

# Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 3rd July 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had a wonderful transition week and it's been great to see the children in their new classes and beginning to grow into their new Year Group and responsibilities. As everyone has been AMAZING - we have decided to do a whole school Let Your Light Shine award so there will be no Celebration Worship today. Due to the Oak Class performance next Friday, we will be moving Celebration Worship to Wednesday afternoon and you will be notified by Tuesday morning if your child is receiving an award. Our Year 5s had a fantastic time on their residential. They were too tired to tell me exactly what they had done but they were very muddy and they smelt strongly of campfires so I'm guessing that they thoroughly enjoyed it! I have had to tell Mr Conway to dispose of his rucksack as the campfire smell was permeating through the school! A huge thank you has to go to all the staff for making this possible, including Miss Howman who works so hard behind the scenes with the admin to make it happen! Your child's report will have been sent home today. Please take time to really celebrate the progress your child has made and share it with them. We are very proud of every single child who belongs to Castle Acre and we thank you for the part you have played and the support you have given.  
Emma Spaul, Head of School

## Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - 9.30 - 11.30am, new Reception pupils visit class on their own.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 Horstead Residential.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July - 1pm start - NVF Sports Day Finals at Litcham High. Parents/Carers of finalists have received an email asking them to collect their child from school to take them to the event. Please contact the school office ASAP if you are unable to do this.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July - 1.45pm, Year 6 Leavers Service at School including Oak Class Performance.

followed by:

End of Term Disco at School

5.00 - 6pm Reception/Year 1

6.10 - 7.40pm Year 2 - Year 6

## Reminders and Information.....

Information will be sent via email - look out for the flyers



Email sally.macgregor@kids.org.uk for more info



Please complete our Wraparound Care Survey [here](#) as your views are important to us, thank you.

End of Year Reports will be coming home today

## Attendance Awards w/e 3/7/26

| Class     | %     |
|-----------|-------|
| Rowan     | 90.65 |
| Whitebeam | 86.19 |
| Oak       | 89.69 |

There is no winner of the Attendance Award this week as all classes were below our target attendance of 96%. We hope for better attendance next week!



STAY SAFE \*\* HEATWAVE ALERT \*\* STAY SAFE \*\* HEATWAY

Please read the advice to prevent drowning which can be found [here](#)

It's hot out there

## 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.



# AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

| Award                     | Goes to... | For.....                              |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Reader of the week        |            | No awards this week due to transition |
| Writer of the week        |            |                                       |
| Mathematician of the week |            |                                       |
| Shining Light             |            |                                       |
| Reads at Home             |            |                                       |

## Our week in Class

This week we have spent time with the new reception children. We had so much fun playing with the water fountain and dinosaur tray.

The Reception children completed some maths - number bonds to 5 and 10. We have also spent some time completing dictation sentences.

They have carefully used a black pen to draw a self portrait to add to our gallery for next year.

Well done Rowan class, you have been wonderful as always!





# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Whitebeam Class

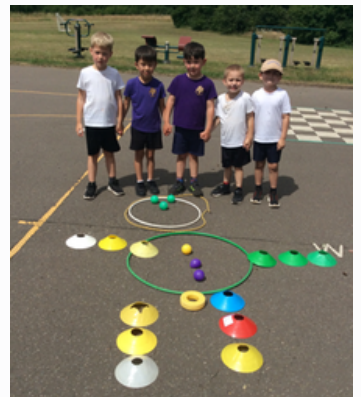
| Award                        | Goes to... | For.....                              |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Reader of the week           |            | No awards this week due to transition |
| Writer of the week           |            |                                       |
| Mathematician of the week    |            |                                       |
| Captains of our own learning |            |                                       |
| Tackling Tables              |            |                                       |
| Reads at home                |            |                                       |

## Our week in Class

For our transition days in Whitebeam Class, our theme has been The Gingerbread Man. The children have listened to different versions of the story and have completed a range of activities based on it. I am sure the highlight has been making gingerbread men and decorating them and we were lucky that none ran away!

The children have had time to explore the class and the outside area and the resources that we have in each. It has been wonderful to see how the children have interacted with each other.

Well done Y3 children too who have been in Oak, you have all been able to tell me highlights from your transition days.







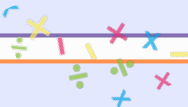

# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

| Award  | Goes to...   | For.....   |
|--|--|---|
| Reader of the week   |  | No awards this week due to transition   |
| Writer of the week  |  |   |
| Mathematician of the week  |  |    |
| Shining Light      | Oscar<br>Alexander<br>Rosanna                            | for being amazing in the practice of the school play.<br>for being amazing in the practice of the school play.<br>for being amazing in the practice of the school play. |
| Reads at home  | Alexander<br>Sybil                                       | 200 reads - bronze bookworm<br>250 reads - silver bookworm  |
| Tackling Tables  | Finlay<br>Hazel<br>Oliver P<br>Molly<br>Darcy B<br>Teddy | Red - mixed mini test<br>Blue - divide by 10<br>Red - mixed numbers & improper fractions<br>Red - fractions of amounts<br>Blue - divide by 2<br>Blue - times by 2       |

## Our week in Class



This week, Year 5 enjoyed their residential at Inside Out! The children had a brilliant time and learned many new skills. They made fires, built dens, practised archery and even cooked our meals. Every child represented Castle Acre wonderfully and they should be very proud of themselves. Photos of this will be on the newsletter next week.

While Year 5 were away, Years 4 and 6 were rehearsing our play. It's all coming together now! Please make sure children have learned each of their lines - we will have very little time to practice next week before the performance.

It has also been transition week! It's been lovely to spend time with our new Year 4s. I have no doubt that they will be brilliant members of Oak Class and I'm excited to have them with us full time!



## Safeguarding.....

If you feel like your child is online or on screens too much, then have a look at the Best Start in life website [here](#). This is aimed at children under 5, but there are links for older children. Guidance is around 1-2 hours a day of screen time, and not at meal times or an hour before bed.

## Healthy mind, healthy body

It has been a difficult time weather-wise recently and I want to thank all our families for your support in sending your children to school and ensuring they have their suncream, hats and water bottles. Staying hydrated is really vital for good cognitive performance - did you know that the brain is 73% water, whereas the rest of the body is only 66%? Studies published make a clear link between dehydration and not only poor learning but poor mood - so keep drinking water everyone!

## Message from the Executive Headteacher....

Well done children this week during our Transition week for moving into your new year groups and either moving classes or having new children join your class. Children benefit hugely from these days as it helps them move into the summer holidays feeling relaxed about September and knowing what the routines will be. If you have anything you'd like to discuss with your child's new teacher, or you want to discuss your child's end of year report, which goes out today, please come ring and make an appointment for our Open Afternoon on 3pm-4pm on Wednesday 8th July. A big well done to those of our Year 6 children who went to their new secondary schools this week.

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

Our school needs your help! We need a shed to store the precious outdoor play equipment. Can you help? If families could give £5-10 each we could smash our target and help the lunchtime team to get a shed in place in no time! We realise not everyone is in a position to donate. Perhaps you can help in other ways? Let me know? [libbyofirth@gmail.com](mailto:libbyofirth@gmail.com)

Libby Firth, Chair of Friends, Tel: 07825 229345

## Prayer for the Week.....

Dear Lord,

Thank you for all our amazing staff, who work so hard for everyone.

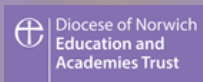
Amen

By: Annie

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 🚫

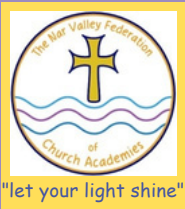
Reading helps with your spelling as well as your mind.



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