

Anker Valley Newsletter - Friday 16th October



One More Week to Go!

With just one more week until half-term, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our children on their hard work, determination and positive attitude throughout the term so far.

As we approach the final week of the half-term, we encourage everyone to continue giving their best effort and making the most of the exciting learning opportunities ahead.

Raising Pupil Profiles and Responsibilities

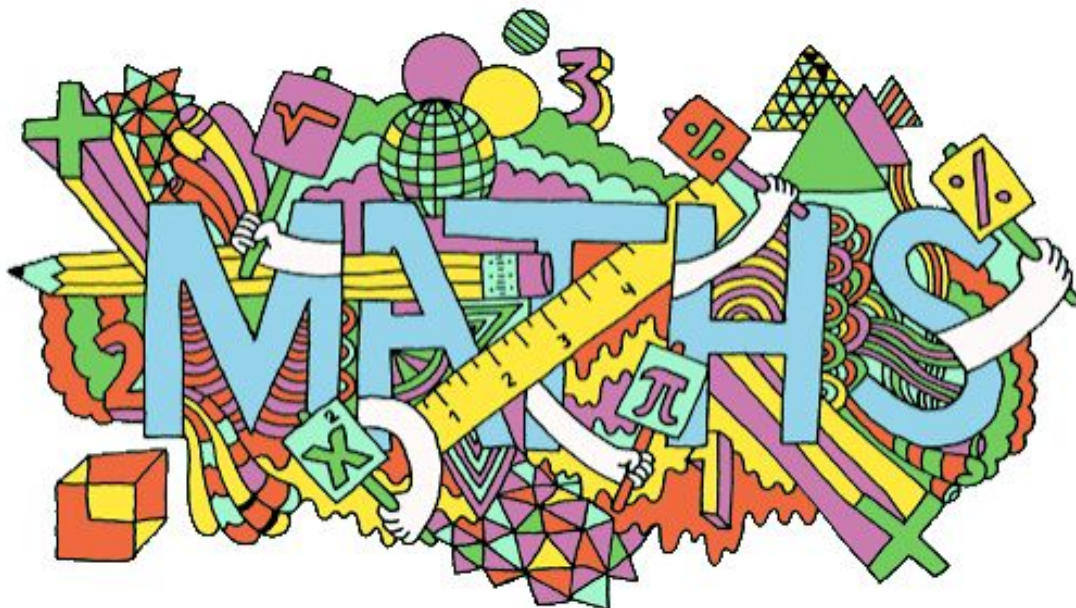
At school, we are committed to raising pupil profiles and providing meaningful opportunities for children to develop leadership skills, take responsibility and have a genuine voice in shaping our school community.

This week, children have been taking part in a range of elections for our pupil leadership roles. One child will be elected as our Trust Pupil Governor, representing the whole school at Trust events and wider pupil leadership opportunities. We are also appointing two House Captains from each house team, with every child from Reception to Year 5 voting for Year 5 candidates who have put themselves forward for these important leadership positions.

Alongside this, each class will elect two Pupil Governors, voted for by their peers, to represent the views and ideas of their classmates. Other leadership opportunities include Reading Ambassadors, who help promote a love of reading across the school; Sports Leaders, who support physical activity and sporting events; and Reception Buddies, who help our youngest children feel happy, confident and supported during breaktime and lunchtimes.

These roles play an important part in developing children's confidence, leadership and sense of responsibility. By giving pupils a voice and opportunities to contribute positively to school life, we are helping them become active citizens who care about their school, their community and the wider world.

Mr Wilkinson



Supporting Your Child with Maths at Home

We are delighted to share our new "Supporting Your Child with Maths at Home" guide with families. This document provides practical information about the key maths skills children develop at each stage of primary school, along with simple ideas and activities that can be used at home to build confidence and reinforce learning. We hope it helps parents and carers feel more confident in supporting their child's mathematical journey and encourages plenty of positive maths conversations at home. A few minutes of maths practice each day can make a significant difference!

[Supporting your child at home with maths](#)

Miss Stott – Maths Lead

School Governors

The closing date for nominations for our Parent Governor vacancies has now passed. We would like to thank everyone who expressed an interest in supporting the school in this important role. As we have received more nominations than there are vacancies available, we will now be holding a ballot to allow parents and carers to vote for their preferred candidates. Further information about the voting process, including details of the candidates and how to cast your vote, will be shared with families before the end of the half-term. We appreciate your continued support and engagement with our school community.

Parents' Evenings

A reminder that our parents' evenings will take place on:

Monday 19th October | 3:40pm - 6:30pm

Tuesday 20th October | 3:40pm - 6:00pm

If you have not yet booked your appointment, please do so via Arbor. Parents' Evening is a valuable opportunity to meet with your child's teacher, celebrate achievements, discuss progress and find out how best to support learning at home.

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing your child's learning and development.

INSET Day – Friday 23rd October

A reminder that school is closed to pupils Friday 23rd October.



Science at Anker Valley Primary Academy

We are delighted to share that our Science Lead, Mrs Sweeney, will be hosting a dedicated Science Stand during Parents' Evening.

Parents and carers are warmly invited to drop in and discover more about the wonderful science provision and opportunities available at Anker Valley Primary Academy. This is a fantastic chance to learn about how science is taught across the school, explore the exciting learning experiences our children enjoy, and gain an insight into our science curriculum and wider enrichment opportunities.

Whether you would like to find out more about what your child is learning in science, understand how we develop scientific enquiry skills, or simply ask questions about our science offer, Mrs Sweeney will be on hand throughout the evening to help.

We look forward to showcasing the exciting world of science at Anker Valley Primary Academy and sharing how we inspire curiosity, exploration and a love of learning in all our pupils.

Scholastic Book Fair

We are excited to announce that our Scholastic Book Fair will be taking place next week after school. This is a wonderful opportunity for children, parents and carers to browse a fantastic selection of books and purchase titles to enjoy at home.

The Book Fair will also be open for part of both parents' evenings, giving families the chance to visit before or after meeting with their child's teacher.

During the school day, children will have the opportunity to visit the Book Fair with their class, explore the range of books available and create a wish list of titles that interest them. They will then be able to share their choices with parents and carers at the end of the day to help inform any purchases.

For ease and convenience, payments can be made either by card using the card reader available at the Book Fair or by scanning the QR code, which will take you directly to the online payment page.

We look forward to seeing many of our families supporting a love of reading and helping children discover their next great book!



Supporting Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing

We are also pleased to welcome Michelle Page, Education Mental Health Practitioner, from the Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, who will be attending Parents' Evening on Tuesday 20th October.

Michelle will have an information stand available throughout the evening, where parents and carers can find a range of helpful resources, leaflets and guidance relating to children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the support available to children and families, ask questions, and access advice on promoting positive mental health both at school and at home.

Please feel free to stop by, collect information and speak with Michelle during your visit to Parents' Evening. We are grateful for her support and look forward to offering this valuable opportunity for our families.

Toys and personal belongings from home

We kindly ask that children do not bring toys from home into school unless specifically requested by their class teacher. While we understand that children enjoy sharing their favourite toys with friends, bringing items from home can sometimes lead to them becoming lost, damaged or causing disagreements between children. Thank you for your support.

Packed Lunches and snacks from home

As a gentle reminder, we kindly ask all families to check the ingredients of snacks and lunchbox items before sending them in to school. Some popular products, such as Nutella, Kinder Bueno and other foods containing nuts, can pose a risk to children in school with nut allergies. We greatly appreciate your help in checking labels and choosing nut-free alternatives.

Bikes and Scooters

To help keep all children safe on site, we kindly ask that bikes and scooters are walked through the school grounds during drop-off and pick-up times. The pathways can become busy with children, families and staff, and walking bikes and scooters helps to reduce the risk of accidents and injuries. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this message with your child and helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone in our school community.