

# Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 13th February 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have made it to half way through the year!! All of a sudden the children seem much more grown up with our eldest being well on their way for being ready for High School and our youngest are well and truly settled in. The children have had a lovely week and currently, I have a group of Year 3s sitting outside my office counting tokens enjoying themselves completely and feeling very grown up, I really enjoy the camaraderie that exists between our children and how they work so well together. Oak Class have had a wonderful time on their school trip and they represented our school amazingly well. I am yet to hear all the stories.

After many conversations I have had with children this week, I am reminded by how unique every child is here and that is what I love. We all have something different to bring but what connects us together is Castle Acre Academy and in the words of Paddington Bear that means "anyone can fit in."

Thank you for all of your support. Have a lovely half term and we will see you in a week!  
Emma Spaul

## Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....



**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February** - School Closed for Half Term

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February** - Chinese New Year Special Lunch

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** - Parents/Carers' Consultation Evening (1) 3.30pm - 7pm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March** - World Book Day, dress as favourite book character. Plus Special World Book Day Lunch.

Parents/Carers' Consultation Evening (2) 3.30pm - 5.30pm

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March** - Crucial Crew Trip for Year 6 pupils

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** - Circus Day, dress in circus costume

## Reminders and Information.....



**Special Lunch - 26th February Chinese New Year**  
See menu for details. Please order as normal on the day



### Polite payment reminder

We appreciate it that things are easily overlooked, but please ensure payments are made in time for trips, events and clubs. Failure to do so may prevent further events in school.

### Yr6 Horstead Residential 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> July

Please complete permission for your child to attend via the link and pay deposit of £30 by 3/4/2026



**After School Clubs**  
**Spring 2 Half term (5 weeks)**  
Football Club - Tuesdays  
Multi-Sports Club - Wednesdays  
Outdoors Club - Thursdays

Please book places direct with ICS using this link:  
<https://icscoaching.pembee.app/>

### PE DAYS

On your child's PE day, please send them to school WEARING their FULL PE kit), including trainers. Please send their school shoes and jumper/cardigan in a separate bag to change into afterwards.

**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** is available Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p per day.

### Military Families.....

Military Club with Mrs Jary is every Thursday lunchtime at Narborough. Eat your lunch, bring a friend and chat! Each week we meet online with our other service children at Castle Acre and Sporre.

We're proud of our Service personnel and proud to support our service families. We have strong links with the RAF base and look forward to our involvement in events.

## Attendance Awards w/e 13/2/2026

Class	%
Rowan	88.39
Whitebeam	92.86
Oak	90.91

Very disappointing attendance for all classes this week, so sadly there is no Attendance Award winner. We hope attendance will be much improved next half term!



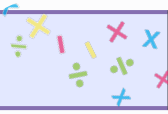




# AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week 		Rowan class awards will be awarded after half term due to Oak Class being out on a trip today.
Writer of the week		
Mathematician of the week		
Shining Light		
Reads at Home		



## Our week in Class

What a wonderful week in Rowan Class!

In history, the children worked together to build Pudding Lane and the Great Fire of London. We have put them on display in the corridor.

Today, Year 1 children completed their independent write. The letters the children produced were fantastic!

Reception children have been continuing with drawing club, they are all using orange pen/pencil to write capital letters and full stops.

Well done Rowan Class, we are very proud of you. Have a restful half term!





# AWARDS



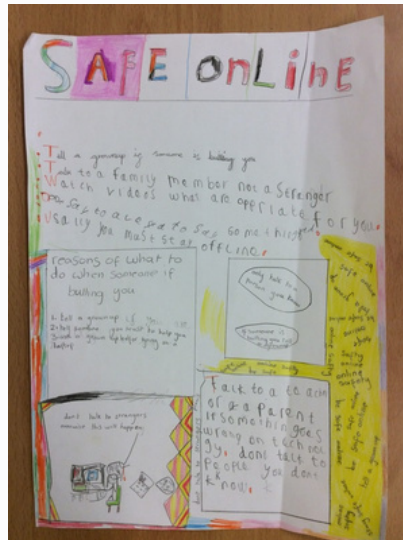
The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week		Whitebeam class awards will be awarded after half term due to Oak Class being out on a trip today.
Writer of the week		
Mathematician of the week		
Shining Light		
Tackling Tables		
Reads at home		

## Our week in Class

This week we have been busy finishing off many of our topics. In English the children have made persuasive advert posters about why people in the past should travel by train and we have looked at rhetorical questions and slogans so these could be included. As it is Internet Safety Week and Well-Being Week, the children have thought about how to keep safe online and what we can do to keep our bodies and minds healthy. Please see the photos of some of the ideas they have thought of. The children have completed their paintings which look amazing and in Science we researched the inventors John McAdam, Charles Macintosh and John Dunlop. Wishing you all a safe and happy half term.

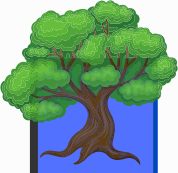






# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week		Oak class awards will be awarded after half term due to our trip today.
Writer of the week 		
Mathematician of the week		
Shining Light 		
Reads at Home		
Tackling Tables		

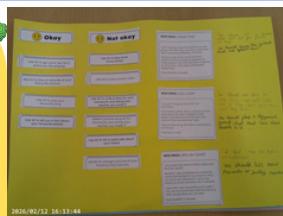
## Our week in Class

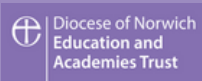


Another week done! Oak Class were absolutely brilliant on today's trip. We explored an Anglo-Saxon village, and had a quick look around the museum. Children asked some brilliant questions, and showed off their impressive historical knowledge - I was so proud of them!

In English this week, we have written our news report about Beowulf. This is the best piece of writing they have done, and it is wonderful to see their progress! They have used formal language, subordinate clauses, and parenthesis in their writing.

In Maths, we have been continuing our work with fractions, looking at multiplying mixed numbers by integers, and finding fractions of amounts.





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## Safeguarding.....

A message from the company who monitor children's electronic use across all schools across the country:

There has been a rise in bullying behaviours across the country on online platforms and social media: information from our monitoring partners:

We have noticed a recent increase in the number of captures relating to bullying behaviours mainly taking place through email, shared documents and online chat platforms. These messages have often been discriminatory and violent in nature, with comments telling peers to kill themselves. Alongside this, we have also seen a rise in pupils expressing feelings of needing to harm themselves, feeling worthless, as well as disclosures of loneliness and isolation.

Feedback from last year's online survey of families: Families wanted to learn more about is the language of the digital world and how to prevent unsuitable material being accessible and ways we can lobby the Government.

We drew people's attention the Smartphone Free Childhood as a campaign group to lobby the Government.

We also provided articles in the newsletter around familiarity with the digit world, parental controls and hints and tips.

## Healthy mind, healthy body

Our strategy launches next week, so please ask your children how they think people keep themselves feeling healthy and send it in, we'd love to have emailed or Dojo'd examples.

## Message from the Executive Headteacher....

As you know, this week has been National Online Safety Week, and also Children's Mental Health Week.

I delivered a Collective Worship online across the Federation and it was super to hear such fantastic knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves safe online, as well as how we can keep both our bodies and our minds healthy. The children spoken confidently and had produced some posters and had great ideas. I asked them to add their ideas, hints and tips to the poster that Rosie, Annie and Ethan designed 'Healthy Body, Healthy Minds' so ask your child for their ideas on this - I found them most informative and they made me reflect!

Many thanks to all of you who attended our Parents/Carers' online safety workshop. We were a small group but it was good to share and discuss thoughts around this very difficult area.

You will be receiving a message or letter regarding your child's attendance this week - for those whose children's attendance is 96%+ - thank you and well done! If your child's attendance is lower and is something that you'd like support with, please do contact your Head of School or myself and we are happy to try and help. We want all our children to have no barriers to their learning.

Have a lovely half term break and we will see all our children back on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Just a reminder - please come at 8.40am, so that the children can access those 20 extra minutes of learning that are so helpful to them. Thank you!

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

Amazing news! Friends Of Castle Acre School, Kings Lynn has received £17.13 in a record breaking Donation Day!

A huge thank you to everyone supporting us. If you haven't joined yet, all your online shopping this year could raise free donations for us - at no extra cost to you.

Please sign up to support us on easyfundraising today, it'll take you two minutes:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/friends-of-castle-acre-school-librarybusproject/sjvzqs/dda1/U5SijpKB/Q425V/facebook/17.13>

## Prayer for the Week.....

Dear God

Thank you for all the animals. Please show us how to care for them and how to respect them. We are grateful for all you provide, please show us kindness towards the animals.

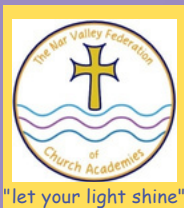
Amen

By: Holly D

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



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# Healthy Body, Healthy Mind



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## Healthy Body 🍌 Healthy Mind 😊

### 🚫 Healthy Body 🍌 ✓

To have a healthy body you could exercise and workout regularly.



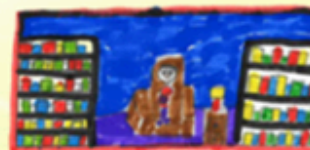
Eating fruit and veges are another form of having a healthy body.

Sweets are very unhealthy because they are full of sugar.



### 📖 Healthy Mind 🚫

Reading helps with your spelling as well as your mind.



Education is also a good thing for your mind.

Video games aren't very good for your mind.





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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/4_7/)***  
***[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8\\_10/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/)***  
***<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>***