



LARKRISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Ms Katie Allen

Learning Together - Achieving Excellence



20th March 2026

Dear Families,

Firstly, Happy Eid to any of our families who are celebrating today. We hope you have a wonderful day with your families.

Secondly, what a welcome visitor the sunshine has been this week. Year 1 and 2 had a wonderful visit to the church yesterday to carry out some Easter activities in preparation for the upcoming festival. We were also treated to an assembly from Year 1 and Year 2 this week – superstars in our midst, I think you'll agree.

ATTENDANCE

Currently we are sitting at 91% attendance as a school overall. You will have seen this from my dojo earlier this week. The new Ofsted framework is highlighting the importance of attendance and we are not hitting the mark. Here are some facts and figures that might help. Think of it this way:

If your child has **90% attendance**, it might sound pretty good — but it actually means they're missing **about 19 days of school a year**.

That's nearly **4 whole weeks of lessons** missed.

Over time, that really adds up. It's like your child is missing chunks of teaching in every subject, which can make it harder to keep up with the class and feel confident in their learning.

Even small absences here and there can quickly turn into a big gap.

Can you please make a concerted effort to get your children to school every day they are not poorly? I have added a poster to the end of this newsletter regarding illnesses which might help you to make a decision as to whether your child is well enough to attend.

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you to those parents and families who have sent back their parent surveys after the reports were sent out before half term. We have had some wonderful responses where parents are overwhelmingly agreeing with the statements. I will do an in depth analysis before the end of the term so that you have more time to get your surveys back to us. For now, here are a few of the positive comments that we have received:

'The teachers are good at teaching and understand their subjects'

'The school has an amazing learning and improving attitude. The staff and Headteacher are welcoming, caring and supportive. Thank you'

'Friendly staff'

'I appreciate the support given to the children and the positive atmosphere at the school.

Dedicated staff and a safe, supportive environment'

'Larkrise to me is a lovely community school that have always supported myself as well as my child'

I will share more with you before the end of this term.

POLLING STATION – CLOSURE OF SCHOOL

An important date for your diaries – **Thursday 7th May** is a polling day where Larkrise will be used as a polling station. This means we will be closed to children on this day. On **Thursday 7th May school will be closed.**

IROCK

We have a new band coach, Ben, and he will be coaching on a Monday afternoon. If you are interested in your child joining IRock to play the drums, the keyboard, the guitar, or sing, please do let us know or contact IRock at info@irockschool.com or phone 0330 1742655. Their website is www.irockschool.com if you would like to find out more. A dojo went out inviting children to a taster session – please have a look if you are interested.

CLUBS – SPRING TERM 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lego Club EYFS/Yr1 /Yr 2 15 Places Miss Phillips	Choir Club KS2 (Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6) 15 Places Miss Bowers	Dodgeball Club KS2 (Yrs 4, 5 & 6) Mr Thomas	Maths Club (TTRS) Yrs 3,4 & 5 10 Places Miss Horne	
Sewing Club Yrs 2 & 3 8 Places Mrs Bacon			Craft Club KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2) Mrs Lane	
Gymnastics Club Yrs 5 & 6 12 Places Miss Uzzell			Movie Club KS1 (Yrs 3, 4, 5 & 6) Ms Hawkins	
			Strength & Fitness Club KS2 (Yrs 3, 4,5 & 6)	

Club applications for this term have now closed but I have kept this in the newsletter so that you are aware of which clubs are happening when.

FACEBOOK

Please have a look at our Facebook page where we try to upload photos from each of the classes across the school weekly to share what we have all been up to. Please like and comment too!

DIARY DATES

Monday 23 rd March	I Rock concert at 2.30pm – parents of children with I Rockers only
Tuesday 24 th March	Y2 WOW Day - Springtime
Wednesday 25 th March	Reception WOW Day – Easter Fun Day
Wednesday 25 th March	Y3 WOW Day - Romans
Thursday 26 th March	Y4 WOW Day
Friday 27 th March	Last day of term
Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April	EASTER BREAK
Monday 13 th April	Children return to school
Tuesday 28 th April	Y6 WOW Day – Wellbeing walk and picnic
Friday 8 th May	Y4 WOW Day – Stone Age inspiration box
Tuesday 19 th May	Y1 WOW Day
Wednesday 20 th May	Y5 WOW Day – World bee day
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May	HALF TERM
Monday 1 st June	Children return to school
Monday 8 th June – Wednesday 10 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
Monday 22 nd June	Group Photos
Friday 26 th June	Y1 WOW Day
Friday 3 rd July	Y5 WOW Day – Independence Day
Wednesday 15 th July	Y6 WOW Day – Children’s choice



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 -10 am	Pre-loved uniform shop open (Cash only)		Coffee morning Pre-loved uniform shop open (Cash only)	Pre-loved uniform shop open (Cash only)	
10 – 12am	Mel available for 1:1 conversations		Mel available for 1:1 conversations	Mel available for 1:1 conversations	
1 – 4pm	Mel available for 1:1 conversations		Mel available for 1:1 conversations	Mel available for 1:1 conversations	

1:1 conversations – I am always happy to talk to parents 1:1. Where possible, can you text me for 1:1 conversations so I can ensure my availability, however, if something unexpected has happened and you need to talk about it on the day, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Mel Pointon, Child and Family Support Worker, will be available in 'The Hive,' our parent hub which is in the bungalow situated on the school driveway, every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday to meet with parents and carers. This is also where our pre-loved uniform is available for a small fee. Please feel free to go across on any of these days and Mel will help you out. Mel can also issue food bank vouchers should you need them. Mel can also be contacted on 079562111932.

WORKSHOP – Understanding your child's anxiety workshop for parents. Taking place in 28/1/26 at 9am until 10.30am. See the poster at the end of the newsletter for more details.

FOLS NEWS

EYFS BAKE SALE

A big thank you to everyone who donated cakes for us to sell at the EYFS Bake Sale, it is much appreciated.

Thank you to our helpers and everyone who came in to buy cakes, play hook a duck or get a temporary tattoo.

We raised a total of £145 to go towards the very special EYFS surprise, which will also be enjoyed by the rest of the children in the school.

FRIDAY 13 MARCH - Someone Special Gift Shop

Thank you to everyone who brought tickets for our event in school. The children really do enjoy coming to the gift shop and picking something.

The children were all really well behaved when picking their gifts.

EASTER EGG COMPETITION SHEETS

We will be in the happiness garden at school pick up selling the Easter egg competition sheets for £1. The competition closes on Wednesday 25 of March and winners announced Friday 27 March.

Here is the link if you are not yet signed up to classlist -

<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1408410686>

If anyone has any ideas for events or raising funds for the children and school, please do let us know and if anyone has any free time and would like to volunteer to help us, please do get in touch.

Contact Details - familiesoflarkrise@hotmail.com

Facebook page - Families and friends of Larkrise Primary School,
Classlist or alternatively, look out for us on the KS2 playground.

Thank you to everyone for supporting us and we hope you all have a lovely week.

The FOLs Team

PHILOSOPHY FOR CHILDREN

Our 'P4C question of the week' that we'd like you and your children to discuss is this:
'Would you rather read a book or watch a film?'

The important thing to ask is 'why?' Do let us know what you and your children discuss.

ATTENDANCE NEWS

Attendance was a reason that Larkrise did not reach the 'outstanding' grade from Ofsted last year. There are too many families who fall under the 90% attendance bracket and are so deemed to be 'persistently absent'. Children should be attending school every day. Your child can only miss school if they are too ill to attend or school have given advance permission. Can you please ensure you contact the school office to explain any absence from your child **on the day they are going to be absent before 9am**. The national attendance target is **95%** and we would really like to achieve that this year.

Reception –	92.2%
Year 1 –	86.8%
Year 2 –	87.8%
Year 3 –	89.4%
Year 4 –	95.7%
Year 5 –	88.5%
Year 6 –	93.7%

CERTIFICATES

Class	Stars of the Week	Mathematician of the Week
Reception (EYFS)	Sienna-Rain, Thomas	Annabelle
Year 1	The whole class	Florence
Year 2	Claire	Gabriella
Year 3	Aria, Akua	Dominic
Year 4	Somto, Layla	Bella
Year 5	Miriam, Joshua, Miss Gregory	Amelia
Year 6	Rory, Johnson	Olivia

BIRTHDAYS

A very happy birthday to the following children for this week:

Ogechi, Arthur, Gabriella

Many happy returns!

Have a great weekend!

Ms Allen



Headteacher

Larkrise Primary School

Message from Great Baddow Parish Council

We wanted to make you aware of the Great Baddow Parish Council Library of Things. This is a community resource designed to help our residents, including community groups, share resources, save money, and reduce waste.

We know that many households and local groups often need specific equipment for "one-off" tasks or events, but buying these items can be expensive and they take up valuable storage space. Our Library of Things solves this by allowing you to borrow what you need, when you need it.

We have a range of items which may be of interest:

- Home & Garden: Garden tools and wheelbarrows for those seasonal projects.
- Kitchen & Events: Extra chairs, tables, crockery, and cutlery and gazebo—perfect for community events.
- Tech & Gadgets: High-value items including a digital projector for presentations and a thermal imaging camera to help identify heat loss in homes.

To find out more, please view our website:

<https://www.greatbaddowparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-services/the-library-of-things/> for more details. Alternatively, do please get in touch.

The holidays are fast-approaching

Are you *looking* for something for your child to do during this time?

Why not sign them up to one of our Bikeability Courses.

- Chelmsford
- Harlow
- Witham
- Colchester
- Uttlesford



Please see below the link to book Easter holiday courses:
<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>



Tiny Traders Market

Young Entrepreneurs in Action!

We asked for children aged 7-14 to join us for a special community event where young creators can celebrate their creativity and experience the excitement of selling something they've made!

We've had an amazing response with over 20 stalls filled with children's creations – now we need your support to make it a truly magical experience

- Come along and support the young traders
- Bring friends and family
- Help inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs!
- Pocket Money Prices!

DATE: 8TH APRIL 2026
TIME: 10H00 -12H00
LOCATION: BEAULIEU COMMUNITY CENTRE

When a child's creation is valued by others, they see their ideas matter, their effort counts, and their confidence lasts a lifetime




School Holiday Free Play:

TABLE TENNIS & TABLE FOOTBALL!

Table Tennis
Table Football (Foosball)

£5 per 45-minute session (not per child!)
 45-minute slots
 Max 8 children per slot!

For children of all ages

Please note: Unstructured, free play – NOT lessons or coaching. Parents/guardians must be present or responsible.

Various days over the school holidays
 Location: Beaulieu Community Centre
 Book your slot via **Eventbrite**: Search 'CGC Trust Events'

Come along, play with friends, practice your skills, and enjoy some friendly competition!



THE LITTLE LOVES FAYRE

Great Baddow Millennium Community Centre
 Chelmsford, CM2 9RL
 Saturday 11th April, 2026
 11am-2pm

The marketplace celebrating every stage of parenthood from pregnancy to teens in one place with some fab hidden gem businesses there to!!

- FREE Parking
- Baby Changing Facilities
- On Site Refreshments
- FREE Admission

Free goody bag for the first 50 visitors!

Follow us on   The Little Loves Fayre

With The Mermaid Princess joining us all day and an opportunity for pictures and singing!

What to do

Advice on childhood illnesses



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required



Some restrictions for school attendance



Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Asthma flare up	Worsening of usual symptoms		Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
Chicken pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)		Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
German measles/ Rubella	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards		GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
Glandular fever	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before		GP	*
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)		GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)		Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness		GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash		GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty		Pharmacy	
Scabies	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm		GP	Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash		GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis/ Strep throat	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day		Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow. Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'		GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
Covid				Visit www.nhs.uk for latest guidance

*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Working in partnership with

Should my child go to school/nursery today?
Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information
<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers>





£5.00 SWIMMING LESSONS
EASTER HOLIDAYS
FOR CHILDREN
AGED 4-11 YEARS

Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April
For non-swimmers to 25m swimmers
Sessions at 2:00PM, 3:20PM & 4:40PM

70 MINUTES SESSIONS
(2 x 30 minutes session with 10 minute rest)
Cost £5.00 per session, per child

We are looking for swimmers to take part in a STA Level 2 Award in Aquatic Teaching Course is taking place at Meadgate Pool, Great Baddow by Go Leisure. This is for individuals from across the UK to train to become Swimming Teachers. In order to fulfil the practical teaching requirements of the course, they are required to teach a range of swimming abilities.

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO BOOK
PLEASE EMAIL**

MEADGATEPOOLLTD@OUTLOOK.COM

