



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 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Narborough Newsletter for week ending 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

There's not a lot of people that are working away in their office only to get transported to Ancient Egypt on a rocky boat and end up in a pitch-black, darkened Tutankhamun's tomb full of excited child archaeologists! But that is exactly what happened to me on Thursday morning. I got up to see what the excitement outside in the corridor was and got whisked away with the squeals and giggles of the intrepid explorers. I love my job! Well done Squirrels for your courage and engagement in such a fun learning session.

We will be counting team points next week and the winning team: **Beagle**; **Britannia**; **Castorama** or **Endurance** will be rewarded with a non-uniform day next Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October. The winners will be able to wear their team colour for the day, so please do make sure that your child has an item of clothing or hair bands etc in their team colour just in case. Team colour t-shirts are to be worn for Sports Day and various events throughout the year, so it may be a good idea to have a t-shirt in their team colour for the future. No football kits or clothing that is not appropriate for school please.

### Parents' Evenings

A reminder that parents' consultation appointments are taking place on our return from the half-term break:  
Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

A sign-up sheet with 10-minute slots on each evening will be outside your child's class before and after school each day next week, or please let your child's class teacher know a convenient time for you to meet.

### New PTA -

A reminder of the first meeting to discuss roles and responsibilities of the new PTA on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 1:30pm**, we look forward to starting our new chapter with and for you. The meeting will be held in the **school** library; we hope that as many of you as possible can join us. To ensure that everybody is included, meeting notes will be sent out to all parents so that you remain aware of what is happening even if you cannot make the meeting.

Can I please remind you that any chat groups that used to be run by groups of Parents/Carers are not an official line of communication from the school. It is best to contact the school office directly on **01760 338048** with any queries, as we can give up-to-date answers and make sure that any concerns are appropriately and speedily addressed. Please also remember that you can contact us through your child's Class Dojo link. Let us know if you need to change your contact details so that we can regularly keep you informed of what is happening in class and school.

Also, a huge **THANK YOU** to Miss Jade Smith of the PTA who delivered wellbeing gifts on Mental Health Day Monday, to all children and staff on behalf of the new PTA. The gifts were very much appreciated.

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.

### **Parent Cafés**

A reminder that Parent Cafés are being held from 2pm to 3pm during next week:

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – Foxes and Otters – Geography Showcase – sharing learning from the half term.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** – Squirrels – Science Sources of Light

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Hedgehogs – Phonics and Read, Write Inc. session.

We look forward to sharing your child's learning and having some refreshments with you.

### **Children's Worship**

This week in Children's Worship, the children decided to do something a little different. They reflected on the word 'courage' and collected together the many synonyms and attributes that come with it. They turned these key words into a wordsearch and challenged the rest of the school to find them. Thank you, Teddy from Hedgehogs, Freddie from Squirrels, Sienna-Rose from Foxes and Theo and Billie Jo from Otters for such a great and engaging idea.

### **Attendance Rewards**

Attendance rates for last week ending 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 are as follows:

Hedgehogs: 98.26%

Squirrels: 94.29%

Foxes: 89.05%

Otters: 94.21% - well done for a good improvement on last week.

The whole school attendance last week was 94.5%.

Well done to **Hedgehogs** for achieving the highest attendance award again for last week and being the only class to reach the target of 96% again. Keep up the good work, Hedgehogs.

### **Class Information**

#### **Hedgehogs**

In Hedgehogs we have been reading the story of Little Red Riding Hood discussing the story and acting it out. It was funny how many of us wanted to be the Big Bad Wolf! We will use what we know about the story to write and illustrate our own Little Red Riding Hood story next week, changing one of the characters. In Maths, Reception children were looking at how to represent numbers 1, 2 and 3 with objects, sorting objects into sets. Next week we will match amounts of objects to the number digit. Year 1 children were learning about number families and different ways to make 10. We then wrote these into number sentences. Next week we will find number bonds and add more to an amount. We have also been working hard learning our Harvest Festival song to perform for you.

Reading congratulations to: Oliver B, Reggie, Teddy, Oliver G and Ronnie for achieving at least 10 reads at home and recording them in their Home Reading Record. Congratulations also to Charlotte, Isaac and Jasper for achieving their 25 reads at home.

Our Shining Light this week is awarded to Avaya for always showing our value of kindness. Avaya always helps people who need support and is always ready with a kind handhold and caring smile.

#### **Squirrels**

In Squirrels this week, we have been diving into the world of problem solving and reasoning in Maths. We have explored how we can use our number bonds to 10 to help us find bonds to 100, and 1000. We have then used this knowledge to solve multi-step problems. In English, we went on an archaeological adventure to the Valley of the Kings and explored Tutankhamun's tomb, ready for the 100th anniversary of its discovery next month. Children interviewed "Howard Carter" and came up with some brilliant, probing questions that helped us to learn a lot more about the Ancient Egyptians. In Science, we investigate shadows; how and why they change over the day.

Our Shining Light this week is Ellie-May for taking such pride and care in her work this week. She has made extra effort to make sure she understands a task before beginning and has challenged herself to go beyond the targets set for tasks. Superstar!

### **Foxes**

This week in our Maths and English lessons we have started our first Year 4 assessments. This is a culmination of all that has been learnt in Years 3 and 4 and highlights the areas of development as well as celebrating the success of the children so far. Miss Joisce is so impressed with the children's positive, 'can-do' attitude in these lessons. We are looking forward to writing our suspense story next week.

Congratulations to Fearne, Freya and Paige for achieving 25 reads at home.

Our Shining Light this week goes to Theo T for showing determination in his learning.

### **Otters**

Otters have been working really hard again this week. We have learned about the organs involved in the digestive system and have described their functions. In RE, we have researched the lives of Christian individuals who have helped others. In English, we have explored how suspense is created in stories and have retold the story of Zelda Claw using descriptions of the weather and setting to create a sinister atmosphere. On Monday, we will be celebrating Europe Day. We hope to share some of our learning with you from 2:00pm. We are also looking forward to attending the cross-country event at TNHA on Tuesday.

Congratulations this week to:

Reading: Sophie, Isabella and Theo W for achieving 25 reads at home.

Tackling Tables: Sophie for achieving her green level superstar certificate. Isabella for achieving her red level fractions of amounts certificate. Daniel for achieving his red level mixed numbers to improper fractions certificate. Elsie for achieving her red level multiples certificate.

### **Shining Light**

This week, our Shining Light has been awarded to Theo W for consistently trying his hardest in all subjects, being such an enthusiastic learner and for being a responsible and trustworthy member of our school.

### **Prayer for the week**

This week Hedgehogs children would like to share with you the prayer they say and sign every day before going in to lunch.

Thank you for the world so sweet.

Thank you for the food we eat.

Thank you for the birds that sing.

Thank you, God, for everything.

Amen.

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

#### **Pupil Voice;**

As you may know, we check in with our children once a half-term to see how they are, how their learning is and how they are feeling in school. Each half-term has a slightly different focus and this half-term we looked at how they felt about coming back to school. We asked the following:

What was **fun** or kept you **happy** during the summer?

What was **not good**? Did anything **worry** or **scare** you, or give you a **funny feeling**?

What did you **enjoy on devices** - phone, tablet, TV...?

What did you **NOT enjoy on devices** - anything bad, scary or worrying?

What are you **looking forward to at school** this term?

Is there **anything worrying** / you are **not looking forward to**?

Do you have at least one adult in school that you can talk to and that you feel comfortable with?

Strengths were that 100% of pupils feel that they have at least one adult in school that they can trust. Concerns or worries about school were unique to individuals and a high proportion answered that they didn't have any concerns.

An area of concern was very much ICT based – many of the children could talk about something on their devices that had worried or scared them over the Summer.

Any individual concerns have been talked through with the children or the class as appropriate by the teacher. The ICT concern is something that the leadership team have considered and decided that we will respond by firstly creating a reference booklet that might provide some information about sites, devices, age limits etc. Secondly, we are exploring the idea of an information evening with a speaker. So we want to hear from you - is this an issue that you'd like support with, what could we do as a school to support you and would you welcome such an evening? Please get in touch via the office with any feedback. Many thanks.

Overall, the feedback was extremely positive and our children are noticeably happy and settled in school. Recent monitoring by Governors and DNEAT noted their enthusiasm for their learning and their super knowledge. Well done children and well done our super staff team for making learning fun. Who wouldn't want to go to school and interview Howard Carter and explore Tutankahmun's tomb?!

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,



Head of School  
Narborough C of E Primary Academy



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