



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 24th January 2025

Parents Evening Bookings – Reminder!

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.

Number Day – Friday 7th February

To celebrate Number Day on **Friday 7th February**, children are invited to school dressed as their favourite number. We look forward to seeing all the amazing costumes that you create!



World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

To celebrate World Book Day, we invite children to come to school wearing their pyjamas and to bring their favourite story. The children will take part in some themed activities throughout the day.



Chinese Dragon Dance Workshop

To celebrate Chinese New Year on **Wednesday 29th January**, Education Group will be visiting school to do a special Chinese Dragon Dance workshop with all children. Please ensure PE kits are in school on this day.



African Dance Workshop

On **Thursday 30th January**, Year 2 children will be taking part in an African dance workshop to enhance their learning in class about Africa. Please ensure that PE kits are in school on this day.

SEND Parents 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.

Attendance

School attendance this term: **96.57%**

Dragonflies (this week): **97.9%**

Heron (this week): **96%**

Kestrels (this week): **94.3%**

Kingfishers (this week): **92.2%**



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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What we have been learning in Dragonflies...

This week, Dragonflies have had a great time exploring the new resources in our provision. In Maths, we have been learning about mass and capacity, and in Phonics, we are continuing to learn new phase three digraphs and trigraphs. We have really enjoyed exploring the story 'We're Going On a Bear Hunt' as part of our Drawing Club text this week. During our choosing time, we have gone on dinosaur word hunts, created bear faces using tissue paper and created maps to help the bear get home.



What we have been learning in Herons...

This week, Herons have been engaged in their learning and have been showing Miss Coggins how amazing they are! In Maths, we have started a new unit of work all about Place Value within 20. The children have been looking at the composition of numbers and how they are made of tens and ones. In English, the children have been learning how to use time conjunctions and have written their own version of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. In our wider curriculum, the children have been learning more about Florence Nightingale and are excited to start designing a bag for her.



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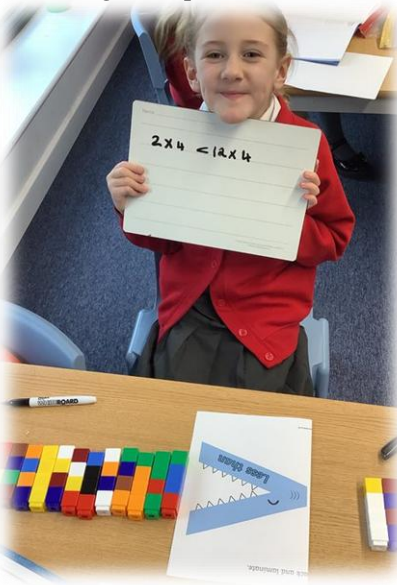
What we have been learning in Kestrels...

This week in Kestrels, we have been learning about money. We have counted in pound and pence and looked at how we can make the same amounts using different coins and notes. In English, we have researched, planned and written a biography about Nelson Mandela. During our art lesson, we looked at different types of bridges from around the world and sketched a bridge in both pencil and charcoal. In dance, we practised a range of different Samba moves and sequenced them into a short routine. Our science learning focused on what plants need to grow and how we can investigate whether they always need to be planted in soil. Next, we will be planting some bulbs and seeds in different conditions to see what happens to the growth of the plants and which conditions are best. We can't wait to share our learning with you.



What we have been learning in Kingfishers...

This week, Kingfishers have been applying all their times table knowledge to begin to multiply 2 digits by 1 digit numbers. They have also wowed us in their fluency lessons by completing a timed check in which they all improved on their scores. I am super proud! In English this week, we have discussed why somebody might write a letter and what features a letter needs to include to be successful. The children have practised their oracy skills by recounting their day to their partners with using the words 'and then' and 'next, we...'. Our sketchbooks became a journal for our thoughts on what we think 'The Iron Man' and the 'Space Bat Angel Dragon' might look like in Art, and in PE, we got creative in orienteering, using North, South, East and West instructions to recreate faces using bean bags, hoops and cones.



Kingfishers Stars of the Week

Well done to our Stars of the Week, Ollie for his positive attitude and willingness to learn and Ava for her enthusiasm in the classroom.

Our Readers of the Week are Olivia for her growing confidence in reading aloud and Grayson for demonstrating a love of reading for pleasure.

Congratulations to our Outstanding Citizen, Harper and Ellie-Mae for always showing respect and kindness to their peers and adults around school

Rainbow Reads: Darcie, Edith, Luna, Isla-Rae, Nicole, Molly, Evelyn-Rose, Jensen, Grayson, Tilly, Freddie, Sophie, Ben, Daniel and Eva

Numbots: Luna, Darcie, Harry, Grayson, Jensen, Ben and Hope



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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 (Payments on Arbor)

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

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

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day – children are invited to come to school wearing their pyjamas and to bring their favourite book to school

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

Spring 1 Family Assemblies

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.

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.

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!

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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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2024



PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Do you struggle with your mental health?

Are you supporting someone who is struggling with
their mental health?

Nobody has to suffer alone.

Drop in for an informal chat with local organisations to
find out what support is available. Free tea and coffee.

Thursday 6th February

09:30am to 12:30pm

Tamworth Assembly Rooms



Tamworth
Borough Council



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