



LARKRISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Ms Katie Allen

Learning Together - Achieving Excellence



27th March 2026

Dear Families,

The staff at Larkrise would like to wish you all a Happy Easter for the coming Easter break.

This week we have been finalising assessments and were treated to a fantastic IRock concert on Monday. Four bands across the year groups played songs such as 'Should I stay or should I go' and 'The eye of the tiger' and were absolutely brilliant. Ben is such a wonderful teacher and the concert was out of this world. Well done IRockers – I want all of your autographs now before you all become famous!

We've had some Easter fun in EYFS, Roman food tasting and shield making in Y3 and other wonderful things happening across the school for the WOW days that we plan each half term. Please take a look at our Facebook page – you'll see some amazing photos. Do also like and share them to help the algorithm get Larkrise seen across the land!

ATTENDANCE

Currently we are sitting at 91% attendance as a school overall. 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.

ARBOR INFORMATION

Could any parents who have specific arrangements for their children, such as court orders, restricted lists, special collection procedures, please ensure that the school office know about them. We are unsure as to whether all information passed across correctly when we moved over from SIMS so would like to ensure that we have the correct information for all of our families. Thank you for your help with this matter.

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.**

DINNER ARREARS

A reminder that children who are having a school meal – these need to be paid for in advance on Arbor. We have some families with quite substantial arrears that we have chased over the last week or so. Please ensure your arrears are paid promptly, otherwise we will have to insist on a packed lunch for your child until the arrears are paid.

CLUBS – SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Miss Uzzell Rounders Club Years 4,5 & 6 20 Children	Miss Bowers Choir Club KS2 15 Children	Mr Thomas Cricket (1 st 3 weeks) Tennis (2 nd 3 weeks) First half term the club will be open to Years 1,2 and 3. Second half term it will be open to Years 4,5 & 6	Mrs Lane Craft Club KS1 12 Children	
	Miss Horne Maths Club (TTRS) Years 3/4/5 10 Children			

If you wish to apply for a club please email clubs@larkrise.essex.sch.uk stating the club you require and your child's name and class number.

The clubs are allocated on a first come first served basis. The cut-off date for applying is Tuesday 14th April 2026. Clubs will not run in the first week back after Easter as we need time to allocate children to each club. Clubs will start w/b Monday 20th April.

I ROCK

We have a new band coach, Ben, and he will be coaching on a Monday afternoon. If you are interested in your child joining I Rock to play the drums, the keyboard, the guitar, or sing, please do let us know or contact I Rock 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.

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!

PARKING

Can parents please be mindful of where they are parking to drop off and collect children at the start and end of the school day. We have residents and resident only parking in several places around the school and we have already received several complaints. Our neighbours have not been able to access their parking spots or their cars, and parents have been particularly rude to them. Please show some kindness and responsibility and park your car in a sensible place if you do indeed need to bring your car.

I must also reiterate that the staff car park is for staff only. Unfortunately, we do not have parking spaces for parents. Please respect this as some of our staff are not able to park in the mornings and are then not on time to start their day with the children. There are neighbouring streets that can be parked on which only require a short walk to the school entrance – please use those. Many thanks for your cooperation.

DIARY DATES

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		Coffee morning Pre-loved	Pre-loved uniform shop open	

	(Cash only)		uniform shop open (Cash only)	(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.

PHILOSOPHY FOR CHILDREN

Our 'P4C question of the week' that we'd like you and your children to discuss is this:

'Would you rather eat a chocolate bunny or an Easter egg?'

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

FAMILY FRIDAYS

Parents and carers are welcome to come into school at 8.40am **every Friday**, alongside their child, to read in their classroom. We will do this **EVERY Friday** so please do come along and join in. If children see us working together, they will do so much better in their learning! Please do come in, if only for 10 minutes! Younger siblings are welcome to come too as long as you keep them close to you whilst reading. We ask you all to have left the classroom by 9am so the children can then proceed with their class learning.

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 – 90.0%
Year 1 – 83.6%
Year 2 – 91.7%
Year 3 – 90.0%

Year 4 – 91.8%
Year 5 – 95.6%
Year 6 – 89.7%

CERTIFICATES

Class	Stars of the Week	Mathematician of the Week
Reception (EYFS)	Robert, Ayla	Joseph
Year 1	Akaal, Lenny	David
Year 2	Dana, Jasemina	Isha
Year 3	Alfie, Samual	Whole class
Year 4	Harry, Anvesha	Joy
Year 5	Aman, Roseanne	Whole class
Year 6	Whole class	

Birthdays

A very happy birthday to the following children for this week and over the Easter break:

Somto, Aman, Tommy H, Ryan, Rahal, Kiyarad

Many happy returns!

Have a great EASTER holiday!

Ms Allen



Headteacher

Larkrise Primary School



Summer Menu

W/C 13/4, 27/4, 11/5, 18/5, 8/6, 22/6, 6/7 and 20/7



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pepperoni Baguette pizza (Gluten free available)	Chicken Burger in a bun	Pulled pork	Chicken nuggets (Gluten free available)	fish fingers (gluten free available)
Option 2	Cheese Baguette pizza (Gluten free available)	Vegan burger in a bun	Golden vegetable loaf	vegan dippers	cheesy omlette
On the Side	Potato salad salad	hash browns sweetcorn	roast potatoes Carrots Yorkshire puddings (gluten free available)	savoury rice Broccoli	chips peas
For Dessert	Peaches and cream	Fruit platter	jelly	lemon cake	Snickerdoodle cookies



Summer Menu

w/c 20/4, 4/5, 1/6, 15/6, 29/6, and 13/7.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	meatballs in a tomato sauce (gluten free available)	sausage rolls (gluten free available)	Carbonara (gluten free available)	sticky chicken	fish bites
Option 2	power up balls in a tomato sauce	Cheese and onion rolls Gluten free available)	summer vegetable swirl	sticky sausage (V)	Seaside fingers
On the Side	spaghetti green beans	Salad coleslaw	Broccoli	Egg noodles sweetcorn	Crispy cubes baked beans
For Dessert	ice cream	raspberry and peach traybake	lollys	fruit or yoghurt	coconut cookie.

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>

