

## Dear River Bank parents and carers

I am really pleased that spring is on the way! I hope that the emerging daffodils and longer days will bring an end to the challenges we have faced this year to date. After experiencing a lot of staff and pupil absence since January, we are now returning to more normal levels and are excited about the rest of the term ahead. We were pleased to host the Energise club in the Christmas holidays, that was attended by nearly 50 of our pupils. This is likely to run again in the Easter and summer holidays; so keep any eye out for more information.

Some of our parents might remember River Bank's first ever head teacher, Mr John Wigglesworth. Mr Wigglesworth went on to be Service Director for Education in Luton. Mr Wigglesworth is about to retire and we wanted to take a moment to wish him well for his future. Any parents who would like to send a message to be added to his Luton Borough Council leaving card should send this message by email to [info@riverbankprimary.org](mailto:info@riverbankprimary.org) and we will pass it on.

Best wishes, David Sansom.

## Important Information for EU, EEA or Swiss Citizens

Did you know that although the deadline has passed, you can still apply to the EU Settlement Scheme for Settled or Pre-Settled status? If you haven't, it is important that you do so if you want to keep your rights to live, work or study in the UK and access healthcare and benefits. **An application must also be made for every eligible child within a family even if the parent(s) have already applied and been granted a status themselves.**

If you need to check whether you need to apply, Citizens Advice can help

By phone: 01582 544778

By email: [eussadvice@lutoncab.org.uk](mailto:eussadvice@lutoncab.org.uk)

Via website: <https://www.citizensadvice.luton.org.uk/eu-settled-status/>

Advice can be given about applying as well as help to complete applications, or to give follow up support about refusals, evidencing the correct documents, contacting the Resolution Centre and switching from Pre-settled to Settled status.

## Trips and Workshops

Year 2 travelled back in time to when the Great Fire of London first took place. Children spent the day experiencing what life was like during 1666 and did a range of activities including weaving, perfume making, sewing, bread making and candle making. We also spent the afternoon digging up artefacts that survived the fire.

Year 3 children had a visit from Portals to the Past and participated in the Roman workshop. They had a go at shooting Roman catapults, re-enacted the story of the beginnings of Rome and were allowed to handle Roman artefacts. They even had chariot races and learnt some Latin! Everyone had great fun and learnt lots!

## Head Lice

Head lice are a common occurrence at every school. Please remember to regularly check your child's hair for head lice and ensure that long hair is tied up for school. For further information please refer to the NHS website; [www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice)



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## Reminder of PE days

- EYFS – Friday
- Year 1 – Monday and Wednesday
- Year 2 – Tuesday and Wednesday
- Year 3 – Wednesday and Thursday
- Year 4 – Monday and swimming Wednesday
- Year 5 – Tuesday and Thursday
- Year 6 – Monday and Tuesday

Children should come to school on their PE day in their PE kit, which should be a white T-shirt, royal blue shorts, and trainers. Optional kit is a plain blue sweatshirt or blue River Bank fleece, black tracksuit bottoms or leggings. Ideally, children should not wear earrings to school, these can be taken out before they come to school and put back in when they return home. However, if your child does wear small stud earrings to school, on their PE days they should be taken out, or tape should be brought in from home so they can cover them over themselves.

## Sporting Events

A number of our pupils have represented our school at sporting events. Their determination, attitude and behaviour were, as always, a credit to their parents and our school. Well done to you all.

**Multi Skills:** Adiba, Aliza, Baran, Ire, Jenna, Nabiun, Tafida, Richard, Zakir and Zayan.

**Football:** Eshan, Ezel, Hamza, Imran, Nihad, Stefan, Sulemain and Zain.

**Netball:** Aimee, Alijah, Aleksandra, Kainaat, Lilana and Rahmah.

**Girls' Football:** Aiya-Mai, Damilola, Gulzaib, Janaat, Lais, Magdalena, Maryam, Riona and Sanjida.

**Cricket:** Aisha, Aleksandra, Ahmer, Christo, Hamzah, Liliana, Emma and Saaim.

## Late arrivals

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that their child/children attend school regularly and punctually. This encourages habits of good timekeeping and lessens any possible classroom disruption. **Children are able to go to their class from 8.30am and must be ready to learn at 8.45am.** If you are experiencing any difficulties with your child arriving at school on time, our family team would welcome the opportunity of meeting with you to discuss this. Children who arrive after the register has closed are recorded as an unauthorised absence and regular lateness may result in a penalty notice being issued.

## Collecting on Time

It is vital that parents and carers pick their children up on time. Children who are not picked up on time become worried. It is not fair on them, or the teachers that have to wait with them. We allow a ten minute grace period for collecting because we understand that sometimes you are delayed and it cannot be helped. However, after that ten minute period or if a child is regularly late being collected; children will be placed into our after school club and you will be charged for this child care. This also applies to any after school clubs and extended days. This includes Fridays when EYFS, Y1 and Y2 finish at 12:45 and Y3 – Y6 finish at 13:00.

## Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Sycamore and Maple, Harry Potter studio trip

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February – Rowan and Willow, Harry Potter studio trip

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Owl and Dove, Amersham field trip

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Startling and Woodpecker, Amersham field trip.

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> – Half term

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Children return to school

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Fox class assembly. Fox class parents welcome for 8:45 start.

February's value of the month EQUALITY