



Diocese of Norwich  
Education and  
Academies Trust

## The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Web: [www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk](http://www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents,

This week Mrs Spaul has been poorly so our newsletter is for this week a little shorter. However, I have spent some time with our children this week, including World Book Day, and I have been struck again by how kind and friendly our children are throughout school and how lovely they are to spend time with. I was very impressed with all their wonderful and inventive costumes, so thank you very much to you Parents/Carers as your efforts were most fantastic! I have also been impressed with children's efforts on their home learning - Spelling Frame, Reading daily and Tackling Tables. If you can't access these at home, please see your child's classteacher.

Hopefully for your reading pleasure Mrs Spaul will be much better and back next week - we know she hates not being at school and wish her a speedy recovery.

### Attendance

We are working hard this year to ensure that we reach the best attendance we can. **96%** is considered strong attendance and is so important for ensuring that your children learn and achieve well. **95% - considered satisfactory** attendance by the Government and Ofsted as well as us - means not missing any more than ten school days over the whole year.

#### Attendance this week/since beginning of the academic year

Oak Class – **99.21%** / 93.7%

Whitebeam Class – **98.41%** / 94.64%

Rowan Class – **98.83%** / 94.26%

Whole School – **98.91%** / 94.09%

CONGRATULATIONS **OAK CLASS THIS WEEK – YOU WON THE ATTENDANCE – 99.21%!!!!**

WELL DONE OAK and ROWAN – YOU EXCEEDED 96%!

WELL DONE CASTLE ACRE SCHOOL – WE EXCEEDED 96%!

### Dates

Please keep an eye on the date sheet for any upcoming dates.

### Tuck Shop

We took a little break from running tuck shop last term but our eager team of Year 5s and 6s would like to get it up and running again. They would very much like to hear your point of view on whether you would like a tuck

shop and if so, some of your thoughts about frequency, stock and prices. There will be a survey coming out next week.

### **PE Kits**

Please can I remind you that your child needs to have their PE kits in school from Monday to Friday and it needs to include a separate sweatshirt or jumper from their school one. We try and go outside as much as possible, especially the older children, and if they fall over wearing their school one it can become wet or dirty. If your child's kit becomes particularly wet or dirty then we will send it home!

### **Toys In School**

Please can we remind you that children should not be bringing in toys from home into school unless pre-arranged with the teacher or if they are Child of the Day for show and tell. If this is the case, then they will be asked to put it in the teacher's cupboard until they show it at the end of the day. We are noticing an increase in toys coming in and there is the possibility that they will get lost or broken and they do cause a distraction from working. **This also includes trading cards such as football or Pokemon cards.** We appreciate your co-operation with this matter.

### **Clubs**

We are looking to get some more after school clubs up and running with the aim of offering one every day of the week. If you, or someone you know, feel able to offer some time and help run a club then please come and see us. It could be anything – craft, outdoor learning, games – the options are endless!

### **Meet the SENDCo**

Mrs Spaul will be putting in some dates week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> of March for a 'come and chat with the SENDCo' so watch this space. You will not need to have an appointment, just drop in and I will have the kettle on and biscuits ready to discuss any questions or queries relating to your child and how they are getting on at school. Your child does not already need to be identified as having SEN to come along.

Emma Spaul, Federation SENDCo. Contact via Castle Acre on 01760 755305 if you have any queries.

### **News from our Classes**

#### **Rowan**

**Mathematician of the Week** – Oliver P, for independently using a bar model to solve a mathematical problem.

**Reader of the Week** – Mason H, for consistently using Fred in his head whilst reading.

**Writer of the Week** – Etta, for independently choosing to do writing and for sharing it with us proudly.

**Shining Lights of the Week (Reception)** – Ivy, for always being very helpful and extremely courteous.

**Shining Lights of the Week (Year 1)** – Finn, for being responsible and taking care in his decisions. We are very proud of you.

I knew it would, but this week has absolutely flown by. The children have been working incredibly hard. The Year 1's have been focusing on some very tricky assessments and I am incredibly proud of how hard they worked in them and how they have persevered. Whilst the Year 1 assessments have been going on, the reception children have been working on lots of different activities. The highlight of the week really has been World Book Day. All of the children looked absolutely fantastic in their costumes. We went on a book scavenger hunt, listened to lots of stories and also read with both Whitebeam and Oak class which was wonderful and something very exciting for all the children. I want to add in a little personal note, to say that I am very proud to have been the teacher of Rowan class. I couldn't have asked for a more fantastic group of children to teach, they have been an absolute pleasure and I will miss them dearly. Thank you also to the parents for your kind words and wishes, I am extremely grateful for your support in my new adventure, it means the world to me.

#### **Whitebeam**

**Mathematician of the Week** – Tyler - for always being ready for a challenge in maths.

**Reader of the Week** – Logan for his precision reading and increasing sight vocabulary.

**Writer of the Week** – Elarni for story about a book house adventure!

**Shining Lights of the Week (Year 2)** - Olivia for always being polite, kind and shows responsibility by helping others.

**Shining Lights of the Week (Year 3)** - Brody for being a good friend and demonstrating kindness.

**Children's worship** - Aleashia, Oliver P, Finley H and Sybil

In Whitebeam Class this week the children have been busy completing their Pixl assessments and I am very proud of the great attitude they have had as they have completed them. They have started to learn about the artist Michelle Reader and her sculptures. In geography they quickly located the continents and oceans in an atlas and answered questions relating to them. In science the children have drawn life cycles of two different animals and in PSHE they worked together to learn how to count to 10 in Chinese (Mandarin)! We all had great fun during World Book Day sharing our favourite stories and admiring everyone's costumes and in the afternoon we had buddy reading with children from Oak Class. Well done Whitebeam for another fantastic week.

## **Oak**

**Mathematician of the Week** – Finley for his impressive problem solving skills with our ratio problems involving time and money.

**Reader of the Week** – Marley for his amazing effort for World Book Day, including the enthusiasm he has shown for his new Horrible Histories books and the pride he has taken in learning lots of new facts from them.

**Writer of the Week** – Ella T for her excellent effort with writing a press release.

**Shining Light of the Week (Year 4)** – Isla T for always being keen to help others and for consistently demonstrating our school's values.

**Shining Light of the Week (Year 5)** – Ruby for trying her best in all of her lessons this week, particularly with her reading and writing tasks.

**Shining Light of the Week (Year 6)** – all of our Year 6 children for their excellent effort at our netball tournament on Tuesday.

We have enjoyed a really busy and creative week in Oak class. We were very proud of how well our Year 6 children represented us at a netball tournament on Tuesday at TNHA. We were delighted to hear that they won every single match and, more importantly, were really enthusiastic about trying their best and experiencing something new. In maths we have been looking at 2 decimal places for Year 4 and Year 5 and the Year 6 children have been looking at equivalence between fractions, decimals and percentages. We have also finished our work on ratio, looking at problems involving time and money. In English we have started a new narrative piece relating to the text "Who Let the Gods Out" by Maz Evans. We have looked carefully at characterisation and have used that to write press releases. In computing we have been exploring computer networks and how information moves between computers via the Internet. We have looked at some popular websites and identified common features. In Spanish, we have learnt how to say the days of the week, months of the year and how to talk about our birthdays. On Thursday we enjoyed a fabulous World Book Day. Thank you to all of our children for making such an effort with their costumes and for embracing all of the World Book Day activities we tried. Our children in Oak class made us proud with how well they read with the children in Whitebeam and Rowan.

## **Message from Executive Headteacher**

### **Parents/Carers' Forum**

Please do book to come along to these - we can offer tea and biscuits and a good chat!

We'd love to see lots of you to get your views. The date is: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 (3.30pm-4.30pm and 6.00pm – 7.00pm),

## **Residential Visits**

Just to say that we are once again having a residential visit for Y5/6 in the Summer and also a residential visit for Y4, also in the Summer. Last year the cost was around £70 for Y5/6 and minimal for Y4. Whilst things have obviously increased this year, we will be aiming for a similar price and will open the payment on Parent Mail so

that you can put money in as and when works for you. We will get further details and a meeting to you very soon.

**Safeguarding**

Have a look at this useful info on gaming and other online activities.

<https://thewhitehatter.ca/online-gaming/>

Emma Spaul and Anne Neary



Head of School  
Castle Acre CE Primary Academy



Executive Head Teacher  
The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies  
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle

Allergy Aware Schools – Please do not send nuts into Nar Valley Federation Academies