



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 24th March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sporle Newsletter for week ending 24th March 2023

It has been an incredibly sad week here at Sporle but the children have shown resilience, kindness and empathy in the way they dealt with the situation and in the respectful way they have acted around others who are grieving. We are proud of the maturity they have shown.

Easter Service

We'd like to welcome our families and community to our Easter service at St Mary's Church on Thursday 30th March at 1:30. We look forward to seeing you all there. After the service, we'd like to invite you back to school for an Easter Egg hunt organised by our FOSS. It is £1 per child to take part, payable on the day.

Easter Egg Hunt

After our Easter service at St Mary's Church on the 30th March, we'd like to invite you back to an Easter egg hunt at school organised by our Friends of Sporle School (FOSS). It will cost £1 per child to take part on the day.

Bingo

Doors open 7 eyes down 7.30

Bring your own refreshments

Raffle

£5 for a book of 6 plus £1 for flyer

Robin Parents/Carers Cafe

On Friday 31st March, we would like to invite the families of our Robins class to a 'Parents and Carers cafe' at 2:00pm until 3:10pm. Mrs Joplin will kindly be providing refreshments. The focus will be on Read Write Inc, with a little more information for our families on what this looks like at school, and how you can support your child at home.

Start of the day

We would just like to remind our families that the school day begins at 8:40 and the children can come straight to the classroom as they arrive where they have a morning task in class to complete which focuses on key skills like spelling and times tables. Adults are timetabled to support children from 8:40 - please ensure a member of staff has seen them through before leaving them. From Monday, the outside playground will not be opened until 8:30 so please do not arrive at school before this time.

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 24th March 2023 are as follows:

Robins: 96.09%

Woodpeckers: 96.67%

Kingfishers: 93%

Whole school: 94.93%

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

Marvellous Mathematician - Adaline for fantastic number bonds to 10 knowledge.

Writer of the Week - Olivia for amazing poetry writing and applying her new phonics learning independently!

Reading Rockstar - Vinnie for great segmenting and blending of new phonic sounds.

Shining Light - Gracie-Mae for always having the biggest smile on her face and being so kind to everyone in Robin class.

This week in Robin class in our learning we have all written a poem about vegetables! The Year 1s have written their poem about vegetable soup and the receptions have written an acrostic poem. They are amazing and we're so proud of them. We are going to display these in the corridor so you can see all their wonderful work when you visit on Friday for the parent cafe. We are looking forward to our trip on Wednesday to Melsop Farm! The children have created a special dedication to the lovely and truly missed Mrs Smith. Mrs Smith loved birds, so the children created some colourful birds that have been hung on our memory tree in the corridor. Some children wrote a very special message and memory on the back which was so beautiful.

Woodpecker class

Marvellous Mathematician - Teddy for his work on a fraction question.

Writer of the Week - Rimgaile for an incredible persuasive text.

Reading Rockstar - Lennie for an amazing reading test

Shining Light - Lucy for always being kind, working hard and setting an example for others.

This week in Woodpecker class, they have shown courage and bravery in the face of adversity when things have been tough this week after the loss of Mrs Smith. In geography, they learnt about the features of the different oceans.

Kingfisher class

Marvellous Mathematician - Chloe for tackling decimals and fractions.

Writer of the Week - Ronnie for writing a lovely recount of a story.

Reading Rockstar - Khloe-May for getting expected standard in her reading test.
Shining Light - Ralph for being himself and supporting all the staff this week.

This week the Kingfisher class have consolidated their understanding of decimals and adding and subtracting. In science they have begun to look at plants. In history, they started to look at the different Greek gods and what they were known for.

Prayer for the week

Dear Lord,

We pray for Mrs Smith, that she may rest in the perpetual light of God's love and that God may hold her family in the palm of his hand.

Amen

Meet the SENDCo - Mrs Spaul has just returned to school so the below has been delayed but will happen.

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:

Mrs Paula Smith

Many of you will have heard that our lovely Mrs Smith, one of our Teaching Assistants at Sporle died incredibly suddenly on Tuesday of this week of an unknown brain bleed. This has been a huge shock for everyone, leaving a gaping hole in our Sporle and wider Federation family, but we have all felt supported by the messages of support, the cards and the floral tributes laid for Mrs Smith under the tree at school. Our children and staff have done so well this week despite this massive loss. Mrs Smith had worked at school for over 13 years, starting as a lunchtime member of staff before finding the role she embodied so well as such a compassionate, kind, thoughtful and helpful member of our pastoral Teaching Assistant team. Very few children in school have not been helped by her at some point, with her kind words, unflappably calm manner and incredibly thoughtful actions. Mrs Smith was the definition of our school values; she was always unfailingly kind to everyone, used her pastoral and therapeutic training to support children who needed her help and no matter what was going on for her in her life, thought of others always. There is much more that could be said and will be when the time is right to honour her memory.

For now, I want to pay tribute to our brave staff team at Sporle, and more widely across the Federation, who despite having to cope with the shock and pain of losing a colleague this week so cruelly quickly, have worked so hard to meet the children's needs and continue to teach, support and share happy memories and moments so that our children begin to understand that we all leave our mark on the people we interact with and someone is never truly gone when those who knew and loved them remember them.

Psalm 48:14

For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.

Talking to children about someone dying is emotionally hard and we can all worry we're not doing it correctly. Attached is some information that may support you if you'd like.

Y4/5/6 Trip to Castle Museum;

A huge well done to all our Y4/5/6 children across the Federation, Otters, Kingfishers and Oak classes, who represented our school extremely well on the trip, which took place on two days. The knowledge that our children demonstrated was commented on by the museum staff as being very good, the questions that I heard them asking were excellent and they all enjoyed the practical activities, which ranged from building a

democratic settlement, grinding wheat for bread (a chore each day that we learned gave rise to the term 'the daily grind') to philosophical thought experiments and writing in ancient languages. This was an absolutely wonderful trip and we again thank our Parent/Teacher/Friends groups for subsidising the cost of the travel to make the trip happen. Many schools are having to severely restrict or stop such trips, and so we are incredibly grateful to our lovely people across the Federation who give their energy to fundraising so our children can benefit from such curriculum enrichment.

Friends of Sporle School Bingo;

After discussions, FOSS and our staff team believe that Paula would want this to carry on, and so we would like to warmly invite you to the Easter Bingo next week at Sporle; entrance from 7pm and eyes down at 7.30pm.

As it is the last week of term next week, there won't be a newsletter, but please look out for the end of term letter.

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