



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<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Narborough Newsletter for week ending 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

We have been having such lovely weather and it has been good to see most children with water bottles, sun cream and sun hats in school. It is really essential that the children bring these every day in order to keep themselves safe in the heat. The children have been enjoying the lovely weather outside and being reminded to keep in the shade, out of direct sun, as much as possible. Drinking of water and refilling of bottles is regularly encouraged and the importance of keeping hydrated, as well as reapplying their sun cream is discussed in all classes. We have discussed how Factor 50 does not mean that we only have to put it on once in the morning and it will last the whole day, as playing with the water, sweating and general playing could wear it off. The children have been very good at applying their own sun cream this week and those that need help have of course been helped/supported by an adult.

We know you might have had some concerns about water and exercise in this heat. During the Reception and KS1 Fun Run at high school on Tuesday, we asked the children not to drink their water or eat their snacks on the coach as usual, but all took their bottles and snacks with them onto the field. I told the children that there were no toilets on the school field and that it is a big field, so not to drink all of their water in one go as it would just go straight through them and they would need the toilet with a long way to walk. We discussed how drinking lots of small sips was better than having it all in one go as their body and brain could use it better with lots of sips. The event had been adapted slightly, due to the heat, so that the children started and ended in the hall, with the actual time outside being limited to 30 minutes. During the Fun Run there was a water spraying station that the children could choose to run through or run around the cones to avoid it if they didn't want to get wet. At the end of the run everybody sat down and was given the opportunity to drink their water and eat their snack. We also took raisins for children that wanted them instead of/as well as their own snack. After this we all went and sat in the hall whilst we waited for the children that wanted to go to the toilet (accompanied by an adult) before getting on the coach to return to school. We returned to school just in time for lunch and all water bottles were refilled as needed.

I hope that this makes sense of the approach we are taking, and you are reassured that we have your children's best interests at heart in this beautiful, but hot, weather.

On Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June we will be holding our usual Parents' Forums at 3:30pm and 6:00pm. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible to give you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have and find out what is happening in school. Please sign up via the link sent out, so we have an idea of numbers attending at which time.

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.

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On Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June it is our annual Sports Day, from 1:30pm in the afternoon. It would be lovely to see you all here cheering the children on. Come in your trainers just in case your child persuades you to enter the parent/carer's race!

The week of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July is our school transition week, where the children will be working with their new teachers and new classes. This ties in with the TNHA transition days on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Information regarding the new classes and structure for next year was included in last week's newsletter.

### **Staffing in September:**

Please accept my apologies to Mrs Painter who is, you will be very glad to know, remaining in her position as 1:1 but inadvertently was not copied and pasted from one list to the other. C Fenn, Secretary.

### **PTFA**

A reminder that we will be holding our children's Summer Disco on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. The children will be able to buy tickets to attend the disco in the weeks before the event and more information will be given closer to the event.

The Summer Fayre is on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> July from 2:30 to 4:30pm. If you are able to help out at all or if you would like to rent a stall at the Summer Fayre, please contact the office or PTFA for further details. Please remember to have your child's rock painting entry in school by 13<sup>th</sup> July. Winners will be announced at the fayre.

### **Attendance Rewards**

Attendance percentages for last week, 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023, are:

Hedgehogs:	97.27%
Squirrels:	96.55%
Foxes:	98.67%
Otters:	98%
Whole School	97.44%

Well done to **Foxes** for achieving the highest attendance of the week last week. Well done to everybody for achieving higher than the target of 96%.

### **Children's Worship**

A huge well done to Adriana from Foxes this week, who single-handedly organised and ran Children's Worship. She had volunteers come up to act out and read the parts from the story of Moses and Pharaoh (Exodus 4-6) which taught us about justice, seeking help when we see others being wronged, and how we can forgive those we may feel estranged from us (such as with Aaron and Moses). She was very good at directing the volunteers.

### **Class Information**

#### **Hedgehogs**

I have been especially proud of the Year 1 children this week as they undertook their PiXL diagnostic tests in Reading and Maths and their Phonics Screener test. Their hard work and diligence have again shone through and I am very proud of their achievements. In Maths, Reception children have been playing games involving adding scores, sorting and sharing objects and using repeating patterns. Some children made the longest patterned runway I have ever seen, stretching right across our playground! In DT, we will be making a moon buggy, so we researched, planned, drew and labelled our design to help us make it in the coming weeks. In Science, we have really enjoyed researching the weather and made a weather recording sheet so that we can record the different types of weather each day. We really, really loved the Fun Run at the high school on Tuesday. The best bit for some of us was the spray station, where we were sprayed with water if we ran through it. Some of us avoided getting wet by running to the other side of the cones. We loved getting lots of stickers for each section we ran.

Congratulations this week to:

Reading Certificates: Ethan for achieving 100 reads at home. Remember to complete your home reading record every day to get your certificates and badges everybody!

Our Shining Light this week is awarded to Reggie for showing our value of perseverance and committing to doing his best in our tests this week.

### **Squirrels**

Another fabulous week of learning in Squirrels class. Children have been applying their real-world experiences in English, to write a recount of their trip to Castle Rising. In Maths, they had water play to help them understand the measuring of capacity using millilitres and litres. In Science, they have had amazing recall on the bones within our body and are confidently naming so many; explaining their purpose too! They have coped remarkably well with these scorching temperatures and really have all shone their light this week.

Congratulations this week go to:

Reading: Bow for 100 reads at home.

Tackling Tables: None this week – keep practising, Squirrels.

Our Shining Light this week is Logan G for his incredible attitude towards learning. Logan is never afraid to try, has grown in confidence to work more independently, and gives every task his 100% best.

### **Foxes**

It has been a busy week in Foxes class as we have been finishing off our final Year 4 assessments. It is so wonderful to see all the progress that has been made over this year. We have also completed the Multiplication Tables Check this week so everyone can give themselves a huge pat on the back for what they have done this week. Next week looks a little more back to normal! We will be focussing on newspaper reports in writing, looking at writing our own by the end of the week on the mysterious events of Tuesday night. In Maths, we will be finishing off our work on decimals and moving onto looking at measurement, which will give us the opportunity to be more active in our learning.

Congratulations this week to:

Reading: No reading certificates this week.

Tackling Tables: Fearne – Purple addition certificate.

Our Shining Light this week goes to Harvey for all his amazing hard work on his Multiplication Tables Check.

### **Otters**

This week Otters have been busy in English, creating our reporters name, headline and newspaper name. We did this to be ready for our newspaper report about Tuesday night. On Thursday, Foxes and Otters had tennis together. We had to get in pairs and practise our forehand passes to each other. We also had to practise catching the ball with our racket to try get a rally. Year 6 all enjoyed our maths this week because we got to research our dream destination to find out the average rainfall and temperature (reported by Isabella). Billie-jo commented, "I enjoyed doing the year 6 leavers photos because we got to do piggy backs on each other and pull funny faces at the camera." Sophie said, "This week I have enjoyed doing swimming because we all reached our 25 metres in different strokes." Daniel commented, "I have enjoyed PE on Wednesday because I got to practise my hammer throw to see how far I could get."

This week the Y5s have enjoyed their tests because they got to use all their skills and knowledge. Theo A said, "I have enjoyed PE this week because we got to do athletics to practise loads of different sports." Theo W stated, "I have enjoyed athletics this week because we got to practise sports to be ready for sports day."

Congratulations this week to:

Reading: Unfortunately, there are no reading certificates this week. Tackling tables: Theo W for achieving his red level mixed mini certificate.

Elsie for achieving her green level division with remainders certificate.

Shining Light:

This week, The Shining Light has been awarded to Jayden for working really hard, trying his best during his tests and for making pleasing progress. Keep it up!

### **Prayer for the Week**

A prayer that is recited at the end of every Collective Worship:

*May the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all forevermore.*

*Amen*

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

#### **Y4 Residential;**

I am very pleased to let you know that we are able to offer the residential opportunity for Year 4 that we had originally planned to do last year. Hopefully we will not be defeated by an unprecedented heat wave this year!

As before, the venue is Westacre Theatre and we are going to be putting together a show to perform to families. We have a storyteller coming to give us an evening campfire story and trail. We will be camping in tents with the Theatre as a wet weather back up! The cost will be £25 per pupil with great thanks to Westacre Theatre for their sponsorship.

Please see the letter and form that went out yesterday for more details, including a Parents/Carers' meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 3.30pm at Castle Acre.

#### **Fines for term time holidays;**

We want to make it really clear that term time holidays are in most circumstances unacceptable, and as per previous newsletters and our policy that you have received but is also on our website, from September we will be issuing fines for such holidays.

The fines are £120 per child (reduced to £60 for payment within 28 days) and they are per child per parent with parental responsibility, whether those parents are together or not.

This means that if you are a family of two children and two parents, you would have to pay £240. Failure to pay can result in the case going to court.

Please note, we do not get the money for fines, they go to the local authority, but not necessarily for education. Based on the applications this year, our Parents/Carers would have given the local authority quite a lot of money. Personally, I would rather this money stayed in our Parents/Carers' pockets and contributed to the cost of several weekend breaks or a holiday in school holiday time.

Everyone has a clean slate from September; please, please do not book term-time holidays and then your children will benefit, either by not having gaps in their learning, or by not missing out on opportunities in school. As we know, the research is stark, that children who miss time from education are usually behind their peers. Our children have enough barriers to their learning from Covid; let's not give them another.

#### **Y6 Fleeces and polo shirts;**

If your child is leaving us at the end of Y6 this year and would like to donate back to school their fleeces and polo shirts, we would be really pleased to receive them so that we can support any upcoming Year 6 children who may need them. Many thanks.

I have been very proud of our children this week; we have seen some wonderful achievements in learning their phonics, times-tables and writing so far. Keep going children and well done!

Thank you to our Parents/Carers for your support with your children's homework - daily reading, Tackling Tables and Spelling Frame.

Best wishes,



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