



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 31st January 2025

VIRTUES AND VALUES

Virtue of the term
Knowledge

Value of the Month
Trust

LET US PRAY

Lord, your light shines brightly for all the world to see. Help us to live in your light.
Amen.

ARTICLES OF THE WEEK

Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

Through their literacy learning in Foundation, the children have set up a sweet shop, they have learnt key vocabulary to describe the sweets, written labels and learnt key phrases to use in the shop. They have used their maths skills to count out 1p coins up to 5p! The children have had great fun!

Year 1 had so much fun during outdoor learning with Mrs Simons. They made fat ball bird feeders to help our wildlife during the winter months, practised their mathematical skills using twigs to build number sentences and finished off the day acting out Little Red Riding Hood in the woods. Watch out for the wolf!

In Year 2 this week we have been working on Change in our Maths Money Topic. We have been finding out which coins we should use to buy different items and the change required. We have been learning how to change direction in our PE lesson this week and how we can alter our speed and direction. Our English focus this week has been improving our Non-Chronological Paragraphs and writing out the edited improvements.

Year 3 were brilliant in their Class worship and read amazingly with clear voices, they sang beautifully and certainly got the message of loving and supporting each other across. They shared their dreams and ambitions, which were great to hear. Again some of Year 3 have been selected in the writing competition that we entered, and their writing is going to be published. They are able to purchase the books and school get one free. Well done Year 3. You are all amazing.

Year 4 have begun learning about instructions; what they are, what are their features and how we can write them. During Science lesson we have created posters explaining "How we can prevent our teeth from tooth decay". In PE lesson we learn why sharing and being fair is important in sports.

In Year 5 this week we have been exploring stop animation. We have come up with a story line for our clay based stop animation project and are looking forward to starting the recording process next week.

This week Year 6 have been exploring the effects that exercise has on the heart rate in Science. They learnt how to take their own pulse and use this to work out the beats per minute. Working in pairs the children found their resting heart rate and then exercised for 2 minutes. After two minutes they then took and recorded their heart rate and continued to do so until their heart rate had returned to normal. Year 6 have found out that the heart beats faster when exercising as the muscles need more oxygen to function properly.

Psst! Don't Forget... Year 6 you are welcome to join Arithmetic club every Monday, Wednesday and Friday with Mrs Withers 8-8:30am. Its a great way to start the day.

Drop and Go: Please remember if you choose to use the drop and go system your child must get out of the car independently and walk to the gate. You may not walk them to the gate or go into the office or bring messages to the staff member on duty, this causes huge traffic disruption. If you wish to speak to the office or pass on a message please park down the road and walk in, alternatively you can call or email.

After School: Please remember the school equipment is insured and maintained for use of pupils during the school day. Pre schoolers or visitors to our playground should not be using the equipment. Please also ensure you leave the playground promptly so we can secure gates for after school clubs, I have had reports of families, 'staying and playing' we are not a park -please depart promptly.

Have a wonderful weekend, I have heard it might be a little wet but I am hoping the sun might make an appearance at some point, I look forward to seeing you all on Monday! Remember to bring £1 if you wish to buy a square and be in with a chance of winning a Nintendo Switch

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 will be going home with Anveksha

GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to a temple ceremony to offer Jesus to the service of God. Simeon recognises Jesus as the Messiah, 'a Light for all nations!' Can you imagine how Simeon would have felt? He had so longed for this day. Today we celebrate the Light that has come to us through Jesus and pray that we will shine with his brightness.

Sometimes we can see that God is at work in other people, particularly when they are doing kind deeds and using loving words. Who at the moment do you see as a visible instrument of God's Love? Why?

Sometimes it can be difficult to see God working through people. We need to pray for help to see God in relationships that we find testing.

Light is symbolic of God's presence. We light the candle when the Word of God is being read to symbolise his presence. Can you think of other places where you recognise God's presence?

At our own baptism a candle was lit. Why do you think Light is used to symbolise God?



Humanity

Design the perfect Disciple/ Saint - What would the perfect disciple look like? Design a perfect disciple but what they look like must tell us what their skills/characteristics are! For example, if they think a disciple should be a good listener they might need really big ears or many ears. If they need to be loving they might need a big heart! Mary is the perfect disciple so look at the scripture about Mary for inspiration! The idea is that what is created looks nothing like a real person because the perfect disciple doesn't exist. God is calling us to be His disciple, this does not mean we have to be perfect.

Humanity

Humility is putting others before ourselves. When we show humility, we are open to learning from others, and are willing to serve others. As we grow in humility, we become more like Jesus Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

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

Age Assurance

In the UK the Online Safety Act became legislation some time ago, but 2025 sees the Act being enforced in phases primarily due to the fact that it is huge. The first phase (end of March 2025) is in relation to illegal harms of which there are over 130. July sees a really important one, particularly when it comes to children and young people - age assurance. This is a really difficult part of the Act, where content isn't illegal, but could be harmful to younger users. For years we've all been shouting for better age assurance methods than we've currently got (press this button to confirm you're over 18) and now it's here. It isn't perfect, there's some pretty big gaps, there's problems and there are workarounds, but it's a step in the right direction and better than we've had previously.

Essentially tech companies must conform to requirements:

1. They must assess their platforms to see if children can access them and implement measures to protect those children.
2. They must introduce effective age checks, particularly platforms which host adult or other harmful content.
3. And ensure that harmful material cannot be accessed or viewed during the age-checking process.

As I mentioned earlier, these are interesting times, how effective the Act is going to be is anybody's guess. I'll keep you updated during the year.

WhatsApp Account Takeover Scam

Another month, another WhatsApp scam. This time criminal gangs are managing to get into chat groups, particularly groups where there are large numbers of people, meaning that no-one knows everyone. From there they will target individuals in the group by telling them that a code is on its way to them which they need to share. For example, a student chat group was infiltrated by someone pretending to be their university lecturer and he asked them all to share their code so that they could join a group call. At that point, the criminal gang now has control of your personal WhatsApp account and will be able to message others asking for money.

Whilst it can be difficult to get your head around some of these scams the message is simple. Regardless of how old you are, regardless of how much you trust that person, never ever share passwords or passcodes.

- Alan Mackenzie, <http://www.esafety-adviser.com/>



PUPIL OF THE WEEK



Foundation: Tommy for being so engaged in phonics learning this week, often reading and writing before I model.

Year 1: Aaron Okoro for amazing effort and progress in reading and writing.

Year 2: Antonia for her excellent recall of Geographical Facts this week.

Year 3: Vlad for the amazing language that he is using in his writing in English. The expression when reading his report.

Year 4: Evie for always being ready to learn new things, listening to the instructions and being a role model to others.

Year 5: Rayyan for amazing work in maths finding fractions of quantities.

Year 6: Oscar for consistently applying himself to all aspects of learning, setting a great example to others.



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!

A huge thank you to JP Asset Sourcing and Management who have not only purchased the majority of our current Amazon Wishlist but have given us a Nintendo Switch as part of our Big World Book Day Prize! Such generosity in what is very challenging times for us financially as a school. We are so grateful!



ATTENDANCE

Well done Year 6 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 94.69%

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 - 96.17%
- Year 1 - 92.96%
- Year 2 - 96.65%
- Year 3 - 97.04%
- Year 4 - 95.02%
- Year 5 - 98.47%
- Year 6 - 99.23%

**Friendly February
Human Dignity CST**

WELLBEING

<p>2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently</p>	<p>3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone</p>	<p>4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)</p>
<p>5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour</p>	<p>6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while</p>	<p>7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others</p>
<p>8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust</p>		

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

Recommended Reads

READING CORNER

Terrible Horses - Raymond Antrabus

Terrible Horses, written by deaf poet Raymond Antrabus, is a story about sibling rivalry told from the perspective of a young boy (with hearing aids) who envies his older sister's friends and belongings. When the siblings fight, the boy copes with his feelings by drawing and writing stories, and it is through these stories that the siblings ultimately resolve their differences.



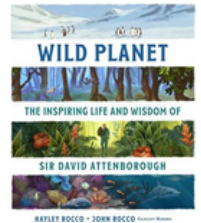
The White Fox - Jackie Morris

The day the fox came, things began to change for Sol. Lost, alone and far away from home, Sol feels a deep connection with the little Arctic fox he discovers down at the Seattle docks – he too feels lost in the big city. Dad is always busy working and Sol misses the grandparents they have left behind. So Sol decides to take the little fox back home, reuniting his own family in the process.



Wild Planet - Hayley Rocco

This wonderful picture book paints the inspiring picture of how David Attenborough grew from a curious boy to a world-renowned naturalist whose work has touched the lives of millions. It raises important questions and will encourage discussion about how we can bring back the wild places and restore balance to the natural world.



STAR BADGE AWARDS

FACTS AND CHALLENGES

Well done to all those children who have received a star badge this week. These are pupils who have maintained full marks for their challenge 4 times in a row. Please take time to look at these challenges at home when they are sent home each week.

Year 1 White Star - Jaynie, Juliana, Adrianas, Melissa, Melanie, Hana, Dominic, Aaron

Year 2 Red Star - Zakher, Emma, Aidens, Shazil, George, Amanda, Antonia

Year 4 Platinum - Kacper
Platinum +1 - Joshua, Ebube

Year 6 Platinum - Maisy
Platinum +2 - Isabella, Maya C, Oscar, Scarlett, Toby, Maddie, Leo, Alice



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 5th February

Foundation Class Worship - Parents
Welcome 2:50pm

Thursday 6th February

Year 6 Class Mass – Parents Welcome
1:30pm

Thursday 13th February

Wear Something you love Non-Uniform!
End of Term 3

Friday 14th February

INSET Day - No children in School

Monday 24th February

Start of Term 4

Squirrel Tech!

Conservationists are using top new technology to help protect the UK's native red squirrels. It is called Squirrel Agent, the AI-powered system is attached to feeding boxes on trees. If AI detects a red squirrel the box opens to let them eat the nuts. But if a grey squirrel has a go, the food box stays shut. The grey squirrels can only access boxes which contain a special paste which stops them having babies. Scientists say this will help the red squirrel population which is currently in decline and will help curb the grey population, which was introduced to the UK in the 1800's. It will also help stop the spread of the disease squirrel pox, which is carried by grey squirrels. Scientists hope to get the red squirrel population back on track.

Source National Geographic Kids Magazine March edition

Writing Challenge

1. Write an acrostic poem using the word, February.
2. Describe the qualities that make someone a good friend.
3. Imagine that you are an astronaut who discovers a new planet in the solar system. Describe this new planet.



Maths Challenges

One of Thirty Six

Can you find the chosen number from this square using the clues below?

1. The number is odd
2. It is a multiple of three
3. It is smaller than 7 x 4
4. Its tens digit is even
5. It is the greater of the two possibilities

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

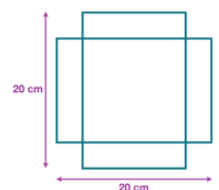


nrich.maths.org

Cuboid Challenge

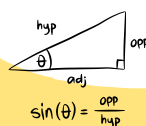
You can make an open box from a 20cm by 20cm piece of card by cutting out four squares and folding the flaps.

What's the biggest volume of box you can make in this way?



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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](#)



BOOKS GLORIOUS BOOKS



We have been extremely lucky this week to gain a fantastic supply of beautiful books for our school library, which will go long way to offering the children a range of high quality books to enjoy and share.

Firstly, the annual book fair was hugely successful, thanks to your support, and has afforded us £200 worth of books for the children to read in class and bring home to share as their reading for pleasure texts.



Additionally, we have had a very generous parent who through JP Asset Sourcing and Management has been able to purchase the books from our Amazon Wish List amongst other items. We will be restocking our list and are incredibly grateful for your support and continued generosity.

THANK YOU!!

