



# Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 3rd November 2023

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary  
Web: [www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk](http://www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,  
What a rather miserable start back to the second half of the Autumn Term weather wise - cold, wet and windy is never what we want! I genuinely hope that you had no damage from the storms.

We have returned to school incredibly well considering the weather and the dark mornings and evenings. I have been impressed by the efforts of all of our children and particularly how they are taking on board the recent work that we have been doing on values and morals. I think the highlight of my week was when I asked a pupil to describe Castle Acre to a family I was showing round and he said 'Castle Acre School is helpful and kind'. What a wonderful thing to say and it just reinforces why it is an absolute pleasure to part of our wonderful school.

## Upcoming Events this week

See Diary Dates for details.....

**Mon 6th Nov:** Dodgeball at TNHA for team of Y4/5 pupils as notified

**Wed 8th Nov:** Rowan Class trip to Bure Valley Railway

**Thurs 9th Nov:** Finals of Cross Country at Lynnsport for qualifiers. Babies & Toddlers, 9-11 am in hall

**Friday 10th Nov:** Remembrance Service at War Memorial, Castle Acre church, 10.45am

**Tuck Shop - Wednesday and Friday morning break**



## Reminders and Information.....



This half term is a busy one with lots of exciting family events. Please keep an eye on the attached date sheet. We look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Jumper Day - to be eco-friendly and cost aware, we will be organising a Christmas Jumper Swap Shop in the week beginning 20th November where you will be able to bring in your old jumpers and swap them for new ones if you wish. We will also be doing something similar for costumes.

Don't forget we have Before School Care available Monday to Friday from 8am to 8.40am which costs £2 per session. Also, new from this term, we have After School Care available Monday to Friday to 4.30pm and the cost of this is £6 per session. Bookings for these can be made through the school office

You are welcome to bring in a snack for your child's morning break but please can these be either fruit or vegetables. Please note that Reception - Y2 pupils are entitled to a free piece of fruit/veg.

Please remember to be on time for school - children need to be in their seats at 8.40am learning. Every minute helps them and every minute is time lost from their learning and over time is a huge and needless disadvantage for them.

## Attendance Awards w/e 3/11/2023

Class	%		
Rowan	95.83		
Whitebeam	95.38		
Oak	96.36		

Well done to Oak class for the highest attendance percentage this week!



**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING!

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

19 days lost EACH YEAR!

3 days lost (5 minutes late per day)

6.5 days lost (10 minutes late per day)

10 days lost (15 minutes late per day)

13 days lost (20 minutes late per day)

30 minutes late per day

Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!



# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Nalah	blending the sounds to read her first words.
Writer of the week 	Leon	Brilliant writing - with capital letters and fill stops and 'and' to extend.
Mathematician of the week	Crimson	careful counting to add two numbers.
Shining Light 	Mila Ella Oliver P	always working hard to blend sounds in phonics, listening and trying her best. being an excellent role model - always ready to learn. a kind gesture to a friend - noticing they were dissaopointed.
Tackling Tables 		
Reads at home		

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Logan	For his fluent reading
Writer of the week 	Brody Lola	For remembering to use his orange pen for punctuation For achieving her pen licence
Mathematician of the week	Holly	fantastic addition and subtraction using the column method
Shining Light 	Lola Tyler	For demonstrating courage by starting at a new school For kindness and responsibility demonstrated by helping others
Tackling Tables	None this week	
Reads at home	Holly Fletcher	Bronze Red 



# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Isla	having the confidence to read to the class
Writer of the week	Leo	trying really hard with his handwriting
Mathematician of the week	Alex	a really good understanding of negative numbers
Shining Light	Cain Banjo	settling in really well to Oak Class and demonstrating our school values for continuously following our school values with a smile on her face
Tackling Tables	None this week	
Reads at home	Nataniel Freya	Blue Star Red Star, bronze star



## Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 3rd November 2023

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies  
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary  
Web: [www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk](http://www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk)

### Safeguarding.....

Parent Talk is a first-of-its-kind free online service which provides accessible and trustworthy advice, support, and reassurance for parents and carers of children aged 0-19, or up to 25 if a child has a special educational need or disability. Parents and carers can access one-to-one support from a parenting coach - a trained family support worker - as well as advice and guidance articles across a range of common parenting challenges. Last year the service supported over 500,000 families across the UK.

[https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/our-work-and-impact/policy-work-campaigns-and-research/policy-reports/school-refusal-insights-from-parent-talk-2022-23/?utm\\_source=](https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/our-work-and-impact/policy-work-campaigns-and-research/policy-reports/school-refusal-insights-from-parent-talk-2022-23/?utm_source=)

### Message from the Executive Headteacher....



Parents'/Carers' survey:  
Thank you to everyone who filled this in, we really appreciate your feedback. The survey was very positive with some very lovely comments, so thank you. Suggestions made were that the older children could do with some more lunchtime equipment, which we fully agree with and are actioning. There was also a suggestion that it would be helpful to know more about what the children are learning, so we are going to use Class Dojo once a week to feedback.

We also wanted to highlight our approach to poor behaviour. Most of our children behave absolutely superbly, but when a child needs additional support for their behavioural choices, we address this. We follow a process that is focused both on getting support for that child to improve the situation as swiftly as possible but also to ensure that other children are not adversely affected. Ultimately all our children are expected to follow our school rules and should the support not make a difference then we have to make difficult decisions. We know that sometimes the work we are doing is not visible externally and ask you to continue to raise any concerns to us. We want to reassure you that such difficulties cannot go on and on and do get resolved. We had a lovely Open Day this week; well done to our Head pupils who showed round our visitors - they were highly complimented!

### Friends of Castle Acre School (FOCAS).....

The Friends Christmas Fayre will take place on Sunday 3rd December 2023, 12 - 3pm at the school, so please save the date! The Friends would be very pleased to hear from any parents if they can help run a stall, tombola, raffle or the refreshments stand. There is a collection box at school near the bike shed for donations of chocolates/bottles or any items that could be used as tombola or raffle prizes. All donations and offers of help will be gratefully received!

### Prayer for the Week....

Dear Lord,

Thank you for those that care for others and for those who show compassion to others.

Amen



Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School  
Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher  
Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies  
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle C of E Primary Academy