

Dear River Bank parents and carers

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who have helped us make this another successful term. Our children have, as usual, been absolutely brilliant. Your children are a privilege to teach and we are so pleased that they make the most of every day at school. We have been fortunate this term to have had lots of visitors in to school as well as the opportunity to take our pupils out on a number of trips, some of which are mentioned below. I know that the pupils and those who work at our school are now ready for a well deserved break!

I hope you all have a restful Christmas holiday and enjoy spending time together as a family. We look forward to seeing you all again on **Thursday 4th January**. Best wishes, David Sansom.

Pantomime Trip

We took a lot of our children to see the pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk at The Grove Theatre. Again, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and staff with a lot of cheering, jeering and laughter. We hope to do the same again next year, so don't forget to look out for information in November next year as places will be limited.

School Choir

On Tuesday 5th December, our school choir went to Luton Airport to sing festive favourites. The choir sang their hearts out and had fun! Members of the public enjoyed watching and listening, and donated generously to the East of England Air Ambulance.

Year 2

Year 2 time travelled back to 1666 to experience what life was like during The Great Fire of London. We had an amazing time learning how to make candles, perfumes and wrote letters using ink and quill.

Year 2 also visited the Olive Tree church to understand how Christmas is celebrated in a Christian's place of worship. The children had a great time asking the Reverend lots of questions and identifying the features of a church.

Year 3

Year 3 visited the Gurdwara as we were learning about the Sikh religion in RE. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip and the children learnt a lot from the visit. We were shown the different areas of the Gurdwara and told about what happens in each one.

Year 5

Year 5 performed the samba routines they have been preparing in their music lessons this half term. They performed the routines to the key stage 1 children and did an excellent job.



Christmas Jumper day – Save the Children

Everyone looked amazing in their Christmas Jumper on Wednesday and we raised a fantastic £567 for Save the Children – thank you for your generosity. Well done to the winners of the competition organised by the school council who each won a £10 Amazon gift card: Yusuf (Woodpecker), Alyssia (Robin), Layla (Otter) and Sol (Otter). Mr Boardman won the staff prize for his creative Christmas jumper!

Pupil Drop Off/Pick Up

Are you thinking of a new year's resolution? We have an idea that could help the environment and improve congestion within the local area. How about walking your child to and from school. If that is not possible and you have to drive, please ensure you park safely, legally and be considerate to local residents. Unfortunately, we are receiving more and more calls where residents are having their driveways or private parking bays completely blocked, so please think about where you park.

Change of Details

If you change your contact details or address over the holidays or any other time, please don't forget to let the school office know so we can update your child's records.

Extreme Weather Conditions

Please be reminded that should there be an occasion that we have to close the school due to extreme weather conditions that would make it unsafe for our pupils and staff to attend, notification will be sent by text message to parents; as well as updates on our school website. Although the school will only be closed in extreme circumstances, pupils would be expected to attend as normal if we remain open.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Thursday 4th January 2024

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Wednesday 10th January 2024

Wednesday 17th January 2024

Wednesday 17th January 2024

Wednesday 24th January 2024

Wednesday 31st January 2024

Friday 9th February 2024

Staff training day, school closed to pupils

Children return to school

Owl class assembly, parents welcome 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start

Y4 Water Safety presentation

Otter class assembly, parents welcome 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start

Y6 VR Workshop

Dove class assembly, parents welcome 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start

Starling class assembly, parents welcome 8:45am for a prompt 8:50 start

CHUMS Shine Bright Wear Bright – more details to follow

January's value of the month is FRIENDSHIP