



# 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 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### VIRTUES AND VALUES

#### Virtue of the term

Compassion

#### Value of the Month

Self-discipline

### LET US PRAY

Lord, we became your children at our baptism. Help us to know your love so we can share it freely with others.

Amen.

### ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

#### Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



### A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

In Maths in EYFS this week, the children have been exploring the composition of numbers, building a solid foundation for their number sense through fun, hands-on activities. Their History lesson took them on an exciting journey to learn about where and why castles were built, sparking curiosity about life in the past. Meanwhile, in Art, they have been inspired by the vibrant work of Alma Thomas, with pupils creating their own colourful, patterned masterpieces.

This week, Year 1 have been busy across the curriculum! In Maths, the children are developing their understanding of place value by exploring numbers, tens and ones. In Art, they have been inspired by Vincent van Gogh, studying his use of lines and exploring different ways to mark make. In Computing, pupils are learning to use the Scratch app to create simple programs and develop early coding skills. In Geography, the children are learning about the countries of the UK and identifying their capital cities.

In Year 2 Maths, we have been learning all about money. The children have been adding and subtracting amounts, recognising different coins, and even finding change from one pound. Any support at home using real money, such as paying for items or checking change, would be extremely helpful to reinforce this learning. In Religious Education, we have been learning about John the Baptist and discussing how we can be more like Jesus through our thoughts, words and deeds. The children shared some thoughtful ideas about kindness, forgiveness, and helping others. We also had a very exciting Art lesson using messy charcoal! The children experimented with different techniques and explored how charcoal can be used to recreate artwork inspired by L. S. Lowry.

Year 3 have had a fabulous week; we have been reading more of our new book 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' and the children have been really enjoying the twists and turns of the story. We have been getting to grips with fronted adverbials in English and multiplication in Maths. Year 3 had lots of fun exploring the Scratch program in computing and we have started learning about the layers of the Earth, they are very excited to be learning about volcanoes next week. Well done year 3!

Year 4 have been learning about God's Kingdom and what it means for Christians today. In PE, the children enjoyed experimenting with symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes using their bodies and movements. In Science, we explored the structure of a human tooth and learned about the different parts and their functions. In English, the class has been diving into The Great British Food Bank Heist, exploring the characters in preparation for writing exciting story openers next week.

In year five this week we have started our computing unit on stop animation. We have learnt about what animation is and created our own simple zoetrope style animation. We are looking forward to planning and creating our stop animation piece later this term.

Year 6 have been exploring the Shakespeare play- Romeo and Juliet. They have read the play and are now developing their ideas to plan and write a balanced argument for the question: Who is to blame for the deaths of Romeo and Juliet.

Reminder: I have had a large group of parents and residents reporting a minority of parents parking and dropping off on the yellow zig zag markings- please do not do this it is not safe, causes delays and further congestion.

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/xfp/form/351>

Help Please! We are trying to build a stock of Wellies for Forest School Learning Days. To suit the different age and stage of pupils ideally we need wellies sizes 12- 4 if you are ever clearing out and have any in good condition we would happily take them off your hands. Thank you in advance. If any families have any board games in good condition that they no longer need and are able to donate to the school, these would be very useful during wet play times for the children. Thank you.

It has been another busy week and we have been thinking about World Religion Day which falls today. This day invites people of all faiths—and those of no formal faith—to come together in a spirit of understanding, respect, and shared humanity. Observed each January, the day highlights the common values that run through the world's spiritual traditions: compassion, peace, justice, and the desire to build a better world. It's an opportunity to learn from one another, appreciate the richness of global belief systems, and strengthen the connections that unite us across cultures and communities. Our pupils are a shining example of living out this message each and every day.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Withers X

### GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus was baptised in order to receive the Holy Spirit for his work of teaching and healing, so that everyone would know he was the Son of God. Have you attended any baptisms? What are the special symbols used in the ceremony? – Promises, water, holy oil, white garment, lighted candle. What does our baptism mean to us?

What have been the consequences of our baptism, and how is our life different because of it? How strong is your sense of being 'beloved' and 'favoured' by God?

How much time do you spend alone in prayer?



**Missionary Discipleship - Baptism**

Think of one way you can be more like Jesus this week.

**Baptism**

Baptism is a sign of God's love and forgiveness, it marks a fresh start and a new beginning. When we are baptised are welcomed into the Church community of believers who love us, support us and help us grow. During baptism we are anointed as priest, prophet and king and called to live like Jesus did.

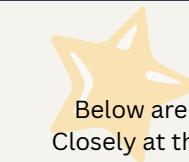
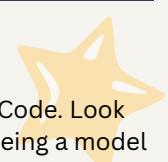
Participation CST

**ATTENDANCE**

**Well done Year 1 and 5 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 96.6%**

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 - 95.1%  
Year 1 - 98.5%  
Year 2 - 97.4%  
Year 3 - 94.2%  
Year 4 - 97%  
Year 5 - 98.5%  
Year 6 - 95.2%

**PUPIL OF THE WEEK**

Below are pupils that have lived out the St. Norbert's Leaners Code. Look Closely at the certificate to see what your child has excelled in being a model of this week!

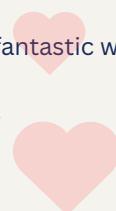
**Foundation: Vito**

**Year 1: Ishan**  
**Year 2: Oliver**  
**Year 3: Antoni**  
**Year 4: Olaf**  
**Year 5: Augustas**  
**Year 6: Maria**

**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 our volunteer readers, We've had a fantastic week of reading with lots of our children.  
Your time is so appreciated here at the school.

**SAFEGUARDING****A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives**

The Children's Commissioner for England has produced a guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives, designed to demystify some of the issues such as the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits, what you should and shouldn't be doing, and the often complicated parental controls on individual social media platforms, to help make talking to your child about them easier.

An introductory blog on the guide from the Children's Commissioner can be viewed here:  
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/blog/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-childrens-commissioner-launches-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

The guide, along with an Activity Pack for children, can be accessed here:  
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

This resource along with many other resources and information in this area can be found on the Perspective Lite website by following the pathway- LA Documents > Safeguarding > Areas within Safeguarding > Online Safety.  
LCC Safeguarding in Schools Team

If you are concerned about a child or need help and support do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs. Withers and Deputy 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)

**Useful Websites**

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

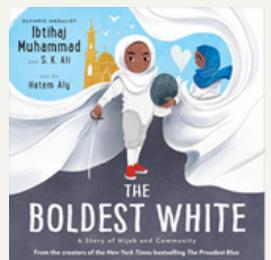
[Mentally Healthy Schools hub by Heads Together](#)

[Our Time](#)

## READING CORNER

This month, our school is recognising World Religion Day, a time dedicated to promoting understanding, respect, and dialogue among people of all faiths and beliefs. The day encourages us to explore the rich diversity of world religions and to appreciate the values we share—kindness, compassion, and community. Throughout the week, students will have opportunities to learn about different traditions, ask thoughtful questions, and celebrate the importance of mutual respect in our school and beyond. It's a wonderful reminder that our differences can bring us closer together. Around the World in 80 Festivals: Around the World in 80 Festivals is a colourful, globe-spanning celebration of human culture. The book takes readers on a journey through eighty remarkable festivals, from ancient traditions to modern spectacles. Each chapter highlights a different corner of the world, exploring how communities express joy, identity, faith, and creativity through their unique celebrations. With vibrant illustrations and fascinating facts, it offers a window into the music, food, rituals, and stories that bring people together. It's an engaging introduction to global diversity and a reminder of how festivals help us understand one another.

**The Boldest White:** The Boldest White follows a young girl named Aisha who is determined to stand out in a world that often encourages her to blend in. When her class is asked to create a piece of art using their “boldest colour,” Aisha chooses white—a colour many overlook. Through her creativity and confidence, she shows her classmates that boldness isn't about being the loudest or the brightest; it's about expressing yourself honestly and proudly. The story celebrates individuality, cultural identity, and the courage to see beauty where others might not. It's an uplifting, visually rich picture book that encourages children to embrace what makes them unique.



## STAR BADGE AWARDS

### Year 4

Gold: Oscar

Platinum: Luca, Emily and Joya

Platinum+1: Natalie

## SUBJECT SPOTLIGHTS

**Retreat Day at The Immaculate Conception and Saint Norbert Church, St Thomas Road, Spalding. Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026.**

For all young people. A chance to deepen your faith, connect with like minded individuals and have fun. The theme is inspired by our two new saints Carlo Acutis and pier Giorgio Frassati and what made their lives extraordinary. The retreat day is designed to inspire and uplift young people, providing a safe and welcoming space to explore faith, build relationships and create unforgettable memories. For information, schedule and to register, go to:  
<https://www.ndys.com/spalding-retreat-day/>

## DIARY DATES

Remember to check the school website Events Calendar

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January

Year 5 Class Celebration of the Word - Parents Welcome 2:50pm

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January-Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Book Fair open in school each day from 3.15pm

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm (Book slot via Arbor)

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

Parents Evening 3.30pm-5.30pm (Book slot via Arbor)

Children can access maths activities at home that we use in school. Follow these links to find out more.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{hyp} \\ \theta \\ \text{opp} \\ \text{adj} \\ \text{sin}(\theta) = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}} \end{array}$$

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

