

# SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

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Mission Statement: To live, love and learn in the footprints of Jesus.

6th January 2025

Dear Families,

### **Welcome Back**

Happy new year to you all and welcome back. I hope you have been able to enjoy quality time with your families over the Christmas period and feel refreshed as we start 2025. It has been wonderful to see our school community back together again today and we look forward to a healthy and productive year.

## 'Open-Door Policy'

I want your child to be happy and make good progress; our team will continue to work hard to deliver high quality provision. In return, I ask please that you keep us informed of anything which may be having an impact on your child's learning and wellbeing, so that we can provide support.

Please see me in confidence if you need to; your child's Class Teacher is also available to speak with you at the beginning or end of each day.

### Virtues to Live by

We promote Catholic virtues to deepen understanding and appreciation of the essential role these play in the education of the whole person towards human flourishing. During the Lent Term, we will particularly be promoting the Catholic virtues of 'Faith', 'Simplicity', 'Love & Charity' and 'Forgiveness'.

## Start of School Day

Thank you for ensuring that your children arrived at school on-time today. Teaching begins promptly at 8:30am and attendance registers are completed before 8:30am to minimise 'lost' learning time. We open the school doors from 8:20am so that children have time to store their belongings and get themselves organised for the beginning of the day; learning activities are also available during this time. Your support in facilitating a smooth start to the day is greatly appreciated and will be highly beneficial.

#### Uniform

Thank you for your continued support of our school uniform; children looked so smart upon their return to school today.

During these colder months, please do remember that children are welcome to bring black jogging bottoms or a black tracksuit to keep them warm outside during PE lessons. To keep uniform affordable for all, we do not allow any logos.







## **Children Walking Home**

We allow children in Class 5 (Years 5 and 6) to walk home unaccompanied if there is nobody in the playground to collect them at 3pm. If you do not wish your Class 5 child to walk home on his/her own until further notice, please let the office know as soon as possible. Similarly, do please inform the office if there are to be any unexpected changes at the end of the day and we will either communicate these to your child or keep him/her safe until you arrive. When children do walk home unaccompanied, they are advised to return to school if they have any problems and ring the buzzer on the gate to be re-admitted.

Children from Class 4 and below should always be collected at the end of the day by a responsible adult (with password if applicable). Alternative arrangements – such as going with friends' parents, for example – should be communicated to the office before 3pm.

#### **New Term Mass**

Our school Mass, to celebrate the start of the new term, will take place at 10:30am on Wednesday (8<sup>th</sup> January) in Saint Norbert's Church. Please do feel welcome to join us if you have time – it would be a pleasure to see you there. If you are able, would you please send your child with a small amount of change for the collection. Thank you.

#### Clubs

All clubs will begin from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Our Breakfast and Goldstar out-of-school clubs are operating as normal from today.

#### Year 6 Breakfast Revision Club

All Year 6 children are encouraged to take part in the Year 6 Breakfast Revision Club from 20th January through to SATs week. There will be no charge for these additional revision sessions and breakfast will also be provided. Please complete your permission on the link which will follow by email. Children should arrive at 7.45am for breakfast each day. Thank you.

### Speech and Drama Festival

The Scunthorpe Speech and Drama Festival first began more than 90 years ago and has become a local tradition. Saint Norbert's continues to support the Festival because we believe that it provides a great opportunity for children to develop greater self-confidence, teamworking skills and have some fun.

All children in Key Stages 1 and 2 will be learning the choral speaking poetry as part of our planned English curriculum. Children taking part in the Festival individually will be supported at lunchtimes to help them learn their poems if this is needed and beneficial. However, for your child be able to take part in the Speech and Drama Festival – either alone; with a partner or as part of a group; or as part of the choral speaking group – could you please return the permission slip and your child's choice of poem as soon as possible. The deadline for entries is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January and there are no exceptions made by the Festival Committee.

If your child would like to take part but needs help in choosing a poem, please let me know. If your child would like to perform one of the set poems, I can arrange for this to be sent out.

## **School Website**

Please do check our school website for updates when you are able. All letters are saved in the 'News' section of the site for you to read again at any time. There is also information about what your child is due to be taught in the 'Curriculum' section, as well as termly 'Curriculum Newsletters' shared on individual class pages — these will be updated shortly.

### Meeting of the Friends of Saint Norbert's PTA

Please note that the next meeting of our PTA is due to take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January, in school, at 3pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,

A Dawson