



SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Principal: Mr A Dawson
Tel: 01724 710249
Fax: 01724 711436
e-mail: admin@stnorbertscrowle.co.uk
website: www.stnorbertscrowle.co.uk

Address: Fieldside
Crowle
Scunthorpe
DN17 4HL

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

6th January 2026

Dear Families,

Welcome Back

Happy new year to you all and welcome back. I hope that you have been able to enjoy quality time with your families over the Christmas period and feel refreshed as we start 2026. It has been wonderful to see our school community back together again this week 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

At St Norbert's, we have always tried to live by the phrase 'every second counts'; this is nothing new here and it is a frequent reminder for us all that 'lost time' adds up, particularly in terms of 'lost learning time'.

All classes begin lessons **at** 8:30am – i.e. children are in their places, with equipment or resources ready, in time for learning to begin by 8:30am. We do not start doing the register **at/from** 8:30am, for example – all attendance registers are completed before 8:30am, and as children arrive, to avoid any possible disruption to learning time. There is a lot to fit into each day!

We open the school gates and doors from 8:20am so that children have time to get themselves organised and – more importantly – settled for the beginning of the day; learning activities are also available during this time. When children arrive at school with time to spare, we find that they benefit enormously from a calmer start, which improves their readiness to learn. Your support in facilitating this smooth start to your child's day is greatly appreciated and will be highly beneficial in the longer-term, I am sure.

If you are having any difficulty getting your child to school on time regularly, please do contact me so that we can try to help.

Staffing Update

During Miss Peterson's absence, Mr Walker will be taking temporary responsibility for Class 3 to provide consistency for the children. As such, we have welcomed Mrs Shires this week, who will be working on Mondays and Tuesdays in Classes 3, 4 and 5 to cover Teachers' entitlements to preparation or leadership time. I am sure that our community will make Mrs Shires very welcome and she will be available to speak with at the school gates, with the other Teachers, in the mornings.

Furthermore, we will be delighted to finally welcome our Trust Music Teacher, Miss Ackerman, who will be starting work with us this Thursday, delivering specialist whole-class curriculum music lessons to Classes 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Uniform

Thank you so much for your continued support of our school uniform; children have looked really smart upon their return to school this week and have been able to concentrate on playing and learning together, rather than worrying about how they look or keeping up with trends.

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 however, we do not allow any logos.

If providing your child with any part of our school uniform is proving difficult for you, please do contact me – in total confidence – and I will do what I can to help. Further information can be found on our website:

<https://www.stnorbertscrowle.co.uk/parents/school-uniform/>.



I would also like to remind you that we would always encourage families to buy less and share more, if at all possible. Good quality pre-loved school uniform items are available from our wonderful PTA Chair, Catherine Coggrave. Please do ask at the school office if you would like to make contact with Catherine to take a look at what is available.

Children Walking Home - Reminder

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 14th January at 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

Our Breakfast and Goldstar out-of-school clubs are operating as normal this week. All other clubs will begin from Monday 12th January.

Year 6 Breakfast Revision Club

All Year 6 children are encouraged to take part in the Year 6 Breakfast Revision Club from 12th January through to SATs week. There will be no charge for these additional revision sessions, which are being provided voluntarily by Mrs Pitois, Mr Walker and myself; breakfast will also be provided. Children should arrive at 7.45am for breakfast each day. Please telephone the Breakfast Club at 7:45am if your child is unable to attend one morning so that we can be assured that he/she is still safe. The Breakfast Club telephone number is 07754 107294 or, alternatively, please leave a message on the office answerphone. 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 and engage with the Festival because we sincerely 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 – and in Drama Club – 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 Monday 12th 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 also 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 new termly 'Curriculum Newsletters' shared on individual class pages.

Meeting of the Friends of Saint Norbert's PTA

Please note that the next meeting of our PTA is due to take place on Tuesday 20th January, in school, at 3pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely,



A Dawson