



## Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 6th March 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary  
Web: [www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk](http://www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers,

The sun has shone for 4 days...yay!! Doesn't it just lift our moods. It was lovely to see all the wonderful costumes yesterday. A great day was had by all to celebrate an amazing resource that can teach you so much or take you to another world. A huge thank you to all our families for attending Parents'/Carers' Evening this week. It is great to be able to share success with you and thank you for all your positive & lovely comments. Your amazing children are at the centre of everything we do and the staff here work incredibly hard to create the best possible provision and it is nice to have the recognition so thank you for taking the time to do that. Next week we will be marking Mental Health Awareness week. We will be doing a short daily activity with the children with the aim of teaching them strategies to help them in times of anxiety or worry. We will share these with you at the end of next week. Finally, we are aware that some of our older children are mentioning the conflict in the Middle East. We have had some resources shared with us today and if your child is concerned in any way, please do come and see us. Thank you for your continued support,

Emma Spaul, Head of School.

## Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Crucial Crew Trip for Year 6 pupils. Please note early departure time of 8.15am so Y6 children need to be at school by 8.05am please.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Programme by WNSSP at school.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day, children invited to wear something red to school and bring a £1 donation. Head pupils are working on other activities and we will let you know these at the beginning of next week. On this day we would also like to participate in Odd Socks Day 2026 for World Down Syndrome Day which is on Saturday, 21st March 2026. Pupils are encouraged to wear their brightest, boldest, and most mismatched socks to raise awareness of the uniqueness of the 21st chromosome.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Circus Day, dress in circus costume for donations of £1. We will have circus themed workshop at school for the day, kindly funded by The Friends.

## Reminders and Information.....



FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026  
RED NOSE DAY & ODD SOCKS DAY



family voice  
together improving services

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 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

ICS Coaching

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 Sparle.

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 6/3/2026

Class	%
Rowan	89.35
Whitebeam	95.24
Oak	88.44

The winner of the Attendance Award this week is Whitebeam Class. We hope to see much improved attendance in Rowan and Oak next week!







Diocese of Norwich  
Education and  
Academies Trust

# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

**Rowan Class**

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week 	Ethan	Super Fred Talk and great partner work.
Writer of the week	Wilbur	For challenging himself in his own busy learning time. 
Mathematician of the week	Lexi	For always working hard and for working independently to read the questions.
Shining Light	Ronnie Indie	For demonstrating perseverance whilst learning to play twinkle twinkle little star. For always working hard.
Reads at Home		



## Our week in Class



Wow, what a busy week!  
 We had such fun on World Book Day. The whole school came together and the children shared stories.  
 In science we planted seeds, the children will be using their observation skills as well as keeping a diary.  
 In PSHE the children are learning about healthy and unhealthy foods, as well as how to stay healthy.  
 This afternoon we learnt how to join materials using staples and glue.  
 Well done!





# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

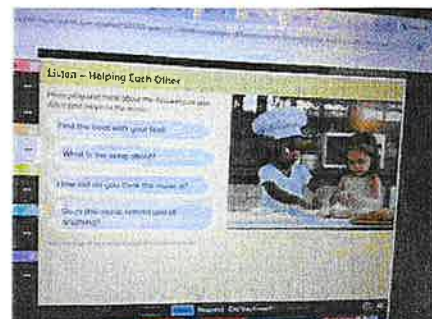


Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Ivar	for reading well in his reading group and answering questions about what he has read
Writer of the week	Josie	for increasing confidence and independence when writing
Mathematician of the week	Ava	for great learning in maths at school and at home and participating well in lessons
Shining Light	Arly Lewis	for demonstrating our values of courage and responsibility during her recent dance competitions for demonstrating all of our school values
Tackling Tables	Toby Skyla Florence Ella Lewis Stanley Barker Ivar C	6 certificates - blue, green and red 5 certificates - green and red 8 certificates - blue, purple, green, red 1 certificate - purple 1 certificate - green 2 certificates - blue, green 3 certificates - blue
Reads at home		None this week

## Our week in Class

It was another busy week in Whitebeam Class! In RE, the children compared how Christians and non-Christians celebrate Easter and in Geography they matched landmarks to the four UK countries, exploring different facts about each country. In English, we used our inference skills to discuss what we saw in a picture and they watched a short film without words as an introduction to our Quest Adventure. In PSHE we talked about how we relax. The children were immersed in books and book-related activities yesterday which was wonderful to see; they particularly enjoyed buddy reading with the whole school.








# AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Brianna	her brilliant contributions to reading lessons.
Writer of the week 	Finn	his brilliant formal explanation text.
Mathematician of the week	Sybil	her great progress with times tables. 
Shining Light 	Etta Lola Harry W Fletcher	being a responsible member of Oak class. for applying their knowledge of different structures to make a cardboard bridge that held 5kg.
Reads at Home	Finn Oscar	100 reads - Gold star 25 reads - Red star
Tackling Tables	Darcy B Rosanna Darcy C Finn Oliver P Lola	Multiple certificates achieved again this week.

## Our week in Class

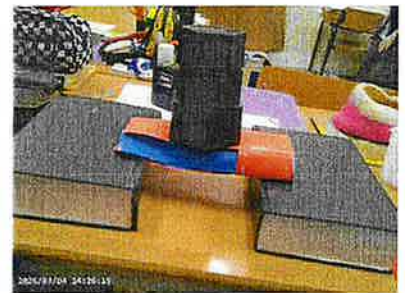
Hi Folks,

Another brilliant week! (They're all brilliant, of course!)

It was wonderful to see you all at Parents' Evening - really a pleasure to discuss how much progress the children are making. Thank you for being so enthusiastic to help at home!

In English, we have been writing our explanation texts about inventions. We have some very creative minds! Oak have once again impressed me with their writing, using formal language and parenthesis, alongside technical vocabulary. They just keep getting better!

In Maths, we have continued to forge ahead with decimals. looking at displaying these values in different ways. We are so close to completing the unit - moving on to area and perimeter next!  
Mr Conway





## Safeguarding.....

There is a new Government campaign to offer support to Parents/Carers in terms of online safety for your children. The link to this is here:  
<https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk/>

They are also wanting to survey families, particularly of children. The link for this is here:

<https://survey.savanta.com/?id=a957374a585a03ba4b9&lng=en-G>

You could also consider joining the Smartphone Free Childhood group. This is a nationwide movement with county-wide groups. The group send lots of resources such as films and links to support material that you may find helpful, as well as sending a lot of really educative material.

The link to this group is here:  
<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

## Healthy mind, healthy body

This week, a tip for busy Parents/Carers' - the 7-7-7 minutes rule!

<https://www.careforkids.com.au/blog/the-7-7-7-rule-of-parenting>

## Message from the Executive Headteacher....

**Governors' Update:** how we live out the vision of Christian Distinctiveness: During the past term, Mother Angela as Chair of Governors has been spending lots of time in NVF. At our meetings we have looked together at how the Christian festivals are shaped and how we can celebrate those distinctively. Our Benedictine project has been a focus for Governors to understand how this is making a difference to our children and where we can take this in the future.

### Parent Governor Roles

Due to the retirement from the role of our last Parent Governor for the Federation, we really need someone from each school. You only need to attend 4 meetings a year, currently a Tuesday evening at 6pm-8pm. Governors only have one job - to oversee our Christian distinctiveness and ethos. Each governor does one small job, which is talking to our children about their views. This could be done at a Parents'/Carers' Evening so you are not having to give more time. The report template is really easy and you are supported by our clerk, Karen Howman, the secretary at Castle Acre. You also do not need to be a Christian - it is really important to get everyone's viewpoints represented. If you'd like to help, please get in touch - we REALLY want the viewpoint and feedback of Parents/Carers. There are also biscuits on offer....

### Change to our booking/payment process for Wrap around care - Breakfast and After School Club.

Just to let you know that from Easter, in order to book wrap-around care, you will need to book for the half-term in advance, by filling in the link that the office emails you in the final week of term. Your child's account will need to be in credit before you can book and you will be booking and paying for the half-term. There will be a date by which you will have need to have paid. You will still be able to do ad-hoc bookings on the day, but again, your account will need to be in credit before you can book.

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

A reminder that pupils are invited to wear circus themed fancy dress on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March when we are being visited by 'Elevate Circus Workshops' for the day. Please can children bring £1 donation which will go to The Friends funds. There will also be a cake sale at the end of the school day, so please bring some money to spend on delicious baked treats! Thank you.

Libby Firth, Chair of Friends.

## Prayer for the Week....

Dear God

Thank you for life, family, friends. Thank you for everything.

Amen

By: Isla B

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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The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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# Healthy Body, Healthy Mind



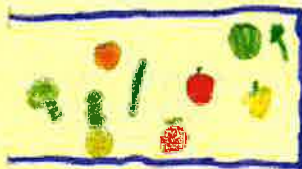
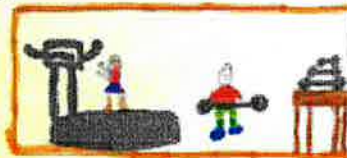
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## Healthy Body Healthy Mind ☺

### 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

