



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 27th September 2024

Anker Valley's Pumpkin Festival

We are very excited to announce that we will be holding our second Pumpkin Festival at Anker Valley, taking place Thursday 24th October, from 4:00pm until 5:30pm.



£4 per child

Price includes:

- All arts and crafts,
- A pumpkin to carve,
- Hot chocolate and a biscuit over the fire pit!

Children can come to school on this day wearing their spookiest Halloween costumes. We ask for donations of Halloween themed goods for the Tombola

Hot dog, chips and face painting stations available at an additional cost.

Halloween Tombola!

Decorate your own biscuit!

Have your photo taken at the photo booth!

Lots of arts and crafts to do!



Contacting Staff

Can we please remind parents that if they need to email any staff, this should be done via the office email address (office@ankervalley.org). This is so that we can keep track of the emails and ensure that they are directed to the right person and followed up accordingly. Thank you for your support with this.

Tapestry Update

Can we please ask that if you have not yet given consent for your child to be on Tapestry that you log into Arbor at your earliest convenience to give or decline consent, so that staff are aware of your decision and can begin to post observations and celebrations from school. Please do keep sharing special moments from home with us; staff love to see it!

Tempest Photography – Monday 30th September

Tempest Photography will be in school on **Monday 30th September**, to take individual and sibling photos. If you would like your child to have their photo taken with a sibling who does not attend Anker Valley, please arrive at school for 8:00am on Monday. Please also ensure children are in correct and full school uniform.



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Attendance

School attendance this year: 96%
School attendance this term: 96%

Dragonflies (this week): 95.1%
Herons (this week): 99.2%
Kestrels (this week): 99.1%
Kingfishers (this week): 100%



Congratulations to our children in **Kingfishers** for winning our weekly attendance award! Thank you to all parents who have supported their child this academic year with their attendance. We really do appreciate it.

This week in Dragonflies...

Dragonflies have had a very busy week this week. We have practised riding bicycles without stabilisers in our Balance Bike course, which was a bit tricky but very fun. It has been our turn to look after the animals this week and we have loved spending more time with them. We even found some eggs while feeding the chickens! In phonics, we have been working hard to blend the sounds we have learnt into words and are starting to try and read CVC words with support. In Maths, we have been working on sorting objects in different ways by finding things that are the same and comparing amounts of objects to identify which has more and less. During our choosing time, we have loved catching and observing insects in our outdoor environment and using the large junk modelling boxes to create our own cars.

NB. On Friday 4th October at 8:30am there will be a parent's workshop in the hall about supporting reading at home when your child is in EYFS.



This week in Herons...

This week Herons have tried hard with all their learning! They have especially impressed us with learning the 'Cauliflowers Fluffy' song and they did an amazing performance in this week's assembly. In Maths, we have been counting on from any number within 10 and have found one more than a number within 10 too. In Drawing club, we have been looking at the story 'Toys in Space' and thought of lots of inventive ways for the toys to escape. We can't wait to continue with this learning next week!

NB. On Friday 8th November at 8:30am there will be a parent's workshop in the hall about the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.



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This week in Kestrels...

Kestrels have been busy again this week and we can't believe we are halfway through our first half term in Year 2 already! In Art, we had a go at observational drawings using a continuous line, which was a little tricky as we had to remember not to take our pencils off the page. PE this week involved working together in small groups to create a short dance routine which was then performed to the rest of the class. In Maths, we have looked at partitioning numbers in different ways, written numbers in an expanded form e.g. $82 = 60 + 22$ and placed numbers on a number line. In English, we have continued with our work on Paddington and have written a diary entry. We hope that you all enjoyed listening to our Harvest assembly this morning where we shared our learning about the Harvest Festivals around the world.

NB. On Friday 18th October at 8:30am there will be a parent's workshop in the hall about supporting with reading in Year 2.



This week in Kingfishers...

This week in Kingfishers, we have enjoyed writing our own endings to 'The Tin Forest' in English. The children have really impressed us with their use of noun phrases and commas in a list. In Maths, we have been counting in steps of 50 and looking at relationships between different number facts. In Geography this week, we took a virtual tour of Venice and described some of the human features we could see. During DT, we started to think about the most popular pizzas that are enjoyed by our class, ready to design and make our own in the next few weeks.



Year 3 Laches Wood Residential – Payments now on Arbor

Payments for this trip can now be made on Arbor and we would like to thank those parents that have already made payments and confirmed attendance. We kindly ask that **all payments are made by the 19th November**, and a deposit of £20 will secure your child's place. (Please note that payments can be made in instalments). We cannot wait to share more information with you about this incredible trip!



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Harvest Festival

Well done for Kestrels for leading our Harvest Festival this morning, and a massive thank you to those who donated food cupboard items. All donations will be given to our local Food Bank!



Harvest Festival



Balance Bikes

We are very proud of Dragonflies for showing us how confident and determined they can be during their Balance Bike session with Bike Right! Well done to all children for taking part.



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Dates for your Diary

Monday 30th September – Tempest Photography (8:00am for sibling photos)

Wednesday 2nd October – Kestrels trip to London (Final details to follow)

Thursday 10th October – World Mental Health Day – Wear something yellow with school uniform

Tuesday 15th October and Thursday 17th October – Parents Evenings (Further details to follow)

Tuesday 22nd October – Kingfisher's Trip to Tatton Park (Further details to follow)

Thursday 24th October – Non-Uniform Day and Pumpkin Festival (4:00pm – 5:30pm)

Friday 25th October – Inset Day (School Closed to all pupils)

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November – Half Term

Monday 11th November – Remembrance Assembly (10:45am) Parents Welcome to attend

Tuesday 12th November – Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week

Tuesday 26th – Wednesday 27th November – Year 3 Residential to Laches Wood (more information to follow in September)

Friday 29th November – Christingle Assembly (2:45pm) led by Kestrels (Parents welcome to attend)

Monday 9th December – Year 3 Bikeability (rescheduled date)

Tuesday 10th December & Friday 13th December – Reception and Year 1 Nativity (6:00pm & 9:00am)

Tuesday 17th December – Year 2 and 3 Carol Concert (9:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Dinner Day

Autumn 1 Family

Assemblies

Fri 4th Oct –
Dragonflies

Fri 11th Oct –
Kingfishers

Fri 18th Oct –
Kestrels

Parents Evening – Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th October 2024

Parent's Evening bookings will open on Arbor from **Monday 30th September at 6:00pm**.

Bookings will be made on a first come first serve basis and will close at **6:00pm on Friday 4th October** - please ensure that all bookings have been requested by this point.

If you need any assistance with booking your preferred time slot through Arbor, please click the following link:

[Booking Guardian Consultations \(Parent's Evenings\) on the Parent Portal or Parent App – Arbor Help Centre \(arbor-education.com\)](https://www.arbor-education.com)

Whilst we hope that everything is set up correctly in the background, please do notify us if you experience any issues once bookings have opened, as this is a new system which we are still learning.

If you need any assistance, please do email the school office using office@ankervalley.org; we endeavour to respond at our earliest convenience.

Safeguarding at Anker Valley

At the start of the academic year, we update all of our school policies including our Safeguarding Policy, which based upon the guidance provided by Staffordshire County Council. Copies of all of our policies for 2024-25 can be found on our school website via the following link: [Anker Valley Primary Academy - Trust Policies](#) You can also request paper copies of school policies from Miss Elliott in the school office.

The designated safeguarding lead for Anker Valley is Mrs Natalie Horlor and in her absence Mrs Andrea Free and Mrs Maria Hamblin are the deputy designated safeguarding leads. All schools are required to have a governor that leads on Safeguarding and at Anker Valley this role is undertaken by Mrs Julia Jones. This information can also be found at the bottom of our weekly newsletters and on the school website on the safeguarding page: [Anker Valley Primary Academy - Safeguarding and Child Protection](#)

Safeguarding – Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Natalie Horlor (Headteacher) nhorlor@ankervalley.org

Mrs Andrea Free (Class teacher) afree@ankervalley.org

Mrs Maria Hamblin (Executive Head teacher and CEO) CEO@fierte.org

Mrs Julia Jones (Safeguarding Lead Governor) jjones@ankervalley.org

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



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