

11<sup>th</sup> May 2026

# Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

## A Few Words from Mr Hancox

This week, our Year 6 children will be taking their SATs, and I would like to wish every one of them the very best of luck. They have worked incredibly hard throughout the year, showing determination, resilience and a real commitment to doing their best. The tests are just one small part of their learning journey, but they provide an opportunity for the children to show what they know and how far they have come. We are extremely proud of our Year 6 children—not just for their academic achievements, but for the way they support one another, approach challenges positively and represent our school so well. I would also like to thank our staff and families for the encouragement and care they give our children every day. Please remember that each child is valued for who they are and the many talents they bring. Good luck, Year 6—you've got this!

## Development of the Castle Library



We are so proud of our new Castle Library, it is nearly finished and the children are so excited to start using it more. We are now looking at raising money to buy some brand new, up-to-date books to inspire and foster a love for reading. The school council has picked a winning shield for each class, which will be displayed in the library. Thank you to everyone who entered.



## What has been happening!

**Forest Friday for Kestrels!**

**Attendance**

We are having a major push with our attendance, and it has been amazing to celebrate children who have been at school everyday this year! It was also fantastic to acknowledge the biggest improvements!

It would be great to see more children receiving these certificates. If you are not in school, you are not learning!

**Forest Friday for Kingfishers!**

We have had some very special little visitors to Nursery and Reception this week. It has been incredible to watch our newly born ducks grow and take their first swims!

**Forest Friday for Kingfishers!**

## Wanted – Pre-Loved Uniform

It has been wonderful to see so much of our lost-property uniform (displayed in the school entrance) going to new homes. Not only has this helped reduce costs for families, it has also contributed to lowering our school's carbon footprint. If you have good quality school uniform that your child has outgrown and you would be happy to donate, please wash it and bring it to the school office. Your generosity will make a real difference in supporting other families within our school community. Thank you so much for your kindness and support.



Nursery have spaces available in September for 2 and 3 year olds.

We currently have 15 and 30 hour places available.

Please contact school office for further information.

Please may I gently remind parents that, as a school, we are committed to ensuring children are in school and learning every day. We understand that family time and holidays are important, but we are required to follow national attendance guidelines, including issuing fines where necessary. These decisions are not made by the school directly, and any money collected from fines goes back to the County, not to us.

We know this can be frustrating at times, and we truly appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to give every child the best possible start in life.

## Term Dates 2026/27

### Autumn Term 2026

Inset day: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Inset day: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Term Starts: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Holiday: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Term Ends: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Holiday: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January

### Spring Term 2027

Inset day: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Term Starts: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Holiday: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Inset day: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Term Ends: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March

Bank Holiday: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Holiday: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term 2027

Term Starts: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Inset day: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Holiday: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Term Ends: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

Holiday: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July onwards.

## ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

**1** I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

**£160**

**2** FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.

**IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE 10 IN 10**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

**1** Day = **2** Sessions

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160  
**4 children & 1 parent = £640**  
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

**3** FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160  
**4 children & 2 parents = £1280**  
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

**4**

**2ND TIME**  
2 parents and 1 child = £320  
2 children = 640  
3 children = 960  
4 children = 1280  
No discount for early payment

**3RD TIME**  
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child  
**1 parent & 4 children = £10,000**  
**2 parents & 4 children = £20,000**

## Summer 1

- Mon May 11<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATs
- Tues May 12<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATs
- Tues May 12<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Sports club
- Wed May 13<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATs
- Thurs May 14<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATs
- Fri May 15<sup>th</sup> – Parent Lunch Reception
- Fri May 15<sup>th</sup> - Forest Friday Year 5/6
- Thurs May 21<sup>st</sup> – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Fri May 22<sup>nd</sup> – End of Term

## Summer 2

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication tests
- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June – KS2 Sports club
- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication tests
- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June – KS1 Sports club
- Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication tests
- Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication tests
- Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 Multiplication tests
  
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Phonics Screening tests
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup> June – KS2 Sports club
- Tues 9<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Phonics Screening tests
- Tues 9<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Sports club
- Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Phonics Screening tests
- Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Phonics Screening tests
- Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Phonics Screening tests
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June – Parent Lunch Year 5/6
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June - Forest Friday/Nursery

- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> June – KS2 Sports club
- Tues 16<sup>th</sup> June – Athletics competition (small schools)
- Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup> June – Parent Lunch Year 3/4
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup> June - Forest Friday Year ½

- Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> June – KS2 Sports club
- Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Father's Day – Sports and cake
- Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> June – KS1 Sports club
- Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Sports Day
- Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> June - Summer Disco
- Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June – Parent Lunch Year 1/2
- Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June - Forest Friday Year 3/4
- Mon 29<sup>th</sup> June - Fierte Festival week
- Mon 29<sup>th</sup> June – KS2 Sports club
- Tues 30<sup>th</sup> June - Fierte Festival week
- Tues 30<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Sports club
- Wed 1<sup>st</sup> July - Fierte Festival week
- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Fierte Festival week
- Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Fierte Festival week
- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Parent Lunch Reception

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July – Showcase Day (Fierte Festival) – Tamworth Castle Grounds

- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> July – KS2 Sports club
- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> July - chocolate/alcohol/toys – non school uniform (donations for Summer Fair)
- Tues 7<sup>th</sup> July – KS1 Sports club
- Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> July – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> July - Reception (New to school transition)
- Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Fair (3.30pm – 5pm)
- Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July - Forest Friday Year 5/6
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> July – Rock Steady Concert
- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July – Year 5/6 Swimming
- Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July - Summer finale menu
- Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 final assembly
- Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July – Break up for Summer

## Development of the Key Stage 1 Playground

This year we have been developing the resources on the playground for our younger children. One activity we would love to introduce is a water wall, which would allow the children to explore water play in a fun, hands-on way.

Water play is a fantastic learning experience for young children. It helps them to develop:

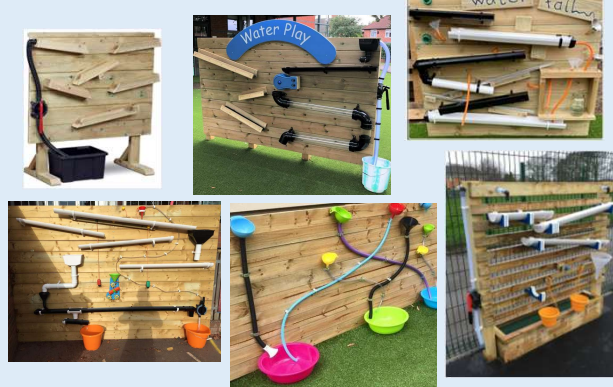
- Fine motor skills through pouring, scooping and controlling water flow
- Problem-solving and critical thinking as they experiment with what happens when water moves through different pipes and channels
- Communication and language skills as they talk about what they observe and work together
- Early scientific understanding, including cause and effect
- Creativity and teamwork through collaborative play

We are hoping to find someone who could help us build a simple water wall, we are able to provide pallets, but we would be very grateful for help with the construction. In addition, we are kindly asking if anyone is able to donate any of the following items:

- Plumbing pipes or tubes
- Drain guttering
- Connectors and clips to attach pipes and guttering
- Funnels or similar water-safe items

These do not need to be new – clean, safe, unwanted items would be perfect.

An example of a water wall:



If you think you could help in any way, whether by building the water wall or donating materials, please get in touch with the school office. Your support would make a wonderful difference to our Key Stage 1 playground and all the children who use it.

**SUMMER FAIR STALL HOLDERS WANTED!** - We are excited to announce our upcoming Summer Fair on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026 and are looking for a variety of stall holders to join us for a fun-filled day!

**Do you have a small business, craft, or products to sell? We'd love to hear from you!**

Please send us your name and contact details and a brief description of what you would like to sell to [office@ankermoor.org](mailto:office@ankermoor.org) – we look forward to hearing from you!



## Ankermoor Primary Academy - Summer Fair

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July – 3.20pm – 5pm



### Games & Activities

- Beat the Goalie
- Archery
- Hook a Duck
- Face Painting
- Lucky Dip
- Chocolate Tombola
- Toy Tombola
- Pick a Bottle Surprise



### Creative Fun

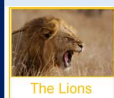
- Children's Crafts
- Independent Stalls
- Delicious Treats
- Cakes, Biscuits & Hot/Cold Drinks from the Kitchen
- Ice Cream Van
- Coconut shire



Get ready for a fantastic afternoon of fun, laughter, and community spirit! Our Summer Fair is packed with exciting games, creative activities, delicious treats, and something special for everyone. Whether you're here to try your luck at the tombola, enjoy a tasty ice cream, there's no better way to kick off the summer! Join us as we celebrate the season with joy, friendship, and a whole lot of fun—right here at Ankermoor Primary Academy!



## House Points



The Lions

3017



The Scorpions

3019



The Sharks

2943



The Crocodiles

2932

## Value Champions



1<sup>st</sup> May

Robins/Owls  
Kingfishers  
Kestrels  
Sparrow Hawks

Poppy D  
Jenson B  
Ava C  
Ava F



8<sup>th</sup> May

Robins/Owls  
Kingfishers  
Kestrels  
Sparrow Hawks

Destiny W  
Noah H  
Hope M  
Sophie S

## Attendance for the year

Owls/Robins (Reception)

94.4%

Kingfishers (Year 1/2)

93.9%

Kestrels (Year 3/4)

93.5%

Sparrow Hawks (Year 5/6)

94.1%



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.



## TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.



## EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT

The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.



## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.



## SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.



## SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT

YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.



## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.



### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.



### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.



### WATCH TOGETHER

Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.



### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



**0-5  
YEARS**



# YOUNG PARENTS GROUP

support for you,  
not just your baby



BEING A YOUNG  
PARENT IS A LOT  
SOMETIMES.  
YOU DON'T HAVE  
TO DO IT ALONE.

## WHAT TO EXPECT:



MEET OTHER YOUNG  
PARENTS WHO GET IT



CHAT, LAUGH OR  
JUST LISTEN



NO JUDGEMENT.  
EVER.



ADVICE, SUPPORT  
OR JUST A LISTENING EAR



BRING YOUR LITTLE  
ONE ALONG!

## THE VIBE:

- ✓ CHILLED & FRIENDLY
- ✓ SAFE SPACE
- ✓ NO PRESSURE
- ✓ REAL PEOPLE,  
REAL CONVERSATIONS

just  
be  
yourself

## WHEN?



EVERY  
WEDNESDAY

10:00 - 11:30AM

## WHERE?



TAMWORTH CIC  
CENTRE  
(CASTLE GROUNDS)

WANT TO KNOW MORE  
OR COME ALONG?



01827 62400



[www.homestarttamworth.org.uk](http://www.homestarttamworth.org.uk)

YOU'VE  
GOT  
THIS



YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE.