



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 13th March 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

I think we were lulled into a false sense of security...I am freezing!! As is everyone else if the grumblings in the staff room are anything to go by! However, it looks like plenty of dry, sunny days are on the way which hopefully equals a dry field and....football!

It's been a really busy week this week and we are all feeling that we have arrived at Friday almost without taking a breath. It never ceases to amaze me the mental agility of our children and our staff in navigating the school days. This week we have taken a small time every day to focus on our mental well-being and the class teachers will be sharing some of the activities they did.

The next two weeks are really busy with lots of events so please keep an eye on the date sheet.

Thank you for your continued support.

Emma Spaul Head of School

Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....



Friday 20th March - Red Nose Day, children invited to wear something red to school and bring a £1 donation. 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 23rd 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.

Wednesday 25th March - Tag Rugby Festival for Year 4 pupils from Castle Acre

Thursday 26th March - 9.30am Easter Service at Castle Acre Church. There will be refreshments available before the service if parents wish to head there after drop off.

Attendance Awards w/e 13/3/2026

Class	%
Rowan	90.29
Whitebeam	91.43
Oak	94.06

Oh dear, no winner of the Attendance Award this week as all below our target of 96%. We hope attendance will approve in all 3 classes next week.



Reminders and Information.....



**FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026
RED NOSE DAY & ODD SOCKS 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 6th - 8th 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 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 	Percy	For trying really hard during phonics lessons, and great Fred talking.
Writer of the week	Ivy	For working really hard on her presentation. 
Mathematician of the week	Mia	For great use of numicon when finding 1 more and 1 less.
Shining Light	Reggie Ronnie	For being super helpful during tidy up time. Reggie tidies his own area and moves to other areas to help out. For consistently demonstrating many of our school values.
Reads at Home	Noel Tobias	25 75

Our week in Class

We have had another super week in rowan class. We have checked on our snap dragon seeds, some of them have small shoots appearing! We enjoyed PE today, the children had to listen carefully to the number of gears (the children were cars) being called - this decided how they would move around the hall. Well done! Happy Mothers Day to all of our wonderful mummy's!





AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Mila	for great listening and focus during reading lessons
Writer of the week	Ivy	for great ideas to create super sentences to use in our quest stories
Mathematician of the week	Skyla	for challenging herself when practically using money to find different totals
Shining Light	Oliva-Rose Willem	for always demonstrating our school values for always demonstrating our school values
Tackling Tables	Lewis Florence Skyla Toby Stanley Barker	red MTC Taster 2 and 3 blue Superstar green mixed, red division, green missing numbers, red mixed red mixed blue division, red multiplication
Reads at home	Stan Black Stanley Barker Ivar Indy	50 reads 25 reads 10 reads 50 reads

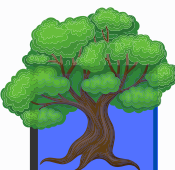
Our week in Class

Well done Whitebeam for another super week. Today you have been busy learning about Healthy Bodies/Healthy Minds linking to both science and PSHE. In science we have planted beans and are eagerly waiting to see which start to grow first! In geography the children worked with partners to find maps of the UK to help them label the main rivers of the four countries and the surrounding seas and oceans. In RE we read the Easter Story in the Bible and after discussion, the children thought about the different events of Holy Week and in PE they have explored passing the ball to a partner and aiming at a target.


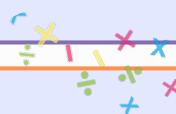



AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Tyler	ambitious book choices to stretch his reading.
Writer of the week 	Tia	a brilliant criticism of Pascal's Wager.
Mathematician of the week	Oscar	always working hard in every maths lesson. 
Shining Light 	Isla Molly Libby	her great work ethic, creating incredible improvement in all subjects. being consistently reliable and responsible at all times. always being a mature and responsible role model for younger children in school - especially Maple!
Reads at Home	Brianna Molly Fletcher Logan	50 reads - bronze star 75 reads - silver star 50 reads - bronze star 25 reads - red star
Tackling Tables	Finlay Darcy B Etta Oliver P Sybil Harry W Hollie Lazenby Libby	Blue - mixed mini test Green - time facts Green - division mini test and red division mini test Red - missing numbers and multiples mini test Green division and Red multiplication mini test Green - time facts Blue - division and Green multiplication mini test Green - mixed mini test Red - mixed and tackling connections percentages & decimals

Our week in Class

Another lovely week in Oak Class. Year 6 have completed their last round of PiXLs - well done Year 6! It's now the final push towards SATs.

On Monday, Year 6 had Crucial Crew. We learned how to prepare for disasters, listened to advice from the police about staying safe in school, and discussed hazards with the RNLI.

In Maths, Year 4 and 5 have been investigating time. They have been converting from minutes to hours, and 12 hour to 24 hour clocks!

In English, children have been looking at commas, tenses, and editing techniques. Their explanation texts about their contraptions are wonderful - on the whole, the best writing they've done thus far!

In PSHE this afternoon, we had an interesting discussion about how we look after our health. We spoke about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and smoking, and how some drugs like medicine can be helpful, legal drugs.

Mr Conway





Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 13th March 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Safeguarding.....

The Band Runner game

Featuring characters and safety messages from the CEOP Education Play Like Share films, Band Runner is a fun game that puts children's knowledge about online safety to the test by asking them to help characters make safer choices.

Players can choose to play the game as characters Ellie or Sam who use their guitars to eliminate all obstacles in their path as they run through school in order to make it to their next gig. If players miss a jump or take a tumble they then need to help Alfie solve an online safety dilemma to be able to continue play. As players pass to the next level, the running gets faster!

Click [here](#) for more details.

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.

Parent Governor Roles - PLEASE COULD SOMEONE COME FORWARD?

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 often 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 a reminder that from Easter, in order to book wrap-around care, you will need to book for the 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 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 be 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 23rd 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

Please keep people who are sick healthy and blessed. Keep families safe in storms or in wars

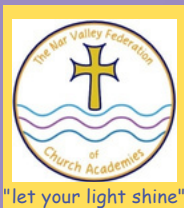
Amen

By: Tia

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



CastleAcre Newsletter for week ending 13th March 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Healthy Body 🍌 Healthy Mind 😊

🚫 Healthy Body ✓

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



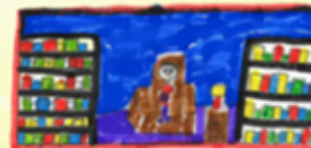
Eating fruit and veges are another form of having a healthy body.

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.





Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending
13th March 2026

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

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



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/>