

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has once again been a joy and a privilege to serve our Federation communities this year and has gone by so fast in a blur of trips, residential, collective worships, Church services, performances, Federation Forest school days and of course excellent quality and fun learning. Well done to everyone, especially our amazing staff who really do work so hard, often in their own time, to ensure our children enjoy their school life. I received a beautiful card from a child, who said that they were so glad they had been at our school and that it had changed how they felt about learning. What is lovely is that we have seen across all three schools examples of transformations into happy, confident and secure learners and for this I pay tribute to our staff.

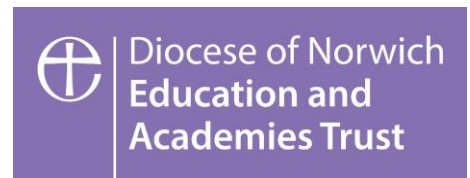
I want to thank you all for ensuring that you have paid for your children's trips and experiences; almost every single parent/carer has paid for every trip, and we are so grateful as it means our children can continue going on these wonderful visits. We have to account for every penny that is in our school budget, so thank you for making it easier for our lovely office team by paying your contributions.

Well done to our children for their SATS results; there were some real triumphs of hard work, focus and dedication. As always, the formal results will be published in September. We were delighted once again with our results in Early Years, at Year One for their phonics and at Year 4 for their fantastic Multiplication Tables Check scores and are proud of all our children across school.

Our staff team remains mostly the same for the upcoming year, which we are very pleased about, with the excellent exception of being able to strengthen our team with the addition of Mrs Lindsey Garland, whom some of you will know from pre-school and whom we welcome as an EYFS Teaching Assistant at Sporle. Mrs Garland joins us with over twenty years of Early Years experience, and we are absolutely delighted that she will be our teaching Assistant to support Miss Slegg in our new Wrens class.

We are very sad to be unexpectedly saying goodbye to Mrs Pitchers at Castle Acre and thank her for her impact in the time she has been here; we will therefore be advertising for an Early Years Teaching Assistant to support Mrs Henderson and Miss Everett. We are also delighted to congratulate Miss Watkins, who you will all know as she has worked in all three schools, on her upcoming wedding and she will therefore be Mrs Neave when she returns!

Just a mention that this year we return to school on Thursday 3rd September, and our staff use these two days to remind the children of expectations, help them know the routines for the new year, and help them settle in. They are important days, and it is important that the children are all present for these.



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Summer holiday competition;

This year we are asking our children to grow something! Can you bring in a tomato plant, a sunflower, a vegetable, some cress or some lovely flowers in a container? We'd like to brighten our schools and learn all about how children made something grow. We're delighted to be able to offer the winning entrants a prize.

FONETTI reading challenge;

We are excited to invite all of our children to take part in Fonetti's National Read Aloud Challenge this summer. The challenge takes place on the Fonetti app, where children have access to hundreds of age-appropriate books to enjoy. As your child reads aloud, the app listens and provides instant feedback by highlighting words in green when they are read correctly. If a word is read incorrectly, it is highlighted in grey, and your child can simply tap the word to hear it read aloud before trying again. This helps children to develop their reading fluency, confidence and accuracy independently. The challenge is a fun way to keep children reading over the summer holidays and maintain the fantastic progress they have made this year. Children can also compete on a national leaderboard to see who can complete the most reads over the summer, adding an extra element of fun and motivation! Getting started is easy. Please register your child on the Fonetti app and enter the name of their school. There is a video on ClassDojo with a step-by-step guide of the registration process. We hope as many of our children as possible will join the challenge and enjoy reading throughout the summer. Happy reading!

There is also the Library Summer Reading Challenge. The theme of this year's reading challenge is 'Read to the Beat', giving children a chance to learn about different genres of cultural music. You can find all the information on this link: www.norfolk.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge

You will have seen the previous letters, but just to draw your attention to the fact that from September every meal or club booked will need to be pre-paid. There is a link here to the information regarding meal payments on Arbor.

Smartphone ban; please remember that we DO NOT accept into school smartphones and therefore please do not send your child to school with one. Children should not be on social media and smartphones can cause serious issues and are safeguarding risks in school. We absolutely will accept non-smart phones and will keep these safe in the office.

I want to thank everyone in our school communities who contribute to making each of our three unique and distinct schools a success, and who work hard for our Federation. Our small group of Governors, who are all busy people, are the absolute unsung heroes, providing me with challenge and support, ensuring that our local context is represented and the Christian distinctiveness is championed. Without our PTFA/Friends' groups, we wouldn't be able to provide our children with such fantastic opportunities, ensuring that no child ever misses out due to funding. I thank them, and other Parents/Carers who have raised money for us, with all my heart. Finally, thank you to all our Parents/Carers for your support and your partnership working, hearing your children read, helping them learn their number bonds and times tables, ensuring they are in school every



Diocese of Norwich
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possible day and supporting them to try their hardest. Our children are wonderful! To those of you moving on to the next stage of your children's education, thank you and goodbye, and to everyone else, we look forward to seeing you all on Thursday 3rd September.

Best wishes and see you soon,

Mrs Anne Neary
Executive Headteacher
Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle C of E Primary Academy

Congratulations to our Tackling Tables Winners:

TACKLING TABLES ONLINE INTER-SCHOOLS COMPETITION June 2026 **WINNERS**

Test Category	Year Group	Student Name	School	Score/Time
Blue Mixed Mini Test (40Q)	2(P3)	2. Nalah 3. Vinnie	2. Castle Acre 3. Sporle	2. 1m 22s 3. 1m 48s
Purple Mixed Mini Test (40Q) (Blue Phase)	2(P3)	1. Stanley Ba 3. Joshua R 3. Kitt	1. Castle Acre 3. Narborough 3. Narborough	1. 2m 5s 3. 2m 19s 3. 2m 19s
Green Mixed Mini Test (40Q)	3(P4)	2. Jaxon	2. Narborough	2. 1m 7s
Time Facts (Green Phase) (27Q)	3(P4)	2. Charlie	2. Sporle	2. 53s
Tackling Connections – Fractions & Decimals (20Q) (Red Phase)	4(P5)	2. Leo 3. Oscar	2. Narborough 3. Castle Acre	2. 51s 3. 1m 5s

Allergy Aware Schools – Please do not send nuts into Nar Valley Federation Academies