



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 27th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sporle Newsletter for week ending 27th January

The end of January has come and hopefully so too has the spate of icy weather we've just seen. Whilst the cold temperatures do continue, it would be great if the children would keep bringing in warm layers and coats. As ever the children have impressed everyone here with their fabulous learning and achievements.

This week saw the first of the 'Infant Sport' competitions. A huge well done to those children in Robins and Woodpeckers class who represented the school beautifully: Honey, Alfie, Luke, Jacob, Piper, Nicholas, Adhanaa, Teddy, Lennie, Lorenzo and Sienna. Four of our older Kingfisher children also made Sporle Primary proud at a football competition: Louie, Layla, Alex and Billy.

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.

Parents' Consultations

The dates for our Parent Consultation Evenings are Tuesday 21st February (4:30 - 7:00pm) and Wednesday 22nd February (3.30 – 5:30pm). The timesheets will be out nearer to half term for you to choose a slot. Please can we remind you that these slots are 10 minutes long and are to chat about your child's learning. If there is anything else you wish to discuss then you will need to make another appointment.

If you have a child with additional needs then we will offer you either a longer time slot on one of our allocated dates or a time in the week before half term. This is to ensure that you have enough time to discuss how they are getting on with their learning and also the provision that is in place for them.

Where you have more than one child in school, we do work really hard to ensure that the appointments are as close together as possible but there is a possibility that there may be a little gap between them.

We look forward to being able to share your child's successes and next steps with you.

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.

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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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.

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 27th January 2023 are as follows:

Robins: 93.04%

Woodpeckers: 96.11%

Kingfishers: 92%

Whole school: 93.38%

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 Robins have enjoyed writing the ends to their very own fairytales. In geography we are learning about farms. In Art we enjoyed making colour wheels and learning all about primary and secondary colours. We can't wait to use what we have learnt when we create work inspired by Henri Matisse.

Marvellous Mathematician - Nicholas has been showing a great attitude to learning in maths this week. He has been using the different methods he has learnt to help him solve problems.

Reading Rockstar - Jennifer for working hard to read new words and sounds in phonics as well as at home.

Writer of the Week - Harry for amazing writing in his independent learning as well as in literacy.

Shining Light - Layla for showing courage and perseverance when something makes her feel nervous.

Woodpecker class

This week in Woodpecker class we've enjoyed learning a little more about the RNLI and the Cromer rescue by Henry Blogg in 1917. The children have enjoyed using their understanding the events to begin to create their own newspaper. In art, we used our inspiration from Hokusai to create our own sea themed piece of watercolour artwork.

Marvellous Mathematician - Tommy for independently doing his mini challenge

Reading Rockstar - Tanya for using her phonics skills in her reading

Writer of the Week - Harrison for a fantastic news report

Shining Light - Henry for always trying his hardest in his learning

Kingfisher class

This week in Kingfisher class the children have been learning about different types of volcano in geography. In science, the children used force meters to measure the weight and mass of different classroom objects and in maths they have continued to learn about fractions. The children are also nearing the end of their instruction writing and some spectacular pieces of work have been produced.

Certificates this week are going to:

Reading Rockstar - Libby for her effort in our Y6 reading session this week

Writer of the Week - Khloe for the range of sentence structures and punctuation in her writing

Shining Light - Chloe for being amazing in every lesson every day! Well done.

Prayer for the week

Dear God

We pray that you look after people who are struggling to keep warm in colder temperatures.

Amen

The Woodpecker Class

Message from the Executive Headteacher:

Strikes update;

I would like to give you all a picture of how things are looking currently so that you can plan for the strike day on Wednesday 1st Feb. Firstly, it is important to understand that due to the rights employees have around striking, the picture may change, so I cannot say with complete certainty, but can only go on what I know currently.

Teachers are under no obligation to let their employers know of their intentions regarding striking, and so I am deeply grateful to our excellent staff team at Nar Valley for their understanding of the difficulties this could cause, and for their regard to all our Parents/Carers and children, in that they have all communicated to me their intentions at this time.

One other key factor is that staff who are not planning to strike may be affected by their children's school striking and that we may not yet know this picture. This could be support staff on who I am relying to cover classes where teachers are intending to strike.

It is not my place or the right arena to discuss the merits of striking or not, but I do want to reiterate that all our staff have thought about this issue deeply and are doing what they believe to be right and I absolutely support them in that. The funding of education and the recruitment and retention of high-quality staff through appropriate salaries is important to us all. Disruption caused by a strike is far, far less than the negative impact on children caused by not being able to recruit to vacant positions for example, or by losing teachers and other staff to poor work/life balance.

At this time, there are a number of teachers who have indicated their desire to strike. As you can imagine, supply teachers are in high demand currently and we also have a number of staff who are currently ill. It is therefore very likely that there will be disruption to some if not all classes. If I have sufficient staff to safely do so, we will open the classes that we can. Remote learning will be available to any classes that are closed as follows:

Spelling Frame

Tackling Tables

and you can access the Oak National Academy, which has lesson plans for all year groups here:

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

As these are the expectation for Homework, you have already got log in details for these platforms, but if you are not sure, please check with your child's class staff on Monday or Tuesday.

I will write to you again on Tuesday confirming the final picture, but I wanted to give you as much notice as possible as to how things are looking.

Should you have any queries please contact myself, Mrs Anne Neary, ; I will be at school on Monday morning to talk to.

Online Safety;

7th February is National Safer Internet day, and we've got lots of work coming up with the children about this. If you wanted to support this at home, the following link takes you to some good resources from Childline about this really important issue:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

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