



The Belfry CE VA Primary School

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Monday 15th September 2025

Dear parent/carer

We have the first full week of the school year under our belts now and the children have settled into the school year brilliantly.

At this time of each half term, we introduce the children to our worship value – the positive trait that we will be exploring during class and whole-school assembly time. This half term it is compassion, and I found a very simple but very effective definition last week, which I shared with the children:

Seeing someone (or something) who needs help and being that help.

The children all understand the overlap with the more general value of kindness and how it is more specific, applying to those in need. I hope, therefore, that we can dig a little deeper into it.

Last week, I shared how showing that compassion can be more difficult if we have been wronged first: perhaps if someone lashes out and hurts our feelings while they themselves are very upset and in need of compassion. We explored this through the bible story of the prodigal son, who wasted his father's inheritance but was still shown compassion when he returned home hungry and needy. I also shared a story from the Boast household of my own daughter getting scratched by our adopted kitten, Stumpy. When she was playing too rough despite being asked to be more gentle, I found it harder to find the balance between the compassionate cuddle and explaining the learning that she needed to take from it.

For our children, it is small, everyday acts of compassion, however difficult, that will develop them as young people and make our school the best it can be. I hope that all our new starters in school, who will all have needed support to settle in, have felt the warmth and compassion that I feel as I move around the school.

Have a fantastic week.

With kind regards

Steven Boast

Executive Deputy Headteacher
North Star Federation

PE

Further to last week's correspondence, please note *additional* PE lessons for Ash and Willow classes:

Ash class – now Wednesday *and* Thursday afternoons

Willow class – now alternate Thursday mornings *and* every Tuesday afternoon.

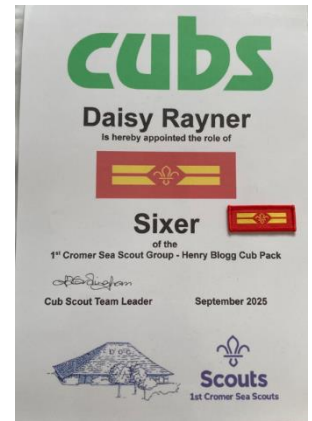
Singers Required!

Norwich Cathedral Children's Choir is a music group for children in school years 2-6 who love to sing! It is free to join the choir and there is no audition required. As well as singing for fun, the Children's Choir performs at various family services and events throughout the year, including the Cathedral's Christmas Eve crib service, on Mothering Sunday and at Easter. See the attached flyer for more details about the choir and their special event on Saturday 4th October.

Out of school success

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

- Daisy, who has been appointed a sixer in her cub scout group. According to her group leader, *'Daisy is a superstar and so deserves her promotion.'* Daisy will now take on a leadership role supporting new cubs and taking charge of particular games/activities. Well done, Daisy!



Celebration Assembly Winners

Class certificates

- Holly: All of Holly class for making such a positive start to the school year, making new friends and enjoying school.
- Larch: Willow, Henry and Edward for settling into school and having a good first week.
- Willow: George, Harry F, Bertie and Ted for being such fantastic role models. Stepping up as year 4s to show the way to the new year 3s in Willow class – thanks, boys!
- Ash: Raffy because you have made a brilliant start back into Ash this year – you have shown a superb attitude and have been really focussed. Well done and keep it up!
- Peter because you have made an amazing start. You work incredibly hard, try your best and are very polite all of the time. Well done.
- Oak: Alice B because she shone out in French this week and showed how amazing she could be. I was very impressed at how much you knew and your enthusiasm.

Compassion Cultivators

- Holly: Blossom for caring for her friends when they have been nervous to start school.
- Larch: Delilah for helping others, particularly in maths
- Willow: Niall for being kind to someone and looking out for them in the dinner hall.
- Ash: Dougie for being really kind and helpful and supportive towards someone new, helping him to settle in.
- Oak: Masie C for being a supportive friend who is always ready to help others.

Forest School

Bertie Bee is awarded to Erik this week for his determination in using the key to identify pond species, his wonderful music stick whittling and his enthusiastic contributions to our forest school skills recap.

Bella Bee is awarded to Willow for her resilience in trying pond dipping and for her concentration wrapping and tying her lavender bouquet. A super start to forest school, well done!

Thank you to all of the students for picking apples in forest school with Mr. Greenspan. There are some left over in a box outside the school front door. Please take an apple home at the end of the day to enjoy. Remember to wash it first before eating.

Friends of the Belfry: The Friends AGM is arranged for Tuesday 30th September, 7pm at The White Horse, Overstrand. All welcome. Please come along to support the work we do for the school and election of office holders.

Diary Dates

September 25		
Friday 19th September	Yr R & Parents	Peep Talk (Speech & Language) session. NEW TIME: 9-10 am
Friday 19th September		Special "Pirate" lunch: Menu attached (Sandwich option also available)
Wednesday 24th September	Willow & Ash	Trip to Norwich Castle
Friday 26th September	Yr R & Parents	Peep Talk (Speech & Language) session. 1.45 - 2.45 pm
Tuesday 30th September	All parents	The Friends AGM, White Horse, Overstrand 7pm
October 25		
Friday 3rd October	Yr R & Parents	Peep Talk (Speech & Language) session. 1.45 - 2.45 pm
Thursday 9th October	Whole School	Tempest Photography: Individual pupil portraits. Siblings invited at 8.30 am
Friday 10th October	Yr R & Parents	Peep Talk CANCELLED
Wednesday 15th October		Parents evening 3.30 to 5.30 pm
Thursday 16th October		Parents evening 3.30 to 7 pm
Friday 17th October	Yr R & Parents	Peep Talk (Speech & Language) last session. 1.45 - 2.45 pm
November 25		
Monday 3rd November	Oak Class	Family café: pm
Monday 10th November	Ash Class	Family café: pm
Monday 17 th November	Willow Class	Family café: pm
Monday 24 th November	Larch Class	Family café: pm
December 25		
Monday 1 st December	Holly Class	Family café: pm
Monday 8 th December	KS2	Christmas performance dress rehearsal: pm
Tuesday 9 th December	KS1	Christmas performance dress rehearsal: 9 am
Wednesday 10 th December	KS2	Performances at 9 am & 6.30 pm
Thursday 11 th December	KS1	Performance at 9 am
Friday 12 th December	KS1	Performance at 9 am
Friday 19th December		Last day of term
Tuesday 6th January 2026		First day of Spring term 2026