



Friday 1st October 2021

Anker Valley Newsletter

'Inspiring all to excellence'



Dear Parents,

I have been so pleased this week with how well our children have been demonstrating our school virtue of care. They have not only been caring towards the adults and each other, but also towards our beautiful school environment!

From Monday, we will be starting to give out house points to children who demonstrate our Golden Virtues: *Respect, Kindness, Courtesy, Determination and Care*. The house that has collected the most points at the end of the term will be rewarded!

Which brings me on to the winning house names! Many thanks to all of the staff, governors and parents who cast their votes; I am now delighted to share with you that Anker Valley's house names will be:

Avon, Trent, Tame and Anker after our local rivers. The children will be divided into their houses on Monday morning, ready to start collecting their house points.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend, Mrs. Horlor.

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week:

Isla (Dragonflies)
Mya (Dragonflies)
Harrison (Butterflies)



Readers of the Week:

Edison
Eva



Outstanding Citizen:

Nylah



Individual School Photographs

On Monday 4th October, Tempest will be in school to take individual photographs of all children in Butterflies and Dragonflies.

If you would like to have any sibling photographs taken, please bring children to the school office between 8:30am and 9:00am.

If your child does not normally attend Butterflies on a Monday, please bring them at 9:00am.

Please ensure your child is in full school uniform. Many thanks.

What we have been learning about this week in Butterflies



This week, the children have enjoyed exploring the Autumn leaves. We have made collage pictures and have talked about the different colours and shapes. The children extended their learning by including the dinosaurs to explore the jungle of leaves and express themselves imaginatively.

We had lots of fun using our energy and developing our physical skills playing on the school playground.

Well done to Harrison who was our star of the week!



International Walk to School Month

October is International Walk to School Month to raise awareness of the contribution that traffic pollution makes to climate change and the effect that it has on wildlife and natural habitats around the world.

Mrs Horlor will be giving out stickers on the gate every morning to those who have walked, cycled or scooted to school. There will be a special prize at the end of October for those who manage it every day. We would also love to see some photos of you walking, cycling or scooting to school!

Attendance

Dragonflies (This week): 93.41%

Dragonflies (This term): 95.71%

Still lots of colds affecting our attendance this week. Come on Dragonflies, you can get back up to 97% again!

Every Day Counts!



#HelloYellow

Mental Health Day

We all struggle with how we're feeling sometimes and it's normal to have ups and downs. On Friday 8th October, we're asking staff and children to wear something yellow along with their school uniform, to show young people they're not alone worrying about their mental wellbeing! They can wear a yellow hat, a pair of yellow socks or tights, a yellow scarf, a yellow skirt, etc.

Throughout the day, the children will have the opportunity to take part in yoga, relaxation and enjoyment. They will also join a special assembly from Sam Lewis.

So dig out your neon socks, custard scarf or banana hat!



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What we have been learning about this week in Dragonflies

This week in Dragonflies, we have been investigating the change of seasons. In our classroom, we have had the magnifying glasses out to explore different coloured leaves, fir cones and conkers. There were even some conkers which had not yet popped out of their shells, which we found fascinating! The Dragonflies will be bringing home a small brown bag, to see if they can collect some more signs of autumn when out walking with their families over the next couple of weeks to explore in class.

As part of our learning about autumn, we have been busy practicing for our special Harvest assembly next week (Friday 8th October), we are really looking forward to entertaining all our mummies and daddies with our beautiful singing. We have also been creating some fruit and vegetable prints using autumn colours and have made a special treat for our grandparents too.

In our phonics learning this week, Dragonflies have been amazing Mrs Free, Miss Garrett and Mrs Horlor by blending some CVC (Consonant, Vowel, Consonant) words such as dog, sat and man. They have also been introduced to four new sounds g, o, c, k. They will all be bringing home a set of phonics flashcards to continue to practice these sounds at home, along with some ideas of games they can play too.

Mrs Horlor has been busy training for a marathon, so she set the Dragonflies a challenge this week; each day they have been running, walking, or jogging five laps of our school playground which totalled approximately 2.6 miles over the week. They have had lots of fun and many of them told us that they were exhausted after all their exercise this week, so hopefully this may help the mummies and daddies to have a little lie in this weekend!





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Dates for your Diary

8th October—9:15am—Harvest Festival in the school Hall (Parents welcome)

8th October—Mental Health Day—Children to wear something yellow #helloyellow

11th October—Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

14th October – Open Evening for Reception 2022 Parents 5pm – 6pm

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October – Half Term

2nd and 4th November – Parents Consultations

12th November—Children in Need Day—Children to wear something spotty.

3rd December—9:15am—Christingle Family Assembly

16th December—9:15am—Reception Nativity and Carols

10th December—3:30pm—5:00pm—Christmas Fayre

17th December—Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner and Christmas Party

20th December—Christmas Holidays Start

4th January—Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

5th January—Spring Term Starts

October Half Term Holiday Club - OPOJ,
Held at Dosthill Primary Academy.
For further information and registration packs, please contact



Mrs Horlor's Marathon!

On Sunday 3rd October at 9:00am, Mrs Horlor will be starting her first (and quite possibly last marathon) in Chester. This week the children have joined her by completing the London Mini Marathon (2.6 miles) in school.

Why not track her progress on:

<https://ale.niftyentries.com/Results/MBNA-Chester-Marathon-2021> or see if you can spot her cross the finish line on the Chester Marathon Social Media page.



Harvest Festival

On **Friday 8th October** we will be having our Harvest Celebration in school and we would love it if our parents and carers could join us.

We would love to make a donation to the Tamworth Food Bank as part of our Harvest Celebrations. The Food Bank are currently in need of the following items, which we would really appreciate donations of:

Tinned fruit, teabags, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, shower gel, small bottles of squash, tinned rice pudding, tinned vegetables, tinned fish, tinned meat, jam, toilet rolls, UHT Milk, microwave rice, coffee, tinned / carton custard.

Donations can be sent to the school office from Monday 4th October.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to the generosity of our parents and staff last week with donations of cakes for our Coffee Morning. We raised over £80 in the morning and then sold more cakes after school, raising a grand total of almost £140. Your generosity is truly incredible and will be gratefully received by Macmillan Cancer Support.



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

Mr Toby Swift (Safeguarding Lead Governor) office@ankervalley.org

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