



# Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## Heron's Visit from Staffordshire Fire and Rescue!

Heron's had a fantastic morning on Thursday with Staffordshire Fire Brigade, learning all about fire safety. They were incredibly lucky to be able to explore the inside of the fire engine, and the firefighters even allowed them to squirt the water hose!



## October Half-Term - Free Activities

Tamworth Borough Council have announced free activities that will be available over the October half-term holiday, which are run in partnership with local sports clubs. Please click the following link to find out more information and access the activity booking page:

<https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/half-term-free-childrens-activities>

We advise that you book these activities at your earliest convenience, as they are expected to be very popular.

## Trading Cards and Keyrings

We are aware that children have been trading Pokémon cards and keyrings at school during break times and this has resulted in some upset. We have even had incidents where keyrings and cards have been taken unknowingly. Can we please ask that keyrings and cards are not sent into school in order to prevent any further upset going forwards.

Thank you for your support with this.

## Scholastic Book Fair

We would like to thank all those who attended the Scholastic Book Fair. We hope you enjoy your new books! Thanks to your support, we have been able to raise **£344.60** worth of books for the school library.

## Flu Immunisation – 14<sup>th</sup> November

**Your child's flu vaccination is now due.**

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. Even if your child had the vaccine last year, the type of flu can vary each winter, so it is recommended to have it again this year or they won't be protected.

Please complete the online consent form (please only submit one form for each child) using the following link: <https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/>

## Autumn 2 Clubs

We are excited to announce the following clubs will be running after the half-term holiday:

- **Trampolining** (run by SH) – Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm - £18 – Spaces still available
- **Scooter Skills** (run by SH) – Wednesdays 3:30-4:30pm - £18 – Spaces still available
- **Hockey** (run by SH) – Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm - £18 – Spaces still available
- **Animal Club** – Now fully booked

These clubs are now available to book through Arbor on a first come first serve basis. **If your child was on the waiting list for Trampolining Club, we have confirmed their place, but payment is required – please notify us if they are no longer interested.** All clubs require payment upfront and without this your child will be unable to attend.

**Please note that clubs will begin week commencing Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November until Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.**



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## Attendance

School attendance this year: 96.4%

School attendance this term: 96.4%

Dragonflies (this week): 97.2%

Herons (this week): 97.9%

Kestrels (this week): 95.4%

Kingfishers (this week): 95.4%



Congratulations to our children in **Herons** 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 super week this week! We have practiced our gross motor skills on the big equipment and are beginning to become braver with how high we climb and jump. In Drawing Club, we are getting much better at hearing the initial sounds in the words we are writing, and in phonics we are still trying very hard with our oral blending and reading. In topic lessons, we have been learning about our bodies and skeletons. We have made skeletons out of different materials and worked together to draw around our friends to show their body parts. Well done on another successful week Dragonflies! **Happy Birthday to Isla-May**, we hope you have a wonderful day! From your Anker Valley Family.



## This week in Herons...

Herons have had an exciting week! On Thursday, we had special visitors from the fire brigade. We learnt ways to keep safe when there is a fire, saw all of the different equipment inside a fire engine and even got to squirt some water! The children listened attentively and were amazing throughout the workshop. The children have also finished their first unit of work in Maths and have been trying hard with applying their phonics within their writing. Next week we are looking forward to going on an Autumn walk around our local area. **NB. On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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...

This week in Kestrels, we have looked at different types of conjunctions and have written sentences about Paddington Bear using and, but, when and because. We have also written a description of Paddington using expanded noun phrases and will be writing a story about him next week. With Miss Brayer, we finished reading Katie in London and have thought about the meanings of new vocabulary. In maths, we have been looking at number bonds to 10, fact families and applying our knowledge to calculate related facts e.g.  $6 + 4 = 10$  so  $60 + 40 = 100$ . In art, we sketched the leaves we collected using charcoal and in science we have explored microhabitats and minibeasts which could be found in the different habitats. **Happy Birthday to Oliver and Millie**, we hope you have a wonderful day! From your Anker Valley Family.



## Kingfishers Stars of the week

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week, **Monika** for her knowledge of the Royal family during our trip to London and **Keela**, for an amazing start at Anker Valley.

Well done to **Terae and Alfie**, our outstanding citizens, for being great ambassadors on our trip to London.

**Elsie and Amelie** are our reading stars this week, for fantastic contributions in reading lessons.

Our Rainbow Reads this week are **Alfie, Isobel, Theo T, Taliyah, Elsie and Matilda**.

**Numbots:** Winnie, Bradley and Henry



## This week in Kingfishers...

This week in Kingfishers, we have been creating and performing sound poems during English. The children have loved reading *The Sound Collector* by Roger McGough, going on a listening walk around our school for inspiration and taking performance ideas from Michael Rosen's performance of *Chocolate Cake*. In Maths, we have been adding 1s and 10s across 10s and 100s using place value charts and number lines. To help us achieve this we have been making sure that we can recall our number bonds to 10 quickly. The children have enjoyed playing hit the button and completing the daily 10 to help them speed up their recall. In Geography, we researched famous things from Italy. The children enjoyed finding out facts about Ferrari and presenting their research. We are all looking forward to launching our new history unit, Stone Age to Iron Age, on our trip next week to Tatton Park! **Happy Birthday to Jayden and Ben**, we hope you had a wonderful day! From your Anker Valley Family.



## Year 3 Laches Wood Residential

Payments for this trip can 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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!

**Deadline for purchasing tickets is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 12:00pm**

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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## Dates for your Diary

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** – Kingfisher’s Trip to Tatton Park (Further details to follow)

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

Wear something spooky and donate Halloween themed goods!

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October** – Inset Day (School Closed to all pupils)

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Half Term**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November** – Remembrance Assembly (10:45am) Parents Welcome to attend

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** – Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week

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

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

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 3 Bikeability (rescheduled date)

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

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

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

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Dinner Day

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Santa Safari (Dragonflies – more information to follow)

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Christmas Holiday**

## Autumn 1 & 2

### Family Assemblies

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov – Herons

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Nov – Dragonflies

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Kingfishers

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Dec – 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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>

## 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](mailto:nhorlor@ankervalley.org)

**Mrs Andrea Free** (Class teacher) [afree@ankervalley.org](mailto:afree@ankervalley.org)

**Mrs Maria Hamblin** (Executive Head teacher and CEO) [CEO@fierte.org](mailto:CEO@fierte.org)

**Mrs Julia Jones** (Safeguarding Lead Governor) [jjones@ankervalley.org](mailto:jjones@ankervalley.org)

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



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 Little Princess Trust

## Support a SuperHairo

I'm having a big cut to give Hair and Hope to young people with cancer

Please sponsor me (name):

Billy

Where and when:

<https://gofund.me/b6b.c.0.d.50...>

For further details:

Every donation will go toward the cost of providing a child with a wig

Little Princess Trust

[gofund.me/a98dc1c8](https://gofund.me/a98dc1c8)



Scan to donate





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