



Friday 9th September 2022

Anker Valley Newsletter

'Inspiring all to excellence'

Welcome Back!

I would like to begin by saying a huge welcome back to our families this week; it has been wonderful to have the children back and have the school grow with the arrival of 27 new Dragonflies. The children have settled into school life beautifully and Herons have been setting a wonderful example to our new starters, by demonstrating our Golden Virtues.

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, we welcomed our new Dragonfly families to have lunch with their children. It was incredibly well received, and I would like to express my thanks to Mrs Chyla and Mrs Beckett, in our kitchen, for their hard work on the first two days back at school.

Thank you for your support this week and your patience whilst we get to know new faces and new systems in our office. Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday. Best wishes, Mrs Horlor



Rainbow Room at Anker Valley

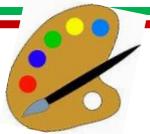
We are very excited to announce that from September 2022, the Rainbow Room, run by Two Rivers Primary, will be based at Anker Valley.

The Rainbow Room is a nurture-based classroom environment that provides therapeutic and educational support for pupils from across Tamworth. The provision will be managed and run by senior leaders and teaching staff from Two Rivers Primary.

We feel that this is a fantastic opportunity to be able to support SEND provision across Tamworth schools, until Anker Valley reaches full capacity.

We look forward to welcoming Two Rivers staff and Rainbow Room pupils into our school.

Extra-Curricular Clubs



Our first Rock-It Music club begins this evening with Mr Sullivan; there are still a limited number of places available if your child is interested. Please contact Miss Elliott for further details.

Dance, Art and Lego Club will all begin week commencing the **19th September** and your child will bring a slip home today confirming if they have a place.

These clubs will run for 6 weeks and then we will send out further details about clubs that will be running after the half term holiday.



Congratulations



We want to say a huge congratulations to all Dragonflies & Herons for completing their first week at Anker Valley – we are so proud of you all.

Our first Family Assembly of this year will be on **Friday 16th September** at 9:00am.

All parents are warmly welcome.

Attendance

Whole School (This year): 97.51%

Whole School (This term): 97.51%

Dragonflies (This week): 99.38%

Herons (This week): 96.00%

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

Thank you to parents in Dragonflies and Herons who have supported their child to achieve 100% attendance this week!



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This week in Dragonflies we have been learning...

Wow! What a fabulous start our new Dragonflies have made this week. Mrs Free and Mrs Horlor have been very impressed with how well they have come into our classroom in the mornings and settled into new routines, including starting to make their own toast at snack time.

The children have been exploring their new classroom and the outside area. They have listened to stories about starting school, including one about a Dinosaur who was called Jewel. In the story she was feeling a little nervous about the start of school and making new friends. The children were then able to talk about their feelings about starting school and compare Jewel's experience with theirs.

Dragonflies have had their first visit to the library and their first music session with Rock It Music. We are really looking forward to next week when they will be starting their phonics and PE lessons and spending their first full week together.



This week in Herons we have been learning...

Herons have had a fabulous start to Year 1 and have really impressed Miss Matthews and Miss Garrett with their enthusiastic approach to their learning.

In English, they have read the story of Dogger, which is all about a little boy called Dave who loses his favourite toy. They have labelled the characters using capital letters for names and have learnt what an adjective is and have used these to describe Dogger.

In Maths, they have read a story called The Button Box which inspired the children to sort their own buttons into different categories. They have also practised counting objects to 10 and writing the numbers to represent each value.

This half term, the children are learning about toys from the past. They have drawn their own favourite toy this week, labelled it and written a sentence about it. Miss Matthews would like the children to ask parents and grandparents, over the weekend, about their favourite toy when they were growing up.





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Dragonflies and Herons Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 13th September: Roald Dahl Day

Friday 16th September: Macmillan Coffee Morning (9:15am - after family assembly)

Friday 23rd September: Jeans for Genes Day (Children wear denim £1 donation)

Thursday 29th September: Flu Immunisations (Dragonflies & Herons)

Monday 10th October: INSET Day – school closed to all pupils

Tuesday 11th October: Hello Yellow (Children to wear an item of yellow with their uniform)

Tuesday 11th October & Thursday 13th October: Parents Evening

Monday 24th – Friday 28th October: Half Term Holiday

Tuesday 13th December (9:00am) & Thursday 14th December (6:00pm) Dragonflies & Herons Christmas Play

Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January: Christmas Holiday

More dates will be added as the new term begins so, please do keep an eye on the dates box.



Uniform Expectations

Just a little reminder that children should be wearing shirts or blouses to school and not polo shirts. If your child has had their ears pierced over the summer break, they should only be wearing a simple stud which **must** be removed for PE. If your child is unable to take out their own earrings, can you please remove them before school. No other items of jewellery e.g., necklaces or bracelets should be worn.

If you have any items of uniform that your child has outgrown and would like to donate it to our used uniform shop, please drop it off to Miss Elliott in the office.

Many thanks for your support.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

On **Friday 16th September**, we will be holding our Macmillan Coffee morning straight after our first Family Assembly of this academic year and we would love for you to join us.

If you are able to make donations of cakes (these can be shop bought or home-made!) they would be very much appreciated and can be sent to the main office or to your child's classroom. We kindly ask that all donations are in sent into school by no later than Thursday 15th September.

Thank you in advance of your support and we look forward to you joining us for tea, coffee and cake.

Safeguarding – Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Natalie Horlor (Head of School) nhorlor@ankervalley.org

Mrs Maria Hamblin (Executive Head teacher and CEO) CEO@fierte.org

Mrs Vicki Blundell (Safeguarding Lead Governor) office@ankervalley.org

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