



Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Friday 11th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Narborough Newsletter for week ending 18th November 2022

Anti-bullying Week got off to a flying start with lots of odd socks to be seen on Monday! The Head Pupils felt the need to explain why they looked 'odd' to our visitors on the Open Day and did so really well. We all learnt how to 'Reach Out' to get help and help others if ever needed and shared our understanding of the difference between 'mean moments' and 'bullying'. Our children have an excellent appreciation of what it means to be kind to each other and how to support children that need help. We celebrated our differences and embraced that everyone is different, everyone is unique and everyone is special.

As I write this, I am looking forward to seeing SPOTS on Friday 18th to also show our support for the Children in Need campaign. The last couple of years have been incredibly hard for children and young people. Living through Covid has caused feelings of anxiety, fear and hopelessness in too many children; and the cost-of-living crisis is now pushing even more families into hardship. Find out more about the challenges that children are facing, how Children in Need are there for those who need them the most and how we can help them on:

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Cross-Country Competition

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the children that did so well in the Cross-Country Competition that they are through to the second round next Thursday. A huge well done to: Finley Y3, Oaklie Y3, Rosanna Y3, Nicole Y4, Archie Y4, Elsie Y5 and Macie Y5. The very best of luck from all of us for next week.

Parents' Forums

Thank you to the parents that attended the forums on Tuesday, it is always good to share a cuppa and chat through how things are working. It was good to hear from parents that the children are happy, wanting to learn and getting on well. There was very positive praise for the parents' evenings and the positive impact on children's learning that staff are having. It was mentioned that doors could be closed for privacy and a question around if children can attend with their parents. Children are, of course, welcome to all parents' evenings and it is entirely up to individual parents' choice if you wish to bring your children along. Some parents do and I know that some parents prefer not to.

It was mentioned that having information and consent on Google Forms can be tricky for some parents to remember if they have completed the form or not. We discussed looking at ways for the form to be closed after completion or a notification to yourself to remind you that it has been completed. I know that Mrs Fenn does contact parents if they have not completed the form but will continue to check on ways of making this process clearer for you.

The subject of changing in school for PE was brought up and how some children may find it tricky. We discussed how it was a change in September, back to the way they always used to bring PE kits to school and

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.

change at school before the pandemic. This ensures that uniform is worn every day and PE kits are then only used for PE to be safe, comfortable and appropriate for the activities undertaken. It also enables children to cover their Personal, Social and Emotional curriculum skills of managing their own personal needs, including dressing and, as they get older, preparing them for the routine of changing for PE at high school. One of the parents confirmed that this does help to prepare the older children for communal changing at high school. I would also like to take this opportunity to reassure you that girls and boys change in separate rooms in all classes.

One parent has spoken to me about giving their children a bag for their outdoor trainers to be put into so that the PE kit will not become really messy when everything is put back into the bag after PE outside. I thought that this was a really good idea and told her I would be stealing it to share with you in this newsletter!

As always, just a reminder, that if you ever feel that you're unsure of anything and need more information, please do let us know so that we can work together to make it even better. Sometimes we won't know what you'd like to know unless you tell us!

Please remember that you can contact us at school by talking to myself, Mrs Neary or your child's classroom staff; by telephoning 01760 338048; by emailing office@narborough.norfolk.sch.uk or by sending a Class Dojo (please let your child's class teacher know if you are having difficulty receiving Dojo messages and need a new link). If any of your contact details have changed, please do notify us straight away so that we can keep our records up to date. Thank you to all parents who have already sent back their contact form update.

Parent Teacher Friends Association (PTFA)

A regular newsletter from the PTFA is attached to this newsletter and in the window of each class so that you can keep abreast of what is coming up. Thank you for your support.

TA Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a TA at Narborough and would love to hear from interested parties. Please feel free to come and have a chat with myself or Mrs Neary for more information; visit our school vacancies website page on <https://www.narborough.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=153> or get the application form from <https://www.dneat.org/vacancy/teaching-assistant-narborough-church-of-england-primary-academy/>

Attendance Rewards

Attendance rates for last week, ending 11th November 2022 are as follows:

Hedgehogs: 96.92%

Squirrels: 95.92%

Foxes: 94.53%

Otters: 94.06%

The whole school attendance last week was 95.51%, which means that we did not quite meet the target expected.

Well done to **Hedgehogs** for not only achieving the highest attendance award for last week again, but being the only class to achieve the target of 96% Keep up the excellent work Hedgehogs.

Children's Worship

Layla from Hedgehogs, Debora from Squirrels, Freya from Foxes, and Libby and Isabella from Otters taught us about Noah's ark and how, after the flood waters, God sent his promise to never flood the world again, creating a beautiful rainbow as a symbol of his promise. They challenged the classes to a competitive word search and created the most beautiful rainbow window art which is proudly being displayed in each of the four classrooms.

Head Pupils

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 Head Pupil candidates on a very successful letter of application and interview process. All four children wrote really persuasive letters of application, detailing why they felt that

they would be the ideal candidate, what they thought was working well and what they thought could improve the school even further. They performed well on their interviews and gave excellent answers to all questions.

It was a difficult decision to make, but ultimately, the two children who showed the most outstanding commitment to the role and therefore become our Head Pupils are Daniel H and Libby D.

Huge congratulations – Mrs Neary and I really look forward to working with you in your new role this year.

Congratulations also to Billie-Jo E and Sophie B on becoming our new Deputy Head Pupils. I know that they will support Daniel and Libby well and work together to make a difference for all of the children at Narborough.

Class Information

Hedgehogs

We have had another really good week this week, with lots of learning in all subjects. We answered a Pupil Voice Questionnaire this week and we all said how happy we are with our learning and how fun it was at school. We especially liked learning to read and how the adults read to us, using voices to make it exciting. In our phonics we are using our Fred Fingers to sound out words to help us spell and blend our sounds to make words. We are practising really hard with this and getting really good. In English, we have been learning about different kinds of words this week and found out what nouns and verbs are and how to use adjectives and adverbs to describe them. Reception really enjoyed practising verbs and adverbs by playing Simon Says. We found out that we have to really listen carefully so that we don't do the action unless Simon Says to! In Maths this week, we have been learning how to use number lines, bar models and part-part-whole models to help us calculate addition and subtraction. Reception have been learning how to find one more and one less than a number. In RE, we had a lot of fun making clay Diva lamps and pinch pots. In DT we designed our milk bottle elephants and in Science, we did a scientific investigation to test if materials were waterproof or absorbent. We will use our test results next week to make a roof for our Indian house in a monsoon.

Reading congratulations to: Alfie for achieving at least 10 reads at home and recording them in his Home Reading Record. Congratulations also to Danny, Noah C and Oliver G for achieving at least 25 reads at home and Noah W and Jasper for achieving 50 reads at home. Remember to bring your reading record into school every day.

Our Shining Light this week is awarded to Layla for always engaging with her learning and cheerfully working so hard - especially in English and Maths. Keep up the good work, Layla.

Squirrels

Squirrels have been total superstars this week! We have been pushing them and pushing them to build their independence with learning and they have not disappointed. They are becoming resourceful learners who are never afraid to have a go! We thoroughly enjoyed investigating with clay on Wednesday; finding its properties and thinking about what tools we may need to shape it into bricks to make a step pyramid. We had a scavenger hunt to help us find the features of a biography, which children were quick to hear and spot in our model text. They have also been incredibly excited about our history learning on Ancient Egypt, where we have been conceptualising how long this time period was and identifying some significant pharaohs, ahead of our fantastic trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Lots of learning and a well-deserved treat!

Congratulations to:

Tackling Tables: Finley for his red phase mixed mini-test and Oaklie for his blue phase superstar and blue phase multiples.

Reading: Luna for 50 reads at home.

Our Shining Light this week is Luna. She is consistently kind, caring and helpful to everyone in school. She will spot a problem and go straight to resolve it, even if it means cleaning up a dirty, muddy classroom. She has shone so brightly this week!

Foxes

In Foxes this week, we have successfully subtracted two 4-digit numbers using the formal column method with more than one exchange! This is a huge achievement, and everyone worked so hard with their listening ears to follow the steps before trying it themselves. Next week, we will compare column methods with different subtraction methods to find the most efficient one. In writing, we have finished and written up our suspense stories beautifully and will be moving on to information texts to link with our history learning. The class should be proud of how far they have come in both writing and maths.

Congratulations to:

George-Henry, Adriana and Logan for completing 10 reads at home.

Our Shining Light this week goes to Fearne for demonstrating huge amounts of courage in swimming this week and being so very proud of herself for it.

Otters

This week, children from Otters class are commenting on their week. Isabella said, "I have enjoyed writing my suspense story because I have used expanded noun phrases, similes and fronted adverbials to create a spooky atmosphere." Theo W commented, "I enjoyed PE yesterday because we made up our own game and we earned points to spend on equipment." Gabriela stated, "I have enjoyed writing my suspense story because I think it's going to turn out really well." Ashden said, "I've enjoyed Maths because we are recapping timesing by 10, 100 and 1000." Libby has enjoyed "history (ancient civilisations) because I like learning about the past." Theo A stated, "I enjoyed Science because we got to play a game about food chains where we were foxes (predator) and rabbits (prey)." I was amazed at the proficiency of Mr Robson's group in swimming this week. I thought the children had been replaced by aquatic creatures as they were so good at swimming the 'dolphin' stroke this week. Great work!

Congratulations this week to:

Tackling Tables:

Theo A for achieving his yellow level superstar certificate. Eden for achieving her red level multiplication certificate. Esme for achieving her green level intelligent practice multiples certificate. Sophie for achieving her red level fractions of amounts certificate.

Reading:

Sophie for achieving 50 reads at home.

Shining Light: This week our Shining Light has been awarded to Esme for working really hard to improve her vocabulary and sentence structure when editing her own writing.

Thought for the week

This week's thought is from Billie-Jo in Otters:

If you're kind to people, they will be good to you.

Message from the Executive Headteacher:

Parents/Carers' Forum;

Many thanks to those Narborough families who came along to this; you'll see our responses elsewhere in the newsletter. Please don't feel you need to wait for a Forum to raise anything - if there is anything you feel you don't know, or anything you want to clarify, please don't hesitate to ask.

DNEAT visit; a big well done to our children this week, whose positive learning behaviours, immaculate choices for learning and good manners were noted by our Academy Group Executive Principal. Well done children! Also a well done to our Head and Deputy Head Pupils, who showed round our visitors on Open Day with such aplomb, cheerful attitude and honest and positive approach. Well done!

Curriculum newsletters will be coming out next week so that you can see what your children have been learning and continue to learn. Please don't forget to support them by helping them do their Tackling Tables and Spelling Frame, both online at home, and by ensuring they read every night. The boost this provides to their learning is huge. We provide our Homework in this way so that it is accessible for everyone and fun to do. If you need your log in, speak to the classteacher or if you do not have Wi-Fi access or any devices, we can support with this too - please do speak to me via the school office. Many thanks.

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,



Head of School
Narborough C of E Primary Academy



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Academy