



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 28th March 2025

Can you help with the animals over the Easter holidays?

We are looking for volunteers to care for the Anker Valley animals during the first week of the Easter holidays. You and your child would have the opportunity to care for the chickens, rabbits, and guinea pigs; This would involve visiting school in the morning and late afternoon to feed, clean and care for them. Miss Garrett will be able to show you exactly what you will be required to do prior to handing over the gate keys. This really is a lovely opportunity for your child to experience having the responsibility of looking after the animals daily, and we hope that they gain a sense of pride in doing so.

Please contact animals@ankervalley.org to register your interest, and Miss Garrett will respond accordingly.

Year 1 Tour of Tamworth

This week, our Year 1 children enjoyed a delightful walk around Tamworth town centre, where they built on their knowledge of the Geography of Tamworth following their recent tour on the Trust minibus. They visited notable landmarks such as the Robert Peel statue, the Town Hall, the old hospital and more, discovering fascinating facts about the geography of Tamworth, its history and its important figures. The children had a wonderful time playing in Tamworth Castle Grounds Park afterwards. We are incredibly proud of how sensible and well-behaved the children were throughout the walk - Well done Herons!



A Visit from Mr Hand and Mrs Bradshaw

We were very lucky to have a visit this week from Mr Hand and Mrs Bradshaw, who were looking at reading at Anker Valley. They had the opportunity to talk to our Reading Ambassadors, drop into some lessons and talk to the staff, who all shared the wonderful things that we are doing in school. Both Mr Hand and Mrs Bradshaw wanted to thank the children for their wonderful contributions and ideas.

Non-Uniform Day and Easter Hampers

We would like to offer our thanks to all those who donated Easter themed goods towards our Easter raffle, which will be drawn during our End of Term Celebration Assembly and Easter Bonnet Parade.

We hope the children enjoyed coming to school wearing their non-uniform – they looked amazing!

VE Day Celebrations

We are delighted to invite parents into school on **Thursday 8th May** from **9:00am** until **1:00pm** to take part in a series of workshops with the children. The activities will include a baking activity, an art activity, maypole dancing and traditional games. After a fun-filled morning, we would also like to invite you to enjoy lunch with the children, followed by an assembly where the children will share some songs that they have learnt in school.

This special day at school will mark the 80th anniversary since the end of the war.

Year 3 Trip to St Editha's Church

Please be aware that Year 3 children will be visiting St Editha's Church on Wednesday 2nd April. The children will be walking from school to the church, so please ensure that they are wearing suitable footwear and that they bring a waterproof coat if the weather is forecast to be wet.

The children will be learning about the Easter story to link with their learning in class.

Attendance

School attendance this year: 96.5%
Dragonflies (this week): 97.6% (2 lates)
Herons (this week): 97.8% (2 lates)
Kestrels (this week): 98.5% (2 lates)
Kingfishers (this week): 97% (1 lates)



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...

Dragonflies have loved learning all about the story of Hansel and Gretel this week as our Drawing Club text. We have explored healthy eating and what treat foods are, created our own potions and made some sweet treat decorations to transform our home corner into the witch's house. In Maths we have been learning about 3D shapes and continuing to explore number bonds to 10, and in phonics we have been practicing reading longer words.



What we have been learning in Herons...

This week the children have tried incredibly hard with their learning and have impressed Miss Coggins with their resilience and determination. In Maths, they have been learning about and exploring length and height. The children have been using non-standard and standard units of measure to measure how tall and long different objects are. They have really excelled in the unit! In English, the children have planned and written their own story for Beegu and I have very much enjoyed reading these. The children have also really enjoyed their walk into Tamworth Town Centre and represented our school beautifully. We saw lots of different human and physical features such as a shopping centre and river.



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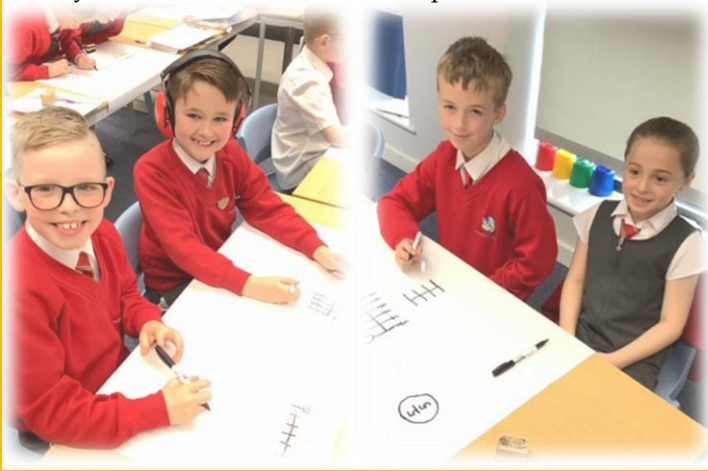
What we have been learning in Kestrels...

This week in Kestrels, we have revisited our prior learning on healthy eating and in science we have created some balanced meal plans. In PE, the children had the opportunity to explore ways to travel, climb and dismount the equipment in the hall with precision safely. In maths, we have been finishing our learning about length and height and have been able to use metre sticks to measure different objects. We have also compared measurements and solved problems using the four operations. We are reading a poem in English called 'The Owl and the Pussy-Cat' and we have made some predictions using subordinating conjunctions. Next week, is our Family library and assembly slot, we would love to see you there if you can make it.



What we have been learning in Kingfishers...

Kingfisher's have blown me away this week with their determination and resilience! they have produced some super writing from the perspective of a Roman Legionary, using lots of the skills we have been practicing and their knowledge from their history lessons and our trip. In Maths, we have explored equivalent fractions by using large number lines and practical equipment. It hasn't been easy, but the children have persevered and really pushed themselves! In computing, the children thought of questions that could be used for branching diagrams. In Science, they used animal Xray's to identify vertebrates and invertebrates. In History, we have asked ourselves if the legacies that were left by the Romans have had an impact on our life today and which were the most important.



Dragonflies' Stars of the Week

Well done to our Stars of the Week, **Harry** and **Evelyn**, for showing determination and independence in their learning.

Our Readers of the Week are **Edith** for her commitment to reading and learning at home as well as in school, and **Esme**, for joining in with our whole class reading sessions.

Congratulations to our Outstanding Citizens, **Darcie-Loren**, for being a super role model inside and outside of the classroom, and **Jayden**, for showing his determination in his learning.

Rainbow Reads: **Eva, Nicole, Harper, Ronnie, Esme, Edith and Molly.**

Numbots: Jenson, Nicole and Ronnie



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Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 2nd April – Year 3 trip to St Editha’s Church

Monday 7th April – Kestrel’s Rock It Parents session (2:30pm)

Thursday 10th April – Easter Disco (4:30-6:00pm)

Friday 11th April – End of Term Assembly incl. Easter Bonnet Parade and Easter Egg Hunt

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

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

Tuesday 6th May – Tempest Class Photographs

Thursday 8th May – Parent Workshops to celebrate VE Day

Friday 9th May – Year 3 Level 1 Bikeability

Wednesday 14th May – Year 2 trip to Llandudno

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

Monday 9th June – Heron’s Rock It Parents session (2:30pm)

Monday 9th June – Friday 13th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Week

Monday 9th June – Diabetes Awareness Week (Wear blue to school)

Thursday 12th June – Year 3 Trip to Cadbury World

Wednesday 18th June – Year 1 Trip to Twycross Zoo

Friday 20th June – Sport’s Day (1:30pm)

Monday 30th June – Dragonflies’ Rock It Parents session (2:30pm)

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

Thursday 3rd July – Summer Fair (2:30pm – 4:30pm)

Saturday 5th July – Festival Celebrations in the Castle Grounds (10am-5pm)

Monday 7th July – Friday 11th July – Fierté Festival Week

Friday 18th July – End of Term Family Picnic, Family Games and Celebration Assembly (12:30pm – 3:30pm)

Monday 21st July – INSET Day. School closed to pupils.

End of Term – Summer Holiday

Spring 2 and Summer 1 Family Library Sessions and Assemblies

Fri 4th Apr – Kestrels

Fri 11th Apr – End of Term
Assembly and Easter
Bonnet Parade

Fri 2nd May – Kestrels

Fri 9th May – Herons

Fri 16th May – Dragonflies

Fri 23rd May – Kingfishers

Easter Disco

Our Easter Disco is taking place **Thursday 10th April** from 4:30-6:00pm. Tickets are £3.50 each and include entry, a packet of crisps, a biscuit and a drink. Please be aware that tickets are now available to purchase on Arbor until **Thursday 3rd April.**

Easter Bonnet Parade

On **Friday 11th April**, we invite one parent per child to join us for our End of Term assembly, followed by an Easter egg hunt and Easter bonnet parade! Children will have the opportunity to parade their fantastic Easter bonnets in the school hall, and three winners will be announced who will receive a prize for their creativity and hard work. We hope that you enjoy this activity with your child, and we look forward to seeing what you can create!

Safeguarding – Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Natalie Horlor (Headteacher) nhorlor@ankervalley.org

Mrs Andrea Free (Class teacher) afree@ankervalley.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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