

## Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 9th May 2025

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

I genuinely thought I had gone quakers this morning...I arrived to a waddling of ducks. Can I just say I am hugely impressed with the imagination and effort that has gone into all the costumes and, for some, the effort that went into wearing them all day! It made judging all the more tricky and due to some unforeseen circumstances that held Mrs Neary up, that responsibility sat with me. I will be announcing the winners on Monday.

We look forward to seeing you all on Sunday for the Duck Race. I would like to say an 'eggnormous' (sorry!) thank you to our Friends for their hard work that has gone into this. Every year they put on such a wonderful event and it means that we can add to our funds to provide subsidised trips and extra equipment in school. Be at the start line at 3pm.

Finally, the time has come for our Year 6s to show their power! Next week is SATs week, a culmination of all of their learning over the past 7 years. We are already incredibly proud of them and we don't need to wish them luck because they will absolutely do their best and that is all we ever ask. Just make sure they get a good night's sleep and we will see you for breakfast at 8am on Monday.

### Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May - Year 6 SATs

Tuesday 13 May - ICS Football Club for Rec-Y6, 3.15 - 4.15pm

Wednesday 14 May - Premier Education Athletics Club for Rec - Y6, 3.15 - 4.15pm

Thursday 15 May - Lunch Swap with Friday - Fishfingers and chips or Cheese & Tomato Pinwheel plus usual Jacket and Packed lunch options

Friday 16 May - Lunch Swap with Thursday - Margherita Pizza or Loaded Bean Wedges plus usual Jacket and Packed lunch options

Year 6 Treat trip to Wells

### 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

### Attendance Awards w/e 9/5/2025

Class	%
Rowan	100
Whitebeam	98.44
Oak	97.32

The winner of the Attendance Award this week is Rowan Class with 100% which is excellent!! followed by Whitebeam and Oak with strong attendance this week, well done everyone.

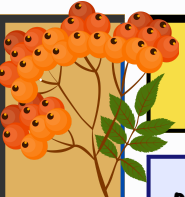







# AWARDS

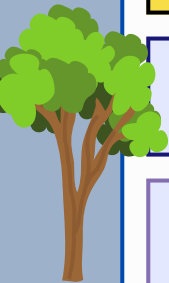


## The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

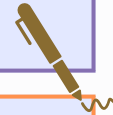



### Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week	Tobias	Amazing reading in phonics lessons
Writer of the week 	Ava	Super independent writing!
Mathematician of the week	Mila	Working hard to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. 
Shining Light	Charlotte Nalah	Helping Mrs Henderson every morning to hand out spelling books. For being really helpful in class, and for helping reception children when they are unsure.
Reads at home	Ava Tobias Arly	100 reads 25 reads 75 reads



### Whitebeam Class

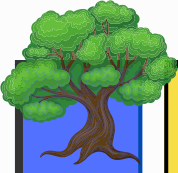
Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Isla B	for her great love of books and reading and reading out loud in front of the class
Writer of the week 	Tia	for recognising and using expanded noun phrases in her writing
Mathematician of the week	Gracie-Mae	for super participation and answering questions in maths
Shining Light	Stan Oscar	for demonstrating responsibility by helping others for demonstrating responsibility in his own learning
Tackling Tables 	Tia	Yellow phase - 2 certificates
Reads at home	Finlay Tia	100 reads 25 reads 



# AWARDS



## The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class



Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Lola. P	always volunteering to read out loud to the class.
Writer of the week	Jess	her beautiful piece of writing about VE day.
Mathematician of the week	Cain	persevering with his SATs practice papers.
Shining Light	Rowan Tyler James	always being kind and polite. always trying his hardest. being kind to everyone.
Reads at home		none this week
Tackling Tables		none this week



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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/4_7/)***  
***[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8\\_10/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/)***  
***<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>***



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### Safeguarding.....

#### Newspaper Article:

Below is an article that is quite long but well worth a read. It contains some incredibly worrying information.

Please note, I am in no way endorsing any newspaper or journalist, I am simply sharing information that may support families, as requested in our questionnaire.

[https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/may/07/the-crux-of-all-evil-what-happened-to-the-first-city-that-tried-to-ban-smartphones-for-under-14s?CMP=Share\\_iOSApp\\_Other](https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/may/07/the-crux-of-all-evil-what-happened-to-the-first-city-that-tried-to-ban-smartphones-for-under-14s?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other)

#### Healthy mind, healthy body.

##### Mental Health awareness;

If you are needing support in this area then a really good source of help is the NHS website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/>

They signpost you to other organisations, such as Young Minds, who are very effective.

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



It was lovely to know that we were all marking VE day this week and good to hear children reflecting on how things used to be and the sacrifices people made. Thank you to the staff for their efforts for this day.



Year Four Residential; I am very much looking forward to this trip and as families you are in for a treat - please mark the afternoon of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June in your diary to come and watch your children perform Shakespeare on a professional stage in the open air. It really is a fantastic occasion full of surprises, so please do come! We have a meeting about the residential on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May at Westacre theatre so you can see where the children will perform, so do come along and ask any questions.

Our Federation day, this term at Castle Acre, on the theme of Forest schools, is coming up soon, with KS1 going on June 25<sup>th</sup> and KS2 going on June 26<sup>th</sup>. We wondered whether families transporting their children to Castle Acre instead of their usual school would be manageable, and will be sending a quick one question survey out soon.

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

It's the Duck Race on Sunday! Please do come down and support the event if you can, we'd be so grateful. If anyone is able to contribute to the refreshments stands and make something delicious for us to sell that would be gratefully received too.

I also wanted to thank those that managed to help cobble together a fancy dress outfit this week to support their child/children in entering the competition today! If we do a fancy dress comp again I promise to give more warning. I hope they all had a fun day :) they looked fantastic.

### Prayer for the Week....



Dear God

Thank you for the life we get to live and the delicious food you provided us with, and our friends and families.

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