



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 20th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sporle Newsletter for week ending 20th January

The cold weather seems to have returned unabated this week but it hasn't managed to dampen our spirits here at Sporle! As ever, the children have impressed us with their ability to recall their learning and vocabulary.

Just this morning, we had a visitor from our Trust come to look around the school and the children should be very proud of how beautifully they demonstrated our school values and learning. It was also fantastic to see fantastic Read Write Inc programme in action and our young learners showing their phonics knowledge.

After-school Pick-up

In order to ensure the safety of all our children, please could you ensure your child does not use the trim trail or play area at the end of the day after pick-up time. This is to ensure everyone's safety after the end of the school day and whilst there is no supervision of these areas.

Reading At Home

Please remind your child to read at home to a sibling or adult and to bring their reading book and reading record into school each day. As you'll all be aware, reading is one of the fundamental foundations of a child's learning and is one of the biggest indicators of future success. This could be a small ten minute chunk or before bedtime or breakfast. Every little counts. They can then earn their exciting, shiny reading badges. These are awarded for the milestones of 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 200 and 300 reads.

A huge well done to all of our children who are already speeding their way through the badges. We even saw 100 badges awarded in the Woodpecker and Kingfisher class this week; fantastic!

Woodpecker trip

Our Woodpecker class will be visiting Hunstanton on the 6th of February to visit the Sealife Centre and the Lifeboat Station. Please see the separate letter if you have not already signed up for this.

Our Robins and Kingfisher classes will also be going on trips this Spring. Letters for these trips will be going out as soon as details are finalised.

We are very aware of trying to keep costs as low as possible and want to thank our lovely Friends of Sporle School for subsidising the cost of the transport.

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

Parking

We would like to remind our parents and carers that the car park is to be used by staff and school contractors only, with the exception of those who have a meeting at the school arranged. We do have a limited number of spaces reserved for blue badge holders and if you would like to use these, please visit the school office to show your blue badge.

Whilst the lane outside is not on school grounds, our children will use this lane regularly to access the school and it is very busy with young children in the mornings and afternoons. In order to ensure our pupils' safety, we kindly ask you to refrain from using the lane, where possible, during school times. It has been brought to our attention that we have had a number of incidents where children have been very close to moving cars and we want to avoid any tragic accidents.

Attendance Rewards

Attendance rates for this week ending 20th January 2023 are as follows:

Robins: 93.91%

Woodpeckers: 96.11%

Kingfishers: 84.33%

Whole school: 90.42%

Well done to Woodpecker class for achieving the highest attendance award. Keep up the good work!

Hopefully all classes can achieve the nationally expected each week this year. Information regarding attendance and the Norfolk County Council expectations will be shared over the coming weeks.

Class Information

Robin class

This week the Robin class have been working hard in their phonics lessons and it's been lovely to see a few more reading badges being awarded this week. Well done everyone! The children have also been impressing the adults in their class with their incredible writing stamina this week.

Certificates this week have been awarded to:

Reading Rockstar: Adaline for trying really hard in phonics and reading at home.

Marvellous Mathematician: Freddie for fabulous number formation.

Writer of the Week: Piper for beautiful handwriting and presentation in literacy.

Shining Light: Harry for always being kind to his friends.

Woodpecker class

This week in Woodpecker class, the children have been developing their knowledge of using paint to practise making tone and shade using watercolour paint. They are working towards creating a piece of art based on Hokusai's 'The Great Wave'. In English, we've begun preparing our news story by researching Henry Blogg and the RNLI.

Certificates this week have been awarded to:

Reading Rockstar: Lucy for making inferences using tricky texts

Marvellous Mathematician: Riley for confidence in his division

Writer of the Week: Sienna for beautiful presentation

Shining Light: Ida-Mae for showing courage and kindness every day

Kingfisher class

This week in Kingfisher class the children have been working on equivalent fractions in maths and instructional writing in English. In geography we have been learning about how fold mountains are formed and in PSHE the

children have discussed what to do when our hopes and dreams are broken. Another great week of learning in Kingfisher class.

Certificates this week have been awarded to:

Reading Rockstar: Shaun for greater accuracy when answering comprehension questions

Marvellous Mathematician: Abi for independent work in maths

Writer of the Week: Ava for imaginative ideas and for working independently on her writing

Shining Light: Ralph for his brilliant presentation when working independently on geography tasks

Prayer for the week

Dear God

We pray that you look after people who save lives and rescue us every day like the RNLI at sea.

Look after our seas.

Amen

Harrison and Woodpecker class

Message from the Executive Headteacher:

Safeguarding children;

Since the pandemic, there has been a significant increase in the number of people ringing the NSPCC helpline about a child they are worried about. From April 2021 to March 2022 the NSPCC Helpline spoke 8,347 times with adults, compared to 7,338 in the same period for the previous year. (Source, Andrew Hall Safeguarding briefing). The NSPCC have launched a 'Listen up, Speak up' campaign to help all of us feel more confident about how to feel more confident about what to watch out for.

The below link is to a very short and accessible online training session about how to help protect children. It is very quick and easy to do and doesn't commit you to anything. If you'd like to, please have a look; it might just help protect a child. Many thanks.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2023/listen-up-speak-up-campaign-provides-training-to-spot-and-report-abuse/>

Teacher Strikes;

As you may have heard or seen in the news, one of the teacher unions has voted to strike, and the days that teachers in that union can choose to strike on are 1st February, 1st March and the 15th and 16th of March. The reasons for this strike are well-documented and this is not the appropriate arena to discuss these; what I can say is that any decision to strike or not to strike will have caused a great deal of anguish and careful thought as all our staff that we have care deeply about our children and their ongoing education.

Striking teachers have a legal right to do so and do not have to inform school leaders whether they are going to do so or not, and also can change their mind. Striking staff can choose to do so on one, two, three or all four of the days. Our teachers are very professional and understanding of the need to plan as much as possible. As a Trust, the position is to keep our schools and classes open where it is safe to do so.

At this point, I can only say that many of our staff are Parents/Carers too and may be affected also by these strikes and are fully aware of your desire to know in advance what is happening for your children and that we will share as much information as we have in as timely a manner as we have it. We will update you as soon as there is any more information.

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Brown'.

Head of School
Sporle C of E Primary Academy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Veary'.

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