



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 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Narborough Newsletter for week ending 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

It really is amazing how quickly time is flying this half-term. It doesn't seem that long ago that I was welcoming in our new starters at the beginning of the year, and we have already reached our first half-term break! I wish everybody a well-earned break, families, children and staff alike.

It was really lovely to see so many of you at the Harvest Festival in the church last Friday. I think you will agree that the children did us really proud with their variety of performances. Such dedication and commitment to learning their songs, poems, thank you messages, ballad and prayers. Thank you for making it so special; I know that it means a lot to the children and staff to have you sharing in our celebrations. Thank you for your wonderful harvest gifts and also to Reverend Howells and members of the congregation for joining us. Keep an eye on our dates for the next events.

### Congratulations to Britannia.

As you know, they were the winning team, with the most team points this half-term, so were able to come into school in non-uniform in their house team colour of blue.

It was very close with	<b>Beagle</b>	275 team points
	<b>Castorama</b>	334 team points
	<b>Endurance</b>	358 team points
	<b>Britannia</b>	374 team points.

As you can see, it is so close that anybody could win next half term. Keep up the good work and keep earning team points.

### 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 has been outside your child's class before and after school each day, and we are pleased to see so many families already signed up for an appointment. If you have not yet been able to get a time slot, please ask your child's class teacher for a mutually convenient time to meet.

### New Parent Teacher Friends Association (PTFA)

It was lovely to see so many willing volunteers alongside staff volunteers on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October** for the new PTFA voting of roles, new name and discussion of ideas to support the school. It was unanimously voted that Jade Smith will be Chairperson, Dawn Tapson will be Secretary and Laura Painter will be Treasurer. The next order of business was to vote on a name for the new group so that a bank account and insurance could be set up. It was very important to everybody that the name reflected the inclusivity of all, so PTFA was voted for on

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 understanding that 'Parents' means 'parents and carers'; 'Teachers' means 'all staff' and 'Friends' will include any other interested parties that will hopefully want to become involved. Information has been sent out regarding the children designing a new logo for the group and the PTFA is holding a competition to find the best design – closing date Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (after the half-term break). The PTFA minutes and newsletters will be on our website after each meeting so that you can keep abreast of what is happening.

### **Children's Worship**

This week in Children's Worship, Megan and Isabelle from Squirrels along with Sophie and Ashden from Otters, told us the story of Peter and his shipwreck, from Acts 27:27 to 28:5. They told and acted a dramatic tale of hatred, raging storms and poisonous snakes, asking questions of the children in the audience to help them reflect on how Paul showed courage, and how God helped to keep Paul feeling brave in the face of many dangers. Our Children's Collective Worship are really special and their hard work and commitment to their preparation in their break times really shows. Thank you.

### **Attendance Rewards**

Attendance rates are as follows for:

Last week ending 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	This half-term to 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Hedgehogs: 97.39%	96.35%
Squirrels: 94.29%	95.31%
Foxes: 90%	93.35%
Otters: 96.32%	92.76%

The whole school attendance last week was 94.82% and for the half-term was 94.64%, so a little way to go to reach the national attendance expectations. Together we can achieve.

Well done to **Hedgehogs** for achieving the highest attendance award for the third time in a row for last week. Keep up the good work, Hedgehogs.

### **Class Information**

#### **Hedgehogs**

I am really proud of the illustrated stories of Little Red Riding Hood (with a twist) that the children have written. They have tried really hard to sound out unknown words, use finger spaces, full-stops and exclamation marks and make sure that their reader can read their story. Reception children have used the props from the story and written a collaborative version. Well done, Hedgehogs. The children worked really hard for Miss Clifton and Mrs Jary whilst Mrs Smith and I undertook our Paediatric First Aid Training. We are very proud of them. They have also been learning to add numbers together and write number sentences in Maths, discuss which animals would make good pets in Science and learned how to identify a range of feelings, describe them and manage them in RSHE.

Reading congratulations to: Olivia and Scarlett for achieving at least 10 reads at home and recording them in their Home Reading Record. Congratulations also to Layla, Noah W and Joey for achieving their 25 reads at home. Please remember to bring your reading book and record into class every day.

Our Shining Light this week is awarded to Jaxson, for showing such dedication to his learning both in school and at home, always trying his best. Keep up the good work, Jaxson.

#### **Squirrels**

This week in Squirrels, we had a wonderful time sharing our science knowledge with our families at the Parent Café. We had investigated how materials can be transparent, translucent and opaque, and used these qualities to decide on the best materials to make a shadow puppet theatre. In Maths, we have been looking at adding and subtracting on a number line and finding the multiples of ten that a number sits between. In English, we have written gripping diary entries for the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, in the voice of Howard Carter. In Art, we have been creating decorative, intricate headdresses for an Egyptian person, using our collage skills that we have been practising over the half-term.

Shining Light: Sophie for learning a lot of new, archaeology related vocabulary, and being creative with adjectives. She has contributed some incredible sentences to our diary writing in English.

### **Foxes**

This week in Foxes, we have finished our Year 4 Autumn assessments! A really big well done to all the children for their hard work and fantastic attitude towards them. We have also written a double-page spread information text on the Alps from our Geography learning and are showing off our fantastic research, learning and writing skills. After the break we will be writing up our suspense story and venturing into addition and subtraction of 4-digit numbers, practising with lots of concrete resources and learning formal methods.

Congratulations to: Lucy for achieving 10 reads at home and recording them in her Home Reading Record. Also, to Dylan, Theo and Sophie for achieving 25 reads at home.

Our Shining Light this week goes to Lucy; she is always ready to learn and consistently showcases fabulous choices. A real role model in the classroom.

### **Otters**

Otters have been writing an information text in Geography, giving details and facts that they have learned about the Alps. They have completed test papers to ascertain their current needs and worked really hard to make Miss Maskell proud in her absence. Due to Miss Maskell's absence on Thursday, when this newsletter is written, we do not have any congratulations to share for Otters, but promise that the certificates and congratulations will be shared for this week after the half-term.

### **Thought for the week**

This week's thought for the week is from Libby in Otters and is something that we all need to remember:

*If you believe in yourself, you can always achieve something.*

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

Winter respiratory infections;

We are asked to ensure that we are doing the following:

- Encouraging all staff and pupils who are poorly with symptoms of respiratory infection to not attend the setting
- Ensuring that there is adequate ventilation in occupied spaces
- Reinforcing good hand and respiratory hygiene practices
- Ensuring that cleaning and disinfection arrangements are being followed
- Ensuring that all eligible groups are enabled and supported to take up the offer of National immunisation programmes including COVID and flu.

### **Safeguarding;**

If you are worried at all about a child for any reason over half-term, the NSPCC helpline is open Monday to Friday 8am – 10pm and 9am – 6pm at the weekend. The number is 0808 800 500. You can ring for advice.

### **Half-term competition;**

Don't forget our half-termly competition for all the children; a template entry form is attached to this newsletter. The closing date is 1<sup>st</sup> November and we look forward to all the entries!

Thank you for your support for our school activities this half-term; please have a lovely half-term and we wish you all some good quality family time.



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