



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 6th December 2024

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary
Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

We're now truly in the festive swing in the run up to the beautiful Christian festival of Christmas. You can find resources to mark advent here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/advent-and-christmas/advent-calendar>

A huge congratulations to our Friends who organised such a lovely Christmas fayre last weekend which raised the magnificent total of £802.20. A big thank you to everyone who came along and supported it, it was great to see families from the other schools and also people from the community as well as Castle Acre children and families. We are now looking forward to our Rudolph Run on Tuesday 10th to raise money for Tapping House Hospice, so please could you all help your children get sponsorship so everyone can do their bit. Our younger children are also practising diligently for their Nativity, performances of which are on Monday afternoon and Tuesday evening.

Just to let you know that Mrs Spaul is necessarily away from school currently due to personal circumstances. She will be back with us as soon as she is able to, but in the meantime please contact myself (Mrs Neary) should you need anything.

Upcoming Events for w/c 9/12/24

See Diary Dates for details.....

Mon 9th - 2pm Rowan & Whitebeam Class Nativity Performance at School, limited seating available, please contact the school office.

Tues 10th - Rudolph Run in support of Tapping House.

5.30pm Rowan & Whitebeam Class pupils return to school for their Nativity Performance at 6pm, all seats are now booked.

Wed 11th - 2pm Whitebeam Class Parents/Carers Cafe (Grammar & Spelling)

Thurs 12th - 2pm Rowan Class Parents/Carers Cafe (Phonics)

Fri 13th - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day (pupils invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school)

2.30pm Singing round the Tree (please join us to sing Christmas Carols around the tree at the front of school)

Reminders and Information.....

Now that the field is truly boggy, we are going to stop playing football from next week as the children are getting a little too soggy and muddy to stay comfortable for the afternoon. They are still allowed on the field but **ONLY** if they have their wellies in school, so please do bring these in. Please don't use other kinds of footwear as they tend to get wet feet and we don't want any cases of trenchfoot... Thank you for your help.

Parent/Carers' Forum - 5.30 to 6pm on Tuesday 10th December (in person at school). This will enable Rec - Y3 parents/carers bringing their children to school to get ready for the Nativity to join the forum if they wish, as well as any others who would like to come along.

Parent/Carers' Cafes coming up - Rowan Class on 12/12/24 and Whitebeam Class on 11/12/24. Please see Diary Dates for full details.

Rowan and Whitebeam Class Nativity Performances on 9/12/24 (2pm) and 10/12/24 (6pm performance, children return at 5.30pm to get ready please) at school. Please see Diary Dates for full details.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day on 13/12/24

Clothing/Kit for School

It is really important that at this time of year, your child comes to school with the right clothing for the weather. They should have in their bags everyday, a jacket or coat and any other appropriate items of clothing for the time of year eg sun hat/ woolly hat. Also, they need a pair of wellies to leave in school to be able to go on the field at this time of year.

Before School Care is available Mon - Fri from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session. **After School Care** is available Mon - Fri 3.10pm to 4.30pm at £6 per session.

Tuck Shop - Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p per day

Attendance Awards w/e 6/12/2024

Class	%
Rowan	93.27
Whitebeam	98.70
Oak	96.55

The winner of the Attendance Award this week is Whitebeam Class, well done! oh dear Rowan - time to improve





AWARDS







The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week 	Ava	learning all her set 2 sounds
Writer of the week	Mila	remembering all her tricky sounds
Mathematician of the week	Inika	learning her number bonds to 10 
Shining Light	Nathan Harry	saying his lines clearly during Nativity rehearsals being more vocal in the classroom and joining in discussions
Reads at home		

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Isla P	for great work on her phonics
Writer of the week 	Gracie-Mae	for independently taking notes when learning about the Amazon rainforest
Mathematician of the week 	Skyla	for super maths work on addition and subtraction
Shining Light	Oscar Gracie-Mae	for showing responsibility in his learning by challenging himself for demonstrating our values during our Christmas performance rehearsals
Tackling Tables 	Oscar Tia Oliver P	Blue - missing numbers mini test Blue - division mini test Blue - multiplication mini test
Reads at home	Ivy Brianna	25 reads 25 reads 



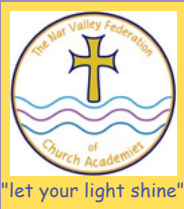
AWARDS



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Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Steele	immersing himself in a book at every opportunity.
Writer of the week 	Marley	working hard on his presentation.
Mathematician of the week	Lazenby	clear understanding of the use of operation to calculate answers.
Shining Light	Harry Charlie Lola G	showing courage by persevering with tackling tables to get his certificate. showing all values and good sportsmanship at athletics. showing team spirit and great organisation skills during our athletics trip.
Tackling Tables 	Harry Lola G Isla Pearl	Purple - addition Red - missing numbers Green - missing numbers Green - mixed and Red - mixed 
Reads at home	Harry Holly	Red - 25 reads Silver - 75 reads
Pen Licence		



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Help with online safety::



The CEOP website, run by the National Crime Prevention agency, gives helpful advice about when and how to report your concern.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/>



See these links for further information, games and tips:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



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Safeguarding.....

There is growing evidence that children do not benefit from owning their own smartphone meaning that they spend extensive amounts of time on screen and exposure to harmful content on various social media apps. There are many positive uses of technology, such as communication, educational games, researching information etc.

Opticians recommend no more than 20 minutes at a time on a screen such as a tablet or phone, and more than 30cm away from their eyes.

EE on their website have a section on how to set up their use safely, as do O2 and many other companies, so do have a look and check that your phones and tablets are set up safely so that the children are not exposed to online pornography, illegal content from extremist groups or terrifyingly, such content as deaths, all of which can be easily and accidentally found online without security measures in places.

Message from the Executive Headteacher....



I am delighted to be able to share with you our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) report for Castle Acre. Whilst the inspection is obviously focused on Castle Acre, there are many elements that are consistent across our Federation and all our leaders contribute to each inspection success. We look forward to being able to share our Ofsted report for Narborough with you, but that won't be for quite a while as the quality assurance process takes quite a long time and they are not allowed to send it to us during the holidays.

What we can share is that at both schools our children were absolutely fantastic, showing their excellent behaviour, care for one another and their fabulous ability to talk about and recall their learning. We were very proud of our Sporle school choir who represented us so well - admirably trained by Mrs Henderson - last weekend at the Sporle 'Sing for Stroke' event and who helped to raise £175 for the Stroke charity. Well done children we are so proud of you!

Friends of Castle Acre School (FOCAS).....

A huge THANK YOU to everyone that contributed to the Christmas Fayre on Sunday whether you donated a prize, baked some goodies or came on the day. You all helped to raise a massive £802.20 for the children. We are so proud of our school's families, friends and the supporting community! P.S Have you got your tea towel yet??

Your online shopping can raise free donations for Friends Of Castle Acre School, Kings Lynn! Whether you're buying Black Friday deals, Christmas presents or your weekly food shop, your shopping at over 8,000 retailers can support us. Sign up to #easyfundraising via the link for free, and we'll get a £5 bonus when you raise your first £5. Sign up now: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/friends-of-castle-acre-school-librarybusproject/sjvzqs/c2s/N5Znntup/Q3248/facebook/>

Prayer for the Week....

Dear God,

Thank you for the life we get to live and the delicious food you provided us with, and our friends and families.

Amen



Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School
Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

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