



St. Norbert's

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

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 4th October 2024

VIRTUES AND VALUES

Virtue of the term
Love of Learning

Value of the Month
Friendliness

LET US PRAY

Loving God, you made us to be your children. Help us to love and respect one another as part of your whole family, the Church.
Amen.

ARTICLES OF THE WEEK

Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

Foundation are really showing they know many of the class rules and routines and are using their visual timetable to talk about their day. They have learnt the first set of phonemes in phonics, been busy sorting objects and have enjoyed their class book, A Squash and a Squeeze. The Rhubarb Theatre Company and Lincolnshire Wildlife Group shared a lovely production all about looking after our animals, on land, and in the ocean, by putting our rubbish in the bin!

A part of their RE learning, Year 1 heard about the special letter from Pope Francis, calling us to take care of our world. We linked this to our Catholic Social Teaching -Stewardship and learned which materials were recyclable or not. We then took litter pickers and gloves to clear up our school grounds, remembering to recycle everything we could!

In Year 2 this week we have been learning about intervals in Maths, counting ten more and ten less than 2 digit numbers and using Daily Ten to speed up our recall. In English we have used our picture planner to support our writing of a story using adjectives, noun phrases and key vocabulary. We have also enjoyed using Pastels in ART to recreate both landscapes and citiscapes in the style of the famous artist, Monet. We have also enjoyed learning about invasion games in PE, trying to follow and shadow other people whilst moving quickly and slowly.

During Outdoor learning, Year 3 worked in teams to make Wigwams inspired by their Guided reading book 'Hiawatha' they wrote they used their own vocabulary and ideas to create their own version of the story.

Year 4 had a love afternoon on Thursday taking park in an Eco workshop with Gracie from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. The children learnt about how to reduce, reuse and recycle waste and the damage that non-biodegradable products can give on animal habitats.

In Year 5 we have been celebrating National Poetry Day. We have explored the poetry of Edward Lear and read The Jumblies. We then wrote some of our own cinquain poems and had a go at performing them in the style of Joseph Coelho.

This week Year 6 have continued their exploration of the Science topic of 'Light'. This week they have been learning about how the eye works; they had great fun looking at a model of an eye and seeing the different parts of that work together to enable us to see. They also explored how glasses help to focus the light to support us to see better and the way that sunglasses protect our eyes from the harmful rays of the sun.

You may have noticed the new road markings and signs outside school along Tollgate. Please follow the parking regulations as set out. If you do not residents and school are able to report parking issues to the council which will result in a fine. Parents that also identify parking infringements can report them [HERE](#) using the link.

Let's ensure we are parking with consideration and abiding by the law. Good Attendance at school is vital for your child's development. I will be monitoring attendance and issuing letters to pupils where attendance is less than 90% (Persistent Absence). It is important you understand the consequences of poor attendance especially the new procedures around fines for if you take your child out of school for holidays. Please ensure you have read and understood the policy and procedures [HERE](#)

We have two weeks left for our Harvest Collection thank you for all the donations received so far, this is greatly appreciated! From next week I will be selling Autumn £1 squares at gate duties, if you win the prize is a beautiful Autumn Decorative Wreath and all funds support our PTA who are working hard to raise funds to support the children in school.

The sun is shining and I hope this continues into the 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!

This Week Norbert will be going home with Tommy.



GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

The Readings today speak to us about God's commitment to human partnership and the welfare of all creation as well as Jesus commitment to children, the model for all who belong to the kingdom of heaven. We are made in the image and likeness of God. How do we reflect this divine care for creation and our common humanity in the everyday moments of our lives?

In the Gospel Jesus points to the example of children not because they are naive but because they are more open to reality and to the workings of the spirit than adults.

The Readings this Sunday speak to us about commitment to each other and to all people, commitment to the common humanity that binds us all to each other. The Readings speak of the major commitments we make to each other, marriage particularly, but also of Jesus' commitment to us (Second Reading, Hebrews 2:9-11, not used with the children this Sunday) and to children (Gospel) and God's commitment to the welfare of creation (First Reading). Ask the children to list the things that make commitments strong. In the Readings the equality of the woman and the man is also stressed.



Encounter

Mary is a wonderful example of how we can Encounter Jesus through our actions and by saying yes to him.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary, and of Mary, so this is a perfect time for us to think about how we can learn from Mary and to ask Mary, in our prayers, to intercede for us, and to pass on our prayers to her son, Jesus

Rosary

The Rosary is a prayer that we can all use to meditate on the life of Jesus Christ. It is a powerful tool for prayer and spiritual growth through the intercession of Mary our mother. The Rosary can help us to grow in our faith, to deepen our relationship with God, and to find peace and comfort in difficult times.

Participation CST

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

Online Safety

Teen Brains, Technology and Social Media

We sometimes need to take a step back and reflect on why children and young people do what they do. Whilst the online disinhibition effect is an important factor to understand, we need to remember that young brains are very different from our own adult brains.

Darren Laur, otherwise known as The White Hatter on Twitter is someone I have known and respected for many years and he writes some inspiring, thought provoking articles.

In the article I'm referring to he writes about a way in which we can explain, very simplistically, the way in which the young brain develops, specifically concentrating on the limbic system and the pre-frontal cortex. In other words, why and how decisions are sometimes made, especially when emotions play a part.

Darren's method of explaining this is to use the X-Men, Wolverine and Professor Xavier. Wolverine (the limbic system) is the strong, impulsive and emotional character driven by instincts. Prof. Xavier (the pre-frontal cortex) is calm, measured, thoughtful and wise.

We've all had those "Why did you do that, what were you thinking.....?" moments. But understanding why adolescents may do things is really important when we're talking to them, it allows us to understand behaviour and also to shape the educational talks we're giving. In other words, try to avoid being judgemental.

I've used something similar in talks to young secondary students in the past. I remember a couple of years ago when a group of students came up to me at the end of the assembly and explained quite a serious situation they had got into. They were found out, and they got into trouble for it. They were told they were stupid (their words) for getting into that situation, that they should have known better. After the explanation in the assembly they agreed they were stupid (again, their words) but they didn't realise that at the time. Nobody had ever explained to them how emotions can take over rational decision making.

It's a really good article and well worth a read, you can find Darren's article [HERE](#)

Information from: Alan McKenzie
<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/>



PUPIL OF THE WEEK



Foundation: Enrika for recognising and talking about how objects are sorted and sorting objects herself by colour, size and shape.

Year 1: Greta for her excellent attitude and effort.

Year 2: Antoni for helping and supporting other pupils with the formation of letters.
Year 3: Sinead for her effort and commitment in her maths work. To keep on trying when she finds it hard.

Year 4: Eleanor for her lovely Eco- Sculpture.

Year 5: Joseph for a greatly improved attitude to his learning and some great contributions to class discussions.

Year 6: Eliza for demonstrating excellent leadership skills in when managing a group in P.E.



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 all at David Wood Baking Ltd for their kind donation of bread this week that has been greatly appreciated by all our pupils, staff and families!

The Mini Vinnies pupil leadership team that have been completing their gate duties supporting younger pupils with coming into school. You are doing a great job!

ATTENDANCE

Well done Year 5 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 96.3%

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 - 94.8%
- Year 1 - 95.9%
- Year 2 - 97%
- Year 3 - 97.3%
- Year 4 - 93.3%
- Year 5 - 99.6%
- Year 6 - 95.9%

WELLBEING

**Optimistic October
Human Dignity CST**

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good
6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today
9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently
	8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding
	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

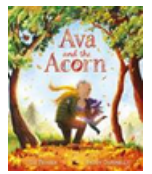
[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

Recommended Reads

READING CORNER

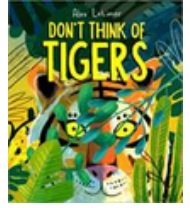


Ava and the Acorn - Lu Fraser

Ava and her grandad share happy memories of an old oak tree in this heartfelt exploration of growth, change and loss told through the magic of seasonal changes. A beautiful picture book.

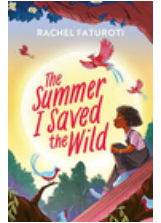
Don't Think of Tigers- Alex Latimer

The creator of this picture book offers to draw anything the reader wants on the next page... as long as it's not a tiger. Unfortunately, if you try not to think about tigers, that's all that pops into your mind. Funny, colourful and interactive, this story highlights the importance of perseverance.



The Summer I Saved the Wild- Rachel Faturoti

An engaging coming-of-age story, that embraces diversity and individuality, showing what can be achieved with teamwork and determination.



SPALDING LIBRARY

Green Libraries Week- Plant and Seed Swap

As part of Green Libraries Week we are having a plant and seed swap. Bring along any surplus plants or seeds that you would like to swap for something different. They can be house or outdoor plants, flowers, fruit or veg. All we ask is that the plants are healthy and seeds are in date.

Mon 7th Oct - Fri 11th OCT 09:00 AM - 17:00 PM

Sat 12th 09:00 AM - 13:00 PM

Lego Builders ages 4-10

A creative and educational building session for children, sparking imagination through construction play. Saturday 21 Sep 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 9th October

Year 6 Class Worship 2:50pm - Parents Welcome

Wednesday 16th October

Year 3 Class Worship 2:50pm - Parents Welcome

Friday 18th October

Harvest Service 1:30pm - Parents Welcome

Friday 18th October

Last Day of Term 1

Monday 28th October

INSET Day - School Closed to children

Tuesday 29th October

Start of Term 2

FACTS AND CHALLENGES

National Geographic Explorers Antarctic Facts

Following the exciting news from Mrs Withers that our school's name will be going in a time capsule and buried in Antarctic, I thought some Antarctic facts would be interesting for you, enjoy!

1. Antarctica is the least populated continent. There are no residents living permanently here. Only around 1,000 people (in winter) and 10,000 people (in summer) live on the continent. These people are mainly based there for one year to live and work in the research stations. The research stations are scattered all around the continent.
2. According to size, Antarctica is the fifth largest continent of our planet. The continent is almost double the size of Australia!
3. Antarctica is an ice covered continent surrounded by the Southern Ocean. Almost all of the continent's land is covered by a thick layer of ice. On average the ice is 1.9 km/6,200 ft deep. The inland ice-sheet has a thickness of up to 4 km/13,000 ft.
4. Antarctica is the driest continent of the seven continents. Antarctica is an icy desert with very little rainfall throughout the year.
5. Antarctica is the windiest place on the earth where windspeed of more than 350 kilometres per hour/218 miles per hour have been measured.

Source of information: National Geographic Kids

Writing Competition BBC 500 Words - Entries by Friday, 8th November 2024

Click [HERE](#) for more information and support.


There are two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year-olds. All children need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less.

They would love children of all abilities to enter; spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - it's all about creativity!


50 finalists will be invited to go to a glamorous grand final at Buckingham Palace in February next year, where the bronze, silver and gold winners in each category will have their stories read out by celebrities.

There are also lots of prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners also win 500 books for their school library.

Maths Challenges



Activity of the Week
Guess My Number - Factors and Multiples



Activity of the Week
2 Key Skills and Concepts
3 Optimize OCR Performance

Select a number between 1 and 20 (you can go higher for more of a challenge). Then see if someone can guess your number by asking questions about factors and multiples.


Can you guess this number (between 1 and 20)?

Question 1: Is your number a multiple of 2?
Answer: No

Question 2: Is 3 a factor of your number?
Answer: Yes

Question 3: Is your number a multiple of 5?
A2: Yes

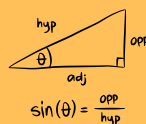
Question 4: Is your number a factor of 20?
A4: No





Could you be the highest earner for your class this week!

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](#)



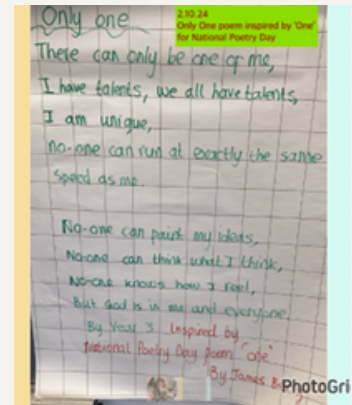


NATIONAL POETRY DAY

In Year 3, We have read the poem the Jabberwocky and created some great pictures of what they think the Jabberwocky looks like, we have talked about nonsense words, they have created another verse to the poem. We are also composing our own poems under the title of "wonder verse" for our poetry competition. The poems are related to the wonder of nature and life. I have read some of the entries last year's Year 3 children produced, that were published, and they are excited about entering into this.



They were also inspired outside by a poem called 'One' By James Berry and they created their own wonderful two verse version.



In Year 5, we have been celebrating National Poetry Day. We have explored the poetry of Edward Lear and read The Jumblies. We then wrote some of our own cinquain poems and had a go at performing them in the style of Joseph Coelho. We will be taking part in a workshop later in the term.

Year 6 have investigated the poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling. They have discussed what some of the phrasing have meant and identified the piece of advice they think is the most useful and why.

Year 1 used the poetry book 'The Lost Words' as part of sharing their appreciation for God's wonderful world. They particularly liked the word 'verdigris'.

Calling all Hockey Players!

Would you like to develop your hockey skills? Would you like to extend your SchoolGames Values and skills playing and training together? Well, can I recommend that you attend the Saturday morning coaching sessions run by Spalding Hockey Club at Glen Park, Surfleet. These are on Saturday mornings 9.15 to 10.45 am and cater for 4 to 13 year old boys and girls. The first session is free as a taster. Newcomers are asked to be at the pitch between 9.00 and 9.15 and ask for the Club's lead coach, Charlotte, on arrival. We look forward to celebrating your attendance at a new club - let Mr. Morton know if you've been able to attend and we'll share your name on our 'New Clubs' board in our school hall.



FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

Autumn squares will be available to buy from Monday on the gate for £1, for the opportunity to win an autumn wreath.



Your child will have been sent some with their Christmas card order form this week. The deadline for ordering is 17th October. We would greatly appreciate your support in ordering to raise funds for the Friends of the School.