



The Belfry CE VA Primary School

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Tuesday 10th February 2026

Dear parent/carer

We've reached the final week of the half term and with it the halfway point in the year. My highlight this week has been leading a few sessions in the portable planetarium that we have borrowed from the Teacher Science Network. From the outside, it looks rather like a giant blue igloo. Once inside, we have been able to share with the children a view of the night sky in the northern hemisphere, thinking about:

- the impact of light pollution on our view of the night sky
- the reason for the stillness of the North Star
- the stars moving across the sky due to the Earth's rotation
- the differing views of the night sky from the North Pole, the UK and the Equator
- the position of the meridian line and how this becomes the date line in the Pacific Ocean
- different constellations – where they are, how they are made and the stories that come with them.

I led sessions for Oak and Ash class and loved hearing their awe and wonder at the experience, as well as the curious questions the planetarium had inspired in them. Well done to Uma for spotting Perseus holding the head of Medusa.

I hope to have photos to share with you in the next newsletter – they're not easy to get in the dark!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support for our children and our school. I wish you all a happy and healthy half term break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 23rd February.

With kind regards

Steven Boast

Executive Deputy Headteacher
North Star Federation

Notices:

- **PE, Forest School and Clubs** - Details of these for next half term will be published later this week.
- **Parents Evening** - These are now rescheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, 4th and 5th March. We intend to send invites out this week.
- **Smart Watches** - Watches are absolutely fine to be worn in school, but no smart watches please. They can be a distraction, are potentially a safeguarding risk if they can access online material or take photos and in most cases are just too valuable to risk being lost or broken in a busy school environment. Step counters are fine, as long as they do not distract children from their work. Thanks for your support with this.
- **Smoking** – we are a no smoking site. That's anywhere on the premises, from the roadside and up.
- **Dogs** – as per previous newsletters, we might have children on site who are frightened of dogs and a busy path or driveway on the school run is not the time or place to familiarise them so we ask that dogs are kept off site, please.
- **Pizza Competition** – a reminder for the pizza competition – see last week's newsletter and the letter from the Friends for more information

Neurodiversity Awareness Workshop for Parents/Carers

Delivered by Norfolk's Schools and Communities Team in the Palm House at school on Friday 13th March 9-10.30am.
Aims:

- to provide information, signposting and support to parents/carers to better understand their children
- to provide strategies to help parents/carers support their children better at home

Christmas Tree Festival

Dear Friends,

A belated thank you and update on the Christmas Tree Festival.

Firstly, a HUGE thank you for your contribution. The festival proved to be very successful and although not primarily organised as a fund raiser, the event raised £1,148. £250 of that has been sent to St. Martin's Housing Trust in Norwich, which helps homeless people.

We intend to run this event yearly and as this was only the second one we welcome any feedback, positive or negative!

Kind regards.

Lynn Padmore and Jill Benett
(on behalf of St. Martin's PCC)

Beach Fest

Cromer Church will be running an event called BeachFest Extra on Saturday, 14th February, for primary-age children. BeachFest Extra is an event we run regularly throughout the year, with its climax being a week-long holiday club during the summer holidays. This free event will take place from 4:00–6:30pm at Cromer Parish Church and will include games, crafts, songs, Bible stories, food, and will finish with The Big Quiz.

Warm regards,

Jon
Cromer Church

Out of school success

Congratulations to the following on their fantastic success outside of school:

- Ted Y for completing his first Junior Park Run, and being really keen to go back next week and do it again!
- Jack who played a representative game for Norwich PDC U7s. He donned the yellow and green and got a goal. Here's hoping for more success for the next fixture against Colchester.
- Rupert who has signed up to complete a 1.5km swimathon in March to raise money for cancer charities. I believe that equates to 60 lengths of the pool and I am told he's quietly confident!! Good luck, Rupert. If you would like to donate, please follow this link: <https://jg.swimathon.org/fundraising/erinbrayne-1769204324662>
- Margot, who started playing football for Cromer Youth last week and in her first ever match was awarded 'Opposition Player of the Match'.

Celebration Assembly Winners

Class certificates

- Holly: Arlo – for your determination in your phonics and using phonics sounds to make a book.
- Larch: Hugo - for his positive attitude towards learning and school.
- Willow: Kelly – for always being a kind member of Willow class. You are hardworking and you always try your best.
Lucy – for being a hard-working student in all lessons.
- Ash: Carrie and Jenny because they have been working so hard in Maths and their test scores show a huge improvement.
Isaac because you are trying hard in your new place. You had good ideas for your playscript, and you have improved your Maths score.
- Oak: Alice N –for working hard every day and always striving to do her best.

Generosity Geniuses

- Holly: Blossom – for always sharing the resources in the classroom.
- Larch: Ted Y- for always checking in with children and staff and making sure they are ok.
- Willow George, you gave up your time to help a friend when they fell over.
- Ash: Dougie for always giving up his time and energy to help support others.
- Oak: Alice B – for always being there to help and support your friends.

Tackling Tables

100% - Zebby, Lucy, Ted B, George, Livvy, Harry F, Harriet, Erik, Harry P, Niall, Lucas, Beau, Archie, Alanna, Albie, Hunter, Imogen, Natalie, Isaac M, Uma, Ada, Alesandra, Barnaby, Braylee, Dougie, Nora, Ted M, Rose, Lulu, Lenny, Martha, Peter, Raffety, Casey

Blue star – Lucas, George, Imogen, Lulu, Martha, Dougie, Uma, Isaac, Casper, Lenny

Green star – George, Harry, Imogen, Raffety, Alesandra, Dougie, Lulu, Ada

Red star – Dougie, Natalie

Unfortunately, the delivery of new blue stars we were expecting to meet the demand of all of the children's magnificent work has not come through. We are chasing this up and hope to have them in the first week after half term. Greens and reds are fine though and will be distributed up to date this week.

Forest School:

Bella Bee goes to Blossom for her enthusiastic digging and planting out of her spring daffodil bulbs.

Bertie Bee goes to Jhayden for his hard work digging and turning over the compost to mix it and then spreading the compost on our vegetable patch ready for planting next term.

A special mention to all of yesterday's year six for their effort in helping to start the sensory trail project by planting out spring bulbs and doing lots to care for and develop the forest school area, cutting back branches, making swings and sawing firewood. Great job everyone. Thank you also to Mr. Greenspan and Mrs. Moore for volunteering their help at forest school, enabling the children to do many more things.

Diary Dates

Friday 13th February	Half Term	Last day of half term
Monday 23rd February		Children return to school
Wednesday 25 th February		Oak Class family café 2-3 pm

Thursday 26th February		Special Chinese New Year school lunch
Friday 27 th February		Friends' costume sale for World Book Day, and used uniform sale
March 2026		
Wednesday 4 th March		1 st Parents evening
Thursday 5 th March		World Book Day Special Book Day meal! 2 nd Parents evening
w/c Monday 9 th March		Friends' Special Persons gift day tbc
Wednesday 11 th March		Larch class family café 2-3 pm
Thursday 12 th March		Ash Class family café 2-3 pm
Friday 13 th March		Friends' non-school uniform day! Donate a small chocolate egg or chocolate bar for Easter Bingo raffle hampers.
w/c Monday 16 th March		British Science Week
Tuesday 17 th March		Willow Class family café 2-3 pm
Wednesday 18 th March		In school "Easter Experience"
Thursday 19 th March		Larch Class trip to Strangers Hall
Friday 20 th March		Friends' Family Easter Bingo. 6 for 6.30 pm start!
Tuesday 24 th March		Holly Class family café 2-3pm
Wednesday 25 th March		Easter Service
Friday 27th March	Easter	Last day of term
Monday 13th April		First day of summer term