



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 2nd February 2024

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

It has been another busy week here at Castle Acre. We have taken the opportunity to celebrate some awareness days and began the week with the RSPB Schools Bird Watch. It was great to see the whole school come together to understand more about the importance of birds in our local environment and why it is important that we do everything we can to encourage birds in our environment. The children completed a bird survey, found out facts about different British birds (even ones that we didn't see) and completed some amazing artwork and natural mobiles. We are going to make a big display of everything that we have produced that we can update over time.

We have finished the week with an RE day learning about different places of worship. Children have made stained glass windows, 3D models and researched questions they had.

A big thank you has to go to our wonderful staffing team for making these experiences possible and running with my ideas and making them far better than I could ever imagine.

Sandringham House have very kindly donated a notebook, a writing set and some postcards to each child in the school. Your child will come home with these either today or Monday. They really are lovely mementoes.

Upcoming Events this week

See Diary Dates for details.....

Monday 5th - After school Gymnastics Club with Premier Education.

Wednesday 7th - Rowan Class Trip to Pensthorpe. Plus Whitebeam Class Ancient Greece Workshop in school.
After School Multi-Skills Club (Y3 - 6) with ICS.

Thursday 8th
After School Multi-Skills Club (Rec - Y1) with ICS.

Tuck Shop - Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p

Reminders and Information.....

Please make sure that your child is wearing the correct uniform for school, including their PE kits and shoes. We all have a dress code we have to follow and it is important to show that they belong. We, of course, know that things happen sometimes but this should be the exception. Do come and speak to us if you have any queries about this. Please note that the hoodies are for PE and trips or when it is particularly cold on top of a jumper, and not an alternative to a jumper, thank you.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in from Monday to Friday.

Don't forget **Before School Care** is available Monday to Friday from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session.
After School Care is available Monday to Friday 3.10pm to 4.30pm at £6 per session. Bookings to be made through the school office.

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 2/2/2024

Class	%	
Rowan	88.85%	
Whitebeam	88.57%	
Oak	96.96%	

Well done to Oak Class!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



3
days lost

5
minutes late
per day



6.5
days lost

10
minutes late
per day

LOST MINUTES
= LOST LEARNING!

10
days lost

15
minutes late
per day

13
days lost

20
minutes late
per day

EVERY SCHOOL
DAY COUNTS!

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	Nalah	making fantastic progress in reading
Writer of the week	Florence	working amazingly hard to write a fantastic diary entry
Mathematician of the week	Sybil	Showing a great learning attitude and always trying her best to use new methods
Shining Light	Harry Toby Tia	Showing pride in his work and trying his best Always working hard and trying his very best Being kind and helpful to others
Tackling Tables		
Reads at home	Isla B Finn	100 reads 10 and 25 reads

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Molly	for comprehension work and using the text to answer questions
Writer of the week	Rowan	for super work and presentation whilst writing about birds with an observational drawing too
Mathematician of the week	Lola	for her maths investigation and super presentation of her findings
Letting your light shine	Whitebeam Class	for being respectful, responsible, kind and helpful all week whilst Miss Taylor has been off
Tackling Tables	Rowan	Tackling Tables blue mini multiplication
Reads at home	Rowan	75 reads - silver badge





AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Lola	volunteering and enthusiastically reading aloud to the class
Writer of the week	Elliot	writing great sentences using synonyms
Mathematician of the week	Steele	a positive attitude towards his assessments
Shining Light	Isla Izzy	being a kind, calm and considerate member of Oak class and consistently demonstrating our school values being a wonderful member of Oak Class, showing kindness, compassion and empathy.
Tackling Tables	Steele	Green level multiplication
Reads at home	Emma Banjo Finley Freya	10 25 and 50 50 150

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Help with online safety::



The CEOP website, run by the National Crime Prevention agency, gives helpful advice about when and how to report your concern.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/>



See these links for further information, games and tips:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



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Safeguarding.....

Game Safe Festival - NSPCC
From the 5th - 11th of February
2024 at 16:00 to 17:00 the
NSPCC will be collaborating with
developers, platforms, industry
bodies, e-sports and influencers
to play and act for a better way
to game. As part of the Game
Safe Festival, the NSPCC is
encouraging those working with
children and young people within
the education sector to have
conversations about online
gaming.

On the 8th of February from
16:00 to 17:00 the NSPCC under
the auspices of the Game Safe
Festival, will be hosting a free
webinar aimed at helping you
understand how young people
game online, discover what tools
and resources are available to
support safe play and how to help
them stay safe.

To book your place on this
webinar please go to:

[https://ww1.emma-
live.com/GameSafe/purchase tic
kets](https://ww1.emma-live.com/GameSafe/purchase_tickets)

For further information about
the Game Safe Festival go to:
[https://www.nspcc.org.uk/charity
-events/game-safe-festival/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/charity-events/game-safe-festival/)

Message from the Executive Headteacher....

We are gathering our children's views and our Parents/Carers' views across these few weeks, and will be reviewing this information and feeding it into our school development plan. Thank you to all those who have already taken the time to share your views and fill in the questionnaire. If you have not already done so, please do. We share the views with our Governors at the next meeting.

Today Miss Taylor and myself had the real pleasure to visit all three of our schools on RE day and to be accompanied by Paul Hennery, our Diocesan School Support Officer. Paul noted the enthusiasm of our children and their engagement with their learning, which all looked very enjoyable. Well done children and our staff team.

I also want to mention our wonderful Lola in Oak class, about whom a lovely parent came to speak to me today. Their child from another class was by himself on the playground and Lola noticed, asked him if he was ok (he was!) and then suggested that they play a game, which he did and very much enjoyed. The parent appreciated Lola's kindness and felt it was noteworthy, and we absolutely agree, Well done Lola, that is very much letting your light shine.

Another big well done this week to the various children who have been really practising their learning at home - this is a super demonstration of your independence and growth mindset. Well done Finley, Tyler and Lola,

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 the amazing school we have and for the staff, play equipment, clubs, forest schools and all the amazing opportunities.

And thanks for our friends and wildlife in our school field.

Amen

By Oak class



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