



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2024

Kestrel's Trip to London



"I just wanted to say a big thank you to all staff involved in the London trip, for again, maintaining their safety and giving them such a fulfilling day. My child was buzzing when he got home. He has thoroughly enjoyed his day out. He's been telling me about secret rooms behind mirrors in the palace, informed us that because the standard wasn't flying, that meant the king wasn't in residence! Thank you all."



Kestrels had a fantastic time during their trip to London. They saw the changing of the guard and had the whole of Buckingham Palace to themselves, where they learnt about Kings and Queens from the past and what the different state rooms are used for. They walked beautifully through Westminster to get to the London Eye and were in awe when they saw the view from the top. Lots of people made comments about how beautifully behaved the children were whilst we were on our travels.



"I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all the staff for today's trip to London, my child hasn't stopped talking about everything they did and saw today. I can't imagine a trip like this is easy to organise so just wanted to say thank you to everyone involved."



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Attendance

School attendance this year: 96.2%

School attendance this term: 96.2%

Dragonflies (this week): 94.6%

Herons (this week): 97.8%

Kestrels (this week): 97.0%

Kingfishers (this week): 98.8%



Congratulations to our children in **Kestrels** 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...

We have had a great week in Dragonflies. We took part in an obstacle course in P.E where we were able to practice our skills in climbing, balancing and jumping. In Maths, we have been exploring weight and capacity in lots of different ways, which has been lots of fun. During our choosing time, we have been very busy making pizzas in our new pizza shop, building houses with the large construction outside and harvesting vegetables in our planting area; this was a bit messy, but we thoroughly enjoyed it. We have been very excited to celebrate our successes in our first family assembly and are looking forward to the next one already. Well done Dragonflies on another successful week!



Dragonflies Stars of the week

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:

Jax and Amelia for a fantastic start to the year in Dragonflies.

Well done to **Renesmee**, our outstanding citizens, for bring kind and caring towards her friends.

Charlotte is our reading stars this week, for a great start to reading in Reception.



This week in Herons...

This week Herons have had a great week continuing with their understanding of Place Value within 10 during Maths. They have been able to count back, find 1 less than a given number and have been able to match quantities together. In English this week, the children have enjoyed continuing their drawing club adventures of 'Toys in Space'. They have come up with many amazing ways that the toys could escape from the spaceship! In our wider curriculum, the children have used water soluble pens in Art and have looked at photos of themselves at a special celebration in PSHE. We look forward to starting our new book next week which will be 'Lost in the Toy Museum'.

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 had a fabulous adventure this week to London! They caught the train from Tamworth Train Station to Euston and then travelled by Tube to Green Park. When we arrived at Buckingham Palace it was 'Changing of the Guard', and it was extremely busy, but the children were so sensible! We explored Buckingham Palace and were extremely lucky to have the Palace to ourselves. After lunch, we headed through Westminster to the London Eye; We loved seeing all the sights from the pod and were able to see the features of a city really clearly. We headed back to Euston and caught the train back to Tamworth. The children were all amazing and we had so many comments from members of the public about their impeccable behaviour and the fabulous opportunity they had been given. Well done Kestrels!

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...

In Kingfishers this week, we have been exploring how we can use our knowledge of number bonds within 10 to help us with number bonds within 100, e.g., if we know $5+4=9$, then we know that $50+40=90$. In English, we have used drama and other mediums to help us get into the character of the Old Man who lives in the Tin Forest and in reading we have been asking how we would feel if our favourite fairy tale had an unhappy ending.

The afternoons have been busy with planning how we can conduct a fair test to find out the force something needs to move. We have been using Laura McKendry for inspiration for our charcoal drawings and choosing which landmarks in Italy we would like to go and visit.



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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Anker Valley's Pumpkin Festival



Thursday 24th October - 4:00-5:30pm

£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



Decorate your own biscuit!



Halloween Tombola!



Lots of arts and crafts to do!



Have your photo taken at the photo booth!



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



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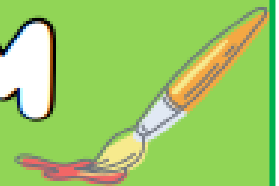


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CRAFT & CHAT WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM



BUILDING RESILIENCE AND MENTAL STRENGTH

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Tamworth
Family Hub at
Glascote,
Hawksworth
off Silverlink
road, B77 2HH

Drop in
anytime
between
10am-2pm

Thursday
31st
October



Register your interest
here:
Places may be limited. All
children to be
accompanied by an adult.



or
Email interest:
Subject- CWP event 31.10.24
MHSTTamworth@mpft.nhs.uk

Activities on the day; - Halloween themed creative activities to support children and young people with their emotional wellbeing. This may include soothing spiders or jolly jellyfish, pumpkin positive affirmations, grounding key chains, mystical glitter bottles and many more...

All craft items will be provided.



Midlands Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust



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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2024





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Dates for your Diary

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

Tuesday 15th October and Thursday 17th October – Parents Evenings

Friday 18th October – Kestrel's Reading Workshop (8:30-9:00am) and Family Assembly

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)

Monday 16th December – Christmas Pantomime 4:00pm – 5:15pm (Reception – Year 3 - £3.50 Payments on Arbor)

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

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Dinner Day

Autumn 1 Family Assemblies

Fri 11th Oct – Kingfishers

Fri 18th Oct – Kestrels

Christmas Pantomime – Dick Whittington

We are excited to let you know that Outside the Box Productions will be attending Anker Valley to perform the pantomime 'Dick Whittington' on **Monday 16th December at 4:00pm**. We invite **children only** back to school on this day. Tickets will be available to purchase on Arbor over the next week, we will let you know once these are live.

Flu Vaccinations

Staffordshire Families & Wellbeing Service have asked us to share the following information for parents and children regarding flu vaccinations:

Student information: <https://youtu.be/JepMe0BkDiI>

Parent information: <https://youtu.be/dnqfhcdLZvs>

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.

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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