

Dear River Bank parents and carers

Thank you to all parents who have supported us this term so far. Working with parents is really important to us so I thought I would take the time to say a few thank yous.

- Thank you for listening to your children read every day – this will make a huge difference to their reading ability and helps learning across the curriculum.
- Thank you for helping your children with their homework – this gives an opportunity for your child to remember what they have been learning and aids memory.
- Thank you for helping your child with My Maths – working on mathematics regularly helps pupils recall important facts and increases their speed in working things out. Watch out for more information on Times Tables Rock Stars, which will also support pupils automatic recall of number facts.
- Thank you for getting your children to school on time – routine plays an important role in the day to day running of River Bank. This helps support learning and helps us make sure we can get the most out of your young person when they are in school.

Staffing and Classes

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new staff to River Bank Primary. Recent starters are Mrs Arshad and Miss Burgess, who both join us with considerable experience in supporting pupils and adults with additional needs.

I am pleased to say that River Bank Primary will have a full compliment of staff in September 2018. Miss Gray will be replaced in Early Years by Mrs Turner and we are delighted to have Miss Simms, Mrs Begum and Mrs Bloxham returning from maternity leave. We also have additional new teachers joining us in September: Miss Amos (year five leader), Mr Spink (year five), Miss Ball (year two leader) and Miss Dynek (year four). In order to provide the best support for our pupils we have continued to invest in people by taking on additional teaching assistants. We look forward to working with Mrs Abbott, Miss Hetherington and Mrs Khanom next year. We will also be welcoming a new IT apprentice, Mr Kieran Kitchener.

Your child will spend the day in their new class on the 5th July and have a chance to meet their new teacher.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Kazmi and thank her for her brilliant work with our breakfast club and for her input as a midday supervisor.

Dropping Off and Collecting Children

It is important that all pupils are dropped off to school at the doors or staircases leading to the classrooms. It is at the point we take over responsibility for your child. Some parents are allowing pupils to walk in to school from the road; which in some circumstances could be dangerous. We ask that all pupils are escorted to their classrooms by a responsible adult. Our current year four children will be able to walk to and from school with more independence next year. We will write to year five parents about this in September.

GDPR

GDPR is the new general data protection regulations that came into force on 25th May 2018. A separate letter regarding how we hold data at River Bank, what data can be made available to you and how you should request it will follow shortly.



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Key Dates:

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

27 th June	Year three trip to the Falconry Centre
3 rd July	Parents' evening option 1
5 th July	Pupils to try their new class ready for September
6 th July	School summer fair
9 th July	EYFS trip to the London Aquarium
11 th July	Parents' evening option 2
16 th July	Sports day
23 rd July	Summer holiday

Wardown Park and Stride

We are pleased to announce that Luton Borough Council have given our parents permission to park in the car park (Old Bedford Road east entrance) of Wardown Park, for a short time only on school days to enable you to park safely and walk through the park to school. This will take pressure off the use of Bath Road, make all journeys safer as well as giving some children the chance to enjoy the beauty of this lovely park.

The launch of this 'park and stride' will take place on the 26th June. Staff from school will meet students in the car park (between the bowling green and the tennis courts) at 08:30 where we will be joined by Richard from Sustrans. After a few photographs to mark this new initiative – we will walk in to school together.

I hope that parents who live on the other side of the New Bedford Road will make the most of this opportunity. Parking in a proper car park and walking through the park will take less time than battling through the traffic to get to Bath Road – as well as providing some obvious health benefits. Please park respectfully in the marked bays and do not park on any of the grassed areas.

Sporting Success

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

Tennis skills: Roxana, Zain, Burhan, Sumayah, Faathima, Tahirul, Hooriyah and Nabil

Change for Life: Kouser, Jamaal, Tanvir, Feyt, Noor, Marian, Laaibah, Markus, Lillian and Justyce.

Athletics: Jaden, Hamza, Tanisha, Iva, Muhammad, Rayaan, Zaara, Katie, Deyvid, Rico, Umair, Eshan, Amiyah, Amyrah, Lana and Zyva

Seatbelts

River Bank staff really enjoy welcoming pupils to school in the morning. Greeting our families is important to us; which is why you see so many of us standing at the gates before and after school. We have, however, noticed that some parents are allowing children to travel in cars without seatbelts and without using the appropriate car seat. We care deeply about our pupils and want them to be safe at all times. Please ensure that your child is in an appropriate sized car seat and is wearing a seatbelt at all times. We will discuss this with parents if we continue to have concerns. Here is a link that provides up to date guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>

Summer Fair

Following on from the huge success of last year's summer fair – this year's event will be held on the 6th July. It will start at 3.30pm until 5.30pm. Please see the letter that went out regarding this event.

School Meals

Luton Borough Council have increased process for school meals next year. The price of an individual dinner will now cost **£2.05**. The cost for the first half term in autumn will be £69.70 or £151.70 for the whole of the autumn term.

Uniform Sale

The school will be holding a uniform sale on the 2nd July from 2pm – 4pm.