

## Dear River Bank parents and carers

Our children have made a great start to the spring term. I have spent a lot of time in January showing visitors around our school. They are always amazed and impressed by how hard working, polite and kind your children are. We have also received written feedback from Luton Brough Council's Director of Education and the Secretary of State for Education who both praised your children for their wonderful achievements. Parents and carers of our pupils are always very welcome to visit too. I would be happy to show any of you around so that you can see how the school works.

Best wishes, David Sansom

## EYFS

The children in reception enjoyed a lovely walk around Wardown Park. This walk gave us a great opportunity to reinforce some of our learning from class. In our groups, we completed a checklist together, looking for signs of winter. We looked at the map of Wardown Park and enjoyed stomping over the bridge. On the way back, we saw a 'gaggle of geese', a phrase that we learnt in our story of the week recently. Well done everyone.

## Year 6

We are delighted to share the success of our recent Year 6 VR workshop, where pupils had the opportunity to use virtual reality technology to explore the polar regions. The immersive experience brought learning to life, allowing children to see first-hand what life is like in these extreme environments which will help them in their upcoming creative writing.

## Parent Consultation Meetings

Next half-term we will be holding parent consultation meetings during the afternoon and early evening of the following dates, further information will follow nearer the time.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 – EYFS, Year 2, 4 and 6

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 1, 3, 5

## Attendance

Children are able to go to their class from 8.30am and must be ready to learn at 8.45am.

If your child does arrive late to school, they must be accompanied to the front office and signed in on the screen. It is incredibly unsafe for children to be dropped outside the school gate. Children who arrive after the register has closed are recorded as an unauthorised absence and regular lateness may result in a penalty notice being issued.

This absence mark may also impact on your child receiving the lunch that you have ordered as meal order numbers have to be provided to our kitchen once registers have been taken at 8:45am.

If your child is absent from school, can you please call school by 9.30am and select Option 1. Please ensure you give a specific reason for the absence as stating your child is 'unwell' or 'sick' makes it difficult for us to understand how we can support your child on their return.

We ask parents to arrange for routine medical/dental appointments for their child around school times. Where this is not at all possible, parents must provide evidence of the appointments. This also applies to arriving late for school following appointments. Without proof of appointment, these absences may be recorded as unauthorised.



## Sporting Events

The following children have represented the school at recent sporting events:

**Y1 and 2 Multi Skills** – Habeeb, Sheila, Amir, Zoe, Rizvan, Asma, Isaac, Ammaya, Yusuf and Aisha

**Y5 & 6 Multi Sports** – Haaris, Mehereen, Ubaydur, Aliyah, Mohammed Yasin, Valencia, Mikad and Fatima

**Y3 & 4 Multi Sports** – Muhammad U, Zainab, Musa, Halima, Muhammad Hashim, Jenni, Mazid and Aila.

**Y5 & 6 Sports Hall Athletics** – Bilal, Eymen, Mikaeel, Aaditya, Kamsi, Yusuf, Muhammad U, Aarav, Jaabir, Sol, Angelica, Alveena, Emilia, Aruba, Ire, Kaja, Valencia, Lola, Miriam and Ama.

**Under 11 Girls County Football:** Alisha, Kaja, Hannah, Samihah, Angelica, Ameera, Lola, Malaika and Zainab.

**Y5 & 6 Boys football fixture, River Bank 5 v Park Lea 0** – well done to Muhammad U, Muhammed R, Ahyan, Zayn, Yusuf, Ilyaas, Bilal, Sahim, Eymen and Aariz

**Y5 & 6 Girls football fixture, River Bank 5 v Park Lea 3** – well done to Alisha, Meher, Kaja, Hannah, Liyana, Samihah, Amy, Angelica, Ameera, Lola and Malaika.

## World Book Day and Book Fair

Following the success of last year's events, we invite all children (and staff) to come dressed in their **comfiest clothes on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, allowing them to relax and enjoy the stories we will explore together.

We will also be running reading competitions throughout February, with prizes including a £5 gift voucher to spend at the fair for one child in every class. The book fair will run as follows:

Early Years, Yr 1 & Yr 2	Yr3 & Yr4	Yr5 & Yr6	All welcome
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March & Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March & Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March
15:20 – 15:40	15:35 – 15: 45	15:35 – 15:45	13:05- 13:20

**Venue:** Sports hall – entry is from the rear door, next to Lark Classroom. **Payments:** card payments preferred.

Children in EYFS and year 1, 2, 3 and 4 will need to be supervised by an adult to visit the book fair. Children in year 5 and 6 with permission to walk home, can bring money in a sealed, named envelope to visit the fair alone (the school will not be responsible for money brought in by children). Children without permission to walk home in year 5 and 6 will need to be supervised by an adult.

Although World Book Day serves as a focal point in our calendar, it is essential to remember that our commitment to fostering a culture of reading for pleasure extends throughout the entire year.

## Shine Bright Wear Bright - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February non school uniform day

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week 2026, we will be taking part in CHUMS Charity's Shine Bright Wear Bright 2026 campaign on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February** to raise awareness and vital funds to support the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people across Luton and Bedfordshire. We will be encouraging all children and staff to use clothing and colour to express themselves. Their outfit can be as simple or as elaborate as they like, it will be an opportunity for self expression and celebrating a diverse range of emotions. We also kindly ask for a suggested donation of £1 on that day to support the charity's work.

## Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Maple class assembly, parents welcome 8:40am for a prompt 8:50am start
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Young Voices Concert (Choir)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 Prime VR workshop
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 4 Residential meeting for parents of children attending
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	School Council Cake Sale – further information to follow
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	CHUMS Shine Bright Wear Bright – non uniform day
	Break up for half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Return to school
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Science week – further information to follow
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Class photographs.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	River Bank Iftar – further information to follow