



Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary

Friday 7th October 2022

Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sporle Newsletter for week ending 7th October 2022

Another thank you to all those who joined us for the Harvest celebration last week. It was lovely to see so many of our families and carers. This year we really look forward to being able to host more family events and being able to spend more time as a community. There are several of these coming up this term so please see below for our upcoming parent cafés and 'Quiz and Chips' night. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

This week, the children have continued to impress us with their fantastic attitude towards learning and the courage and resilience they show every day. They really couldn't make us any prouder every day.

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 QUIZ AND CHIPS

Our fabulous friends of Friends Of School organise events over the school year to help fundraise.

Their first event of the year will be a 'Quiz and Chips' night on Thursday 24th of November, in the evening. They will be finalising details over the next few weeks so please keep the date free in the diary and join us if you can. Prices and details will be released over the next few weeks. The money raised goes towards supporting the cost of organising visitors and coaches for school events and trips.

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 13th October 2pm – Kingfisher Parent Café (theme: Maths)

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

Friday 21st October 2pm – Robin Parent Café (theme: Phonics)

Attendance Rewards

Attendance rates for this week ending 7th October 2022 are as follows:

Robins: 96%

Woodpeckers: 95%

Kingfishers: 93%

Whole school: 94%

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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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 21st, 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

Robins have enjoyed writing shape poems this week, making patterns, comparing numbers, acting, classifying animals and learning all about where we live. We are looking forward to reading Red Riding Hood next week, learning about the continents and painting some self-portraits.

Marvellous Mathematician - Freddie for persevering in Maths

Writer of the week - Luke for fabulous poetry writing

Reading Rockstar - Jacob for amazing improvements in reading and working hard.

Shining light - Jennifer for always being ready to learn, joining in and being kind and helpful

Woodpecker class

This week in Woodpecker class we have been writing our information texts on Egypt and I have to say they have done the most incredible job. They should be incredibly proud. In science we enjoyed carrying out our first investigation into light using torches.

Certificates:

Reading rockstar: Rimgaile for fantastic point evidence explain

Writer of the week: Harrison for incredible language

Marvellous mathematician: Adhanaa for confidence in addition

Shining Light - Skye for always working hard in every lesson and showing kindness and courage every day

Kingfisher class

This week in Kingfisher class we have set up a science experiment to see how different types of drink affect our teeth. In mathematics, we have been doing column addition and subtraction, and in English we have been writing suspense story openings using Disney Pixar's Monsters Inc as inspiration.

Reading rockstar: Bella for keeping up with her reads at home

Writer of the Week: Ella-Rose for her suspense story writing

Marvellous mathematician: Abbie for show great perseverance in maths this week

Shining Light – Ida for being hardworking and kind member of our class

Prayer for the week

From Elizabeth in Kingfishers

Dear God

Thank you for the food we have and the learning that we do in school.

Amen

Message from the Executive Headteacher:

Parents/Carers' survey;

This has now closed; we had over 57 responses, a 33% response rate (above average); it is great to get plenty of views. Overall analysis shows that 93% are happy and this being evenly spread across the three schools. We do analyse these as individual schools and below are the main areas to consider; we will be feeding back the actions taken as a result as they happen. Thank you to everyone who put their name, which means we can follow up if we need to better understand or discuss feedback. Clearly if someone has put that communication needs improving, but not put how or which aspect or their name then we're really sorry but it is unlikely we are going to be able to follow up. We worked hard on communication over the course of last year and the good news is that 77% of respondents feel that communication is good.

A few of our new Reception families felt that communication with you for your transition into school was not as good as it could have been and we wanted to say that we agree and we apologise that it wasn't our usual standard. They were quite difficult circumstances for us surrounding Miss Whitehead's appointment and her not being able to get to us from her old school as planned, however, we acknowledge that we weren't as effective in working round that as we could have been and some of our usual ways for you to feel really confident and supported didn't happen. We have Parents/Carers' consultation evenings coming up after half-term, but in the meantime, in order to ensure that you've had a good chance to chat about how your child has settled in, we would like to remind you that you are welcome to book an appointment with Miss Whitehead at any time; please do get in touch.

4% felt that communication is improving, 16% felt there was still room for improvement and 3% said it was not good. We want everyone to feel communicated with and want to thank those who gave an example of where it had fallen short; this is really helpful. If someone just puts 'no' and particularly if they don't put their name, then we are unable to follow up and improve things for them. However, hopefully by acting on the examples given we can ensure that all families feel that there is good communication.

Many of you had helpful and constructive individual comments rather than areas that a group of people raised; we'll follow up with people or by actioning them and feeding back in the newsletter as appropriate.

Thank you for the feedback about the timing of letting you know that we were going to return to getting changed for PE in school; we appreciate this could have been sooner and apologise for any inconvenience around buying uniform.

You said, We're doing!;

A number of you suggested that we could improve the activities available at lunchtimes in order to ensure children better enjoy lunchtimes. We absolutely agree, and indeed we had a good discussion with OFSTED about our feeling that we want to support our lunchtime more to be able to ensure that all children are at their best at lunchtimes too, particularly our older children who sometimes need different activities.

So we want to launch a competition for our children! What would you like to be available to you at lunchtimes? Please draw or write your ideas on a template that we will send home over half-term, with a closing date of Tuesday 1st November. The entries will be reviewed by our Head and Deputy Head Pupils and some ideas implemented. Exciting stuff!

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