



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 24th February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Sporle Newsletter for week ending 24th February**

Spring seems to be flying past already. As ever, the children have continued to make us proud with how much they achieve and learn every day. We've seen some fantastic art created by our Kingfisher children and Woodpeckers and Robins created some beautiful writing. This week, they also have enjoyed entertaining us by telling us all about the pancakes they enjoyed for Shrove Tuesday. We had lots of excited children.

### **World Book Day**

On Thursday 2nd March, we have World Book Day. We'd like to invite the children to come dressed as their favourite book character if they would like to. Alternatively, they could bring in a poster based around their favourite book/ encouraging reading and we'll have a prize for the winning entry. In school, we'll be doing a 'DEAR' day which means 'drop everything and read'. This will take place at surprise times whenever the children hear the reading alarm ring. They will also be re-creating their favourite book character on a potato.

### **Staff update**

We wanted to let the parents know that sadly Mrs Cole is at home currently recovering from an operation so has not been in school the last fortnight. I know you'll join us in wishing Mrs Cole a speedy recovery and we're looking forward to seeing Mrs Cole back with us very shortly, as soon as she is fully recovered.

A welcome back too to the lovely Mrs Nevill who will be joining us for a few days a week over the next few months in Kingfisher class, working alongside the existing team.

### **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.

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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### **Attendance Rewards**

Attendance rates for this week ending 24th February 2023 are as follows:

Robins: 99.13%

Woodpeckers: 96.67%

Kingfishers: 90.33%

Whole school: 94.79%

Well done to Robin 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**

Robins have done a fantastic job settling back into routine this week after the half term. They were extremely excited when we came back and saw how much our class garden had grown and they have been busy drawing and writing observations in their choosing time. On Tuesday we enjoyed making and eating pancakes whilst we practised our mathematical language and our measuring skills. We have just started learning about the history of farming and comparing it today and the children were so excited by what they had learnt that in their free time they decided to build old fashioned farms. Well done Robins!

Reading Rockstar- Luke for reading beautifully and confidently to the class and showing a love of reading.

Writer of the Week- Adaline for working hard in phonics to write her sounds and spell new words.

Marvellous Mathematician - Alfie for working hard in maths and asking questions to further his learning.

Shining Light- Jonah for trying his very best all week in everything he does and showing kindness to new friends.

#### **Woodpecker class**

This week the Woodpecker class have enjoyed watching the Literacy Shed video 'The Lighthouse' and using it to inspire our own wonderful storytelling and writing. In Geography, the children enjoyed learning all about the oceans and seas and where they are located. In maths, we've loved solving problems using money.

Certificates this week:

Reading Rockstar - Emilia for brilliant home reading and achieving 164 reads.

Writer of the Week - Riley for fantastic Lighthouse Keeper sentences.

Marvellous Mathematician Annie for fantastic money solving problems.

Shining Light Sienna for always being kind to others.

#### **Kingfisher class**

This week in Kingfisher class the children have started their new history topic about the achievements of the Ancient Greeks; one of which being architecture. The children have learnt about the different types of columns used by the Ancient Greeks (Doric, Ionic and Corinthian) and have constructed some replica Greek temples using paper. In other learning this week the Y6 children have started an algebra unit in mathematics while the Y45 children have been learning about length and perimeter.

Certificates this week:

Reading Rockstar: Annabelle for fabulous reading in front of the whole class

Marvellous Mathematician: Declan for his hard work in maths this week

Shining Light: Ida for always being kind, helpful and hardworking

#### **Prayer for the week**

Dear Lord, We ask you for your support as we work hard to live our values.

Amen.

**Meet the SENDCo**

I will be putting in some dates shortly for a 'come and chat with the SENDCo' so watch this space. You will not need to have an appointment, just drop in and I will have the kettle on and biscuits ready to discuss any questions or queries relating to your child and how they are getting on at school. 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' Forums;**

These are coming up for each Academy; please do book on, it is always good to sit down with our families and chat, and your views matter. We look forward to seeing you.

**Strikes;**

As you may be aware March 1<sup>st</sup> is a strike day for our region unless these are called off by the union after Government engagement in talks over the weekend. As before, I do not necessarily know until sometimes the morning of the strikes who is striking or not. As before however, I do have an excellent team who communicate well. We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible if there is to be any change to the normal school day for your child.

It is likely that there will be disruption across the school. Please have a plan for childcare for this day.

**Recent behaviours;**

Usually the behaviour at Sporle is very good throughout school, and our oldest children do a good job of demonstrating our school values. However, recently, for a number of reasons, such as key staff members being off for unexpected operations or key staff members having to be on professional courses, there have been an unusual number of unacceptable incidents, and we know that this is causing some concern for some of you, so we thought it helpful to outline what we are doing to ensure that we return to the excellent behaviour at Sporle that we usually have.

We have today spoken to our oldest children, most of whom are making excellent Choices for Learning, to remind them all that we treat each other with respect, we behave in the same way for all adults in school and that we live our school values of kindness, respect, responsibility, hopefulness, forgiveness and courage. We have made it clear that any child not behaving in the right way will not be allowed outside to play until such time as they return to consistently making good choices. We have reinforced our policy, which is that there are consequences to making the wrong choice, and that making poor choices to hurt are unacceptable, not tolerated and will result in firstly something such as missing a break or lunchtime and a conversation with the child's family, then missing time out of class doing their learning by themselves - an internal exclusion - if they are not at this time making the right choices or in the case of extremely severe behaviours being taken out of school for the day or a number of days - a suspension. Families will always be involved at this point if not before. We may also choose, if it is deemed appropriate, to write a Behaviour support plan, which again, families will be involved in. Please could you discuss this with your child if you are aware they have not been making good choices recently. Thank you for your support.

We have also brought in an additional lunchtime member of staff to organise games with structure and we are currently organising an extension of this so that we can offer indoor and outdoor games which enables us to be able to separate children who may not be reacting well to one another for a time to allow patterns of good values and behaviours to be re-established.

We are also extending our capacity to teach Y6 separately to Y4 and Y5, and may choose to include some additional children in the Y6 group to aid a little bit of space and allow children to settle.

Could we also ask for your support in not allowing there to be unhelpful gossip about individual children; this may or may not be accurate and can fuel ill-feeling among the children and cause further issues. If you do have anything you want to discuss, please do come and talk to us. I will be at Sporle on a Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon and Friday.

Thank you very much for your support.

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