



# 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.*



Phone: 01775 722889 Website: [www.st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk) Address: Tollgate, Spalding, PE11 1NJ Twitter: [https://twitter.com/St\\_Norberts](https://twitter.com/St_Norberts)

Friday 22nd November 2024

## VIRTUES AND VALUES

**Virtue of the term**  
Compassion

**Value of the Month**  
Diversity

## LET US PRAY

Loving God, thank you for sending your only Son to be our saviour. Help us to know and love your truth. Amen.

## ARTICLES OF THE WEEK

### Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



## A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

The children have enjoyed creating houses from Bethlehem for their new RE display and beginning to learn the story of Christmas. They have been busy learning songs for the nativity! They are amazing at the actions too! In music they have been practicing their song for the Christmas show case too! Another busy week as well as learning new phonemes, the composition of 4 and 5 and segmenting words for writing!

This week, Year 1 have had lots of fun in DT learning about how to make a free standing cylinder, with a stable base and flange attachment. They were motivated, sensible and showed great teamwork helping each other with joins. They turned their cylinders into beautiful butterflies!

Year 2 have had an Assessment week looking at Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation in English whilst also looking at Arithmetic and Reasoning in Maths - It has been a tough week but they have really tried hard to use and apply their learning! This week has also seen our Year 2's in the Outdoor Forest Area on one of the coldest days creating story sticks and leaf art work to share the great Fire of London - Amazing. They have also been taking landscape and portrait photographs in Computing this week, trying to work out what makes a good photograph. What a busy week!

Year 3 have evaluated and revised their models, make changes and are now expert Shaduf model builders. Photo being sent.

Year 4 have had a great time exploring Anglo Saxon villages, we looked the structure of the houses, the locations, and the jobs some of the Anglo Saxons would have had.

In Year 5 this week we have been learning about 'Make do and mend' in DT. We have been doing some sewing and practised different stitches and created templates this week.

This week Year 6 made their annual visit to Spalding Baptist Church to participate in their Christmas Unwrapped workshop. The children got the opportunity to explore the key parts of the Christmas Story through drama, videos, games and raps! Everyone was very enthusiastic and got involved in the different activities, displaying excellent manners and behaviour. Each child got to decorate their own biscuit which they got to take home along with a Christmas card. Everyone was very grateful to the volunteers at the church for putting on the workshop and our Head Boy and Girl thanked the team before the departure.

**UNIFORM**-Just a reminder we are now in our winter uniforms, which should include all children wearing a **shirt and tie**. You can now also order the new St. Norbert's hoodie from our uniform provider. The Hoodies are for PE Days and Outdoor learning days they are not a replacement for school jumpers or cardigans.

I have really enjoyed Takeover Day it has been wonderful to see Year 6 take on a wide range of roles and learn all about the various jobs within the education sector. They have taken their new roles and responsibilities very seriously.

Take Care this weekend there are numerous weather warnings in force around the country as Storm Bert approaches we are expecting heavy rain and strong winds.

Retirement: Please see your emails today as many of you will be aware our wonderful Mr. Matchett has started his phased retirement and Thursday 19th December will be his last day with us. We wish him all the very best as he retires and I will keep you updated with our recruitment of a replacement who will join us in 2025!

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 Finlay.



## GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Today is the last Sunday of the Church's year, the Solemnity of Christ the King. As the year draws to an end, we turn our thoughts to the time when Christ will return as king.

In our reflection today we might consider what are some of the conflicts between the values of the society we live in today and values of the kingdom of Jesus? In a world in which few 'kings' remain, how can Christ the King be given meaning today? In what ways has Jesus become 'king' of your life? Today's feast marks the end of the liturgical year. What has been important to you this year? Have you noticed change and progress in your faith journey?

How are you progressing in your own search for truth?



Encounter - Kingdom

Kingdom

Look at this quotation from Pope Francis

'The Kingdom of God is in your midst. It is not spectacular. It grows in silence in hiding, through witness, prayer, and the attraction of the Spirit.

What do you think he is telling us to do as we work to create the Kingdom of God?

The Kingdom of God is not just a distant promise, but something we can experience here and now. It's a place where love, justice, and peace reign. We build this kingdom through our actions, our relationships, and our commitment to living out Christ's teachings. The Kingdom is a place of belonging, where everyone is valued and loved. When we work together, we can create a glimpse of heaven on earth, a place where God's love shines through in all we do.

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](mailto:jenna.withers@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk)  
[sarah.hibbert@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:sarah.hibbert@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk)

Online Safety

For Parents - YouTube Supervised Accounts

Each week I deliver at least 2 parent online safety sessions, either via webinar or physically in school to help parents safeguard their children and understand their online lives. This includes explaining available tools such as YouTube Supervised Experience which is really easy to set up and gives parents much greater flexibility in managing the content their children are watching on YouTube.

I have a page on my website which has 5 very simple videos showing parents how to set up and use Supervised Experience, YouTube Kids (which also has new settings). Feel free to share [THIS](#) page with parents.

For Parents - Conversation Starters

One of the more common questions I get from parents is, "How do I start that conversation with my child?" Early and continuing conversations is important and should not be any different from any other normal conversation. I spoke to a parent a few weeks ago who finds some topics can be difficult, so she said those conversations are reserved for the school run in the car - in other words there is no direct eye contact so the conversation for adult/child can be easier.

To help parents, Internet Matters have put together some conversation starters and tips to help which you can find [HERE](#).

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



PUPIL OF THE WEEK



- Foundation:** Mira for really developing her phonic skills, matching phonemes to graphemes, oral blending and blending to read words! Keep up the hard work!
- Year 1:** Jenson for his excellent effort and determination in all he does.
- Year 2:** Lavinia for her ability to share skills and knowledge of taking photographs and also deleting those that didn't quite turn out the way she wanted them.
- Year 3:** Oscar for his amazing effort and writing in English.
- Year 4:** All of year 4 for their fabulous worship.
- Year 5 :** Isabella for always trying her best in all her learning.
- Year 6:** Maya (C) for always making positive contributions in class and very thoughtful reflections in RE.

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. New for this term 'Heart that Sees' stickers!

Miss Wilson again for gardening support this week. Our garden renovation work is coming along beautifully and we really appreciate the support from our families.

Ronan for picking up litter that was not his and putting in the bin-excellent stewardship and care for our common home.

ATTENDANCE

Well done Year 3 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 95.79%

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 - 91.29 %
- Year 1 - 92.45 %
- Year 2 - 96.64 %
- Year 3 - 99.26 %
- Year 4 - 95.79 %
- Year 5 - 97.66 %
- Year 6 - 97.04 %

New Ways November  
 Human Dignity CST

WELLBEING

- 24** Share with a friend something helpful you learned recently
- 25** Use one of your strengths in a new or creative way
- 26** Try out a different radio station or new TV show
- 27** Join a friend doing their hobby and find out why they love it
- 28** Discover your artistic side. Design a friendly greeting card
- 29** Enjoy new music today. Play, sing, dance or listen
- 30** Look for new reasons to be hopeful, even in tough times

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

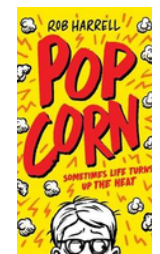
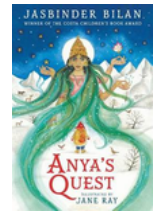
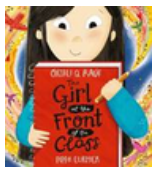
[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

## Recommended Reads

## READING CORNER



### The Girl at the Front of the Class

A boy wonders why his new classmate won't join in and looks so sad, then discovers she has had to flee her home and everything she knows. A gorgeously illustrated book celebrating being welcoming and kind.

### Anya's Quest

Young Anya lives with her father in a wealthy palace among the icy slopes of the Himalayas. When the snowfall in the mountain pass cuts her off from her best friend Pria for the winter, she is reluctant to play with the cook's daughter Mahi.

But a half-forgotten song links the two children, and its words summon the mighty goddess Ganga, who takes the pair on an epic journey through time and space in a chariot drawn by the river dragon Makarato, to reconnect with their spirit animals and to heal the natural world.

This is a beautiful tale about human connections with nature, inspired by Hindu mythology. The gods and deities are intricately described, and they shine brightly in Jane Ray's magical illustrations, which dazzle throughout the book.

Anya and Mahi's adventure connects with modern issues of pollution, habitat loss, and wider climate change. It brings with it a strong, affirming message that children have the power within themselves to affect positive change. As Bilan writes in the voice of Ganga, "Children will listen to other children. That is the power that you have."

With rich descriptions of Hindu mythology, Indian culture, regional foods and much more besides, this is an excellent wintry tale that celebrates children, nature, and the lasting power of stories.

### Popcorn

On school photo day, when it really matters that he looks his best, Andrew manages to upset a bully, get involved in a disastrous science experiment and have a nasty encounter with a fast-moving basketball. Until, with glasses smashed, ruined clothes and a face full of blood, he looks anything but his best. By the time it's his turn with the photographer, he's exhausted. And the nugget of worry that was in his stomach at the start of the day has grown into a massive, flaming boulder of anxiety that could explode at any moment.

## MATHS STAR BADGE AWARDS

Congratulations to some of our Year 4 and 6 children who have achieved their gold star maths badges.

We look forward to awarding more star badges of different levels across the school this term.

Year 4 - Elliot, Noah, Magor, Liljana, Ebube, Joshua

Year 6 Gold - Levana, Daria

Year 6 Plat 1 - Maya A, Isabella, Maya C, Chloe, Oscar, Maisy, Scarlett, Toby, Joan, Julia, Ariel, Maddie, Leo, Matthew, Alice, Alex.



## DIARY DATES

### Wednesday 27th November

Year 2 Celebration of the Word - Parents Welcome 2:50pm

### Thursday 28th November

Whole School Advent Retreat Day

### Friday 29th November

PJ and bring your cuddly toy day! £1 on the gate

### Monday 9th December

Foundation and KS1 Nativity 5pm

### Wednesday 11th December

Foundation and KS1 Nativity 2pm

### Tuesday 17th December

KS2 Carol Concert

## FACTS AND CHALLENGES

### Physical Geography- Glacier facts

- 1) Glaciers are huge masses of ice that "flow" like very slow rivers. They form over hundreds of years where fallen snow compresses and turns into ice.
- 2) Glaciers form the largest reservoir of fresh water on the planet. In fact, they store 75% of the world's fresh water!
- 3) Today, glaciers cover around 10% of the Earth's total land area. During the last ice age they covered 32%.
- 4) Glaciers are usually divided into two groups - Alpine glaciers, which form on mountainsides and move downward through valleys, and Continental ice sheets, which spread out and cover larger areas.

word of the week physical geography meaning- the branch of geography dealing with natural features.

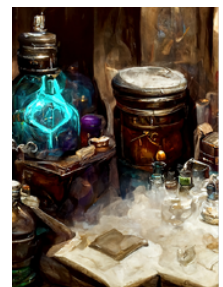
source of information: <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/physical-geography/glaciers/>

### Writing Challenge

She had resided at Raven Cliff Cottage for hundreds of years, perfecting her art, honing her skills. Her concoctions bubbled and frothed in front of her; she let out a hearty laugh. "Not long now" she muttered under her breath. Her creations were almost complete...

**Continue the story.**

**Alternatively, create a recipe for your own potion.**



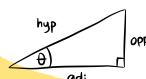
### Maths Challenges

**HELPFUL HINTS** START WITH THE SHAPES WHERE THERE IS ONLY ONE POSSIBILITY OF WHERE IT MUST GO AND ALWAYS MAKE SURE THERE ARE MORE THAN ONE OF EACH SHAPES IN EACH VERTICAL COLUMN AND HORIZONTAL ROW

| Level 1  | Level 2  | Level 3   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Lottie has made a special grid. In each row and each column there is one of each shape type.</p>  | <p>Lottie has made a special grid. In each row and each column there is one of each shape type.</p>  | <p>Lottie has made a special grid. In each row and each column there is one of each shape type.</p> |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where must the missing green triangle go?</li> <li>2. Where must the missing red circle go?</li> <li>3. Where must the missing blue squares go?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where must the missing blue square go?</li> <li>2. Where must the missing green triangle go?</li> <li>3. Where must the missing red circle go?</li> <li>4. Where must the missing yellow hearts go?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where do all the missing shapes go?</li> </ol>            |

Children can access maths activities at home that we use in school.

Follow these links to find out more.



$$\sin(\theta) = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

Mathematics Shed  
Times Tables Rock Stars  
Top Marks



## HOCKEY TOURNAMENT



On Friday 15th the hockey teams a and b set of to their 2nd hockey match of the season. Both teams played fabulously and they showed excellent compassion . The defence in our a team was marvellous and they show courage even if they lost their match. Despite them loosing both teams still had a great time.

Let people see  
**THE LIGHT**

## WHOLE SCHOOL RETREAT



Next Thursday, we will be having a whole school retreat day in preparation for the season of Advent. In the Catholic church, Advent is a time of preparation. We can prepare practically but we should also prepare spiritually for the coming of Jesus at Christmastime. One way in which we can do this is by helping those in need. As part of our retreat day, we are asking for donations of loose change (including 1ps, 2ps, 5ps, 10ps etc) which we hope to use to create a large-scale art project on the playground during playtime. Any money collected from this will be used to purchase a 'World Gift' from CAFOD. These gifts help to transform the lives of families and communities living in poverty. You can find out more about CAFOD's World Gifts here: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

Please send any coins into school with your child on Thursday 28th November 2024.  
Thank you for your support.

## FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

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

