



Saint Norbert's Catholic Voluntary Academy

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Advent Term 2026 – Reception

| Subject  | Curriculum                                                                     | Overview                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| RE       | <p>Branch 1 - Creation and Covenant</p> <p>Branch 2 - Prophecy and Promise</p> | <p><b>By the end of this unit, the pupils will be able to:</b></p> <p>Recognise God made our beautiful world and everything in it.<br/>Recognise God made me.<br/>Recognise the words and actions of the sign of the cross: 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen'<br/>Recognise God created the world and said, 'Indeed it is very good' (Genesis 1:31).<br/>Recognise the whole of Creation shows God love for us (Laudato Si' 84–88)</p> <p><b>By the end of this unit, the pupils will be able to:</b></p> <p>Recognise that Mary was going to have a baby and his name would be Jesus. <i>The Annunciation</i> (Lk 1:26-31, 38).<br/>Recognise that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. <i>The Nativity</i> (Lk 2: 4-7).<br/>Recognise that Shepherds hurried to see Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus. <i>The Shepherds visit the manger</i> (Lk 2:8-20)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Literacy | <p>Comprehension</p> <p>Word Reading</p> <p>Writing</p>                        | <p>We will be continuing to build our love of reading and learn adventurous new vocabulary throughout CUSP structured story time texts. For this term, our texts are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What makes Me a Me</li><li>• Standing up to Racism - Dr Pragya Agarwal</li><li>• The Squirrels Who Squabbled - Rachel Bright</li><li>• Celebrations from Around the World - Katy Halford</li></ul> <p>We will also continue to explore other texts based on our topic and the children's own interests.</p> <p>The children will continue to develop their phonic skills and knowledge by using RWI. We will be focussing on oral segmenting and blending and Set 1 sounds. We will begin to use our knowledge of Set 1 sounds to segment and blend simple words to read.</p> <p>We will be developing our writing skills through the 'Drawing Club' approach using the following texts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funnybones</li><li>• Little Red Hen</li><li>• The Colour Monster</li><li>• Guy Fawkes</li><li>• CBeebies Poppy Fields</li><li>• Rama and Sita</li></ul> <p>In writing, we will be working on correct letter formation, pencil grip and name writing. We will also be focusing on using our phonic knowledge to write some of our Set 1 sounds, and will begin to write simple words and captions.</p> |



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|                                            | <p>The Natural World</p> <p>Past and Present</p>                          | <p>We will be learning about the changing seasons throughout the year, discussing weather, changes to nature and clothes we may wear during these times.</p> <p>During our 'All About Me' topic, we will be learning body parts and exploring our different senses.</p> <p>We will be learning days of the week, months of the year and also learning some simple words to describe the passing of time.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Communication and Language                 | <p>Self-Regulation</p> <p>Managing Self</p> <p>Building Relationships</p> | <p>Throughout the year, we will continue to support children to recognise and discuss their own emotions and the emotions of others. We will work with them to find and develop strategies to manage these emotions appropriately.</p> <p>We will support the children to build new relationships with their peers in class.</p> <p>We will be supporting children to see themselves as a valuable individual, and to be able to discuss their many strengths. We will be working with the children to build resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge.</p> <p>We will support children with their relationships with peers, and develop an understanding of what makes a good friendship.</p> |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development | <p>Listening, Attention and Understanding</p> <p>Speaking</p>             | <p>Throughout the year, we will be working with children to develop their concentration span, listening and understanding skills. We will be working on understanding simple instructions and following them.</p> <p>Through our structured story time, nursery rhymes and song, we will continue to build the children's vocabulary and communication skills.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |