



# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

## Easter Disco and Easter Bonnet Parade



The children have had a fantastic end to the term celebrating Easter in lots of 'egg-citing' ways! They had a great time at the Easter Disco and have spent this morning celebrating all their achievements during the end of term assembly, followed by the Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter egg hunt! We hope you all have a lovely Easter break and look forward to welcoming you back to school for the summer term on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April.



## Trust Parental Survey

Many thanks to the parents who took the time to complete the Trust parental survey. It was lovely to read so many positive comments and as always receive suggestions on how Anker Valley could be even better.

Trust leaders will be meeting after the Easter break to discuss the results and identify next steps.

Just a reminder that our door is always open should you have any concerns, alternatively, you can reach us on the office email address.

## Office Opening Hours

The office opening hours are 8:00-4:00 Monday to Thursday, and 8:30-4:00 on Fridays.

Please note that from 12:30-1:00, the office is closed.

Inevitably there may be times when Miss Elliott is not at her desk; if you call during these times and the phone isn't answered, please leave a voicemail message as this will be received to the office email and as soon as possible, somebody will return your call.

Over the Easter holidays, the school office will be open Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April should you need to contact school.

## House Point Winners

Congratulations to all our children for working very hard this year to earn lots of house points for their teams!

**1<sup>st</sup> Avon – 483**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Anker – 450**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tame – 357**

**4<sup>th</sup> Trent – 342**



## Attendance

**School attendance this year: 96.34%**

**School attendance this term: 96.38%**

**School attendance this week: 92.75%**

**Dragonflies (this week): 96.31%**

**Heron (this week): 86.27%**

**Kestrels (this week): 95.14%**

**Congratulations to our children in Dragonflies for winning our weekly attendance award!**

Thank you to all parents who have supported their child to achieve 100% attendance this week.

## Stars of the Term!

Congratulations to all our stars of the term, we are very proud of you!

**Stars of the Term:**

**Nylah (Kestrels), Emily (Heron),  
Zachary (Dragonflies)**



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## What we have learned this week in Dragonflies...

This week we have been looking at the Easter Story, I have been amazed by the knowledge that the children have remembered. They have been able to retell the story using lots of the new vocabulary we have learnt. In maths we have been looking at number bonds to 10. A big thank you! It has been an absolute pleasure to be the class teacher of Dragonflies. I would like to say a big thank you to all of the children for making it such a wonderful experience, to the parents for all of their support and to the amazing staff at Anker Valley for making it such a brilliant place to work. I will miss you all. **Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Felicity! We hope you had a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



## What we have learned this week in Herons...

Herons have had a busy and brilliant week! In Maths, the children have finished their unit for 'Addition and Subtraction within 20' and have shown how their confidence has grown with addition and subtraction. You can tell that NumBots is helping with their automaticity too! In English, the children have been creating, planning and writing their own story and adventure for Beegu. It has been so lovely to read their work and see how their writing continues to improve. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time walking around Tamworth spotting all of the human and physical features of their town centre. They were definitely tired after all of the walking! We would like to wish everyone a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you in the summer term! **Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Hallie! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



## What we have learned this week in Kestrels...

Another half term has flown by, and Kestrels are making fabulous progress. This week, they have written stories, explored mass and capacity in their maths learning and continued to read 'Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World' in their whole class reading sessions. In science, Kestrels have considered survival and the three key factors needed and in RE they have continued to make comparisons between the ways Christian and Islamic families welcome a new baby. In cookery this week, we have baked an East African style Mandazi. Finally, a big well done to Kestrels, for putting on a fabulous 'RockIt' music performance on Monday afternoon and thank you to all the parents and grandparents who were able to join them. **Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Isla-Rae and Esme! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



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**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Another busy term is nearly over, with much to celebrate. As ever, we appreciate your commitment and support to your child's school life. Please see below a few updates:

## **Leadership and Management**

There are some changes taking place over the next term in relation to leadership.

- ❖ Mrs. Michelle Kee is leaving her role as Headteacher at Violet Way Academy. We thank her for her considerable commitment and hard work. Mrs. Becky Harris will be picking up the baton as Headteacher following the Easter break.
- ❖ Mrs. Sonia Burke, Deputy Headteacher at Dosthill Primary, is moving to the new Free School Presumption (Garden Village Academy) after Easter as Headteacher. Mr. Richard Gould has been appointed as Head of School at Dosthill from July 2024.
- ❖ Mr. David Shakeshaft will be overseeing both Dosthill Primary Academy and Ankermoor Primary following the Easter Break as Executive Headteacher.
- ❖ Mrs. Kerry Davies, currently at Anker Valley Academy, has secured a post at Wilnecote Junior School as Assistant Headteacher of Inclusion.
- ❖ Mrs. Rebecca Bradshaw will undertake the role of Assistant Headteacher at Heathfield's Academy after Easter
- ❖ We appreciate that with ten schools there will be changes now and again. Our aim is to ensure that transitions are seamless and that leaders are supported to undertake their new roles as quickly as possible.

## **Garden Village Primary**

Our new Free School Presumption, Garden Village Academy, continues to be built very rapidly. Significant engagement with the school community and other local schools has taken place, led by Tony Hand (Vice-CEO) as Project Lead. We expect the building to be handed over officially on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. There are already 21 confirmed places in the Reception year group and much interest in the Nursery provision. Please look at the Trust website for more information on Garden Village Academy.

## **Trust Wide Parent Survey**

We received a response from 554 parents regarding the Edurio Trust Parent Survey. Immense thanks to the many parents who took the time to complete the questions. The results will be shared with school leaders and the Trust Board for further consideration. We value your insights. Thank you.

## **Recent Inspections across the Trust**

We are delighted to report that both Ankermoor Primary Academy, Anker Valley Primary Academy and Edgehill Junior Academy have all received 'good' judgments in recent Ofsted inspections. The hard work and commitment of staff, parents and leaders has supported these positive outcomes.

The vast majority of our parents work with our schools in a respectful and supportive manner. This is crucial for us to maintain positive working relationships. Ultimately, this benefits our children. We continue to challenge any behaviour that is less than acceptable whether directly or indirectly e.g., through social media because ultimately this detracts from our job, which is to educate our children.

I hope you will enjoy some time with loved ones during Easter. We look forward to welcoming you back after the Easter break.

Kindest regards always, Maria Hamblin (CEO)



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## Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April** – Dental Survey (Reception only)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April** – **Year 2 Trip to Llandudno** (arrive at school for 7:30am) Payments required before 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April** – Indian and Irish Dancing Workshops (all classes) International Day of Dance

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** – Maypole Dancing Workshop (all classes)

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – Tempest vista class photos.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May** – Walk to School Week

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May** – Whitsun Half Term

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1 Trip to Twycross Zoo

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June** – Reception Trip to the Sealife Centre

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June** – Level 1 Scootability (all classes)

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June** – Phonics Screening Week (Year 1)

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June** – Skipping Workshop (all classes)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July** – Year 2 Trip to the Midland Air Museum

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** – Level 2 Scootability (all classes)

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July** – Sports Day – Exact time to be confirmed (subject to weather)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July** – Transition Day

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July** – Summer Disco – 4:30-5:30pm

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July** – End of Term

## Spring / Summer Term Assemblies

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** – Kestrels Family Assembly

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April** – Herons Family Assembly

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – Dragonflies Family Assembly

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April** – Dragonflies Family Assembly

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** – Kestrels Family Assembly

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May** – Herons Family Assembly

## Drop-off and Pick-up Information

Just a reminder that the gates close at 8:55am prompt and if your child arrives after this time, they will need to come through the office and will be given a late mark on the register. To confirm, they are not issued a late mark if the class has gone inside from the playground, only if they arrive after 8:55am through the office.

Please be reminded that the school has a late collection policy for any children not collected at home time. This is available on our website.

### Year 2 Trip to Llandudno – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

We are very much looking forward to taking Kestrels on an exciting trip to the seaside! Please may we remind you that the due date for this trip is **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**. Please also note that, as part of the trip was finalised at a later point, there are **two** payments on Parent Pay – **Llandudno** and the **Great Orme Railway**. Please ensure that you have processed payment for both items before 5<sup>th</sup> April. As always please be aware that this is a voluntary contribution, however if we do not receive sufficient funds, the trip may be unable to go ahead.

### Clubs

Letters will be sent home after the Easter holidays to confirm which clubs will be running in the summer term. After school clubs will start week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> April, therefore you will receive confirmation prior to this if your child has secured a place. If any parents have a particular talent and would be interested in running a club alongside a member of staff, please let Miss Elliott know, so that the relevant DBS checks and application form can be processed.

## Safeguarding – Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

**Mrs Natalie Horlor** (Head of School) [nhorlor@ankervalley.org](mailto:nhorlor@ankervalley.org)

**Mrs Maria Hamblin** (Executive Head teacher and CEO) [CEO@fierte.org](mailto:CEO@fierte.org)

**Mrs Julia Jones** (Safeguarding Lead Governor) [office@ankervalley.org](mailto:office@ankervalley.org)

*The school Safeguarding Policy is available to view on our school website.*



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