



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 11th September 2026

VIRTUES AND VALUES

Virtue of the term

Friendship

Value of the Month

Respect

LET US PRAY

Our Education Sunday Prayer

Dear Lord,
Thank You for our school family and the exciting new year ahead. Help us to "Live Well Together" every single day. When we disagree, give us the patience to listen. When we are hurt, give us the strength to forgive. Bless our pupils, teachers, and families, and keep our school a safe place of kindness and respect.
Amen.

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

Subsidiarity and Solidarity CST



A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

What an amazing first week our EYFS children have had! They have settled beautifully into their new classroom, building friendships and becoming familiar with our daily routines. Through fun games and activities, the children have developed their listening skills, explored our class rules, and begun their exciting learning journey with confidence and enthusiasm.

What a busy and exciting start to Year 1! The children have settled in brilliantly and have been working hard to learn all of our new routines and expectations. We have enjoyed lots of fun in PE, sung songs together and started to use some exciting new vocabulary, including learning what a noun is. In RE, we have been exploring the story of Creation and thinking about the wonderful world around us. In maths, we have been busy counting and representing numbers in different ways. We have also put our artist eyes to work, looking really closely at ourselves to create fantastic self-portraits, remembering to include all of our important facial features. What a super first full week in Year 1!

Year 2 have had a very exciting week finding out about the Building Boy in English and creating their very own descriptive word web! In PE this we have been looking at following instructions to perform and move in different ways whilst also learning about Farmer Bob and his naughty sheep- a great PE game. Finally, we have been sharing our understanding of the Old and New Testament and which stories come from which books.

What a fabulous week Year 3 have had! They have worked incredibly hard, shown fantastic enthusiasm and have enjoyed lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In Geography, we have started learning all about cities, exploring what makes them special and how they are different from other places. We have also begun our French learning, and the children have made a fantastic start! In Maths, we have been learning about place value and the children have done a brilliant job understanding the value of each digit in a number. In English, we have started our new book, The First Drawing, which has already inspired lots of interesting ideas and discussion. We have also begun learning about computer networks and how computers and devices communicate with each other. In Science, the children had lots of fun investigating how plants absorb water by carrying out the famous celery experiment. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and excitement as they observed what happened! A huge well done, Year 3, for having such a super week! We are so proud of all your hard work, enthusiasm and fantastic attitudes to learning. Keep it up!

The children have settled into Year 4 brilliantly and are off to a fantastic start this term, showing wonderful enthusiasm for all our new topics. In geography, we have been exploring the fascinating global locations of rainforests, discovering where they grow and why they are so vital to our planet. In science, our young scientists have been investigating how electricity is generated and experimenting with simple circuits. Meanwhile, in art, the children are drawing inspiration from the vibrant life and incredible work of Frida Kahlo to create their own striking self-portraits

Year 5 have made a great start to the new year and have been working hard in English learning about relative clauses and the way that authors use them to add detail and create suspense and tension. This will be a useful technique over the coming weeks as they will plan and write their own adventure stories.

In Year 6 we have hit the ground running with a busy week learning about Non chronological reports in our English work. We are working towards writing our own report about Mount Everest, and have found it really interesting learning facts about the worlds highest mountain and the first two people to successfully ascend it. In maths we have been working hard on place value, looking at numbers up to ten million and our geography work has seen us learn about some of the major mountain ranges across the globe.

A very warm welcome back to school! We hope you all had a fantastic, restful summer break. It has been an absolute joy opening our gates this week and seeing the school filled with smiling faces, bright uniforms, and enthusiastic energy. A special, warm welcome goes out to our new Foundation pupils and the families joining our school community for the very first time—we are thrilled to have you with us!

As we embark on this fresh academic year, we root all that we do in our school mission statement: **'Love of God, love of one another and a love of life itself.'** This beautiful vision will guide our classrooms every day, inspiring our pupils to grow in faith, show kindness and respect to their peers, and embrace every learning opportunity with joy and curiosity.

To help keep you connected with our school life and mission, we have a couple of important communication updates:

- **Fortnightly Newsletters:** To make our communications easier to manage, our main school newsletter will now move to a fortnightly schedule. You can expect to receive these updates every two weeks, packed with key dates, learning updates, and school notices.
- **Launching Our School Facebook Page!** We are delighted to announce that we will soon be launching our official **school Facebook page**. This will be a wonderful space for us to share daily highlights, celebrate pupil achievements, and give you a visual window into how our children are living out their love of life itself. Stay tuned for details on how to follow our page!

Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we walk together in faith and learning. Let's make it a brilliant year! Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Withers X

GOSPEL REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

This Sunday 13 September, we mark Education Sunday 2026. Our theme for the new school year is "Living Well Together", inspired by Jesus' teaching in Matthew 18 to forgive others "seventy times seven". School is about more than just lessons; it is where our children learn how to build a community. Living well together means celebrating our differences, listening to one another, and practicing forgiveness when things go wrong on the playground. By showing patience and kindness, our pupils and staff work every day to make our school a happy, peaceful place for everyone to learn and grow.

Chat at Home: Conversation Starters

To help bring this theme alive at home this week, try asking your child these quick questions:

- "What does it look like when people are 'living well together' in your classroom?"
- "Jesus tells us to keep on forgiving others. Why do you think saying 'I forgive you' is so important for keeping friendships strong?"
- "What is one kind thing we can do as a family this week to help someone else feel included?"



Outreach

Find someone in your community who may not always be included. Make an effort to tell them they are loved and important.

Outreach

Our faith doesn't just stay within the walls of the church; it's meant to be shared. Outreach is about taking our faith into the world, sharing God's love with those who need it most. This could be through volunteering at a shelter, visiting the elderly, or simply being a listening ear to a friend. When we reach out to others, we not only serve them, but we also strengthen our own faith and connection to God.

Participation CST

ATTENDANCE

Best Class Attendance Last Week:
EYFS, Y2, Y5 - 100%

Best Class Attendance This Week:
Y3 - 99.26%

Remember our school target is 96% 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.

Dear Parents and Carers,
On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families as we begin a new school year.
We are especially pleased to welcome those joining our school community for the first time and hope that you quickly feel at home in our caring and faith-filled environment.
As a Catholic school, our mission is to nurture each child academically, spiritually, and personally, helping them to grow in confidence, kindness, and faith. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year to support your children's learning and wellbeing. I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment, and our parents and carers for the ongoing support you provide to our school community.

This year, we also have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body. Being a governor is a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the school and support its continued success. I will be sending further information separately for anyone interested in finding out more.

We wish all our pupils a happy, successful, and rewarding year ahead.

With every blessing,
Janet Havemann
Chair of Governors



THE HEART THAT SEES AWARD



SAFEGUARDING



We want to share an important update regarding pupil safety and wellbeing. This month, a vital piece of legislation called Benedict's Law came into effect across schools in England. Named in memory of five-year-old Benedict Blythe, who tragically passed away following an allergic reaction at school in 2021, this law transforms previous allergy advice into a strict legal requirement. The new rules are designed to ensure that children with severe allergies are fully protected, and that all school staff are prepared for an emergency. At St. Norbert's we have;

Dedicated Allergy Policy: A clear, published policy detailing how we manage and prevent allergy risks.

Life-Saving Medication: We now stock spare, in-date adrenaline auto-injectors (allergy pens) on the school premises for emergency use.

Staff Training: All school staff are undergoing mandatory training to recognize the signs of an allergic reaction and confidently administer emergency medication.

Individual Medical Care Plans: We are reviewing and updating Individual Healthcare Plans for all pupils with known allergies.

How you can help: If your child has a diagnosed allergy or a change in their medical condition, please contact the school office immediately (enquiries@st-norberts.lincs.sch.uk) with the email subject heading 'Allergy Update', so we can update our records and ensure their specific care plan is active. We are fully committed to providing a safe, inclusive environment where all children can learn without risk. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

Useful Websites

[Young Minds](#)

[Place 2 Be](#)

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

[Our Time](#)

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

READING CORNER

Key Events and Recommended Reads

Over the coming weeks, our school will be celebrating three wonderful events that encourage our pupils to think about the wider world, their community, and the environment:

Recycling Week (14th – 20th September 2026): Our children will explore how small changes and mindful choices can help protect the planet, reduce waste, and keep our oceans clean.

International Day of Peace (Sunday 21st September 2026): Guided by this year's theme, 'Invest in Peace', we will look at how kindness, open-heartedness, and inclusion in our daily lives build a more harmonious school community.

European Day of Languages (Friday 26th September 2026): We will celebrate the rich variety of languages spoken across our school and the wider world under the theme 'Languages Unite!'

Through celebration of the Word and classroom activities, our children will explore these themes. To help continue these important conversations at home, we highly recommend reading the following fantastic children's books together:

For Recycling Week:

A Planet Full of Plastic by Neal Layton-This brilliant, accessible book helps children understand where plastic comes from, why it can be a problem for our oceans and wildlife, and—most importantly—how we can all make a difference by reducing, reusing, and recycling.

For International Day of Peace:

Peace on Earth by Smriti Halls. A beautifully written and reassuring book that explores what peace truly means. Through gentle text and stunning illustrations, it shows children how small acts of friendship and understanding can create a more peaceful world.

For the European Day of Languages:

Mama Miti by Donna Jo Napoli. This inspiring true story tells the tale of Wangari Maathai, the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. It is a wonderful text to explore international heritage, environmental activism, and the power of community storytelling across cultures.

Bonus Read for Embracing Nature:

On a Magical Do-Nothing Day by Beatrice Alemagna. A delightful story about a child who loses their electronic game and rediscovers the pure joy of the outdoor world. It is the perfect book to inspire a love for life itself, prompting children to step outside, play in the rain, and appreciate the natural world around them.

DIARY DATES

Remember to check the school website Events Calendar

Sunday 13th September

Education Sunday Mass in church

Wednesday 16th September

Y4 Class Celebration of the Word
Parents welcome 2.50pm

Wednesday 23rd-Friday 25th September

Year 6 Briars Residential Trip

Wednesday 23rd September

Y5 Class Celebration of the Word
Parents welcome 2.50pm

Thursday 24th September

Y5 Swimming Assessment

Friday 25th September

Non Uniform Day

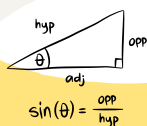
'NUN THE WISER'

Why not have a listen to Tom Baptists latest Podcast, 'Word of the Week':
Click [HERE](#) to listen



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](#)



Education Sunday takes place each year on the second Sunday of September. This year, Education Sunday falls on Sunday 13th September. It is an important day set aside in the liturgical calendar of the church in England and Wales to recognise and celebrate Catholic education. It marks the beginning of the new academic year and offers our community a dedicated time to pray for, celebrate and give thanks for everyone involved in our Saint Norbert's family: the pupils, parents, teachers, support staff, governors and our parish. This year's message calls us to model mercy, forgiveness, and unconditional acceptance within our school community and the wider world. Education is not simply about academic achievement; it shapes what kind of people our children are becoming, helping them grow as compassionate, respectful and forgiving followers of Christ. If you are able to go to Mass this weekend, you might consider wearing your school uniform in recognition of Education Sunday or you may choose to light a candle and say a prayer for your teachers and friends.



2026
**LIVING WELL
TOGETHER**

cte.org.uk/educationsunday2026