



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 12th April 2024

Saturday 6th July - Summer Fete – 12:00-3:00pm

We are excited to let you know that we have started making plans to hold our first Summer Fete at Anker Valley on Saturday 6th July 2024. We are hoping that we will be able to offer a range of food, fun and games suitable for all of the family. We would also like to be able to open this event up to the local community.

Our initial thoughts are that we would like to be able to offer a bouncy castle, face painting, raffle, tombola, hook a duck, hole-in-one, guessing games, penalty shoot-out, ice cream van, burger van and drinks stand to name but a few, all of which would raise vital funds for the school. We would therefore like to reach out to parents and beyond to see whether you would be able to offer a few hours to run a stand for the school. Alternatively, we think this also provides a great opportunity to promote local businesses. Please let us know if you, or someone you know, would be interested in hiring a space for a small fee of £15.

Parking Around School

Can we please remind all parents to park safely and respectfully outside of school. We are still having reports of residents' driveways being blocked, parking on single yellow lines and zig-zag lines, and parking on the blind bends. We have also received complaints from the Co-op that parents are parking there for sustained periods of time, (including in disabled spaces), when attending assemblies or workshops. We are working closely with Debbie Dollins, our School Traffic Advisor from Staffordshire County Council so that we can ensure that our children arrive at school safely and that positive relationships that we have worked hard to build with the community remain. Thank you for your support with this.

Clubs

Letters have been sent home confirming the clubs that we will be running in the summer term. We have been able to secure SH Active to run clubs on a Wednesday and Friday. As I am sure you can appreciate, there is a charge that comes with this, which the school has heavily subsidised so that more children will be able to attend. However, there will still be a small cost to parents of £2 per week. A place will only be offered on receipt of payment on Parent Pay.

Worry Workshop – Wednesday 17th at 5:00pm

Michelle from the Mental Health Team will be leading a parent workshop on anxiety and worry within children. This follows on from her sleep workshop which took place in the Autumn term. We look forward to you joining us for this.

Attendance

School attendance this year: 96.36%

School attendance this term: 97.00%

Dragonflies (this week): 97.67%

Heron (this week): 96.07%

Kestrels (this week): 97.22%

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

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

Office Opening Hours

The office opening hours are 8:00-4:00 Monday to Thursday, and 8:30-4:00 on Fridays.

Please note that from 12:30-1:00, the office is closed.

Inevitably there may be times when Miss Elliott is not at her desk; if you call during these times and the phone isn't answered, please leave a voicemail message as this will be received to the office email and as soon as possible, somebody will return your call.

Kestrel's Stars of the Week!

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

Star of the Week: Ronnie and Luna

Reader of the Week: Ollie and Daniel

Outstanding Citizen: Edith



Numbots Awards: Jenson and Ellie-Mae

Rainbow Reads: Hope, Edith, Freddie, Talissa, Nicole, Ronnie, Ben, Darcie, Luna, Daniel, Jayden, Jenson, Hollie, Ollie, Edison, and Sophie



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What we have learned this week in Dragonflies...

I have really enjoyed my first week with the Dragonflies. I have been able to get to know the children on an individual basis, which is wonderful. This week, the focus in Dragonflies has been Farmer Duck. The children have enjoyed listening to the story and joining in once they were familiar with it. In drawing club, we have learnt some unusual and unfamiliar words, which has really intrigued the children. They have learnt cultivate, exhausted, eject, stunned and bone idle (which made them chuckle). The children really used their imagination to think of different actions we could use to represent the words. **Happy 5th Birthday to Jess and Lottie! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



What we have learned this week in Herons...

Herons have settled back into the new half term beautifully and they are showing us how they are working extremely hard to be Year 2 ready! In English this week, we have started to read the story 'In Every House on Every Street'. The children have read and annotated the model text which is a good example of a descriptive text. They have also started writing their own description for a house they have chosen to write about. In Maths, we have finished our topic of 'Addition and Subtraction within 20'. The children have shown great understanding of addition and subtraction and their time on Numbots is helping with this too! In RE the children have been finding out about how Christians and Muslims show that they care and in geography they have located the four countries and capital cities of the UK on a map.



What we have learned this week in Kestrels...

It has been lovely to see Kestrels back after the Easter holidays and ready to complete their last term in Year 2 and Key Stage One! In maths this week, we have completed our topic on mass, capacity and temperature and we will be moving on to fractions next. In English, we have written an explanation about what we like about being a pupil at Anker Valley and a fact file about Malala Yousafzai. In Science this week, we have looked at the importance of a balanced diet and planned a menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner thinking about the different food groups. In PE, we completed our unit on health-related exercise, and we cooked our last African dish in DT. During our art lesson, we looked at examples of abstract paintings and then tried to create our own abstract piece of art using acrylic paints. It has been a very busy first week and we are looking forward to starting our new unit of learning next week 'At the Seaside'. **Happy 7th Birthday to Evan! We hope you have a wonderful day. From your Anker Valley Family.**



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Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 17th April – Year 2 Trip to Llandudno (arrive at school for 7:30am) Payments required before 5th April.

Monday 29th April – Indian and Irish Dancing Workshops (all classes) International Day of Dance

Thursday 2nd May – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

Friday 3rd May – Maypole Dancing Workshop (all classes)

Tuesday 7th May – Tempest vista class photos.

Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May – Walk to School Week

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May – Whitsun Half Term

Wednesday 5th June – Year 1 Trip to Twycross Zoo

Thursday 6th June – Reception Trip to the Sealife Centre

Friday 7th June – Level 1 Scootability (all classes)

Monday 10th – Friday 14th June – Phonics Screening Week (Year 1)

Monday 17th June – Skipping Workshop (all classes)

Monday 1st July – Year 2 Trip to the Midland Air Museum

Wednesday 3rd July – Level 2 Scootability (all classes)

Monday 15th July – Sports Day – Exact time to be confirmed (subject to weather)

Wednesday 17th July – Transition Day

Thursday 18th July – Summer Disco – 4:30-5:30pm

Friday 19th July – End of Term

Spring / Summer Term Assemblies

Friday 19th April – Dragonflies Family Assembly

Friday 26th April – Herons Family Assembly

Friday 3rd May – Kestrels Family Assembly

Friday 10th May – Dragonflies Family Assembly

Friday 17th May – Herons Family Assembly

Friday 24th May – Kestrels Family Assembly

Drop-off and Pick-up Information

Just a reminder that the gates close at 8:55am prompt and if your child arrives after this time, they will need to come through the office and will be given a late mark on the register. To confirm, they are not issued a late mark if the class has gone inside from the playground, only if they arrive after 8:55am through the office.

Please be reminded that the school has a late collection policy for any children not collected at home time. This is available on our website.

Year 2 Trip to Llandudno – Wednesday 17th April

We are very much looking forward to taking Kestrels on an exciting trip to the seaside next Wednesday! Please may we ask that children bring a warm, waterproof coat with them as the weather forecast is looking a little cloudy. As the children are having two meals during this trip, please ensure your child's rucksack is large enough to fit two packed lunches in. If you are providing your child's second lunch (no sweets, nuts or fizzy drinks), please ensure you bring this to school in their rucksack. We will provide their usual packed lunch when they arrive, and any additional lunches if you have booked one using the Microsoft form.

London Mini Marathon

Next week sees the start of the London Mini Marathon. Over the course of the next two weeks, the children will run a total of 1 mile on the playground to promote the London Marathon which takes place in April. The children will run short bursts over the two weeks until they have reached their target distance. Please make sure your child has their pumps/trainers in school every day, ready to take part.

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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