



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 23rd May 2025

Sports Week – 16th – 20th June 2025

We will be celebrating all things sporty week commencing 16th June 2025. We would like to invite children to come into school for the whole week in their sports kits, as they will be taking part in a range of activities each day. We will be joined by football coach and former Leicester City player Mark Albrighton on the Tuesday, who will be leading sessions for each of the classes. We also have a parent who has very kindly offered to lead some fitness sessions. If you are involved in any sporting clubs and are able to provide sessions during that week, please do let us know; we would be very grateful!

On **Friday 20th June at 9:15am** (weather permitting) we would like to invite parents to attend our Sports Day on the field, where the children will be taking part in a range of house competitions to see who will win the 2025 Sports Day trophy.

On this day, we ask that children wear a t-shirt that is in the colour of their house (if you are unsure which house your child is in, please contact their class teacher). **Avon, Trent, Anker, Tame.**

There will be ice lollies available to purchase for your children on Sports Day; These will be added onto to Arbor shortly.

Reception Graduation – Friday 27th June 2025

We would like to invite our Dragonflies families to celebrate their graduation from EYFS to KS1 on **Friday 27th June** at 9:00am. The assembly will start by sharing Stars of the Week, Rainbow Reads, etc as this is their final Family Assembly of 2025; It will then be followed by their graduation. It is anticipated that the assembly should be finished by no later than 9:30am. As this is just for Dragonflies, we are able to invite 2 family members per family, however, would kindly ask that prams and pushchairs are left outside and that you use the seating provided and refrain from sitting on the benches around the edge of the hall. We look forward to you joining us for this special celebration.

Summer Fair – Thursday 3rd July 2025

Our Summer Fair will be taking place (weather permitting on the field / playground) on **Thursday 3rd July between 2:30pm and 4:30pm.**

We ask that parents attending the fair, arrive at the school office at 2:30pm, where you will be able to join your child outside to join the festivities. On offer this year will be facepainting, bottle tombola, games with prizes to be won, bouncy castle (weather permitting), cake and gift stalls and hot food and ice cream from the kitchen to mention but a few.

We appreciate that some parents will not be able to attend until later on due to work commitments, therefore we will be inviting those children to support with running stalls.

Please note Friday 27th June is non uniform – donations of bottles for the bottle tombola.

Tempest Photography Vista Class Photos

It's time to find a spot on the mantelpiece or a space on the wall as I'm delighted to let you know that your recent group photograph is now ready to view and purchase at the following links:

<https://htmp.st/AnkerValley25-Reception>

<https://htmp.st/AnkerValley25-Year1>

<https://htmp.st/AnkerValley25-Year2>

<https://htmp.st/AnkerValley25-Year3>

We offer a free "deliver to school" option that is open for approximately 14 days, alternatively, home delivery is available at a cost of £5 postage and packing.

If you need assistance or have any questions regarding placing an order, please call 01736 751555 (option 3) or click on the "contact" button on our website home page (htempest.co.uk) where our friendly team will be happy to help.

Weekly Attendance

School attendance this year: **96.5%**

Dragonflies (this week): 98.4% (5 lates)

Heron (this week): 97.4% (3 lates)

Kestrels (this week): 98.1% (1 late)

Kingfishers (this week): 99.1% (4 lates)



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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Diabetes Week – 9th – 13th June

In order to raise awareness of diabetes in school, throughout this week the children will be finding out about what diabetes is and what it is like to live with this medical condition. As part of this, we are inviting children to come to school on **Monday 9th June** wearing blue clothing. In collaboration with Diabetes UK, we will be sharing age-appropriate information with the children in a special assembly.



Toys in School

Please may we ask that children are reminded not to bring toys into school, as these may become damaged and/or lost and can become a distraction during learning time. Any toys that are brought into school will be stored safely until the end of the day. Many thanks for your support with this.

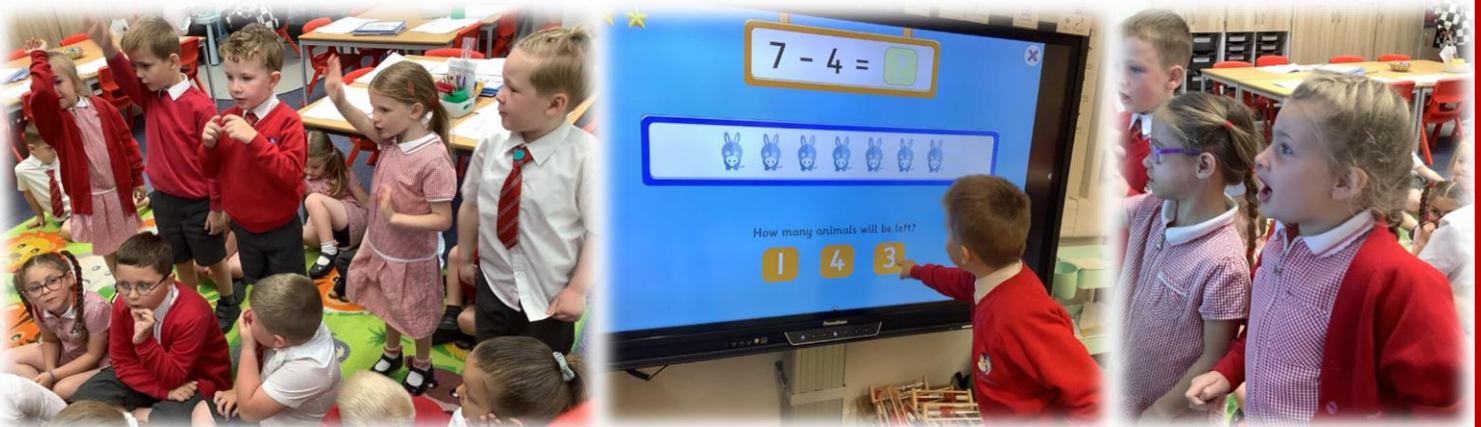
What we have been learning in Dragonflies...

This week, we have been learning all about ducks linked to the story 'The Odd Egg'. We have made predictions about what we think might hatch from the duck in the stories egg. We have explored other animals that hatch from an egg and used our small world resources to create homes for the ducks and other farm animals. In phonics, we have been practicing reading longer words and in maths, we have explored 2D shapes and their properties. Happy half-term Dragonflies!



What we have been learning in Herons...

Herons have enjoyed their last week before the Whitsun break! In maths, we have been exploring halves and quarters. The children have been halving and quartering shapes, objects and quantities and we have spoken about when we would use this learning in real life situations. In English, we have been reading and performing a fantastic poem called 'At the zoo'. We have used the poem for inspiration to plan our very own and look forward to writing this. In the wider curriculum, we have learnt about parts of a plant and have created an information text on word, about everything we know about plants. We wish all of Herons a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing them after the break!



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What we have been learning in Kestrels...

This week in Kestrels, we have completed the Year 2 SATs papers and as explained in last week's Newsletter the results of these will be shared in the end of year reports. In English, we have continued to read 'The Snorgh and the Sailor' and have written a diary entry as if we were the Snorgh thinking carefully about his feelings. In maths, we have been finding out more about fractions including learning to find the whole and recognising the equivalence of a halve and two quarters. In geography, we have compared seaside resorts in the past with those of today linked to our visit to Llandudno last week. With Mrs Smith in our Rokit music lesson, we had a go at playing the ukuleles and are busy preparing for our next music exam.



What we have been learning in Kingfishers...

This week in Kingfishers, we have shown amazing perseverance and resilience in maths when trying to find fractions of amounts. We have used counters and cubes and by the end of the week have been able to achieve this independently. In English, we have learnt how to make notes that we can use to inform our writing after half term. In the afternoons, we have been exploring what are mountains and volcanoes and how are they formed ready to engage in our natural History Museum workshop on Friday afternoon. In cricket, we had our final practice before our competition after half-term.



Kingfisher's Stars of the Week

Well done to our **Stars of the Week**, **Nicole**, for being an excellent learning partner, and **Daniel**, for his determination to improve his learning.

Our **Readers of the Week**, **Freddie**, for showing determination in improving his reading in 1:1 reading time, and **Molly**, for her growing confidence in reading lessons

Congratulations to our **Citizens of the Week**, **Michael**, for showing care and courtesy to his friends while on the playground, and **Evan**, for his manners and courtesy around school.

Rainbow Reads: Edith, Grayson, Daniel, Nicole, Darcie, Olivia, Eva, Luna, Ava, Freddie, Jayden, Sophie, Harper, Hope and Molly

Numbots: Ava, Ronnie, Evelyn and Edith



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Dates for your Diary

Thursday 5th June – Y3 Cricket Competition

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

Monday 15th June – Friday 20th June – Sports Week

Monday 16th June – Reception NCMP Height and Weight Checks

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

Tuesday 24th June – Year 1 Trip to Twycross Zoo

Thursday 26th June – Year 3 Tennis Tournament

Thursday 26th June – Year 2 Trip to East Midlands Airport

Friday 27th June – Reception Graduation

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

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

Monday 14th July – Open Evening (3:30pm – 4:30pm)

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.

Summer2 Family Library Sessions and Assemblies

Fri 6th June – Kestrels

Fri 13th June – Herons

Fri 20th June – Sports Assembly (**children only**).

Fri 27th June – Dragonflies (**Graduation**)

Fri 4th July – Kingfishers

Fri 11th July – Kestrels

Fri 18th July – Picnic lunch (12:30pm) followed by games on the field and bouncy castle and End of Term Celebration Assembly (2:45pm)

Cadbury World – 12th June 2025

On **Thursday 12th June 2025**, Kingfishers will be visiting Cadbury World which links in with the children's learning in History about ancient civilisations. **The children will be travelling using the Trust minibuses, leaving school shortly after 9:00am and returning in time for the end of school.**

During the day, the children will participate in a tour of Cadbury World, followed by the Maya workshop, where they will learn about the achievements of the earliest non-European civilisation and how this contrasts with British society. In addition to this, they will also have the opportunity to see real cocoa pods filled with the cocoa beans that were so valuable to Mayans in c. AD 900, and the wooden whisk they used to make their favourite chocolate drink. Some lucky children will even have the chance to dress as a Mayan!

Please ensure that your child has a packed lunch (unless one has been ordered through the school kitchen). They will need to wear full school uniform and will not require any additional snacks or spending money.

Year 3 Cricket Competition

On **Thursday 5th June** in the afternoon, 10 children from Year 3 will be taking part in a cricket festival at Tamworth Cricket Club. They will be representing Anker Valley along with other Y3/4 children from across Tamworth. If you have been notified that your child is taking place in this, please ensure you have returned the consent form and that your child has PE kit, a hat and drink in school on this day.

We look forward to sharing their achievements with you.

Year 3 Tennis Workshop

On **Wednesday 25th June**, in the afternoon, Year 3 will be walking to Spital Tennis Club to take part in a tennis festival. They will be joining St Gabriels, Hanbury's Farm, Coton Green and Howard Primary on the day. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on this day, a hat and a drink. We will return to school in time for the end of the day, however, will keep you updated of any delays through Arbor and Facebook if they occur.

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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Little Princess Trust Fundraiser

Isobel in Year 2 has very kindly decided to donate her hair and raise money for the Little Princess Trust!

Isobel will be having her hair cut short on Wednesday 4th June.

Please click the following link if you would like to donate to this wonderful cause:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/isobel-patterson-2?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015



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

Monday 26th - Friday 30th May
(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.



FREE

Half Term

At St. Editha's Church

"Give thanks to God for he is good"
- Psalm 107

Celebrate Thankfulness this week at
St. Editha's with a variety of FREE
activities for children!

Paint a stone - thankful trail - tree
decorating

Open every day 10am - 2pm
www.stedithatamworth.co.uk



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APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2024

