



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 20th December 2024

A Christmas Message

The children have very much enjoyed the past few weeks at school, taking part in many of the festive activities that staff have planned, alongside the many exciting school trips / visits and Christmas performances. We are proud of all that the children have achieved since September and are looking forward to seeing what the next year will bring.

We hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas holiday and a very happy new year, and we look forward to welcoming children back to school in 2025.

kindest regards as always, Mrs Horlor and the Anker Valley Family xx

Current Vacancies at Anker Valley

Full Time Teaching Assistant

If you would be interested in becoming a Teaching Assistant at Anker Valley Primary Academy, please click the following link to access more information and the application form: [Teaching Assistant- Anker Valley Primary Academy job with Fierte Multi-Academy Trust | 218919](#)

Cleaner

We currently have a vacancy for a cleaner at Anker Valley Primary. This position is contracted for 10 hours per week from 3:30-5:30pm. The application form for this vacancy can be found using the following link: [Cleaner- Anker Valley Primary Academy job with Fierte Multi-Academy Trust | 219067](#)

Playworker Vacancy

Please be aware that there is currently a vacancy for the role of Play Worker within Our Pride Our Joy's Wraparound Care Club. The vacancy can provide morning or evening working hours. If you are interested in this position, please email info@opoj.fierte.org to contact Sharon Shilling who will be able to share an application form and more information surrounding the role.

Safeguarding - Important Information

We have had an increasing number of children, over the past couple of weeks, being left on the playground in the morning or being dropped at the school gates unsupervised before staff have arrived outside.

Please be reminded that all children must be supervised by parents until 8:45am, when their class teacher arrives on the playground. This ensures that no children leave the playground through the open gates or injure themselves on the play equipment.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Stars of the Term

A very big congratulations to our Stars of the Term!

You have sparkled this term with your attitudes to learning and your continual demonstration of the school values. Well done to you all!



Attendance

School attendance this term: 90.8%

Dragonflies (this week): 95.7%

Herons (this week): 86%

Kestrels (this week): 92%

Kingfishers (this week): 93.7%



Congratulations to our children in **Dragonflies** 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.



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Dragonflies Christmas Dinner Day

Many thanks to parents for attending school on Wednesday to enjoy Christmas dinner with the children. We do hope you had a lovely time, and we would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Chyla and Mrs Wheeler for providing such a lovely meal!



Dragonflies Trip to the Santa Safari

Dragonflies very much enjoyed their trip to West Midlands Safari Park, where they had the opportunity to spot all of the different animals; Some came right up to the coach to say hello! The children went to see Father Christmas in his grotto and were able to get a photo and choose a present afterwards. Thank you to parents for your understanding with regards to unavoidable delays causing a later than planned return.





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Kestrels and Kingfishers Christmas Carol Concert

We are incredibly proud of Kestrels and Kingfishers for their performances on Tuesday – We are sure you are all just as impressed with their singing too! The children were so brave, having the courage to sing in small groups and even a duet! Thank you to parents for attending our first Christmas Carol Concert.



A Visit from Father Christmas

We were incredibly lucky today that Father Christmas was able to take time out from his very busy schedule to visit all the children at Anker Valley. Each child was able to tell him what they wish for and was given a gift to open with their families on Christmas Day.

Merry Christmas!





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Dates for your Diary

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January – Christmas Holiday

Monday 6th January – Inset Day (School closed to pupils)

Friday 17th January – Y1 Florence Nightingale Workshop

Wednesday 29th January – Chinese Dragon Dance Workshop (all classes)

Thursday 30th January – Y2 African Dance Workshop

Tuesday 4th February & Thursday 6th February – Parents Evenings

Friday 7th February – Number Day (More details to follow)

Friday 14th February – Dragonflies trip to Parkridge Centre

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February – Half Term

Tuesday 4th March – Lunt Roman Fort Trip (Y3)

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day (More details to follow)

Friday 14th March – Year 3 Level 1 Bikeability

Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April – Easter Holiday

Thursday 1st May – INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

Spring 1 Family Assemblies

Fri 10th Jan – Herons

Fri 17th Jan – Dragonflies

Fri 24th Jan – Kingfishers

Fri 31st Jan – Kestrels

Fri 7th Feb – Herons

Fri 14th Feb – Dragonflies

THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM IN SCHOOLS ARE OPEN OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Monday 23rd December - Monday 4th January
(excluding weekends and bank holidays)

If your child is experiencing low level mental health difficulties, we may be able to help. Call us* between 9am - 5pm (Monday to Friday), leave your name and number and one of our practitioners will give you a call back to see what support we can offer.

We can help with:

- Low mood
- Anxiety
- Sleep difficulties
- Worry
- Panic

Burton and Uttoxeter
01283 504487

Cannock and Lichfield
01283 352113

Stafford
01283 352097

Tamworth
01785 301027



*Please note that these contact numbers are not to be used in an emergency.

After School Clubs – Spring 1

We are pleased to be able to confirm that the following clubs will be running after Christmas.

Tuesday – Archery Club (*SH Active*, £18 for six weeks) – **Spaces available**

Wednesday – Martial Arts Club (*SH Active*, £18 for six weeks) – **Spaces available**

Thursday – Street Dance Club (*SH Active*, £18 for six weeks) – **Spaces available**

Thursday – Animal Club (*run by Miss Herrick*, free to join) – **Club full**

All clubs will start at 3:30pm and finish at 4:30pm. Clubs will start week commencing 6th January and run for six weeks, finishing week commencing 10th February. With the exception of Animal Club, all clubs will be indoor due to the unpredictable weather. Due to the popularity of Animal Club, can we please ask that any children that have been part of the club this half term do not re-apply for places to allow others the opportunity to take part. Bookings are now open on Arbor at 6:00pm. As soon as a club becomes full, you will no longer be able to book on to it.

Thank you for your support with this.

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.