

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 will soon be celebrating Diwali and hope that you all have 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. 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. 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

Luton Foodbank

Thank you for your generous contributions to Luton Food Bank. Your donations will really help many families across the town who do not have the food they need. With the rising cost of living, this is becoming more common for many in our local community. Should your family require support from Luton Food Bank, please see the attached poster or speak to a member of school staff who will be able to help you.

Year Trips

Luton Dental Team visited the EYFS children on the 31st of October to discuss the importance of oral hygiene. They talked to the children about how often they should be brushing their teeth and some knew it was twice a day! They provided each child with their own toothbrush and toothpaste set and encouraged them to eat healthy snacks to keep their teeth strong! When asked, many of the children had not seen a dentist before. It is very important that your child's oral health is checked regularly. If you have any questions about registering your child with a local dentist, please talk to their class teacher.

Pupils in Y6 visited Duxford IWM museum in Cambridge as part of their topic on WW2. They saw Spitfires, explored air raid shelters and even made their own documentaries, commenting on interesting artefacts that they found. Pupils are now even more enthusiastic about applying their new learning in history, DT and English lessons this term.

Sporting Events

The following children represented our school at sporting events:

Year 1 & 2 Multi Sports – Krishna, Syed, Caleb, Muzammil, Hugo, Aima, Maryem, Daniella, Sabira and Mehjabeen.

Year 5 & 6 Football match – we won 2 -1, Nadir, Mustafa, Henriks, Caden, Danyal, Mohamed, Sulaiman, Mao, Hamza and Desmond.

Year 3 & 4 Rugby – Abdul, Dylan C, Tanzil, Aarav, Bilal, Zuhayr, Marwan, Sol and Dylan R.

Year 3 & 4 Boccia – Rayaana, Faizah, Khadijah, Sami, Rayhan, Fayha, Zakariya and Chloe

Year 5 & 6 Cricket – Salahudeen, Zayyan, Hassan, Abdul, Rumaysa, Hadiya, Valentina and Halima.

Prefects

We are pleased to share with you the names of our Y6 prefects for this year. These pupils take on additional responsibility around the school. They help by carrying out roles such as supporting in the library, helping office staff and helping look after the technology we have and the environment. Well done to Aleena, Samaa, Aira, Ayana, Mahbeer, Mustafa, Zakaria, Mariyah K, Khadija, Mariyah R, Rumaysa, Nuzhat, Alisha, Saman, Omarmah and Jamie.



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Artsmark

We are very proud to announce that we have been awarded Artsmark Silver Award. Artsmark is awarded by Arts Council England, with the aim to help unlock the potential of children and young people, help to develop character and talent, and increase their knowledge and understanding. This is a snippet from the feedback from the assessors who awarded us our Artsmark Silver Award:

'You have successfully developed the use of the arts to support learning, notably in the use of poetry-writing workshops, in collaboration with a NYGT spoken word artist and the UK Centre for Carnival Art. You have seen improvements in literacy and there is a strong momentum to develop oracy through the use of drama processes as you move forward. For your topic of Ancient Greece, you made Greek theatre masks and staff are now enthusiastic to take this forward into a Greek drama performance. CPD in art has improved staff knowledge and confidence, and training in Dance has even seen spontaneous break time dance activities arising. This enthusiasm from staff and pupils is very valuable. The children in your Take One Picture art club relished seeing their work in a National Gallery exhibition. Experiences such as this, or singing at Luton Airport, Singing Spectacular show or dancing at the AW Dance academy show can be transformative, and it will be wonderful to embed such opportunities for all children within your range of offer. You have used the arts to reflect and celebrate diversity in, for instance, your art-based project in Black History Month.'

Pantomime – Oh yes we are!

We have again booked for our year 1 to year 6 pupils to see Jack and the Beanstalk at The Grove Theatre in Dunstable. Further information will be sent out in the next couple of weeks, so keep a look out for the emails about it, as spaces will be limited.

Firework Safety

Fireworks are exciting, but they can be very dangerous and can hurt you. Listen to your grown-up about where is a safe place to stand and follow this advice:

- Never touch a firework. Don't pick up a firework after it has been used.
- Wear your gloves when you hold your sparkler and keep it away from your body.
- It's not a good idea to hold more than one sparkler at once.
- Keep your sparkly sparkler safely away from other people and don't run around with it.
- Don't throw your sparkler in case it hits someone.
- Once your sparkler is finished, put it into a bucket of water, don't pick it back up. It stays hot for a long time and can burn you.
- Leave your dressing up clothes at home on fireworks night, wrap up warm instead.
- Stand well away from the bonfire and stay close to the grown-ups.
- Don't be tempted to throw things into the bonfire or poke at it with sticks.
- If you're going to a firework display, hold hands with your grown-up and stay with them all the time.

Dates to Remember

Tuesday 7 th November	Year 4 Trip to St Albans Cathedral (Deer and Fox classes)
Wednesday 8 th November	Year 4 Trip to St Albans Cathedral (Badger and Otter classes)
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need (further information to follow in due course)
Tuesday 21 st November	Year 3 Stone Age workshop
Wednesday 22 nd November	Squirrel class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
Wednesday 29 th November	Sycamore class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
Monday 4 th December	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop
Tuesday 5 th December	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop
Wednesday 6 th December	Wren class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start

Value of the month EXCELLENCE