



Please be aware that Friday 13th October is an INSET day. School will be closed to pupils.

Stargazing Workshop with Alan Ledbury

Many thanks to the families that joined us for our Stargazing Workshop on Wednesday evening to mark the start of Space Week. A wonderful time was had by all finding out about the stars and even getting to look at a telescope. Thank you to Alan Ledbury, the astronomer, for sharing his expertise and to staff that were able to stay and support this evening event.



Library Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all of the children who participated in the Library Summer Reading Challenge!

Anker Valley came **second** in Tamworth with 25% of our pupils completing the challenge.

Well done and keep reading!!



#HelloYellow!

Tuesday 10th October is

World Mental Health Day, and we will be celebrating this in school by completing lots of mindfulness activities including yoga, meditation, colouring, etc. On this day, we are inviting the children to wear something yellow with their school uniform e.g., yellow socks, yellow tights, headbands, ribbons, hats, etc.



SH Active Clubs (Mondays and Tuesdays only)

After half term, our laser tag and gymnastics clubs will draw to a close and we will be starting our next round of clubs. SH Active will be talking to the children in assembly on Monday about the clubs that will be starting after the half term break and information about how to book these sessions will be coming home with the children. Updates about clubs run by Anker Valley staff will also be sent home before October half term.

Attendance

School attendance this term: 96.53%

School attendance this week: 98.48%

Dragonflies (this week): 97.33%

Hérons (this week): 100.00%

Kestrels (this week): 98.28%

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

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

Congratulations!

Stars of the week:

Rocco and Noah (*Dragonflies*)

Millie and Theo T (*Hérons*)

Michael and Eva (*Kestrels*)

Readers of the week:

Oscar (*Dragonflies*)

Jax (*Hérons*)

Hope (*Kestrels*)



Citizens of the week:

Oliver (*Dragonflies*)

Lily L (*Hérons*)

Jenson (*Kestrels*)





Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 6th October 2023

What we have been learning this week in Dragonflies...

This week in Dragonflies we have had a great week. I have been really impressed with the children's focus this week during their adult focused activities. In maths we have been sorting different objects and the children have been able to share why they have sorted their objects the way that they have. Reading has been amazing this week, the children have been applying their phonics knowledge and some children are started to blend in their head. Well done, Dragonflies.

Happy 5th Birthday to Jamie! We hope you had a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.



What we have been learning this week in Herons...

This week Herons have had a slightly different week, but all children remained focused and amazing! In Maths, Herons have been learning about 1 less and they can confidently recall these facts with and without resources. In English, we have been finding time conjunctions in our model text and then we have planned our own ending for Dogger. In our wider curricular lessons, we have learnt about what we would wear in each season, in Gymnastics we have been performing 1, 2 and 3 point balances and finally in PSHE we have played games from different countries from around the world.



What we have been learning this week in Kestrels...

Kestrels have been working hard this week. They enjoyed their Forest School session on Monday with Miss Garrett where they created an autumn globe. In science, the children have continued their learning about living things and thought carefully about the different habitats around the world and the types of animals which might live in each of these. In PE they have continued to develop their football skills focusing on accurate passing between players. They have continued to further develop their place value knowledge in maths and working hard to create a leaflet about Buckingham Palace in their English work. The children in Kestrels will be leading our Harvest assembly later this month and have started learning their lines and the songs for this in school - please help your child to practise their lines at home too. Happy 7th Birthday to Nylah! We hope you had a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.



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Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 6th October 2023

Dates for your Diary

Friday 13th October – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

Friday 20th October – Harvest Festival (9:00am – No Family Assembly today) Parents welcome to join us.

Saturday 21st October – Pumpkin Festival (5:00pm – 7:00pm more details to follow)

Monday 23rd October – Rock It Music Parents Showcase (Reception and Year 1 only) See information below!

Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October – Scholastic Book Fair

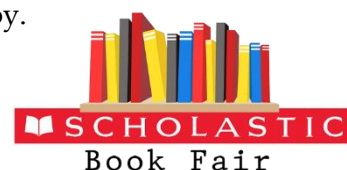
Tuesday 24th October and Thursday 26th October – Parent Consultations

Monday 30th October – Friday 3rd November – Half Term (School Closed)

Scholastic Book Fair

It's that time again! We are excited to be celebrating reading by running the Scholastic Book Fair at the end of this half-term, taking place from **Friday 20th October** until **Friday 27th October**. Last year, we managed to sell lots of books meaning that Anker Valley earned commission to be able to buy our own selection of new books for our library. This year, we hope to sell even more books so that we can surprise the children with some new titles in the school library!

This week, we counted the books in our library, and we discovered that we have a ratio of 17 books to every 1 child... but we want to increase this! Your support with this last year was incredible and we hope that you can help us to provide even more books for our families to enjoy.



Harvest Festival Donations

On **Friday 20th October**, we will be holding our Harvest celebrations at 9:00am in the hall (there will be no family assembly on this day). We warmly welcome members of our Anker Valley families to attend this event and as usual there will be tea and coffee available afterwards. As in previous years, we will be collecting food for the Tamworth Food Bank and therefore ask in the weeks leading up to Harvest for donations of cereals, tins, pasta, rice, squash, tea, coffee, etc. Children can bring these into the classroom, or they can be dropped at the main office. Thank you in advance for your support.

Rock It Music Parents Session

Mrs Smith would like to provide an opportunity for our Dragonflies and Herons to showcase what they have been learning in their weekly music sessions. On **Monday 23rd October**, we would like to invite parents to join us in the school hall at the following times below to celebrate their musical achievements:

Dragonflies 2:30pm – 3:00pm

Herons 2:00pm – 2:30pm

There will be a session for Kestrels after the Christmas holidays, and we look forward to sharing more information about this with you.

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 Julia Jones (Safeguarding Lead Governor) office@ankervalley.org

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



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Friday 6th October 2023

October is **walk** **INTO** school **MONTH**

Get involved and get active by pledging to walk to school at least once a week throughout October.



Walking to school is great for your mental and physical health and also helps the environment!



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