

## 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.

We are really pleased to announce that Mrs Stewart (Starling) and Mrs Chowdhury (Rowan) gave birth to their babies over the summer break. Miss Kelly will be leaving shortly to prepare for the arrival of her first baby. We wish all three of them and their families all the very best.

## Thursday 2nd October - pizza and chips with a choice of dessert is on the menu!

Thursday 2nd October is school census day when the government collects data about our school that impacts on our 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](https://m.luton.gov.uk/Page/Show/Education_and_learning/Schools_and_colleges/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx)

## 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 2026. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. Parents will receive notification of their child's allocated school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026. If you have not received a letter, please contact our school Admissions Officer.

## Sporting Events

Well done to the following pupils who represented our school at the following events:

**Multi Sports:** Mishal A, Abdullah M, Safiyaah H, Sebastian T, Amy S, Baran M, Daria V and Zaim M.

**Y5/Y6 Tag Rugby:** Dylan C, Ilyaas H, Tanzil, Yusuf J, Bilal N, Angelica M, Eymen C, Edwin O, Yusuf A, Zuhayr K and Jabir A.

## Harvest Festival

We will be collecting food donations for Luton Food Bank up until Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. 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.



## Breakfast Club

We would like to remind parents of the process for booking a Breakfast Club place.

Pupils who are eligible for pupil premium (free school meals) are able to attend with no charge.

Pupils who are not eligible for free school meals are able to attend at the cost of **£1** per session for each child.

- Pupils who are eligible for free school meals and currently attend breakfast club have their places booked for them by our office team and must attend regularly. If they do not, the booking will be removed.
- Pupils who are not eligible for free school meals are required to have credit added to their Scopay account prior to booking. Should accounts be in excess of £3 in debt you will be unable to book a place.
- Pupils must arrive for breakfast club before 0815, accompanied by an adult if they are in reception, Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y4. The accompanying adult must bring the child in to the community entrance and register their attendance with one of our breakfast club colleagues.
- Pupils who are not booked or who arrive after 08:15 will not be admitted.

## 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/>

## 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.

## Road Safety

The safety of all our pupils at the start and end of the school day is paramount outside our school. This could be helped by reducing the number of cars on Bath Road at the start and end of the school day. If you have to drive your child to school, why not use Wardown Park car park and walk the short distance to school?

We would also ask drivers to respect the local community, especially in the Primrose Close area, by not parking across driveways, in private parking bays or blocking cars on drive ways. Just in the few weeks we have been back at school we have had local residents complaining of a number of these incidents happening. Please be considerate to the local community.

## Dates to Remember

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 trip to St. Mary's Church (Maple and some of Rowan class)
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 Harry Potter Studio trip
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	EYFS Parent Phonics meeting at 14:45pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	World Mental Health Day – NON UNIFORM
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Y1, Y3 and Y5 parent meetings – appointment to be made via Scopay
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Y4 Portals to the Past workshop
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	EYFS, Y2, Y4 and Y6 parent meetings – appointment to be made via Scopay
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Willow Class Assembly parents welcome, 8:45 for a prompt 9:50 start
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	NON UNIFORM -Black History Month celebration – further information to follow.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Break up for half term
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Return to school

This half term's value is **COURAGE**