

Dear River Bank parents and carers

Welcome back after the February half term break. We have a busy half term planned so please take note of all of the information below. Ramadan Mubarak to all of our families who have begun this month of prayer, fasting and reflection.

Aziza Khanom (Woodpecker Class) has now left to start her maternity leave. Louise Betts (Hare Class) will be leaving River Bank at the end of the term to join another Luton school. Louise joined us in 2018 and has had a hugely positive impact on our school. We will miss her so much and I know you will join me in wishing her all the best as she moves on. Jessica Beeson will be replacing Louise as the Hare Class teacher (Mon-Wed). Jessica is an experienced teacher and we look forward to welcoming her to the team.

Laura Scott left our Nurture and Well-being Team at Christmas to work for CAMHS in Hertfordshire. I am pleased to say that we have a replacement starting with us on the 9th March. Vanessa Dyson will join the team, having performed a very similar role in another Luton school.

Best wishes, David Sansom

World Book Day

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

We are very excited to be hosting another Travelling Books book fair that brings the best of children's literature into schools. The fair will run from the 25th Feb until 10th March. All the books and stationery bought at the fairs generate money for us to spend on books in school, allowing us to constantly update our ever-growing book shelves!

At the fairs, there will be many titles for you and your child to choose from and with prices starting from only £2.99, there's sure to be a book for everyone. The range includes picture books, early readers, chapter books, older fiction, non-fiction, home learning and lots more!

Early Years, Yr 1 & Yr 2	Yr3 & Yr4	Yr5 & Yr6	All welcome
Thursday 26 th Feb & Tuesday 10 th March	Wednesday 4 th March & Monday 9 th March	Tuesday 3 rd March & Thursday 5 th March	Friday 27 th Feb & Friday 6 th 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.

School Community Iftar

We are delighted to share that River Bank will be holding our first ever community iftar on Wednesday 4th March. This special event is open to everyone in our school community. Letters with full details have been sent home. If you would like to attend, please visit the school office to make your payment and secure your place. There is a £5 charge per person, which includes a delicious selection of food and desserts. We would love to see as many families as possible joining us for this meaningful evening. As part of the event, we will also be fundraising for food packs for Gaza, with all donations going to 'One Nation', a charity with a 100% donations policy. If you are able to contribute in any way, please get in touch.



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Sporting Events

The following pupils have recently represented our school:

Year 5 football tournament: Mikaeel, Adnan, Caleb, Rudraksh, Ahyan, Bilal, Muhammad R and Sahim.

Year 5 & 6 basketball: Eshal, Inaaya, Summaiya, Nathan, Danial, Sami and Rayyan.

Year 5 VR Workshop

As part of their learning about the rainforest, the children had the incredible opportunity to explore this fascinating environment using VR technology. During the session, pupils travelled through the different layers of the rainforest, from the forest floor to the canopy above. They were amazed to see animals up close in their natural habitats and experience the sights and sounds of the rainforest all around them. They even watched an orangutan touch the camera. The workshop truly brought their learning to life and has inspired lots of excitement and enthusiasm.

Young Voices

In early February, our choir had the opportunity to join in the Young Voices concert at Wembley Arena. The children sang brilliantly and really enjoyed performing as part of the enormous Young Voices choir. They represented the school brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves. What an experience!

Parent Consultation Meetings

Information about this term's parent consultation meetings will be sent to parents soon. These meetings give you the opportunity to discuss with your child's class teacher the progress your child is making. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to discuss ways that you can support your child's learning at home. The dates for the meeting are as follows

- EYFS, Year 1, 2, and 4 – Monday 23rd March 2026
- Year, 3, 5 and 6 – Tuesday 24th March 2026

Appointment times, subject to availability, are between 13:20 – 18:20

To book an appointment please log in to your www.scopay.com account, which will come live from 08:00 on the 2nd March 2026 and will close at 08:00 on the 16th March 2026.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone that took part in Shine Bright Wear Bright, to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week 2026. We raised an amazing £341.00 towards vital funds to support the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people across Luton and Bedfordshire.

We're delighted to share that the School Council raised over £900 at the recent bake sale. This is an incredible achievement and it's all thanks to your generosity and support. The funds will be split between Keech Hospice and new playground equipment for our children to enjoy. Thank you once again for your kindness, your donations and for helping make this event such a success.

Fridge Needed

Our school fridge that we store our breakfast club resources and EYFS milk has broken down and is beyond repair. In order to save some money and think about the environment, we were wondering if anyone had a tall second hand fridge in good working order they do not need that we could have. If you do have a spare fridge that you no longer need, please email info@riverbankprimary.org and let us know We will come and collect!

Please see dates for your diary on the next page....

March's value of the month FRIENDSHIP

Dates For Your Diary

- Monday 2nd March Class photographs
- Wednesday 4th March Iftar Event 16:30pm - places must be pre booked
Year 3 poetry recital to Year 3 parents 8:45am - prompt start
Stay and Play – pre school children and parents – 9:00am-10:00am.
- Friday 6th March World Book Day – wear comfortable clothes
- Tuesday 10th March Woodpecker class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
- Wednesday 11th March Y3 trip to Gurdwara
- Friday 13th March EYFS Mother's day workshop 8:45-9:30am – further information to follow
- Monday 16th March EYFS Mother's day workshop 14:30-15:15pm – further information to follow
Year 2 Working Woodland trip Dove and Starling classes
- Tuesday 17th March Dove class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am - prompt start
Year 2 Working Woodland trip Woodpecker and Owl classes
- Wednesday 18th March Stay and Play – pre school children and parents – 9:00am-10:00am
- Monday 23rd March EYFS, Year 2, 4 and 6 parent meetings – further information to follow
- Tuesday 24th March Lark class assembly, parents welcome, 8:45am for a prompt 8:50am start
Year 1, 3 and 5 parent meetings – further information to follow
- 25th – 27th March Year 4 residential
- Thursday 26th March Year 1 Whipsnade Zoo trip
- Friday 27th March Break for Easter Holiday
- Monday 13th April Staff training – school closed to pupils
- Tuesday 14th April Pupils return to school.