



Diocese of Norwich  
Education and  
Academies Trust

## The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Web: [www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk](http://www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk)

Friday 16 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Narborough Newsletter for week ending 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

It has been a really lovely start to the new academic year and the children have all settled really well. Walking around the school is a pleasure and privilege, seeing the children all busy working hard, building new relationships and calmly focussing on their learning. Well done to everybody on a brilliant return.

#### Children's Worship

During our weekly Children's Worship, the children enacted the story of Queen Esther, from the Old Testament Book of Esther, teaching how she showed this half term's value of courage by defending the lives of others. There was superb participation by all of the children involved, especially those that had not performed Children's Worship before. The narration was also excellent and very well presented. Well done everybody.

#### After-school Clubs

We are really pleased to be offering after-school clubs on every day this half term; thanks to the kindness of our parent and staff volunteers.

**Mondays** - A huge thank you to Mrs Hill for continuing to run our Science Club on Mondays this year starting from 26<sup>th</sup> September at 3:10 – 4:00pm (due to next week being a Bank Holiday).

**Tuesdays** – Mrs Hill is also running a Games Club, with children learning to play board games and outdoor games. This club will start on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 3:10 – 4:00pm. Could we please ask if you have any traditional board games that you no longer need and would consider donating to the club. Any donations of games such as draughts, Ludo, chess, snakes and ladders, Cluedo, etc. would be gratefully received.

**Wednesdays** – ICS coaches run their club for children in Hedgehogs and Squirrels class (Year Reception to Year 3).

**Thursday** – Please look out for details of a new Art, Crafts and Wellbeing Club that one of our parents, Miss Smith, will kindly be starting on Thursdays from 29<sup>th</sup> September at 3:10 – 4:00pm. The club will cost **£3 per child** to cover the cost of consumables and the children will bring their creations home with them. More information and an application form will be coming to you in the next couple of days. Please apply quickly if your child wishes to attend, as places will be limited and I am sure that it will be a very popular club.

**Fridays** – ICS coaches run their club for children in Foxes and Otters classes (Years 4 to Year 6).

Staff are supporting each of the clubs run by volunteers.

#### Parent, Carer, Staff Group

We would like to invite any parents who are interested in being part of a new Parent/Carer/Staff group to the school hall for a chat and general open morning and evening on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 9-10am and then again 5:30- 6:30pm. Hopefully these times will then be able to suit everybody wanting to attend and find out a bit more about how we can work together to support Narborough Academy. There will also be refreshments on offer.

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

NB. Please note that we try and include in the newsletter local events that may be of interest, but inclusion in the newsletter does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of any such event from ourselves.

The first event we would like to do is also on Friday 30th September to start raising money with events over the autumn term to go towards Christmas activities for the children. Friday 30th September is National Crazy Hair Day, so we would like the children to come with crazy hair this day and pay a donation of 50p with the money going towards the Christmas pot. Please do not send children in with hair dyed.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September to discuss future support.

### **Attendance Rewards**

Attendance rates for last week ending 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022 are as follows:

Hedgehogs: 95.92%

Squirrels: 94.2%

Foxes: 100%

Otters: 90%

The whole school attendance last week was 94.38%.

Well done to **Foxes** for achieving the highest attendance award AND 100% for last week. Keep up the good work.

Hopefully all classes can achieve the nationally expected 96% each week this year. Information regarding attendance and the Norfolk County Council expectations will be shared over the coming weeks.

### **Class Information**

#### **Hedgehogs**

It has been an amazing start in Hedgehogs and we are really proud of how well the children have all come in and settled straight away, especially our new Reception children. We have been really busy learning new routines and making new friends. The Year One children have been especially kind and helpful, showing the new children around and role-modelling the expectations. We have also really enjoyed our phonics and counting lessons and even started to learn to sign our letters of the alphabet.

Our Shining Light this week is awarded to Pavitha for showing our value of courage, overcoming her worries, settling in really well and teaching us all Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes!

#### **Squirrels**

We have had a fantastic week in Squirrels, seeing many of the core values in action, such as responsibility and kindness. Children have been very quick to help one another and take on roles around the classroom. Children have been enthused by our light topic in Science and RE and have been drawing parallels in how light is not only useful but holds symbolic meaning too. In English, they have been working hard to identify the key features of an information text and learning new language in the form of 'formal' adjectives. We will be working on building up to writing our own information text on Africa over the coming weeks. In Maths, we are revising our knowledge of number and place value and using this to problem solve using the base-10 equipment.

Our Shining Light this week goes to Logan G, who has shown huge resilience this week, and courage. He felt uncertain and worried about his learning at the beginning of the week and by Thursday he was not only completing work independently but volunteered for children's worship. Well done Logan!

#### **Foxes**

We have enjoyed delving into our English work this week which is centred around the book "Clockwork" by Phillip Pullman, finding unknown words and their definitions in the dictionary. Next week we will start to look at how grammatical devices are used to describe characters in order for the reader to know what they look like.

The Shining Light in Foxes this week goes to George-Henry for consistently showing good choices and upholding our school values.

## **Otters**

What a fantastic week Otters class have had! We have made an excellent start to our maths, learning about place value in numbers up to 10,000,000. In English, we have started to read "Clockwork" by Phillip Pullman, and have been learning how to write precis of paragraphs. In RE, we have been starting to think about the world as a community and read 'If the World were a Village' which had a lot of surprising information.

This week our Shining Light has been awarded to Jacob Y for a massive improvement in behaviour, for being polite and considerate to others and for working really hard.

## **Thought for the week**

Our thoughts and prayers this week go to the Royal Family as we share in their loss of our much-loved Queen Elizabeth II.

## **Message from the Executive Headteacher:**

Although the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second has impacted on many of us this week, it has also made us proud of our children and their reflections and prayers, and the way they have recognised our school values in a life of leadership. Just a reminder that our schools, along with schools nationally, will be closed on Monday for the funeral but open again as normal on Tuesday.

There have also been many lovely moments this week, with our new Reception children settling in fast, our excellent staff helping our children to hit the ground running with their learning and time to chat to families we haven't seen over the Summer.

Our School Councilors, Eco Council members and most Head Pupils have been voted for or interviewed this week (or the beginning of next) and it is wonderful to see how many children wanted to do this and to listen to their well-thought out speeches.

Well done everyone!

Ofsted update; our OFSTED report is with us but sharing and publication has been embargoed until after the national mourning period for Queen Elizabeth. As soon as we can share it we will!

There is some exciting learning coming up across the year, with our oldest children learning to play the trombone in music (one term of this tuition for each school), classes going swimming and our children visiting the theatre for various activities. We are also planning to be outside learning as much as possible. We're looking forward to seeing you at this half-term's Parents/Carers' Cafes (dates of all events on the dates sheet) and our Harvest Festival Church service. Please also watch out for AGMS for our Friends groups (Parents/Carers/Staff) fundraising groups for each school). Everyone is welcome!

## **Safeguarding Support;**

Mental Health is a huge priority for many people at the moment. If you are worried about your child's mental health, or would just like more information, then the below charity have plenty on their website and also have a free helpline for Parents/Carers.

## **Young Minds – Support for Parents/Carers with worries about their children's mental health**

Parents' Helpline: You can call us for free on 0808 802 5544 from 9:30am - 4pm, Monday - Friday.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>

Thank you as always for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you soon,



Head of School  
Narborough C of E Primary Academy



Executive Headteacher  
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