



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 21st March 2025

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,
Spring finally appears to have sprung. Hopefully it is here to stay. Apparently yesterday was International Happiness Day; how fantastic that it coincided with the first day of Spring. We love it when the world comes back to life. Somehow there is a greater sense of freedom as bulky coats are shed and the days become lighter for longer. The children are exploring their outdoor environment and making use of the whole space. The children look amazing today. I always have that minor moment where I wonder why we're not in school uniform...and then I remember! We really appreciate your support for both Comic Relief and Down Syndrome Awareness Day and raised a staggering £134.65. Thank you as always for your ongoing support and remember our door is always open and the kettle is always on.

Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Mon 24th March - Rowan Class
Parents'/Carers' Cafe, 2.15pm

Wed 26th March - 3.15pm, Premier
Sports' Gymnastics Club (Rec - Y6) for 6
weeks

Thurs 3rd April - Hi 5 Netball
Competition at TNHA for Year 5 pupils

Attendance Awards w/e 21/3/2025

Class	%
Rowan	96.36
Whitebeam	97.9
Oak	94.14

The winner of the
Attendance Award this
week is Whitebeam Class,
well done! We hope that
Oak class will improve next
week.



Reminders and Information.....

Payments on Arbor

We understand that sometimes it's difficult to keep track of payments for various events. However, if we do not receive all of the payments in advance for clubs and trips, it means we are unable to cover the cost of them which could affect having them in the future. We appreciate your support as always. If we do not make the income we are predicted to - ie if not every parent pays - then it could mean losing things from next year's budget that the children have had this year, so please do your bit and pay. Thank you.

Y6 Horstead trip

First of all, please don't forget to keep your payments coming in for this if you do have an outstanding balance. Many thanks for everyone who has done so this month already. The deadline is 1st June 2025

Before School Care is available Mon - Fri from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session.

After School Care is available Mon - Fri 3.10pm to 4.30pm at £6 per session.

Tuck Shop - Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p per day






AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week	Noel	super segmenting and blending in phonics.
Writer of the week 	Harry	impressing Miss Everett with his handwriting, using capital letters, finger spaces and a full stop.
Mathematician of the week	Tobias	fantastic maths language and exploration in his choosing time. 
Shining Light	Reggie Mila	listening well when adults are speaking. being such a helpful member of Rowan class.
Reads at home	none this week	

Whitebeam Class

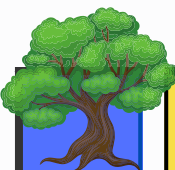
Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Ivar	for his great enthusiasm to read
Writer of the week	Skyla	for using descriptive language in her writing
Mathematician of the week 	Tia	for challenging herself in maths
Shining Light	Oliver P Isla P	for always demonstrating all of our school values for demonstrating our school values, especially kindness
Tackling Tables 	Oscar Tia Etta Ella	Yellow phase addition Purple phase superstar Purple phase superstar and subtracting missing numbers Purple phase addition
Reads at home	Gracie-Mae Ivar Ivy	25 reads 25 reads 100 reads 







AWARDS

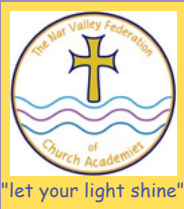


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Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week	Teddy	reading loudly and confidently to the class.
Writer of the week 	Fletcher	trying his hardest.
Mathematician of the week	Holly	always helping others to solve the problems after completing her work. 
Shining Light	Logan Brody Roxanne	persevering with his work, even though it has been hard. always trying his hardest. always showing all of our school values.
Reads at home 	50 reads 150 reads	Molly Rosanna



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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.....

Attendance monitoring and letters:

You will be receiving these letters before we break up for Easter. We monitor your child's attendance daily, and where it is below 96% and we do not see improvement, then we decide what action to take. This is because we want all our children to have the best chance of reaching the expected level of attainment, because that is what supports them to go and achieve good GCSEs and the best life chances.

Attendance Information			
1 day = 2 sessions			
There are 365 days in a year, pupils should attend 190 days – every day school is open			
Being late (after the registers have closed) counts as an absence			
What is Excellent Attendance?			
97% and above Excellent	95% to 97% Good		
Less than 95% Concerning	Less than 90% Persistent Absence/ Critical		
Less than 50% Severely Absent/ Critical			
No more than 6 days/12 sessions absent in a year	No more than 10 days/20 sessions absent in a year		
More than 10 days/20 sessions absent in a year	19 days/38 sessions or more absent from school in a year		
95 days/190 sessions or more absent in a year			
Days off school add up to lost learning...			
There are 175 non-school days each year. That's 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments.			
1 or 2 days absent a week might not seem like much, but...			
If your child misses... That's equal to... Which is... Over 13 years of schooling, that's...			
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 3 and a half years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years
4 days per week	160 days per year	32 weeks per year	Nearly 11 years
5 days per week	200 days per year	40 weeks per year	Nearly 14 years
Think it won't matter if your child is late 10 minutes a day?			
Only missing 10 minutes a day... That equates... Which is... Over 13 years of schooling, that's...			
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 and a half weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 and a half weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years
How We Can Help			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with you to discuss reasonable adjustments the school can make to support regular school attendance Develop a support plan Make referrals to other agencies and professionals for support 			

Message from the Executive Headteacher....



Miss Clifton; After many years of service to the Nar Valley Federation, as a teacher at all our schools, both in a class and teaching music and then latterly covering leadership release, Miss Clifton is retiring at the end of term. We want to thank her enormously for her contribution to the personal development offer to all our children, with excellent musical opportunities - she has worked tirelessly to secure grants, chances to hear live music, such as the harp, a memorable bagpiper on the playground during Covid and bands and orchestras. We thank her very much and wish her a hugely happy retirement and best wishes for all her future ventures. Excellent news; we have secured a teacher for our Oak class at Castle Acre; Miss Marina Camus, who has been teaching a number of years, spent the day with our children at Castle Acre yesterday, has been at Narborough covering too and will be joining us in Oak next week until the rest of the year or until we recruit permanently. We are delighted to welcome her and know she will be happy at Nar Valley Federation. We also thank Miss Willgress for the sessions she has done at Castle Acre now this has come to an end.

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

A big thank you to our amazing supporters who raise free funds for us on #easyfundraising. If you're not signed up yet, please join today and you can raise free donations for Friends Of Castle Acre School, Kings Lynn every time you shop online this year. All the big names like John Lewis & Partners, M&S, Argos, eBay and many more are ready to make a free donation at no extra cost to you. Plus, join before March 31st and we could win a £500 bonus donation: Can you bake? The Friends are helping the School to raise money on Red Nose Day this year, 21st March, by baking some Red Nose Day themed cupcakes! If you can help please let Libby know - 07825229345 / libbyofirth@gmail.com

Prayer for the Week....

Dear God

Thank you for all my family and friends that can support me.

Amen

By Rowan



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