



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 21th February 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Somehow the 2 days of sunshine have lifted our spirits and we are a happy group of campers! I have had some really lovely examples of work shared with me and very chatty children - it really brightens my day. Let's keep doing a sundance - we can get the football back once we have a drier field too!

Next Thursday is World Book Day - remember to come dressed as your favourite book character and if possible, bring in the book. The children will be partaking in lots of fun activities and there will be a special lunch. Now off to convince my son that he can go as a human character!

Don't forget Parents'/Carers' Evenings next week too - if you haven't booked yet or can't remember the time, please get in touch with your child's teacher or the office.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support.

Emma Spaul, Head of School.

Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....



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

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day, dress as favourite book character. Plus Special World Book Day Lunch.

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

Friday 6th March - Game Changers Programme by WNSSP at school for Y5 & 6.

Monday 9th March - Crucial Crew Trip for Year 6 pupils.

Friday 13th March - Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Programme by WNSSP at school for Y3 & 4.

Monday 23rd March - Circus Day, dress in circus costume

Attendance Awards w/e 21/2/2026

Class	%
Rowan	91.61
Whitebeam	98.57
Oak	93.13

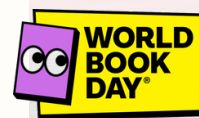
Well done to Whitebeam Class who are clear winners of the Attendance Award this week. Please do better next week Rowan and Oak Class!



Reminders and Information.....



Nourish Special Lunch - see Diary Dates for details



Dress as your favourite book character on 5th March



Please click [here](#) if you would like to see the latest Family Voice newsletter.

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 6th - 8th 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, £2 per session.

After School Care is available Mon - Fri, 3.10pm to 4.30pm, £6 per session.

Tuck Shop is available Wed and Fri 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.



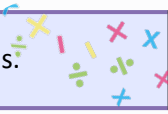


AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week 	Archie. E	For super effort in phonics and for being a helpful partner.
Writer of the week	Tyler	For fantastic effort during handwriting lessons. 
Mathematician of the week	Lexi	For trying really hard in maths lessons and for reading the questions independently.
Shining Light	Charlotte Amelie	For consistently being kind and helpful in class. For always working hard in school and at home.
Reads at Home		



Our week in Class




We have had a wonderful week in Rowan class. This week in science, we have explored the outside areas to observe the signs of spring. The children were able to identify daffodils and snowdrops. In Literacy, year 1 children have been looking at pictures of Florence Nightingale and then writing questions in their books. Reception children have been inventing a new vegetable for Supertato and a trap to capture the evil pea. Great work everyone!



AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Isla P	for increased fluency when reading and always reading with great expression
Writer of the week	Indy	for his amazing writing about his half term break
Mathematician of the week	Stanley Barker	for his wonderful results during the Tackling Table Competition
Shining Light	Nalah Florence	for her super and mature attitude towards learning for her super and mature attitude towards learning
Tackling Tables	Toby x 2, Lewis x 5, Skyla, Florence x 4	a selection of certificates from purple, blue, green and 
Reads at home	Mila Isla, Gracie-Mae Ella Ivy Lewis	25 reads 50 reads 75 reads 100 reads 150 reads

Our week in Class

Well done Whitebeam for a great week back after our half term break. We have started many new topics this week including finding out about the United Kingdom in geography, exploring what plants need to grow and keep healthy in science and what matters to Christians about Easter in RE. In PSHE our new focus is Healthy Me and in PE it is on target games. Our DT this half term is designing and making a small cushion using applique with running stitch and cross-stitch.







AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Alexander	clear, detailed answers in our reading sessions.
Writer of the week 	Tyler	working hard to improve his presentation and handwriting.
Mathematician of the week	Henry	great enthusiasm for answering Maths questions, and a brilliant understanding of fractions and decimals.
Shining Light 	Oliver P Hollie C Lazenby	showing kindness and respect to the class and adults everyday, taking responsibility for her learning, showing a real keenness to improve. writing at a high standard in all subjects when focused.
Reads at Home	Harry W Tia Crimson Rowan Libby Faye Isla Lazenby Alexander Oliver P Sybil	25 reads - Red star 50 reads - Bronze star 75 reads - Silver star 75 reads - Silver star 75 reads - Silver star 75 reads - Silver star 75 reads - Silver star 100 reads - Gold star 100 reads - Gold star 150 reads - Shield 150 reads - Shield
Tackling Tables	Darcy C, Etta, Tia, Alexander, Tyler, Finlay, Oscar, Lazenby, Libby, Rosanna, Harry C, Sybil, Harry W Darcy B, Oliver P, Bobbi, Rowan and Logan	Over 50 certificates were achieved by Oak class.

Our week in Class

Another great week! Oak Class are such a treat to teach.

In Maths, we have been looking at equivalent fractions and decimals. This is usually a challenging topic, but we have mastered it quickly! Children have shown hundredths using pixel art, which they really enjoyed.

In English, we are 'inventing' some marvellous machines! These contraptions are designed to solve a problem, and we will be writing both an explanation text and instructional text about them. This week, we looked at adverbs for cohesion, parenthesis and time conjunctions.

In our afternoons, we have: investigated air resistance by running across the field with various objects; used spreadsheets to survey our friends; practiced Yoga (which I am definitely highly qualified to teach); and experimented with building bridges out of scrap paper for our DT topic.





Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 27th February 2026

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Safeguarding.....

A useful tip from one of our parents - Many thanks Amy H!

You may find this company really helpful to support your children having safe use of a phone.. Please note we do not endorse any company, nor receive anything from this tip!

Message from the Executive Headteacher...

National Multiplications Tables triumph!

Many congratulations are in order as recently Nar Valley Federation performed extremely well in the nationally run Tackling Tables competition, with lots of our children reaching either 1st, 2nd or 3rd place from many, many schools! There were lots of different categories of varying difficulties and age and your children will have brought home their certificates. A big well done to the following children from across NVF:

1st place:

Brodee from Squirrels at Narborough - 25/25 questions answered correctly in 1min 16
Ronnie from Foxes at Narborough - 40/40 questions answered correctly in 1 min 19
Leo from Foxes at Narborough - 40/40 questions answered correctly in 1 min 1

2nd place:

Thea from Foxes at Narborough 35/35 questions answered correctly in 1min 51
Lucy from Kingfishers at Sporle 35/35 questions answered correctly in 1min 53 (including fractions!)

3rd place:

Fred from Squirrels at Narborough 40/40 questions answered correctly in 2mins 22
Adhanna from Kingfishers at Sporle
Stanley Ba from Whitebeam at Castle Acre 40/40 questions answered correctly in 1min 49
Reggie from Foxes at Narborough 40/40 questions answered correctly in 0 mins 53
Oliver from Oak at Castle Acre 35/35 questions answered correctly in 1min 59

It is a real honour to have placed at a national competition, so really well done these children, and excellent to have someone from each of our schools.

In our internal school competition, congratulations to the following children:

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1st Stanley Ba (several times in several different categories!) | 1st Ella Pearce | 1st Molly | 1st Holly (twice!) |
| 2nd Nalah (twice!) | Joint 2nd Toby | 2nd Darcy B | 2nd Libby |
| 3rd Milla (twice!) | Joint 2nd Florence | 3rd Alexander | 3rd Harry C |
| 1st Lily | 1st Oliver (twice!) | 1st Faye | |
| 2nd Ella | 2nd Oscar | 2nd Molly | |
| 3rd Skyla | 3rd Tiq (Twice!) | Joint 3rd Harry W, Darcy B and Lola | 2nd Tyler |
| | 2nd Sybil | | 3rd Libby |

Healthy mind, healthy body

A tip from one of our children this week: To keep myself healthy, I eat lots of healthy stuff- grapes not chocolate!

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

Thank you to everyone who supported our Valentines Quiz, Supper and Raffle, which raised the amazing total of £552 and was a great, fun evening for all who attended.

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 life, thank you for food, thank you for the planet and the meaning of it.

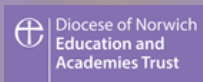
Amen

By: Finn

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