



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 8th May 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

I want to start by wishing Sir David Attenborough a very happy 100th birthday (if he gets our newsletters, I will feel very privileged!) Like many of you, I grew up watching his programmes and being utterly inspired by the world we live in. I am including a link to a Newsround item that you may want to watch with your child at home <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/videos/c0jzgewx08eo>. I sometimes wonder how many future David Attenborough's might be growing in our school right now...who knows!
I want to give a huge thank you to our wonderful Friends team in advance for the Duck Race on Sunday and you all for supporting it. It is a great event to come to and hopefully the weather will be like it is today. It is also a good event to have just before KS2 SATs week where our Year 6s can have a little relaxing time before 4 days of tests. Whilst we never put undue pressure on our children, our culture and ethos is all about trying your best and letting your light shine so naturally our children want to give their all. We don't need to wish them luck because they don't need it, we just want to say 'well done to all of you!'
I didn't manage to get it in last week's newsletter but Rowan Class had a wonderful time at Church Farm and it goes without saying that the children represented our school fantastically. Well done!
Have a lovely weekend everyone and thank you for your continued support.

Emma Spaul Head of School

Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Sunday 10th May - The Friends Annual Duck Race, start 3pm at Jubilee Bridge, Castle Acre, finish at South Acre Ford including refreshments stall.

Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May - KS2 SATs week.

Friday 15th May - Year 6 Treat Trip to Wells.

Tuesday 19th May - Whitebeam Class Trip to Thetford Museum.

Wednesday 20th May - Forest School Federation Day at Narborough Primary for whole school.

Friday 22nd May - 3.30pm, Year 4 Residential
Parents/Carers meeting at Narborough Primary with Mrs Neary.

Attendance Awards w/e 8/5/26

Class	%
Rowan	92.5
Whitebeam	94.05
Oak	98.44

The winners of the Attendance Award this week, with excellent attendance are Oak Class, well done! Please do better next week Rowan and Whitebeam.



Reminders and Information.....

Y6 SATs

A reminder that our Year 6 pupils are invited to join the **SATs Breakfast Club** from 8:10am, Monday to Thursday of SATs week in Oak Class. We also invite the Year 6 children to bring in a little mascot with them this week.

- Monday:** Spelling Punctuation & Grammar Papers 1 & 2
- Tuesday:** English - Reading
- Wednesday:** Maths Arithmetic Paper 1 & Reasoning Paper 2
- Thursday:** Maths Reasoning Paper 3
- Friday:** Treat Trip to Wells for Year 6 - home or school packed lunch required (please order on the trip form).



Year 6 pupils may bring up to **£5.00** spending money for the Wells trip, to buy an ice cream at the beach. Please ensure all monies are provided in a named purse or envelope, thank you

PE DAYS

On your child's PE day, please send them to school **WEARING** their **FULL PE kit**, including trainers. Please send their school shoes and jumper/cardigan in a separate bag to change into afterwards.

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

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

Tuck Shop is available first thing on Wed and Fri mornings - 40p per day

Military Families.....

Military Club with Mrs Jary is every Thursday lunchtime at Narborough. Eat your lunch, bring a friend and chat! Each week we meet online with our other service children at Castle Acre and Sporle. We're proud of our Service personnel and proud to support our service families. We have strong links with the RAF base and look forward to our involvement in events.



Sports Day
Wednesday
24th June
Picnic 12pm
Races 1.15pm





AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

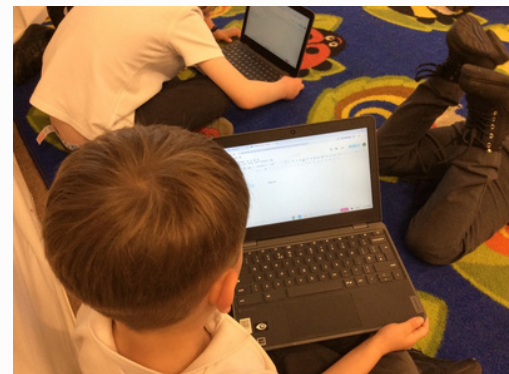
Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week 	Ivy	for being a great partner in phonics and for great expression.
Writer of the week	Freya	for fantastic presentation and for sitting her letters on the line. 
Mathematician of the week	Jaxon	for trying really hard during maths lessons.
Shining Light	Lexi Archie. E	for being a wonderful member of Rowan class, always trying her best in every lesson. for demonstrating our value of responsibility by helping keep our classroom tidy.
Reads at Home	Mia	100 reads 75 Amelie

Our week in Class

Well done Rowan class another fabulous week!

The children continue to impress us with their wonderful writing and their growing independence in maths lessons. Well done! The year 1 children been learning about countries and continents in geography and in science they are learning about reptiles and birds. Reception children have been demonstrating their knowledge of numbers 11, 12, 13, and 14.





AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Florence	for her love of books and reading in class with great expression
Writer of the week	Isla P	for taking care over the presentation of her written work
Mathematician of the week	Ella	for always being willing to challenge herself especially when working on tackling tables
Shining Light	Mila Skyla	for her positive attitude towards learning
Tackling Tables	Nalah Ella Skyla Toby Gracie-Mae	blue division mini test red fraction of amounts yellow missing numbers green superstar red division
Reads at home	Ivar	Josie

Our week in Class



Well done Whitebeam for all you have achieved this week. In preparation for starting our news reports next week, we watched Newsround today about the amazing 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough. In maths the children have continued to work on statistics and have also been working on a range of arithmetic questions when they first come into class in the morning. In history we learnt about the explorer Sir Walter Raleigh and in music the children were introduced to the recorder. Yesterday we had an online Federation Collective Worship and reflected on being captains of our own learning.



AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Logan	enthusiastically answering difficult questions every reading lesson.
Writer of the week	Rosanna	working incredibly hard to improve her presentation in writing.
Mathematician of the week	Oliver P	answering tricky arithmetic questions with confidence.
Shining Light	Mason Henry Libby	showing great resilience and patience when playing tennis with Mr Conway. writing a brilliant balanced argument about Vimto, working hard with his maths and tackling Yr6 reading questions with ease. being a kind and responsible member of our class, always helping others with their work in a mature and careful way.
Reads at Home	Etta Faye	50 reads - Bronze star 150 reads - shield
Tackling Tables	Faye Hollie C Lazenby Finlay Oliver P	Red - MTC taster 1 Red - MTC taster 1 Blue divide by 5, Green multiplication and red multiplication. Red - Division Red - tackling connections fractions & decimals

Our week in Class

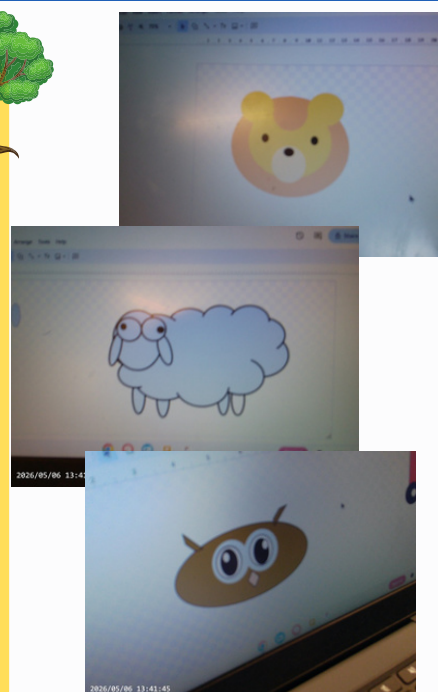
Another lovely week!

In Maths, we have tackled some very tricky questions together while looking at Maths reasoning. We have also looked at shape transformation this morning, using our knowledge of shape, measure and coordinates.

In English, we have been writing balanced arguments about whether school uniform should be banned. It's a challenge to show both sides of a debate evenly and the children are doing very well.

Year 6 - you have done all the hard work! This weekend is for you to rest and relax before SATs. Get plenty of sleep, come in refreshed on Monday ready for the first test. I want 100% attendance for all Year 6 for next week, please!

- Monday - SPAG and Spelling
- Tuesday - Reading
- Wednesday - Maths Paper 1 and 2
- Thursday - Maths Paper 3





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Safeguarding.....

Online worries:

If you get 5 minutes, please watch this video, which is a clear reminder of some of the concerns regarding online use. We do not endorse this, but offer it as a resource for considering what you want for your children; every family's approach is unique to them and their choice, and we are all trying to navigate a difficult world.

Healthy mind, healthy body

Ahead of SATS, children's ideas on how to manage worries:

This week's tips come from Narborough After School Club children so thank you to Esmee and Emilia, and Miss Gorman!:

- play with fidgets
- go to a quiet place
- curl in a ball
- talk to someone
- have a treat
- deep breaths
- read a book or watch TV
- use a worry doll
- play a game
- have a hot drink
- go for a run
- yoga or exercise

Did you know Pinterest use has lead to the sharing of nudes between children? Do you know whether the app your child is using does this?

A really great safeguarding tip for finding out whether the apps your child are using could pull them into a private messaging situation:

Search the following:
"Does (name the app) allows for messaging between users?"

Message from the Executive Headteacher...

Ahead of SATS week next week, please don't forget to ensure all your children in Y6 get a good night's sleep, eat a good breakfast and that you reassure them they only need to do their best and that SATS are not scary. We tell the children that they are more about measuring how well we've taught them, and that they just need to do their best and we will be proud of them. Children always say SATS are not as scary as they thought they would be!

Well done for your learning Y6, we are proud of how far you've come.

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

We hope to see you at the Duck Race, 3pm this Sunday starting from Jubilee Bridge, Castle Acre for a fun afternoon of racing.

If you would like to bake some cakes/buns/biscuits, etc., for our refreshments stall at the Duck Race, that would be very much appreciated. Please bring them to the stall near South Acre Ford on the day or contact Libby, thank you:

Libby Firth, Chair of Friends, Tel: 07825 229345

Prayer for the Week.....

Dear God

Remind us to care for others and help them when they are down. Show us how to be kind and how to treat people with respect

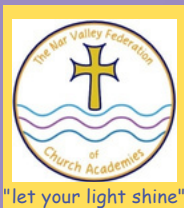
Amen

By: Holly 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



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Healthy Body, Healthy Mind



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Healthy Body 🍌 Healthy Mind 😊

🚫 Healthy Body ✓

To have a healthy body you could exercise and workout regularly.



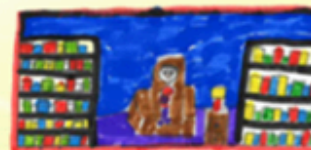
Eating fruit and veges are another form of having a healthy body.

Sweets are very unhealthy because they are full of sugar.



📖 Healthy Mind 🚫

Reading helps with your spelling as well as your mind.



Education is also a good thing for your mind.

Video games aren't very good for your mind.





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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/>