



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 15th December 2023

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

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. All that is left to say is have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2024.

Upcoming Events this week

See Diary Dates for details.....



Mon 18th: 1.30pm Parents/Carers invited to join us for Christmas Crafts with the children including refreshments (thanks to 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.

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 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 Rudolph 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

Attendance Awards w/e 15/12/2023

Class	%	
Rowan	86	
Whitebeam	97.8	
Oak	97.7	

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



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

LOST MINUTES
= LOST LEARNING!

EVERY SCHOOL
DAY COUNTS!



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



19
days lost
EACH
YEAR!

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	Ivy	reading aloud to the whole class
Writer of the week 	Ella	a fantastic Minpin story - written independently to show all the writing skills she has learnt.
Mathematician of the week	Sybil	mastering different strategies to subtract
Shining Light 	Noah Florence Tia	listening to adults and completing his tasks. a great attitude to her learning. a fantastic job as narrator in our Nativity and general great attitude to her learning.
Tackling Tables 		
Reads at home		

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Lazenby	for fluent reading with great expression
Writer of the week 	Logan	for taking care over the presentation of his written work
Mathematician of the week	Carter	for his super attitude towards maths and the progress he is making
Shining Light Letting your light shine 	Alexander Jasper	for showing responsibility and kindness towards a new member of our class for helping others
Tackling Tables 	Molly	Purple mixed addition and subtraction and Multiplication mini-test
Reads at home	Holly Fletcher Brody	100 reads - gold star and a book 50 reads - bronze star 25 reads - red star 



AWARDS



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Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Alex	his enthusiasm and love of books, together with a readiness to share what he is reading.
Writer of the week	Isla	superb presentation in all of her writing
Mathematician of the week	Ruby	supporting others with their maths when they were finding it tricky.
Shining Light	Pearl Banjo	always being kind, caring and responsible, following our school values all the time. always having a smile on her face with a readiness to cheer up anyone.
Tackling Tables	Declan Freya	Purple addition purple subtraction Blue superstar Blue superstar Red multiplication taster checks 1, 2 and 3
Reads at home	Freya Marley	Gold Star (100) Red Star (25)

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Safeguarding.....

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

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