

Dear River Bank parents and carers

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who have supported us in making the beginning of term extremely successful. We offer a special welcome to our new families whose children have joined EYFS. The EYFS children have settled in amazingly well and we love having them here. All families should know that we are here to help with anything whatsoever, however small. Please speak to one of the team on the gate if you need anything. Best wishes, David Sansom.

Class Dojos

We have received a lot of positive feedback from parents regarding the recently introduced Class Dojo platform, please note that we do not use the teacher messaging option of the platform. If you would like to get a message to your child's class teacher and are unable to see them at drop off or pick up time, please call or email the school.

Book Fair

Thank you to all those parents who supported our book fair last term. We sold a whopping £1528.54 of books earning us £917.12 in rewards to spend with Scholastic. We will use the money to update the picture books in classrooms and top up Accelerated Reader books in the corridors.

Thursday 3rd October - Pizza and chips with a choice of dessert is on the menu!

Thursday 3rd October is school census day when the government collects data about our school that impacts on our next year's funding. Some of the funding for the year is based on how many children eat a school lunch on that day. This money goes directly into our budget to maintain resources and a good quality of education for your children. We would encourage you to order a school dinner for your child on this day. Children in EYFS, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to Universal Free School meals, so there is no charge. The cost for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 is £2.55. Thank you!

Pupil Premium/Free school meals.

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school as well as fund any trips for eligible pupils. If you do not already qualify, please see below link to apply.

https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education_and_learning/Schools_and_colleges/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx

Uniform and Jewellery

Please help us by ensuring that your child is in PE kit on their PE days and in full uniform on the days they do not have PE. School shoes (not trainers) should be worn as part of full uniform. Please help us keep your child safe by ensuring that only one pair of small stud earrings are worn to school. Hooped or large earrings are not permitted because they can easily catch on other children's hair and clothes and be pulled out, causing damage to the ear. Earrings must be removed on PE days before school. If you are unable to do this, please add tape to cover the earring before your child comes to school.

Year Six Transfer to High School

Parents of year six children should have received a letter from Luton Borough Council with information on how to make an online application for a high school place for September 2025. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2024. Parents will receive notification of their child's allocated school on the 3rd March 2025. If you have not received a letter, please contact our school Admissions Officer.



Follow us on Facebook - River Bank Primary



Follow us on Twitter @riverbankluton

Should Your Child Attend School?

Your child's regular attendance at school is very important to their education. However, there are times as a parent when we are not sure if we should send our child to school if they are a little unwell. The NHS has produced an information bulletin which gives advice on whether children could attend school if they are suffering from a common illness, such as a cold, temperature or chickenpox etc. Please see link for full details.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Drop Off and Pick Up Times

Children can arrive in their classes from 8:30am and must be in class ready to start their lessons at 8:45. Any child arriving **on or after 8:45** will be marked as late. Regular lateness can result in a fine being issued by the Local Authority.

We also have a number of children who are late being collected. Children in EYFS, Y1 and Y2 finish at 15:15 Monday to Thursday and 12:45 on a Friday. Children in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 finish at 15:30 Monday to Thursday and 13:00 on a Friday (except days where there is extended day for Y5/Y6).

Children who are late being collected are taken to our **paid** for after school club. Parents arriving late to collect their child should call the number on the office window and their child will be brought down by a member of our After School Club team to the community entrance. **A charge of £4, in line with our after school costs, is charged through your Scopay account.**

Birthday Treats

Although we love celebrating birthdays with the children at River Bank we are unable to let pupils hand out sweets or cakes on their birthdays. We cannot do this because of allergies children may have, the impact it can have on the children's overall health and the problem it can cause with littering on Bath Road and the school site. We have communicated this in previous terms and ask that pupils bring in something else to share on their birthdays if they want to e.g. simple items of stationery.

Harvest Festival

We will be collecting food donations for Luton Food Bank up until Thursday 26th September. This vital organisation is a local charity which is used by many families across the town who are struggling to afford the cost of food. With the rising cost of living, this is becoming more common for many in our local community. Please can you donate anything you can spare including tins, dried pasta, rice, cereal, long-life milk or any other item with a long shelf life. Thank you for your donations.

Dates to Remember

1 st October 2024	Rowan class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
8 th October 2024	Squirrel class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
10 th October 2024	EYFS parents phonics meeting 08:45
14 th October 2024	Year 5 Harry Potter studios trip
15 th October 2024	Year 5 Harry Potter studios trip
15 th October 2024	Dove class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
15 th October 2024	Year 1 Zoolab visit
16 th October 2024	Year 4 Viking workshop
22 nd October 2024	Y1, Y3 and Y5 parent consultation meetings – further info to follow
24 th October 2024	YR, Y2, Y4 and Y6 parent consultation meetings – further info to follow

October's value of the month EXCELLENCE