



# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Please be aware that there will be NO CLUBS from Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

## Termly Attendance Letters and Awards

As we reach the end of another school term, just a little reminder that we will be sending home attendance letters early next week, to advise you of your child's attendance for the spring term and for the academic year. As previously, any children with a termly attendance of 96% or above will receive a certificate in our end of term assembly on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents, for your support with attendance. Our whole school percentage remains above the National figure and once again we have received certificates of commendation for being in the top 10% of FFT schools in the Autumn term; this is fantastic!

## Science Week at School! – *Written by Grayson, Nylah and Hope from Kestrels*

We have had an extremely fun week doing three science experiments for Science Week. For our first experiment, we tried to make raisins dance in fizzy water! To test this, we added raisins to still water, but they sank to the bottom of the pot. Next, we added the raisins to fizzy water – the raisins danced for a little bit, but then they sank to the bottom as well! For our second experiment, we made a volcano. To make this, we got a cup of water and added dish soap and food dye. We stirred the mix before adding vinegar – the mix exploded and went everywhere! This experiment was very successful! We tried to make a rainbow for our third experiment. We got kitchen roll, folded it in half and used felt tip pens to create a rainbow. We dipped this in water and watched as the ink mixed with the water and spread up the kitchen roll! We loved this experiment, and we are really looking forward to celebrating science week next year!



## Heron Stars of the Week

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

**Stars of the Week:**

**Lily L and Miles**

**Outstanding Citizen: Leo**

**Reader of the Week: Emily**



Congratulations Rainbow Readers: **Evie, Matilda, Evelyn, Alfie, Terae, Henry, Taliyah, Noah, Isobel, Archie, Leo, Jayden, Theo H, Elsie**



## Attendance

**School attendance this year: 96.48%**

**School attendance this term: 96.76%**

**School attendance this week: 97.96%**

**Dragonflies (this week): 97.41%**

**Heron (this week): 97.63%**

**Kestrels (this week): 98.85%**

**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.

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March – King Offa Procession

A reminder to those who have confirmed they are attending this event; we will be meeting at Lady Bridge at 10:45am. Children will need to be dressed appropriately for the weather and will be provided with a hi vis vest and a Saxon shield!

Mrs Horlor and Mr Hand will be walking alongside the children and parents, until we reach St. Editha's Church at 12:00. We are really proud to be the only school in Tamworth supporting this event and are looking forward to our families joining together to be part of this celebration.



*'Inspiring all to excellence'*



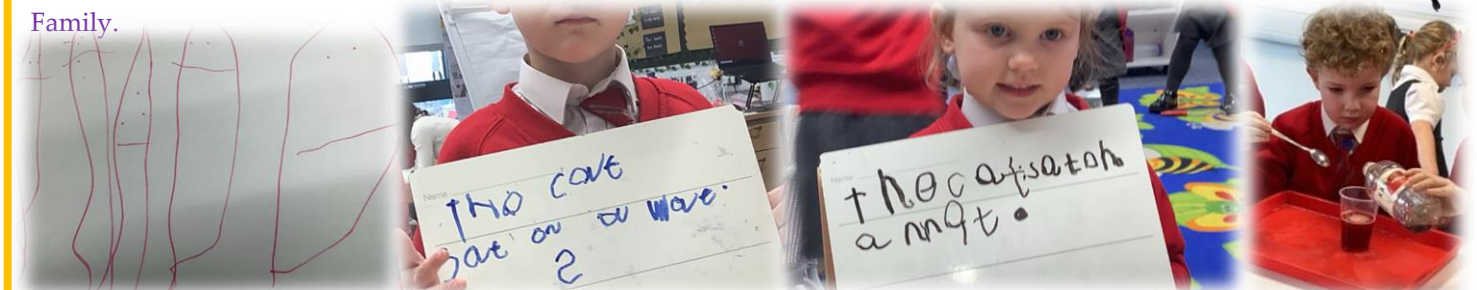




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**What we have learned this week in Dragonflies...** This week the children in Dragonflies have really enjoyed taking part in science week. They loved making their own rainbow and were impressed by the pepper dancing and were amazed by the volcano eruption. We have also enjoyed exploring the story of Jack and the beanstalk during Drawing Club. **Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Archie! We hope you had a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



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

This week in Herons, the children have been busy and have shown great enthusiasm in everything they have done! In Maths, the children have been learning about near doubles which has needed a lot of perseverance. They have also started to subtract by counting back! In English, the children have started to look at a variety of conjunctions and use them in their sentences. The children are looking forward to planning and writing their own adventure for Beegu. On Monday, the children enjoyed going in the minibus to gain a deeper understanding of the physical and human features of Tamworth. Afternoons have been a little different; all children have enjoyed taking part in Science week and have loved the different investigations across the week. Herons are looking forward to their walk into Tamworth and spotting the different features of our town centre!



**What we have learned this week in Kestrels...** This week, Kestrels have planned their own story about a magic pencil. In maths they have been looking at measuring maths and have explored this concept through practical activities and have then applied their knowledge to a range of problem-solving style questions. In RE, they found out about how a baby is welcomed into the Islamic faith and compared this to their learning about Baptism in Year 1. As it is British Science Week, the children have worked in mixed class groups to complete a range of science experiments including making their own volcanoes and growing rainbows. In art, the children have been working with acrylic paint and looking at mixing and creating different effects using a range of different tools. They have also been cooking again and have this time made a traditional African rice dish. **Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Olivia! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



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## Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Chocolate Bingo – 5:00-7:00pm

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Rockit Music Steel Pan Band Performance (Year 2 only) – Parents welcome 2:45-3:15pm

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Easter Disco (Reception – Year 2) 4:30pm – 5:30pm (£3.00 per child)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Easter Bonnet Parade following End of Term Assembly at approximately 9:45am – Parents invited to watch our Easter Bonnet Parade

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holiday**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Year 2 Trip to Llandudno (arrive at school for 7:30am)

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

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

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

**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

## Spring / Summer Term Assemblies

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** – Kestrels Family Assembly

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April** – Dragonflies Family Assembly

**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

## Easter Bonnet Parade and End of Term Assembly

Children are invited to make an Easter bonnet at home and bring them into school on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**. Bonnets will be judged and three winners for each class will be picked. We then invite parents to join us for our end of term assembly on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 9:00am, where the children will wear and parade their bonnets and winners will be announced. Can we please ask that no more than two adults attend the assembly and that all pushchairs/prams are left outside the hall. Can we also please ask that you step outside with younger siblings if necessary, so that other children are not distracted by siblings running around or that are upset. Parents will also be notified if their child is receiving an attendance award or star of the term award during this assembly.

## Year 1 Trip Around Tamworth

On **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**, the children will have a full day exploring Tamworth town centre. They will walk there and back and have a packed lunch provided which you will have received a link to complete. As part of the visit, they will explore the castle grounds, church, shopping centre, and river Anker. As this is an outdoor trip, please ensure your child has a warm waterproof coat and small rucksack to carry their packed lunch in.

## Year 2 Trip to Llandudno – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

We are very much looking forward to taking Kestrels on an exciting trip to the seaside!

Please may we remind you that the due date for this trip is **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**. Please also note that, as part of the trip was finalised at a later point, there are **two** payments on Parent Pay – **Llandudno** and the **Great Orme Railway**. Please ensure that you have processed payment for both items before 5<sup>th</sup> April. As always please be aware that this is a voluntary contribution, however if we do not receive sufficient funds, the trip may be unable to go ahead.

## Year 2 Steel Pan Band Performance with Rockit Music

We invite Year 2 parents in on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 2:45pm to watch the Rockit Music Steel Pan Band performance, where the children will showcase all that they have been learning with their Rockit Music teacher, Abbie.

## 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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