate of about a metre per year.
- The smallest country in the world is Vatican City.
- Istanbul in Turkey rests on two continents.
- A large percentage (scientists estimate 20%) of Earth's oxygen comes from the Amazon.

February Writing Challenges

1. Write down at least three goals that you want to accomplish this month.
2. Think about at least ten ways you can be kind to someone else.
3. Imagine you meet cupid one day and he needs your help to bring love back to the world. Continue this story.

Maths Challenges

Break it up!

You have a stick of seven interlocking cubes (or a tower of seven Lego blocks). You cannot change the order of the cubes.



You break off a bit of it leaving it in two pieces. Here is one of the ways in which you can do it:



In how many different ways can it be done?

Now try with a stick of eight cubes:



MATHS LINKS

Don't forget children can access maths activities at home that we use in school.

Follow these links to find out more.

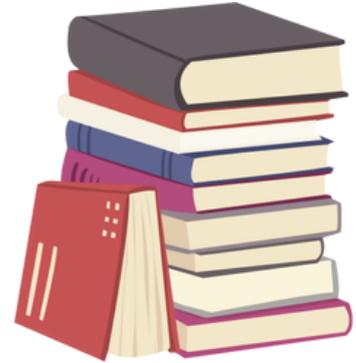
[Mathematics Shed](#)  
[Times Tables Rock Stars](#)  
[Top Marks](#)

## SPORTING NEWS

Well done to the girls football team who played their first game away to Wygate Academy this week. Although they came away with a 3-0 loss, they played excellently as a team and displayed some excellent skills to build upon in the coming weeks. Congratulations on an excellent team effort.

## NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK

Our Reading Ambassadors have had a busy week celebrating National Storytelling Week with Key Stage 1. Thank you to the team for giving up some of their lunch time to read to the younger children in the school in our beautiful reading area. They have loved listening to the stories you've shared.



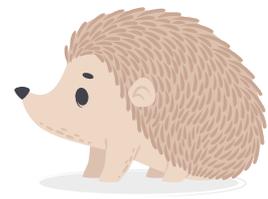
## TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

We'd like to offer our gratitude and thanks to all those who purchased a book from the travelling book fair over the past week. Through your purchases, the school were able to earn £95 worth of rewards in books, which we have added to our library for the children to use and take home as their reading for pleasure texts -Thank you!





## NATIONAL HEDGEHOG DAY



February 2nd is National Hedgehog Day - here's how you can help protect them! Hedgehogs are great for your garden, because they help keep unwanted insects at bay!

Our very own Miss Quince, is a hedgehog first responder and is often out rescuing hedgehogs and taking them to the local sanctuary to be cared back to full health. Unfortunately, many of them don't make it so it is important to stay vigilant and look out for any we see in the roads.

Ethan is Year 6 has been helping to care and rescue some of the hedgehogs that have been found locally and recently helped Randal the hedgehog. Ethan knew exactly what to do when he saw the poorly juvenile, brought him to the rescue for treatment and helped to set him up in his pod with nesting material and treats. Well done Ethan and Miss Quince!

