



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



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](#) 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?

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

Missionary Discipleship - Baptism

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

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 Leaners 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

**Useful Websites**

[Young Minds](#)

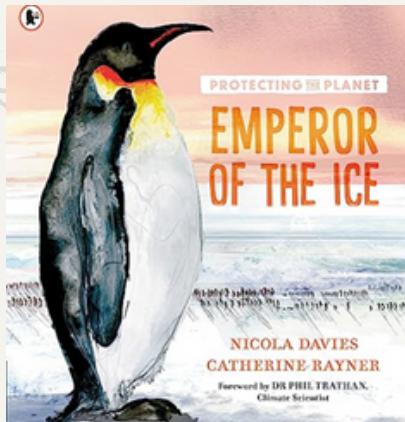
[Place 2 Be](#)

[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

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)

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.

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

