



# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Reminder: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November will be Heron's Family Assembly.

## Dragonflies' Stars of the Week

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



Stars of the Week: Lilly and Charlie

Reader of the Week: Matei

Outstanding Citizen: Grayson

Congratulations also to our Rainbow Readers:

Louisa, Ollie, Eva, Zachary, Charlie, Oscar, Indie, Nevaeh, Elsie-Mae, Chance, Archie, Rocco and Felicity.

## Heron's Visit to Spital Chapel

Hérons have been learning about Baptism as part of their RE unit of work about festivals. The children were met by Revered Dyson, who talked to them about how a baby is baptised and showed them the font into which the holy water is poured. The children asked Revered Dyson lots of questions about the celebration and some of the children were able to talk about when their brothers or sisters were baptised.

## Kestrel's Special Visitors

This week in RE, Kestrels have built on their knowledge of baptism from Year 1 and have been focusing on how a babies are cared for, in preparation for their learning about the birth of Jesus. We had three very special visitors in school, and we would like to say a big thank you to the mummies, big sisters and babies for helping Kestrels find out about all of the things that have to be done to care for a new baby. Next, they will be making some new baby cards and reading the Christmas Story.



Attendance Percentage	Impact on Pupil	Role and Responsibility	Support and Action
96 – 100%	Attendance is good to excellent. No/very few lessons are being missed. Impact upon learning is minimal.	Class Teacher to celebrate attendance	Warm welcome, praise and encourage regularly. Rewards e.g., certificates.

93 – 95%	Attendance levels are beginning to cause concern. Risk/high risk of underachievement. Child will struggle to reach their full potential.	Class Teacher to contact parent to discuss absences	School monitors attendance (throughout) including reasons for and pattern of absence. Letters highlighting concern and outlining expectations. Evaluation of attendance level. Reward/recognition when attendance improves and acknowledgement to parents/carers.
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## Attendance

School attendance this term: **96.40%**

School attendance this week: **95.35%**

Dragonflies (this week): **92.99%**

Hérons (this week): **99.17%**

Kestrels (this week): **94.27%**

90 – 92%	Attendance levels are causing significant concern. High/severe risk of underachievement.	Senior Leader to contact family to offer an improvement plan Consider legal action (risk of fine being issued)	Attendance monitoring weekly Telephone call/meeting with parents and carers. Referral to Education Welfare Officer should attendance not improve.
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Under 89%	Attendance decreased to an unacceptable level – despite intervention and support. Extreme risk of underachievement.	Senior Leader/Trust Wellbeing Lead/EWO Legal action (fine)	Plan created including parent/carer and child (where appropriate). Fortnightly monitoring of plan. Escalate to prosecution/other formal measures e.g., Parenting contracts, Education Supervision Orders, Social Care.
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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.



'Inspiring all to excellence'





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

Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Oscar! We hope you had a great day. From your Anker Valley Family.

This week we have had a fantastic week. We have really enjoyed exploring our story 'How to catch a star'. We have been very creative designing different ways to catch the star. We have also enjoyed finding out the Festival of Light, Diwali.



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

Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Matilda! We hope you had a great day. From your Anker Valley Family.

This week, Herons have been working extremely hard and have had a very enjoyable week!

In Maths, we have been working on our number bonds within and to 10. The children have practiced this orally and have recorded this in their books too. They have also enjoyed playing Hit the Button whilst in our continuous provision to build their fluency and automaticity.

In English, we have been learning about instructions and how imperative verbs are used in this type of text, to help people. We have planned our own instructions for 'How to get ready on a snowy day' so I cannot wait to see how they turn out when they write them next week.

The children thoroughly enjoyed walking to Spital Chapel on Tuesday and were incredibly sensible walking there! The children were engaged and learnt so much from Reverend Debra Dyson!



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

Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Michael! We hope you had a great day. From your Anker Valley Family.

This week, in History, we have created a timeline of castles from the past and looked at the features of a motte and bailey castle and labelled diagrams.

In maths, we have continued with our addition and subtraction learning and have been applying our knowledge to some problem-solving questions. In English, we have been writing letters from Rapunzel to different characters from the story thinking carefully about the features of an informal letter.



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## Dates for your Diary

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Decorating the Christmas Tree & Christingle Assembly – 1:30-3:15pm (Parents welcome, no Family Assembly)

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Small group of Year 2 children to attend carol singing at Ankerside Shopping Centre to raise money for a charitable cause (full details to be confirmed).

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Nativity (Reception – Year 2) – 6:00pm

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Disco (Reception – Year 2) – 4:30-5:30pm

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Nativity (Reception – Year 2) – 9:00am (No Family Assembly)

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception Trip to West Midland's Safari

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 1 & Year 2 Pantomime at Tamworth Assembly Rooms

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – Christmas Dinner – **Payment can now be made on Parent Pay**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – End of Term Assembly – 9:00am

## Attendance Reminder

If your child is not in school, we ask that you **call the school office between 8:00am and 9:00am** to inform us of the reason for their absence. If your child is absent from school and we have not heard from you, a text will be sent asking you to contact the school. If contact is still not made by 10:00am, Miss Elliott will call, and a home visit may be carried out if a reason is still not provided. Many thanks for your support with this.

## Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Pantomime – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

We are very excited to announce that on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023**, Herons and Kestrels will be visiting the Tamworth Assembly Rooms to see the performance of The Father Christmas Show. The children will get to join in with lots of festive songs whilst they join Father Christmas and his chief elves as they make preparations ahead of Christmas Eve. We will be walking to the 12:30pm performance of the show, leaving school at approximately 11:45am, having had an early dinner. We will also be taking a snack with us to have on arrival. The children will return to school in time for the end of the school day. The cost of the visit is **£12.00**. This trip is available to pay on Parent Pay by no later than **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023**, so that we are able to confirm places with the Assembly Rooms. Many thanks for your ongoing support and we are delighted to be taking the children on such a lovely trip.

## Christmas Disco – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

We invite children back to school wearing their best party clothes on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** from 4:30-5:30pm, to attend our Christmas Disco. The children will enjoy lots of festive music and dancing with their friends. Tickets to the disco are available to purchase on Parent Pay at a cost of £3.00, which includes refreshments of crisps, biscuits, and a drink during the event. Parents do not need to stay for this event as staff will be in the hall enjoying the disco too! We look forward to this exciting event and know that the children will have a fantastic time.

## 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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