



# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Please be aware that **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May is an INSET day**, and **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May is a bank holiday** – school will be **closed** to pupils on both days.

**After school clubs begin week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> April.** Please ensure that you are aware of the finish times as these vary depending on the club.

## Year 1 Phonics Information Session and Inspire Bag Making Workshop – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May, there will be an information session about the Year 1 phonics screening check. The session will begin at 8:30am in the hall before family assembly and will be led by Mrs Free. Once family assembly has finished, the children in Year 1 will be sewing their bag designs and we would love for you to join your child for this. The session will run until 10:30am. We appreciate that not all parents will be able to join us due to work commitments, however we have tried to group together assembly, phonics information and the workshop in the hope that this may make attending easier. Rest assured that your child will not be on their own if you are unable to attend. Many thanks for your support with this.

## School Lunches

Just a polite reminder to remember to book your child's school meals, and as the menu has changed, please talk to your child about their likes and dislikes. As we are making a conscious effort to minimise food waste, offering an alternative lunch if your child does not like a meal, is incredibly difficult as the portions are counted out according to the number of meals booked.

Where school meals have not been booked, a jacket potato will be provided. Please be aware that if a jacket potato has been selected for your child, you are still able to make changes to the remainder of the week up until the evenings before.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with Parent Pay, please contact Miss Elliott.

## Gentleman's Lunches – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Gentleman's lunches will take place on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June**. On these days, fathers or grandfathers are invited into school to enjoy lunch with the children - you are now able to book your preferred date on Parent Pay (please note that there will be two separate payments for each day and two separate menus). Due to limited space in the hall the event will be limited to 45 bookings per day and allocated on a first come first serve basis. Please note that you only need to book lunch for one of the days. Please also let us know what meal you would like when making payment on Parent Pay in the notes field. If you do not let us know, we will assume that you are having the first option.

### Thursday's Menu

- >Homemade Garlic Bread
- Margherita Pizza (G)(D)
- >Vegan Sausage (G)
- >Freshly Baked Jacket Potato

Served with Criss cut potatoes, carrots & peas.

Strawberry Jelly & Cream

### Friday's Menu

- >Crispy Battered Fish Fillet (Gluten Free)
- Allergens (F)(G)
- >Pizza Pinwheels (G)(D)
- >Freshly Baked Jacket Potato

Served with Crispy Oven Chips, ketchup, garden peas & corn on the cob

Homemade Dairy Free Rainbow Shortbread (G)

## Attendance

School attendance this year: 96.25%

School attendance this term: 95.12%

Dragonflies (this week): 93.03%

Herons (this week): 91.74%

Kestrels (this week): 93.64%

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

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

## Dragonflies' Stars of the Week!

Congratulations to all our stars in Dragonflies this week, we are very proud of you!

Star of the Week: Jamie and Matei

Reader of the Week: Louisa

Outstanding Citizen: Noah



## Rainbow Reads:

Albie, Noah, Blake, Eva, Myla, Matei, Ethan, Sophie, Louisa, Elsie-Mai, Charlie



*'Inspiring all to excellence'*





# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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

This week the Dragonflies focus book has been *The Pig in the Pond*. The children have enjoyed listening to the story and recalling their favourite parts. They have learnt some new vocabulary, as a part of their Drawing Club session, including scorching, proposal, hysterical, flustered and alleviate. The children have remembered the words along with the actions. In Maths, we have been learning about adding more and understanding that the amount changes when we add more. The children have been using the stem sentence of first I had, then I added and now I have this much altogether.



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

Herons have had a great week and have enjoyed starting their new learning in their new units of work, for each foundation subject. In English this week, the children have continued to write a description for houses. They have shown a good understanding of adjectives and prepositions within their writing. In Maths, the children have enjoyed learning about Place Value within 50. The children have increased their understanding of numbers on a number line, have partitioned 2-digit numbers into tens and ones and have found 1 more or 1 less than a given number. In the afternoon lessons, the children have drawn birds in Art, meditated in PE and have been on a lovely Spring walk in Science. *Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Elsie and Winnie! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.*



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

It has been a busy and exciting week in Kestrels this week and we have had a fabulous seaside adventure too! On Wednesday we arrived at school at 7.30am and headed off to Llandudno. The children went on the Great Orme Tramway and explored the Visitor Centre. They walked along the promenade and pier and then had time to play on the beach. Lots of positive comments were made about the children's behaviour and manners whilst exploring Llandudno and we are really proud of Kestrels for being fabulous ambassadors for our school. A big thank you to Miss Murrell, Miss Stacey and Miss Wallace for joining Miss Garrett and myself to enable the trip to go ahead.



*'Inspiring all to excellence'*







# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## Dates for your Diary

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

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

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

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)

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

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May** – Phonics Information Session and Inspire Bag Making Workshop (Years \_\_\_)

**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)

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June** – Gentleman's Lunch

**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)

## Spring / Summer Term Assemblies

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

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

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

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

## Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Summer Fete – 12:00-3:00pm

We are excited to let you know that we have started making plans to hold our first Summer Fete at Anker Valley on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024. We are hoping that we will be able to offer a range of food, fun and games suitable for all the family. We would also like to be able to open this event up to the local community. Our initial thoughts are that we would like to be able to offer a bouncy castle, face painting, raffle, tombola, hook a duck, hole-in-one, guessing games, penalty shoot-out, ice cream van, burger van and drinks stand to name but a few, all of which would raise vital funds for the school. We would therefore like to reach out to parents and beyond to see whether you would be able to offer a few hours to run a stand for the school. Alternatively, we think this also provides a great opportunity to promote local businesses. Please let us know if you, or someone you know, would be interested in hiring a space for a small fee of £15.



## Parking Around School

Can we please remind all parents to park safely and respectfully outside of school.

We are still having reports of resident's driveways being blocked, parking on single yellow lines and zig-zag lines, and parking on the blind bends. We have also received complaints from the Co-op that parents are parking there for sustained periods of time, (including in disabled spaces), when attending assemblies or workshops. We are working closely with Debbie Dollins, our School Traffic Advisor from Staffordshire County Council so that we can ensure that our children arrive at school safely and that positive relationships that we have worked hard to build with the community remain. Thank you for your support with this.

## International Dance Day – Dance Workshops

We have been able to secure two dance workshops on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April to celebrate International Dance Day - an Indian dance workshop and an Irish dance workshop. The children will also take part in a maypole dance workshop on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Please ensure PE kits are in school on both days. All classes will be taking part.

## 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.*



*'Inspiring all to excellence'*

