

## Dear River Bank parents and carers

Pupils at River Bank have made an excellent start to the new half term. We would like to pass on our best wishes to the families in our community who have recently celebrated Diwali and hope that you all had an amazing time celebrating the festival of lights. We are proud of our diversity and know that 'kindness' unites all of us, regardless of our religion or beliefs. We recognise that there are things that we are all good at and things that we find difficult. At River Bank, we believe that everyone should be kind. In the next few days, we will be introducing kindness coins back to the children after a break, caused by Covid. Our kindness coins will be regularly given out by pupils **when they show an act of kindness**. I hope that some of the coins will make their way home to you and that your children will pass them on. Please continue to look out for these and, if you receive one, pass it on when you carry out an act of kindness for someone else – this could be a family member, a shop assistant, someone at church or someone at the mosque.

Best wishes, David Sansom

## School Photographer

Our school photographer will be coming in to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and your child will come home with a proof of their photograph on the same day.

## Sporting Events

The following pupils represented the school in recent competitions. Well done to:

Year 5 and 6 rugby: Ali N, Daniyal M, Ezel, Hamzah J, Henriks, Jama, Mohammed A, Mohammed B and Owais.

Year 3 and 4 rugby: Mittul, Musa, Daniel C, Hamza N, Renars, Rafael, Adrian, Mahir and Khalid.

Year 5 and 6 cricket: Hamzah J, Saaim K, Zayyan K, Ali J, Sanjida, Tayyba, Inioluwa and Halima M.

## Black History Month

This October, the whole school celebrated Black History Month. Our theme 'Shared Journeys' gave us all the chance to reflect on and share our own journeys to Luton. It was great to hear children excited to share about where they come from and to know their history. During the month, each year group learnt about two or three significant people and events within Black History, these included Rosa Parks and the bus boycott, Martin Luther King, Malorie Blackman and Marcus Rashford. We all enjoyed a performance from Steel Pans in Motion and year five and six children had the opportunity to learn the history of the pans and have a play too. Year five have been learning samba in music lessons with the Luton Music Service and performed their own composed piece during our singing assemblies. Children got the taste of Caribbean and African inspired dishes at lunch time. Our Black History Month has been a huge success, the children have enjoyed their learning and the discussions generated have been meaningful. It has also raised more awareness for the importance of an inclusive curriculum where all children from all races, cultures and heritages can be represented and celebrated. The last day of half term saw all children dress in their own cultural dress or colours that represent their country, everyone looked amazing, and it was wonderful to see the diversity we have in our school.



## Luton Foodbank

THANK YOU for your very generous donations to Luton Foodbank. Your donations will help make sure that many families in Luton get the support they need this winter. **Should you require the support from Luton Foodbank, please see our family team in confidence.**

## Stone Age Workshop

Year 3 had a Stone Age day where they learnt more interesting facts about the Stone Age. During the workshop the children looked at the time line of where the different Stone Age periods fitted into our own time line. The children also got to look and hold artefacts from the Stone Age period. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and most said it was the best day ever!

## St Alban's Cathedral

Year 4 pupils visited St Alban's Cathedral. Children participated in a Viking trail around the Cathedral – they learned about key historic events using role play to bring them to life and examined Viking artefacts.

The children also made some typical Anglo Saxon food that they were very pleased to be able sample at the end of the workshop. We were very proud to be complimented by Cathedral staff and members of the public on our exemplary behaviour during our trip.

## Pantomime

We have arranged for our pupils in Y1 through to Y6 to have an exciting Christmas outing to The Grove Theatre in Dunstable to watch the pantomime 'Cinderella' on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022**. Letters have been sent by email. Consent must be given and payment should be made by the 18<sup>th</sup> November.

## Energise Luton Christmas Holiday Club

Energise Luton will be running a holiday club at River Bank for the first four days of the Christmas holidays (19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December). This is similar to the sessions that have been run in the past few holidays. There is no charge for this. Parents and carers will be able to book places towards the end of November – we will let you know when booking opens.

## Dates to Remember

2 <sup>nd</sup> November	School photographs
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 parent's consultation meetings
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Ash and Hazel visit to Duxford Museum
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Elm and Oak visit to Duxford Museum
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Owl class assembly – parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupil flu vaccination
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need – further information to follow
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Dove class assembly – parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
12 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Christmas performance – time tbc
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Y1-Y6 pantomime trip
16 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for the Christmas holiday
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Christmas holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> January	School opens for the spring term

November's value of the month is RESPECT