



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 9th 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

EYFS children had a magical time exploring the story of Sleeping Beauty. They retold the fairy tale through songs and actions, bringing the characters to life with enthusiasm and creativity. The children also embarked on a hands-on adventure, identifying and naming materials found in a castle. They learned about stone, wood, fabric, and glass by spotting them around the classroom and discussing their properties.

Year 1 have had a wonderful time this week! They thoroughly enjoyed their first trip to the swimming pool, showing great confidence and enthusiasm. The children also began their storytelling journey with Little Red Riding Hood, sharing imaginative ideas and retelling the tale. In art, they amazed us with their exploration of Van Gogh's work, using colour and lines to create expressive responses to their chosen artworks by him.

This week in Year 2 we have been learning about LS Lowry in art and trying to draw and recreate different characters we have seen in his paintings. We have also been learning about Charles Macintosh in Science, considering how he invented the rain coat called the Macintosh! This term we will be investigating materials to design and create our very own waterproof invention! We have also celebrated success this week in our Reading assessments with some children becoming 'FREE' readers - a great advert for reading together daily.

Year 3 have had a fabulous first week back we had a lovely first morning celebrating the Feast of Epiphany, in our wonderful church with Father Jim. The children had a fabulous PE session learning teamwork skills. We have begun to look at and read our new text in English 'The Firework Makers Daughter' by Phillip Pullman which the children have loved. In maths we have been continuing to secure our multiplication knowledge to help us solve a variety of mathematical problems. Well done for a fabulous first week back Year 3!

Year 4 have begun the new term by investigating teeth, learning about their different types and uses and why they are important for our health. In PE, pupils are developing their gymnastic skills, focusing on the skills of jumping making shapes and using this to create and perform simple movement sequences. The children have shown great enthusiasm and teamwork in their learning.

In year five this week we have begun to explore the book Kensuke's Kingdom, written by Michael Morpurgo. We have made inferences and predictions based on the front cover and picked apart the first chapter, identifying the key features within the chapter. We are looking forward to reading on and finding out who or what Kensuke is

Year 6 have been creating shading and contrast through this term's Art learning based on still life. In Science they have learnt the three main parts of the circulatory system and described the job of the heart.

Welcome back to a new term and a new year 2026, I hope you were all able to enjoy some quality time together over the break. As we all get back into our usual routines I would like to welcome you to join us in the National Year of Reading 2026: Go All In!

We're proud to support the National Year of Reading 2026, a UK-wide initiative led by the Department for Education and the [National Literacy Trust](https://www.national-literacy-trust.org/) to transform the nation's reading culture. The campaign's theme, "Go All In," encourages everyone to rediscover reading as a modern, meaningful, and relevant part of everyday life.

Reading for pleasure has incredible benefits, from boosting wellbeing and empathy to improving future life chances. This year, the mission is simple: whatever you love, "read into it." Stay tuned for exciting events happening in school, activities, and resources on how you can get involved and make reading a powerful, lifelong habit. Find out more at the official National Year of Reading website.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week!

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 3 for this week's highest scoring attendance! School Average this week 95.6%

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 - 93.7%
Year 1 - 94.6%
Year 2 - 98.1%
Year 3 - 98.4%
Year 4 - 94.8%
Year 5 - 97.4%
Year 6 - 92.4%

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

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

Foundation: Lucas

Year 1: Jason

Year 2: Tamsin

Year 3: Diego

Year 4: Vlad

Year 5: Zachary

Year 6: Natan

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.

Thank you to all who have purchased from our Amazon wish list and continue to do so. We know how difficult this can be in these challenging times.

A big thank you to all of our volunteers who walked with the children to Mass this week. Without you, we wouldn't be able to attend such events.

**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

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

**Useful Websites**

[Young Minds](#)

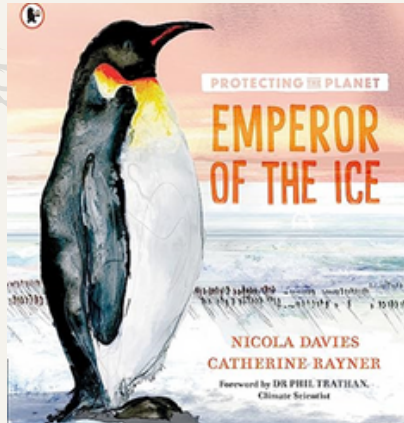
[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

Emperor of the Ice

With luminous illustrations and an introduction by climate scientist Dr Phil Trathan, this is the true story of how the Emperor penguin colony at Halley Bay was disrupted after the sea ice collapsed, and how it's necessary to protect the environment so that these extraordinary survivors will continue to be found in the Antarctic for generations to come.

**STAR BADGE AWARDS****Year 5**

Gold: Jessica
Platinum+1: Oliver

SUBJECT SPOTLIGHTS

The world's largest school wildlife survey returns, with tens of thousands of school children watching and counting the UK's birds for the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch.

Over 100,000 school children and teachers took part in 2025, counting more than 135,000 thousand birds.

The Birdwatch – which takes place during the first half of the Spring term (6 January – 13 February) – is the largest citizen science project for schools. The Birdwatch involves children watching and counting the birds that visit their school grounds or outdoor space, before sending the results to the RSPB.

With over a million school children taking part since its launch in 2002, the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch has become a much-loved annual event, that helps give the RSPB a valuable snapshot of how our school birds are doing in the UK. With birds now facing so many challenges due to the nature and climate emergency, every count matters.

We will be exploring this at school through our outdoor learning this term.

DIARY DATES

Remember to check the school website Events Calendar

Wednesday 21st January

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

Wednesday 21st January-Tuesday 27th January

Book Fair open in school each day
from 3.15pm

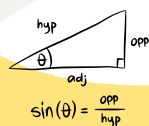
Tuesday 27th January

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

Wednesday 28th 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.



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

