



# Navenby Church of England Primary School

School website: [www.navenbyschool.com](http://www.navenbyschool.com)

NEWSLETTER 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

## CAIRN SERVICE

On Monday we held our second cairn service of the year. In a break from tradition, we took this opportunity to focus on our church school vision ('family) and to celebrate the impact of this in our church school inspection report (which is available for all parents to read on the school website).

Mrs Hellard, our health and safety governor spoke about how the school supported her and her family when she moved to this area and how both her children flourished whilst at the school. She also spoke about how she still feels a part of the 'family' by being a Governor.

Rev Stuart spoke about how feeling a part of the school family prepares them for being a part of the bigger Christian family and Jenny and Rev Susan both spoke about the memories they have of the events that they have been involved in in their roles over the years they have supported the school.

Mrs Houlden and Mrs Suma kindly came and shared their thoughts about how the school has supported their families, particularly in helping their children settle at the school. They both talked about their children feeling safe and happy and through the opportunities they had been given, seeing their children flourish.

Miss Todd, Miss Sheardown and Miss Reeder spoke about their professional experiences and how working at Navenby ensured they always look forward to their days in school.

Words from Miss Sheardown in her cairn speech:  
*'One of the core foundations of any family is nurture, and for me the one of the most significant aspects of our recent church school inspection listed the way that we at Navenby nurture a sense of belonging in everyone here - every branch of our school family tree - resulting in a community where every individual is valued, known and cherished'.*

Words from Miss Reeder in her cairn speech:

'I came to work here after a rollercoaster of events in my previous school and was not 100% sure where I fitted any more. I will be honest, I felt a bit lost. Every member of staff, the pupils, governors and families of Navenby Primary School welcomed me with open arms. They accepted me. They saw me for me and allowed me to begin to develop and grow in a

new way. This school family is a place I know I can be my true self. Laugh, challenge myself, work with amazing adults and pupils and above all, realise that it is a place I truly belong. We all do'.

And finally we had some of our Y5 children saying what the school meant to them. It was lovely to hear about their feelings of support, guidance, aspiration and the opportunities they feel lucky to have.

The choir sang a wonderful song all about 'being one' and I quoted some salient points from the inspection report. It was a lovely occasion that showcased all the positive things about the school. My thanks to everyone who took part.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

What a fantastic day we had for World Book Day 2026! Our school was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated the joy of reading and the wonderful world of books. This special day was designed to inspire every child to develop a love and enjoyment for reading, and we certainly achieved that! We kicked off the festivities with a lively assembly led by Mr Swain, who shared his favourite poem, "Chocolate Cake" by the beloved author Michael Rosen. The children were captivated and couldn't wait to share their costumes and words with each other.

Throughout the day, students participated in a variety of fun activities, including the much-loved 'Masked Reader' challenge. Our very own Miss Todd, Mrs Pridmore, Mrs Phillis (see photo), Mr Swain, Mrs Howard and Mrs Webb



donned disguises as a rabbit, cat, bee, frog, bird and witch, respectively. The children had a blast guessing who was behind each mask!

One of the highlights of the day was when the whistle sounded, and the entire school fell silent for a few precious



minutes of reading time. Definitely something we should do more often! As the day progressed, clues were given for the 'Secret Reader' who visited

each class to share their favourite book.

The excitement built as the children tried to guess who it might be! Mrs Harrison (reception), Miss Reader (year 1), Miss Camp (Year 2), Miss Sheardown (Year 3), Miss Jones/Coach Laura/Mrs Phillis (Year 4), Mrs Spokes (Year 5) and Mr Swain (Year 6) had a great time sharing a book with a different class.

A huge thank you to our amazing staff who planned such amazing activities that allowed the children to shine. Thank-you to all the families who put in so much thought and effort into dressing up. The creative words and characters brought to life were great, and we certainly learned some new exciting vocabulary along the way!

Here's to many more days filled with the joy of reading!  
*Mr Swain*

### **SPORTS TOPS**

We have had a lot of sporting events this term and have given out many of the red and black sports tops. If your child has worn one of these please can it be washed and returned to school asap as we have many more events coming up before the end of this term. Thank you

### **HOLIDAY ABSENCE IN TERM TIME**

I am sure that people are aware of the County's and DFE's stance on holidays taken in term time. Holidays in school time should be avoided and so will be classed as unauthorised absence. If the absence is 5 days or more within a 10 week period then a Fixed Penalty Notice will be initiated. This includes holiday which is taken in multiple parts (eg 2 days one time and 3 days the next). We keep a 10 week rolling programme from the first holiday request and monitor this frequently.

Attached to last week's newsletter is information outlining the Fixed Penalty Notice process. Only two FPNs can be initiated within a 3 year period with the second FPN's charge doubling. If a third was to be initiated this would trigger immediate court proceedings, not a FPN. I am informing you about this in the hope that these can be avoided.

I find parents are always honest with us, completing the absence request from which can be found on the website and

I hope this remains the case. FPNs can be given retrospectively and can be used for any unexplained unauthorised absence. Extended periods of absence, without detail would be questioned as holiday.

If you have any questions regarding this information please do contact me.

### **EASTER EGG COMPETITION**

Sleafordian Coaches are running an Easter 'Design an Egg' competition. Please find attached the sheet to complete. There will be a chocolate egg and a £10 Love2shop voucher for our winners – we will have 3 prizes for 3 talented artists! Entries can be emailed to us – [office@sleafordian.co.uk](mailto:office@sleafordian.co.uk), sent to us on Facebook messenger (Sleafordian Coaches) or handed in to our Sleaford office.

The closing date for entries is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March and winners will be notified on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Prizes will be collection only from our office in Sleaford.

Winning entries will be displayed on our Sleaford Into Town service buses from Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

If you do not have a printer, you are welcome to collect a sheet from our office – Pride Parkway, East Road, Sleaford NG34 8GL – open Monday to Friday 07:45 – 17:00.

We're eggcited to see your designs, we've attached our logo so you have an idea of our colour scheme but anything goes!

Happy colouring!

### **GIRLS' FOOTBALL**



On Friday I went to Sleaford Town Football Club with our girls' football team to take part in Carre's' tournament. There were 8 teams in all taking part and the tournament was organised on a league basis where each school played each other once with the winners being the school which finished top of the league with most points.

We played 7 matches, winning 3, drawing 3 and losing 1 to the eventual winners. In all of those matches we only conceded 1 goal which is an amazing achievement. Despite the bitterly cold weather for most of the afternoon, the girls all worked hard, encouraging each other and playing their

part in the team's success. We finished in third place meaning that we won the bronze medal. Well done to all the girls who took part and my thanks, as always, to the parents for transporting them to and from the venue.

My thanks also to Mrs Howard and Mrs Bennett who accompanied some Y2 and Y4 children to the skills event that was also taking place on the day. The children were fantastic despite the cold weather and we are hopeful it has given many of them the incentive to want to continue playing football in the future.



### NAVENBY EASTER FETE

Attached to the newsletter is a poster advertising Navenby's Easter Fete. The Venue will be the host for the annual Easter Fete which is on Good Friday. There will be stalls, food, tea, cake and games! Families are advised to book the egg hunt before Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to guarantee a space (booking web address is on the poster).

### QUESTIONNAIRE

We are, once again, asking parents to complete the second part of our annual questionnaire. Prior to this year, there was just the one questionnaire to complete which came with the end of year report. If there were any concerns, doing it that way we didn't feel gave us time to address them. By breaking down the end of year questionnaire into two parts, one in term 2 and one in term 4, it allows to address any worries in a timely manner. Of course, we would love to hear all the positives too to give us a boost!

If you wouldn't mind spending 30 seconds to complete the questionnaire, that would be appreciated. The link below will be live from 4pm and open until Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Many thanks in advance.

[Parent Questionnaire Term 2 2026 – Fill out form](#)

### FONS

The fun continues into Spring to continue the great fundraising towards outdoor learning projects and school trips.

Dates for your diaries:

2<sup>nd</sup> April Easter Egg Hunt during school time

21st May School disco

We always need volunteers for these events so please do contact us if you'd like to help out [hellofons@navenby.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:hellofons@navenby.lincs.sch.uk)  
Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

*C Elliott*

M C Elliott  
Headteacher



Y2 shared reading activities in the cairn as part of World Book Day

### DATES (new dates in bold)

We aim to publish dates for any events well in advance so that parents can make any necessary arrangements. Dates in place so far are **(new dates in bold)**:

- 16<sup>th</sup> Mar: Safety workshops for Y2 and Y5
- 18<sup>th</sup> Mar: Chance to Shine Cricket (4/6);
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar: SWRA maths competition
- 20<sup>th</sup> Mar: Carre's tag rugby competition
- 24<sup>th</sup> March: Football matches v Cranwell and Winchelsea (for children who haven't yet represented the school);
- 25<sup>th</sup> Mar: Chance to Shine Cricket (5/6);
- 26<sup>th</sup> Mar: Football County Finals 1pm
- **27<sup>th</sup> Mar: Carre's equestrian event – postponed; Carre's G&T team event 9.30-11.30am**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Mar: Girls' football tournament @ Navenby
- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar: Y6 Holocaust visit
- 1<sup>st</sup> Apr: Rocksteady Concert 2.45pm; Chance to Shine Cricket (6/6)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April: Easter Service at St Peter's Church 9.45am; FONS Easter egg hunt; Last day of term
- 20<sup>th</sup> April: INSET Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> April: Start of Term 5

Please keep looking at the website where these are continually updated and new dates added. Thank you.