





Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 19th December 2023

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers This will be the last newsletter of 2023. I cannot believe how quickly the year has flown by, as has the past week which has been busy. We finished the end of last week with our Carols around the Tree. It was lovely to see so many of you there and it felt like Christmas had really begun. Rowan Class began this week with their Nativity performance of Shine Star Shine. This was their first year without Year 3 to support with reading and all the children did a marvellous job. They read their lines clearly and sang with gusto. Mary was the happiest Mary we think we have ever seen! On Wednesday, we endured the most miserable weather conditions to run around the field wearing reindeer antlers to raise money for The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House. So far, we have raised over £700 which is amazing. This was followed by Mrs McGarrell and the School Council raising £100.41 for their chosen charity CRUK with a bake sale. I would like to finish with some amazing news; some of our pupils have been invited to meet King Charles III! Last year, we were asked to make a contribution to a book to commemorate the Coronation and, along with the other schools who contributed, we have been asked to select 4 pupils to visit Sandringham to meet the King. After a long discussion, Mrs Neary and I felt that the fairest way was to do a blind vote from all the children who are consistently wonderful ambassadors for our school from Oak and Whitebeam. We congratulate Holly, Alex, Isla and Rowan and know they will represent our school fantastically. represent our school fantastically. All that is left to say is have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2024.

Upcoming Events See Diary Dates for details......

Mon 18th: 1.30pm Parents/Carers invited to join us for Christmas Crafts with the children including refreshments (thanks t<mark>o</mark> our Friends for Kindly funding these).

Plus: Parent/Carer Forums 3.30 - 4.30pm and 6 - 7pm; book ASAP via the link sent out or via the school office, thank you.

Tues 19th: Raffle tickets for sale 50p at start & end of day.

Wed 20th: Raffle tickets for sale 50p & Tuck Shop 40p

Plus: 1.45pm End of Term Church Service, all welcome.

Attendance Awards w/e 15/12/2023

Class	%	
Rowan	86	
Whitebeam	97.8	
Oak	91.1	

Well done to Whitebeam and Oak class! It was extremely close, but Whitebeam have won the attendance award this week.

Reminders and Information.

Monday 18th - Christmas Craft Afternoon - Please join us for an afternoon of craft. On arrival, please collect your child(ren) from their class and enjoy the range of Festive crafts on offer for the afternoon both in their classrooms and in the hall. There will be some tasty refreshments on offer too. If an adult other than yourself will be collecting you child, please let us know otherwise we will not be able to let them an please let us know otherwise we will not be able to let them go for safeguarding reasons.

Narborough Nursery News - hot off the press! Great news! Narborough Academy have had the final go ahead to open their Nursery from January 2024. They will be taking children from age 3 upwards. Please call the school office on 01760 338048 for more information or speak to Mrs Neary.

Rudolph Run - Thank you for your wonderful support regarding the Ruldolph Run on 13th December to raise money for The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House. Please return sponsorship forms to school this term with or without payment. Monies can be collected and brought to school in January if not yet collected (we will give you a copy of your Sponsorship form if you prefer to do that) so we know how much has been raised. **Volunteers** - we are looking for volunteers to come in and read with our children. If you are interested please speak to either the class teacher or Mrs Spaul.

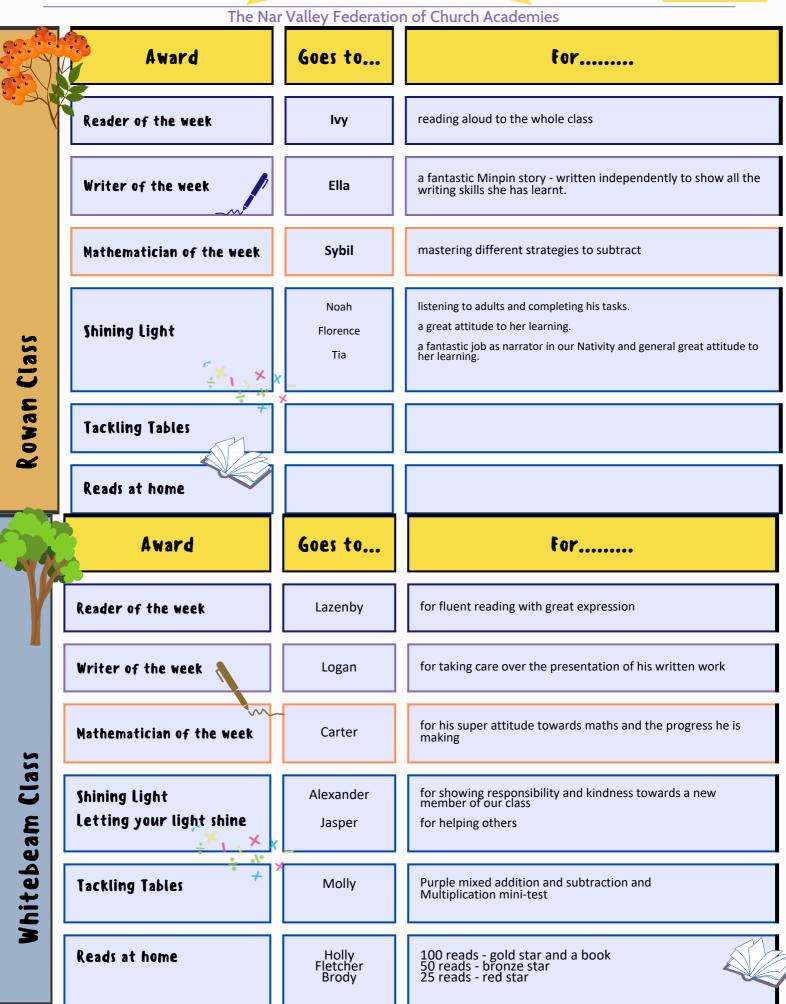
Don't forget **Before School Care** available Monday to Friday from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session. After School Care is available Monday to Friday to 4.30pm at £6 per session. Bookings to be made through the school office









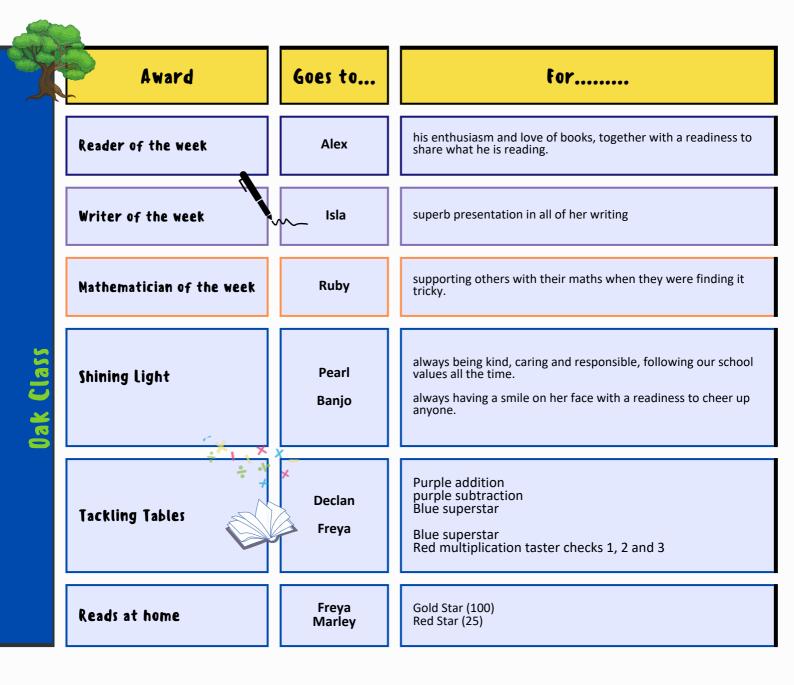








The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies









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19th December 2023

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This is the last newsletter this term, so please find below some tips for safety over the festive period: Never leave a burning candle unattended; extinguish any lit candles when you leave the room, your house, or go to sleep.

According to an NFPA study, candles start more than half of all home decoration structure fires, and most of those fires occur in December.

Turn off tree lights, decorations, and portable space heaters when away or asleep Did you know that local fire departments respond to more than 50,000 fires involving heating equipment and more than 700 caused by decorations each year?

Be sure to unplug all of your lights, decorations, and portable space heaters when not in the same room. Remember to never toss wrapping paper into the fireplace. Doing so could result in a flash fire because wrapping paper can ignite suddenly and burn intensely.

Stay safe and have a wonderful Christmas!

Message from the Executive Headteacher...

It has been a real pleasure to see the children's end of term assessments and see how well they are doing. For example, a comparison of Y6 children against Y6 children nationally demonstrated that their progress is above those of children nationally, which is excellent - well done Y6; keep working on your home books over the holidays. Your area for development is spellings!

Our other years are also doing very, very well, with our children being so fantastic at talking about their learning. Well done everyone! We have been working so hard on presenting learning to the very best standard, and everyone is showing improvement, so well done and keep going.

Over Christmas, don't forget to find time to some little bits of reading, spelling, writing and maths and if you get any new board games and want to bring some old ones into school in January, that would be really kind. Thank you families for all your support.

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

We would love to hear from any Parents/Carers who are interested in joining Friends as we are currently a very small group of volunteers. Please just speak with me on the gate or phone me on: 07825 229345, Libby Firth (Chair), thank you.

The next large fundraiser we have planned is the Annual Duck Race in the summer term.

Prayer for the Week....

Dear Lord,

Thank you for sending Jesus to Earth and for helping us to understand that we are God's people

Amen

By James and Mason D

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

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