



## The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Friday 30th September 2022

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Sporle Newsletter for week ending 30th September 2022

As the autumn days draw in, we've seen the weather getting colder and mistier in the mornings and we're starting to see the signs of the seasons changing. The children, as ever, have impressed us with their hard work this week and each day, they never fail to amaze us with their incredible learning.

Thank you to those who have come to celebrate the Harvest with us today at our worship at St Mary's Church and to join us for our Macmillan coffee afternoon afterwards. We are lucky to work with you, our families and carers, and are grateful for your ongoing support.

### Weather

As autumn settles in and we see the beginning of colder and more unpredictable weather, please make sure your child comes to school prepared with a coat or waterproof.

### FOSS

Our fabulous friends of Friends Of School organise events over the school year to help fundraise. The money raised goes towards supporting the cost of organising visitors and coaches for school events and trips.

Their next meeting is Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 at Sporle School. They are always looking for new members so please come along if you are interested in joining.

### PARENT CAFES

We are looking forward to hosting our Autumn Parent Cafes for our families. Each one will be based on one subject or theme and will have an activity for you to do with your child around this theme.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2pm – Kingfisher Parent Café (theme: Maths)

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2pm - Woodpecker Parent Café (theme: Maths and Egypt)

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2pm – Robin Parent Café (theme: Phonics)

### Attendance Rewards

Attendance rates for this week ending 30th September 2022 are as follows:

Robins: 97%

Woodpeckers: 95%

Kingfishers: 93%

Whole school: 93%

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.

Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust Registered Office: 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES  
Registered in England & Wales Company no: 8737435 Tel: 01603 880853 Web: [www.dneat.org](http://www.dneat.org)

Well done to **Robins** for achieving the highest attendance award. 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.

### **Kingfisher Europe Day**

On Friday October 21<sup>st</sup>, Kingfishers will be having a Europe day. On this day the children will be doing activities linked to our Geography topic on Europe. We would like to come in dressed as a European flag of their choice. This means that they could come in red, green and white clothes if they were going to be Italy or yellow and red if they were Spain. No football kits thank you.

### **Class Information**

#### **Robin class**

This week in Robins we have continued to practice our harvest festival song, we have enjoyed learning about numbers that are greater than, less than and equal to in maths and enjoyed making autumn wreaths and Gruffalo masks. Next week we will be continuing with our work on the Gruffalo and starting to think about writing our own poems.

Certificates:

Literacy - Piper for always positively contributing in literacy

Maths - Fearne for consistently working hard in maths

Shining light - Charlie for always being kind and helpful

#### **Woodpecker class**

This week in Woodpecker class we have been looking at starting our sentences in different ways and using sentence openers. In maths we have learnt a new method for adding two numbers together and we've enjoyed practising for our Harvest Festival.

Certificates:

Reader – Teddy for super phonics

Mathematician – Annie for fabulous maths work

Writer of the week – Sienna for impressing Mrs Cole

Shining Light – Ella Brooke for being courageous every day

#### **Kingfisher class**

This week in Kingfisher class we have been writing eyewitness accounts in English and we've been rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 in mathematics. In geography, the children have learnt about the climate zones of Europe and they have produced some lovely writing that shows off their new knowledge.

Certificates:

This week's Shining Light is Lacey for her fantastic attitude to learning.

Reader - Bailey

Writer - Maddie J

Mathematician – Alex

## **Prayer for the week**

From Bailey in Kingfishers

Dear God

Please support us in a time when costs of living are high.

Amen

## **Meet the SENDCo, Emma Spaul**

Come and join me for a chat on Friday 21st October from 9am-10am in the school hall if you have any questions or queries relating to your child and how they are getting on at school. You do not need to have an appointment, just drop in and I will have the kettle on and biscuits ready. Your child does not already need to be identified as having SEN to come along. I look forward to seeing you there.

Emma Spaul, Federation SENDCo. Please contact me at Castle Acre on 01760 755305 if you have any queries.

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

### **Parents/Carers' survey;**

Firstly, a huge thank you to those 35 people who have taken the time to fill in the survey, that's really helpful. It's also brilliant that most people are putting their names as then if there is feedback we need to know more about, we can seek your further input. The survey is very positive which is lovely. There are also some really constructive comments for us to consider, so thank you. The thing that quite a few of you have mentioned, across all three schools is the fact that we are now changing for PE again, and that you all preferred the change made during Covid to coming in and going home in PE kit. We did discuss this as staff teams quite carefully, as from a parent perspective we can totally see why this would be easier. However, we had observed that particularly younger children had lost the skill of independently dressing themselves, which is a requirement of their learning, and had also lost some of the balance and co-ordination required. Getting changed for PE in school is also a key element in terms of safeguarding children and so we felt it was right that it should go back to how it has always been. Once the survey has closed, we'll let you know what actions we've taken in terms of any other feedback given. Thanks again for all the lovely comments and support, and for the constructive feedback.

### **Ofsted report;**

I am delighted to be able to share with you our OFSTED report, which was published last Friday, and details that Sporle is rated as OFSTED 'Good'. The inspectors picked out that Sporle is a happy place of learning and were impressed by the children who consistently uphold the school's values of responsibility, kindness, courage, hope, respect and forgiveness. They were very clear that children achieve well across a range of subjects. They also recognised the good challenge and support offered by both our Governors and the Trust; I want to thank all those people for their support. Our Subject Leaders lead their subject across the Federation and may usually work at different schools, so it really is a testimony to their hard work that they are able to influence not just the learning of children in their own school but in all our schools. I'm very proud of our staff team and our great children and sincerely thank all our Parents/Carers at Sporle who work together in partnership with us.

## **School Development Plan from last year; our evaluation;**

**Each year, we set ourselves development tasks and then evaluate the success of these.**

**Last year our overarching priorities were as follows:**

*Ensure that organisational systems and processes are established following periods of instability eg Covid and changes of leadership so that staff are most effectively supported to ensure strong development and attainment, particularly that of children with SEND and Disadvantages*

*Continue to develop the curriculum, planning and delivery so that children are enabled to make strong progress and attainment rises in all classes, particularly that of those children with Disadvantages or SEND so that the majority of year groups meet or exceed the national measures.*

*Ensure that assessment, moderation, and interventions are effectively used so that children make rapid progress and attain in line with or above average and that the attainment of children rises, particularly those with Disadvantages or with SEND*

We were pleased with our progress last year, despite all the challenges of the two huge Covid outbreaks and vast amounts of staff and pupil absence across the year. It is also nice to have some validation on our work from OFSTED of course!

This year, we are focusing on embedding that work and improving even further, widening our focus to the children who are strongly able and ensuring that they have even more stretch and challenge.

There are also lots of other things that we want to do this year, such as providing more equipment, games and support at lunchtimes, working on our outdoor areas and our outdoor learning. We also want to embed our Pupil roles -

Academy Councillors, Eco Councillors, Team Captains, Head and Deputy Pupils, Values Ambassadors, Play Leaders, Y6/Reception Buddies and continuing with Children's worship leaders.

we want to continue to provide lots of different opportunities for children to visit places, learn from others, such as local farmers, and work with members of the community.

It's going to be a busy and exciting year!

#### **Pupil Voice;**

We are currently asking our children how they have settled back in to school and how their holidays were and whether there was anything that they particularly enjoyed or particularly bothered them.

One thing we have noticed is that many children referencing gaming as something that they enjoyed, but many are mentioning it as something that worried or upset them. Please remember that there are risks with online gaming and consider asking yourself the questions - do I know who my child is gaming with? Can I see who is online with them? Can I hear what is being said to them and what they are saying back? What is the age that my child has to be before playing this game?

There is so much research out there about the impact of these games on children's ability to concentrate, interact with others and understand social norms. Like any tool, gaming can be used well and for positive outcomes but can also lead to huge issues. For example, Fortnite (for which you should be 13 to play); you may find this article interesting: <https://childmind.org/article/parents-guide-dealing-fortnite/>



#### **[A Parent's Guide to Dealing With Fortnite - Child Mind Institute](https://childmind.org/article/parents-guide-dealing-fortnite/)**

When people are talking about Fortnite, they are most likely talking about Fortnite: Battle Royale, which is the version of the game where up to 100 players battle to the death, with the winner being the last player standing.

[childmind.org](https://childmind.org)

We're here to talk if you need anything.

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,



Head of School  
Sporle C of E Primary Academy



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