



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well.

As we approach a new chapter in Anker Valley Primary's journey, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and leadership of Natalie Horlor, who will be moving on to her second headship at the end of the term. Her energy and unwavering commitment have played a vital role in shaping our school into the strong and nurturing environment it is today. We are deeply grateful for all she has done for our children, staff, and community.

While we have not yet appointed a new Headteacher, the Trust is fully committed to ensuring a smooth and positive transition for all. With this in mind, I am delighted to share that I will be joining Anker Valley as full-time Headteacher for the duration of the Autumn term. I will strive to work closely with your children, the staff, and all parents and families to ensure continuity and stability. My focus will be on sustaining all the wonderful aspects of our school and supporting a seamless handover.

Recruitment for our new Headteacher will resume in earnest during the first week of September, and I am confident that we will find the right leader to sustain and build on the many successes already in place.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you at school and working together in the months ahead.

Warmest regards,

Maria

Year 3 Cricket

Well done to our year 3 cricket team who represented Anker valley at the Tamworth Cricket Club. They showed great team spirit and sportsman ship which made Miss Garrett very proud



Summer Fair Prize Winners

Many thanks to those who attended our Summer Fair yesterday and to the parents who ran their own stall – we do hope you enjoyed it.

With your help, we managed to raise an amazing £823 for Anker Valley!

We would also like to share winners of the following games:

- Guess the weight of the sweets:** Millie M and Max H
- Football (highest score):** Daniel B, Jenson E and Charlie C
- Archery (highest score):** Daniel B
- Bowling/Skittles:** Eva C
- Guess the weight of the cake:** Grayson A

Well done everyone!

Weekly Attendance



- School attendance this year: **96.1%**
- Dragonflies (this week): 97.7%**
- Hérons (this week): 96.2%**
- Kestrels (this week): 97%**
- Kingfishers (this week): 96.9%**



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.



'Inspiring all to excellence'





Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

Warmer Weather

As you will probably be aware, temperatures are forecast to increase again towards the end of next week. As we have done previously, we will send out correspondence as early as possible to inform you of any adaptation that we may need to make to uniform on these days. As it stands, at the moment, Monday and Tuesday are forecast to be the cooler days of the week and we are therefore not anticipating any adaptations on these days, however if the forecast over the weekend, we will send out correspondence Sunday evening.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school with them and a names cap or hat and that suncream has been applied before school.

Many thanks for your support with this.

Summer Disco Reminder

The Summer Disco is taking place Thursday 17th July from 4:30-5:30pm.

Please be aware that you are still able to purchase tickets through the school shop on Arbor – we ask that payment is made by no later than Monday 14th July so that the kitchen can cater for the event appropriately.

Tickets are £3.50, which includes refreshments of crisps, a biscuit and a drink.

We very much look forward to seeing the children in their best party outfits ready for lots of music and dancing!

Family Picnic and End of Term Assembly Arrangements

On Friday 18th July, we would like to invite our families to join us on the field from 12:30pm for our End-of-Term Family Picnic. If your child usually has a school dinner on this day, they will be having a picnic lunch, therefore, if you will be bringing your own picnic lunch to enjoy as a family, please select 'packed lunch from home' on Arbor by **Friday 11th July** to minimise food waste.

Please be reminded that we are a nut free school.

If your child is having a school dinner, they will be asked which choice of filling they would like by Friday 11th July.

On the day, ice lollies and cans of pop will be available to purchase priced at £1 each.

At 2:30pm, families will gather in the school hall for our End-of-Year Assembly, where stars of the term and year will be awarded, including attendance certificates. Emails will be sent out next week confirming if your child will be awarded a certificate.

If the weather is forecast to be wet, we will do our best to be able to have our family picnic in school, however, in this eventuality, we will send out correspondence as soon as possible.

We look forward to you joining us!

End of Year Reports

This year, as a Trust, all schools will be sending out end-of-year reports through Arbor. Anker Valley's reports will be sent electronically to primary guardians on Friday 11th July.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will receive additional information with regards to the EYFS GLD, Phonics Screening and End of Key Stage One SATS outcomes.

On Monday 14th July, school will be open from 3:30-4:30pm if you wish to discuss any elements of your child's report with their class teacher. Alternatively, if you would like to meet your child's new teacher, (including Mr Hunter in Year 2), you are warmly welcome.

We are hoping that the process of sending out the reports will be a smooth one, however as always, please do let us know if you are experiencing any difficulties with accessing your child's report.



'Inspiring all to excellence'





Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

What we have been learning about in Dragonflies this week...

Dragonflies have had a very exciting week this week! We have been continuing our learning about sea animals by exploring our new Drawing Club text, Tiddler. We have been making fish using different materials, painting fish outside and using our new reading book to write about what we could see under the sea. We were even lucky enough to see lots of real-life sea animals on our trip to the Sea Life Centre! It was our first time on a train for lots of us, but we were very sensible and had an amazing time! Well done on another brilliant week Dragonflies!



What we have been learning about in Kestrels this week...

This week, we have continued to work with the story 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne but this time we have been thinking about the use of adjectives to describe. We have described the Gorilla and Hannah the little girl in the story. In maths, we have been learning about the place value of numbers between 50 and 100. We have partitioned them into tens and ones and thought about what one more and one less than a given number is. In RE, we have continued to think about where different people meet including religious buildings and what we might see when they are there. As it was very warm on our PE day, we completed some yoga in the school hall. Next week, we are looking forward to the Fierté Festival, learning about lots of different artists and working with different media to create final pieces.



'Inspiring all to excellence'



APPROVED TRAVEL PLAN 2024



Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

What we have been learning about in Kingfishers this week...

This week in Kestrels, we have been trying to cheer up the main character of our book by writing adverts to sell her inventions, letters to offer advice and then thinking of lots of positive ways we could describe her.

In maths, we have explored different ways we can record data that is collected and the information we can find out from the results. We found out that Kestrels most popular ice cream flavour is chocolate and their favourite sport is gymnastics.

In history, we story mapped the journey of Amelia Earhart and the children thought of questions they would like to ask her.



What we have been learning about in Mallards this week...

Mallards have had another fantastic week of learning. They have imagined they have been to the Amazon rainforest and wrote about their adventures there. The children have also continued to work hard the unit of time in Maths. Ten of the children represented the school at a cricket tournament. They made us all so very proud how well they worked as a team



Kingfisher's Stars of the Week

Well done to our **Stars of the Week**, **Connie**, for settling into school beautifully, and **Daniel**, for working so hard in class all the time!

Our **Readers of the Week**, **Hope**, for beautiful expression and intonation in her reading, and **Ronnie**, for trying hard with his reading.

Congratulations to our **Citizens of the Week**, **Sophie**, for showing real determination in her work, and **Jenson**, for showing respect in and outside of the classroom.

Rainbow Reads: Jenson, Tilly, Esme, Daniel, Darcie, Luna, Evelyn, Hope, Ronnie, Molly, Edith, Sophie, Haper, Freddie.



'Inspiring all to excellence'





Anker Valley Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

Dates for your Diary

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

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

Thursday 17th July – Summer Disco, tickets now available to purchase through Arbor (4:30-5:30pm)

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

Thursday 17th July – Summer Disco, tickets now available to purchase through Arbor (4:30-5:30pm)

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.

End of Term – Summer Holiday

Summer2 Family Library Sessions and Assemblies

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)

2025/26 Dates for your Diary

Monday 1st September – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

Tuesday 2nd September – Children return to school (Reception half day and parent lunch)

Friday 5th September – Book Bus at Anker Valley

Wednesday 18th September – Year 1 Trip to Sudbury Hall

Friday 19th September – Jeans for Genes Day (Wear an item of denim to school)

Friday 26th September – Harvest Festival 9:00am (Donations for Tamworth Food Bank)

Monday 29th September – Tempest Individual photographs (including sibling / family)

Thursday 2nd October – Year 2 trip to London

Friday 3rd October – Parents Workshop Year 1 (Phonics Screening Check) 8:30am

Friday 10th October – Parents Workshop EYFS Phonics (8:30am)

Tuesday 14th October – Parents Evening (4:30pm – 7:00pm)

Thursday 16th October – Parent's Evening (4:00pm – 6:00pm)

Thursday 23rd October – Pumpkin Festival (4:00pm – 5:30pm)

Friday 24th October – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025 – Half Term

Monday 10th – Friday 14th November – Antibullying Week

Tuesday 11th November – Odd Socks Day

Tuesday 11th November – Remembrance Assembly (Mrs Hamblin) Parents welcome (10:45am)

Thursday 13th November – Year 2 Trip to Tamworth Castle

Friday 28th November – Christingle Assembly (2:45pm)

Monday 1st – Tuesday 2nd December – Year 3 Residential to Laches Wood

Tuesday 9th December – Reception & Year 1 Nativity (6:00pm)

Friday 12th December – Reception & Year 1 Nativity (9:00am)

Thursday 18th December – Peter Pan Pantomime (4:00pm – 5:00pm) Reception – Year 4

Tuesday 16th December – Year 2 – Year 4 Carol Concert (9:00am and 6:00pm)

Friday 19th December – End of Term Assembly (9:00am)

Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January 2026 – Christmas Holidays

Monday 5th January – Inset Day (School Closed to pupils)

Autumn Term Family Library Sessions and Assemblies

Fri 5th Sept – Mallards

Fri 12th Sept – Kingfishers

Fri 19th Sept – Kestrels

Fri 3rd Oct – Herons

Fri 10th Oct – Dragonflies

Fri 17th Oct – Kestrels

Fri 8th Nov – Herons

Fri 15th Nov – Dragonflies

Fri 22nd Nov – Kingfishers

Fri 6th Dec – Kestrels

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.



'Inspiring all to excellence'

