



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 17th January 2025

Spring Term Clubs!

The children have been having an amazing time in our new after-school clubs for this half term. They have been learning how to use a bow and arrow with accuracy in archery, practising their jabs and upper cuts in martial arts and expressing themselves through street dancing.

We are in the process of planning our clubs for Spring 2 and are hoping to have these available for booking within the next week. These will continue to be indoor until the warmer weather arrives in Summer 1; We then hope to be able to return to scooter, zorbing, Nerf Wars and all the other exciting clubs that we have been unable to run inside.



Scholastic Book Fair

We are pleased to inform you that the Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from **Monday 3rd February** until **Friday 7th February**. This will be available for children and parents to browse after school and during Parent's Evening Consultations throughout the week. By purchasing books through the Scholastic Book Fair, you are helping us to raise funds to source new books for our school library. We would like to thank you for all your support with this in the past - let's see if we can beat our record of selling over £500 worth of books!

SEND Workshop on Sensory Needs – 11th February 9:00am

Our Trust Inclusion Lead will be hosting a series of workshops between now and the end of the summer term based on feedback from our parents about what they would like to know more about.

The first workshop will be all about supporting with Sensory Needs and will be on **Tuesday 11th February at 9:00am**. Please arrive at the School Office once you have dropped off your child and the session will take place in one of our upstairs classrooms. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mental Health Support Team

Michelle from MHST will once again be joining us for both nights of our Parent's Evening. She will be on hand, outside the classrooms, to share updates on parent workshops and how the team can support.

Michelle will also be launching Children's Mental Health Week on Monday 3rd February with an assembly before working with Year 3. She also has some exciting news about Wellbeing Warriors, which we can't wait to share with you.

Attendance

School attendance this term: %

Dragonflies (this week): 96.4%

Hérons (this week): 96.3%

Kestrels (this week): 100% Well done!!

Kingfishers (this week): 95.9%



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.



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What we have been learning in Dragonflies...

In dragonflies this week we have enjoyed learning about Winter. In our choosing time we have loved using our new work bench to become builders. We have been using real hammers to safely hammer drawing pins into corks, and have used tape measures to measure objects and our friends. In maths we have been continuing our work on the composition of numbers and in drawing club, we have loved exploring our text *The Magic Porridge Pot*.



Dragonflies Stars of the Week

Well done to our Stars of the Week, **Bella** and **Lenka** for showing an improvement in their attitudes to learning and joining in during carpet times.

Our Readers of the Week is **Henri**, for trying hard and persevering with learning his sounds. He can now blend lots of CVC words.

Congratulations to our Outstanding Citizen, **Emilia**, for being extremely kind and caring to all of her friends in Dragonflies.

Rainbow Reads: **Skyla, Isla-May, Bella, Isla, Arthur, Amelia, Poppy, Lenka, Billy and Leo.**



What we have been learning in Herons...

Herons have been busy this week and are really excelling at their new routines! In English, we have continued to learn about adjectives and the children have been using these within their writing. The children are really enjoying this story and are looking forward to creating their own versions soon. In maths, we have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes. The children have shown brilliant understanding and have enjoyed the practical lessons during this week too. In phonics, the children have been learning about split diagraphs which are very tricky. However, they have all shown great perseverance! In our wider curriculum, the children have enjoyed playing on the steel pans in music, taking part in a Florence Nightingale workshop and practicing their throwing and catching skills in PE.



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What we have been learning in Kestrels...

This week, Kestrels have looked at the features of biographies and have started to find out about Nelson Mandela's life. In geography, they used the atlases to locate Africa and Kenya using the index page and then labelled a map to show Kenya and its capital city, Nairobi. In maths, they have completed an end of unit assessment about shape and started a new unit looking at money. In PE this week, they started a new dance unit and in computing they worked together to programme the Beebots. On Monday, in their Forest School session with Miss Garrett, the children enjoyed exploring, investigating, and building with the ice left from the cold weekend weather and the different pieces of wood and tyres. It has been another very busy week!



What we have been learning in Kingfishers...

In English this week, Kingfishers have been showing off their knowledge of Stonehenge by writing non-chronological reports and making connections with their prior learning in History recalling what could be a fact or a myth. We have concluded our unit on 2-, 4- and 8-times tables ready to increase our fluency of the facts in our fluency lessons and on TT Rockstars at home. Next week, we will begin looking how we can apply our times-tables knowledge to help solve multiplication and division problems. We have had busy afternoons in our wider curriculum lessons building on our programming skills to make sprites move and change direction after a command, practising for an inter school cross country and becoming archaeologists to discover who The Amesbury Archer could be.



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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2024



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Dates for your Diary

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

Thursday 30th January – Y2 African Dance Workshop

Monday 3rd February – Friday 7th February – Scholastic Book Fair

Monday 3rd February – Friday 7th February – Children's Mental Health Week

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

Friday 7th February – Number Day (Come dressed as your favourite number)

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)

Wednesday 14th May – Year 2 trip to Llandudno

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May – Whitsun Holiday

Thursday 12th June – Year 3 Trip to Cadbury World

Tuesday 1st July – Year 2 Trip to East Midlands Airport

Spring 1 Family Assemblies

Fri 24th Jan – Kingfishers

Fri 31st Jan – Kestrels

Fri 7th Feb – Herons

Fri 14th Feb – Dragonflies

After School Clubs – Spring 1

- 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 start at 3:30pm and finish at 4:30pm. With the exception of Animal Club, all clubs will be indoor due to the unpredictable weather.

Parents Evening Bookings

Parents Evening is taking place **Tuesday 4th February from 4:30-7:00pm**, and **Thursday 6th February from 4:00-6:30pm**. Slots will last ten minutes per child and will be available for you to book through Arbor from **6:00pm on Monday 27th January** and will close at **3:00pm on Friday 31st January**.

We have increased the number of slots that are available on each evening, therefore we will be unable to offer appointments outside these times. Please also be aware that we are unable to accommodate separate bookings for separated parents, so please do bear this in mind when choosing your date and time slot.

Current Vacancies at Anker Valley

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 – 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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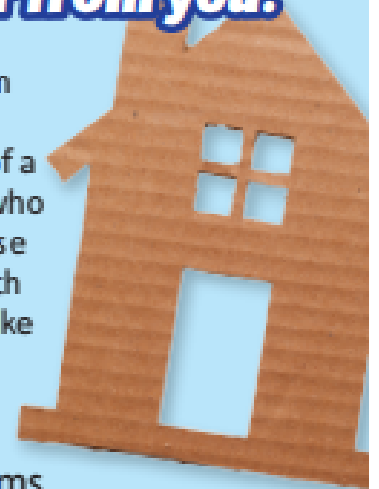


Holistic • Outreach • Multi Agency • Empowering

Are you struggling with... debt, meeting rent or mortgage payments, drug or alcohol misuse?

Whatever the issue we want to hear from you.

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia are pleased to announce in conjunction with its partners Betterway Recovery, Tamworth Home Start, Number 8 Charity and Community Together CIC the introduction of a new service for Tamworth. The service will be supporting anyone who may be in danger of losing their home even if you may not yet realise it. Whatever it might be help is at hand. Working in conjunction with your Tamworth Borough Council Housing Teams, the service will take a holistic approach providing wrap around support and early interventions to help you keep your home.



Holistic help to stabilise housing problems.

Outreaches within communities working towards positive outcomes.

Multi-Agency approach, one hub for all issues

Empowering and enabling people to build resilience and a better future.

For more information or if you're worried about losing your home then call the Tamworth **FREEPHONE** Telephone Support Line

0808 175 4041



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Holistic • Outreach • Multi Agency • Empowering

Providing information, advice, guidance to keep you in your own home.

Mondays 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Leyfields Family Hub,
Masefield Drive, Tamworth B79 8JB

Wednesdays 9.30am to 12.30pm

Glascote Children Centre,
Hawksworth, Glascote Heath, Tamworth B77 2ER

1st Thursday of the month

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Tamworth Jobcentre Plus,
90 Saxon Mill Lane, Tamworth B79 7JJ

Fridays 10.30am – 12.30pm

Glascote Family Hub,
Hawkesworth, Glascote, Tamworth B77 2ER

Freephone helpline number 0808 175 4041

Open late evenings until 9pm

Mondays and Wednesdays

Drop into our Front Desk,

Offa House, Tamworth Town Centre,
Orchard Street B79 7RE

If at threat of homelessness or homeless people can call or
email Tamworth Borough Council Housing Solutions

housingsolutions@tamworth.gov.uk

or call **01827 709709**



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