

Dear River Bank parents and carers

We have had a brilliant start to the new term and were delighted to welcome back so many excited pupils. It has been wonderful to catch up with you all at one of the many events we have already run this term. Our meet the teacher and phonics events went really well; as did the more informal occasions like our MacMillan coffee morning.

I wrote to you recently about how we will use 'knowledge organisers' this year to share with you what key parts of the curriculum we want pupils to know and remember by the end of the year. Memorisation of this information really helps pupils develop new skills and apply what they have learnt to their daily lives. Please support us by spending time with the children looking at the 'knowledge organisers' – they can be found in the 'pupils' section of our website. Giving them quizzes on the information would be a great well to help them remember.

I know we will have a brilliant year and look forward to working with you to get the best out of our children. Please do come in if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best wishes

David Sansom

School Timings

You will all know that our school day has changed and that we now have an extended day, with the exception of Friday. It is very important that pupils are collected at 1:00pm on a Friday. Only the children of parents who are working or studying are able to use the afternoon activity club between 1:00pm and 3:30pm. Numbers in this club are limited and must be available for those parents who are genuinely unable to collect their children before 3:30pm.

School Photographer

Our school photographer will be coming in to school Monday 29th October. Photographs will be taken in school and your child will come home with a proof of their photograph on the same day. We will send out a reminder closer to the time.

Parents' Forum

I will continue to run a parents' forum this year. I really enjoyed meeting with a group of you last year in order to share updates and get your feedback. This is an open event and any parent can attend all, some, or just one of the dates. Please put the following dates in your diary – I look forward to seeing you all then.

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| 1. Monday 15 th October at 3:00pm | 4. Monday 1 st April at 3:00pm |
| 2. Monday 17 th December at 3:00pm | 5. Monday 24 th June at 3:00pm |
| 3. Monday 11 th February at 3:00pm | |

LINK

Link is a community led project that aims to help local people access free training including how to deliver activity lessons, becoming assistant swimming teachers, leading walking/running groups or learning first aid. If you would like to learn more, please contact 01582 400 272 or email link@activeluton.co.uk



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Happy's Circus

You will all be aware that we are hosting Happy's Circus on Monday 8th October 18:00 to 20:00. Tickets are available from the school office for £8 each or £28 for a family ticket. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

River Bank Open Morning

River Bank will be hosting an open morning on Wednesday 10th October for parents of children who are due to start school in September 2019. Parents are able to turn up at any time between 09:30 and 12:00 for a tour of the school and to see what it is like on a normal school day. Please let any family and friends know about this event and encourage them to come along to see our wonderful pupils in action.

Dates for you Diary

Thursday 4 th October	Parents' evening 15:45-19:00
Tuesday 8 th October	CIRCUS!
Wednesday 10 th October	Open morning for parents of children who will start at River Bank in 2019
Wednesday 10 th October	Sycamore class assembly 14:50-15:10
Monday 15 th October	Parents' forum – meet the headteacher 15:00-15:20
22 nd -26 th October	Half term
Wednesday 31 st October	Hedgehog class assembly 14:50-15:10
Wednesday 14 th November	Squirrel class assembly 14:50-15:10
Wednesday 28 th November	Hare class assembly 14:50-15:10
Thursday 6 th December	Year 5 school trip
Wednesday 12 th December	EYFS winter crafts session (time to be confirmed).
Friday 14 th December	Christmas jumper day
Monday 17 th December	Parents' forum – meet the headteacher 15:00-15:20
Tuesday 18 th December	EYFS Christmas performance
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas disco for all pupils
Friday 21 st December	Last day of term

Minibus

I am sure lots of you have already spotted our brilliant, new minibus. We are so grateful to the school's governing body for agreeing to invest in the school in this way. We will use the minibus regularly to transport children to and from sporting and academic events, trips and tournaments.



October's value of the month EXCELLENCE