

Dear River Bank parents and carers

Welcome to the summer term. We have lots of activities planned for your children this term including more visits and our first ever residential trip for year four pupils. Year two pupils will be participating in end of key stage one standard assessment tests this month – we will be holding an information afternoon for parents about these tests on 8th May at 14:30. These tests help us track the children’s progress between the end of key stage one and the end of key stage two (year six). We have made sure that our pupils in year two do not feel any pressure during this period and know that they will, as always, do their very best.

I have received a number of applications from parents requesting that I authorise term time leave for periods of extended absence so that families can visit relatives in other countries. Please be aware that all absences for this type of visit will not be authorised. I can only authorise absence in very exceptional circumstances. Families that take unauthorised leave are likely to be issued with a fixed penalty notice by the local authority. Fines are issued to each parent and for each child e.g.

- One child Mother £60 + Father £60 = £120 (or £240 if not paid within 21 days)
- Two children Mother £120 + Father £120 = £240 (or £480 if not paid within 21 days)
- Three children Mother £180 + Father £180 = £360 (or £720 if not paid within 21 days)

Please come and talk to me if you have any questions about this.

Class Assemblies

We have been privileged this term to have seen two excellent class assemblies from Hare and Squirrel Class sharing all of the knowledge they learned in the previous term; as well as some helpful and thoughtful messages on the role that diversity has to play in our school. Well done to those two classes. Please see below all the dates for the upcoming class assemblies – these have also been shared by letter so please add them to your diaries:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Hedgehog | Thursday | 3 rd May 2018 |
| Fox | Thursday | 10 th May 2018 |
| Otter | Thursday | 17 th May 2018 |
| Dove | Thursday | 24 th May 2018 |
| Owl | Thursday | 7 th June 2018 |
| Woodpecker | Thursday | 14 th June 2018 |
| Starling | Thursday | 21 st June 2018 |
| Kingfisher | Thursday | 28 th June 2018 |
| Robin | Thursday | 5 th July 2018 |
| Lark | Thursday | 12 th July 2018 |
| Bumblebee/Butterfly/Dragonfly | Tuesday | 17 th July 2018 |
| Wren | Thursday | 19 th July 2018 |

Staffing

We are sad to announce that Miss Gray will be leaving at the end of the year. She has secured work at another Luton primary school and I would like to thank her for her amazing dedication to our school and the children in EYFS since she joined us in 2015. We wish her all the best for the future. We are currently in the process of recruiting a replacement and will share this news in May’s newsletter.



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Key Dates:

Please find below a list of important dates for you to be aware of this term.

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 rd May | Year two cricket taster sessions – PE kit required |
| 7 th May | May Bank Holiday – school closed |
| 8 th May 14:30 | Year two SATs parents' information |
| 11 th May | Key stage two cricket festival for invited players only |
| 28 th May – 1 st June | Summer half term holiday |
| 15 th June | Training day |
| 23 rd July | Summer holiday |

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue

Many thanks to the team of fire fighters that have worked with our year two classes over the last few weeks. The children have enjoyed learning about fire safety and the work of our amazing and committed Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue team. The highlight was definitely being able to use the hoses and take a look at the fire engines.

Sporting Success – Tri-Golf, Tennis and Athletics

Well done to the following pupils who have represented River Bank Primary in sports competitions this month.

Tri-Golf: Pariza, Daniel, Aleeza, Emmanuel, Sabiha, Danial, Lena, Shaianne, Yousuf and Dorian.

Tennis: Safiyah, Dorian, Saim and Danial

Athletics: Abdallah, Nahid, Nabil, Zoya, Feyt, Aila, Aahil, Sulaiman and Nihad

Library Books

In order to continue to support our drive to get more pupils reading – we are asking parents to support the development of our library by making book donations. We are in need of **books in excellent condition suitable for children over five years old** and particularly need **non-fiction texts**. If you have books like this at home that you feel you could donate – please bring them in to the school office in a bag or box.

Many thanks to Mrs Alam who kindly donated hundreds of books she acquired from a closing Central Bedfordshire school. These will make a huge difference to how our pupils are able to use the library.

Lost Uniform

We are building up a large number of items left in our lost property area. All of the items in lost property are unnamed – making it difficult to return items to their owners. Please check lost property for any items that may belong to your child – any items that are left and that are unnamed will be donated to a local charity on the 25th May if not collected.

Please make sure that every single item of property brought into school is named.

Vacancy – Breakfast Club Assistant

We currently have a vacancy for a position on our breakfast club team. The hours are from 07:30-09:00 Monday to Friday. Further details can be found on our website or by request at the school office – please ask for Louise Marsden.

Vacancy – Midday Supervisor

We currently have a vacancy for a position in our midday supervisor's team. The hours are from 12:00-13:00 Monday to Friday. Further details can be found on our website or by request at the school office – please ask for Louise Marsden.

Our Olympic value for May is RESPECT