



## LARKRISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Headteacher: Ms Katie Allen**

Learning Together - Achieving Excellence



7<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Families

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful week off last week, although that does seem like an age away now. We have got straight back into learning, with some of our parents even starting our TPP course for Families in the Hive last Thursday with Miss Pointon and myself. The first session was all about self-care and putting our own oxygen mask on first, so let's all try to do that this weekend.

Please let anyone who is looking for a school for their little one know that we are holding tours of the school in the next few months.

Tours are available on;

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30am

Please spread the word!

### **KEY PRIORITIES FOR THIS YEAR**

Every year the school senior leadership team, in partnership with the Executive leadership team of the Trust, work together to formulate a school development plan that focuses the school priorities for the year ahead. I thought you might like to know what we are working on as a school this year:

#### **Key Priorities for 2025 -2026**

To enhance pupil engagement and pupil outcomes by making learning more experiential and relevant to real life.

To ensure all teachers consistently challenge poor-quality work and raise expectations of pupils' outcomes.

To embed high-quality assessment practices led by subject leaders to evaluate pupil progress.

To strengthen the strategic role of subject leaders in driving curriculum intent, implementation, and impact.

To strengthen assessment for learning to accurately identify next steps and accelerate progress in EYFS.

To improve standards of reading and writing in EYFS.

To build and establish a KS2 nurture cabin.

If you have any questions about any of these, or any ideas, please do let us know.

### **UNIFORM CONSULTATION**

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their views about the proposed uniform changes. I now need to speak to Governors and will be sending an information letter out about the uniform in the next week or so.

### **SAFEGUARDING ALERT**

We want to make you aware of an issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats, and Spy Pups series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back that used to go to the

author's website. This link has been compromised and is no longer within his control. The website now connects to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any Spy Dog, Spy Cat or Spy Pups books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- You can also talk with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in any children's reading materials without checking with an adult first.

Thank you for your support with this.

### **DOJO/PHONECALLS FOR TEACHERS**

Just a reminder that dojos and phone calls to parents from and to class teachers can only happen when the teacher is NOT TEACHING. We are happy for you to send messages via dojo at any time, but please do not expect immediate answers or phone calls back when teachers are teaching the children. If you have an emergency, then please leave a message with the office staff and they will find an adult who can respond more immediately if it is needed. Thank you for your understanding.

### **COLLECTION OF CHILDREN FROM THE PLAYGROUND**

For parents of year 2 – 6 who collect their children from the top playground, please can you stand back and away from the pathway leading up to the playground. We do need access to allow the classes to get to their circles so that the teachers can easily dismiss the children to you. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **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!

### **BIKES AND SCOOTERS**

Bikes and scooters MUST NOT be used on the playground at the end of the school day or in the old KS1 playground at the front of school before school starts. Please ensure when you are collecting bikes and scooters that they are not used until you leave the school premises, and if your child is arriving to school on a bike or a scooter, they dismount and hold their bike until it is time to enter the premises. This is to avoid collisions and injuries. Many thanks.

### **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. Thank you for your understanding.

### **DIARY DATES**

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Return to school
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu immunisations
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Y3 WOW Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	EYFS WOW Day – Rainbow Robin's Birthday!

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Y5 WOW Day – Wildlife Conservation Day
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Y1 WOW Day Y2 WOW Day
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Y6 Class Assembly at 2.45pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	IRock concert to parents of children who do IRock at 2.30pm
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Y4 WOW Day
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Y6 to see Shrek the Musical
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas Performance 9.30am
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Performance 2pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Performance 9.30am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec – Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Christmas Holidays
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>INSET Day – School closed to children</b>

### **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](mailto:info@irockschool.com) or phone 0330 1742655. Their website is [www.irockschool.com](http://www.irockschool.com) if you would like to find out more.

### **VOLUNTEERS – HELPING HANDS**

Do you have some free time on your hands and would you like to come and help out at Larkrise? We are looking for parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles etc. who have some free time who might be able to help us out in the coming months. This could involve;

- reading with the children
- attending educational visits
- cutting and sticking work into books
- helping to make displays around the school
- running small clubs after school or at lunchtimes
- or any other skill you may have that you would like to share with the children.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Trish Hill in the office, or your child's class teacher, and we will give you some more information. Thank you!

### **FOLS News**

**Christmas Community Cafe -Details & date to follow next week**

**AGM - Details & date to follow**

If anyone has any ideas for events or raising funds for the children and school, please do let us know. We are open to all ideas and any new ideas for events that you or the children may have.

**If anyone would like to volunteer to help the FOLS team, please get in contact. The more people we have on board the more events we can put on.**

Contact details - [familiesoflarkrise@hotmail.com](mailto: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 weekend.**

The FOLS Team



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>9 -10 am</b>	Pre-loved uniform shop open (Cash only)		Coffee morning Pre-loved uniform shop open (Cash only)	TPP for Families course (application 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.

**PHILOSOPHY FOR CHILDREN**

Our 'P4C question of the week' that we'd like you and your children to discuss is this: 'Would you rather go to the moon or under the sea?'

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 –	82.9%
Year 1 –	90.9%
Year 2 –	99.4%
Year 3 –	97.4%
Year 4 –	92.9%
Year 5 –	88.2%
Year 6 –	94.5%

## CERTIFICATES

Class	Stars of the Week	Mathematician of the Week
Reception (EYFS)	Brodie, Alaya-Angel	Bobby
Year 1	Eric, Lyla	David
Year 2	Claire, Rahal	Dana
Year 3	Oliver S, Elliott	Niamh
Year 4	Ronnie, Harry	Louie
Year 5	Ishaq, Roseanne	Amelia
Year 6	Rose, Albie	Lilly

**Most active class on TTRS** Year 4 18%

## BIRTHDAYS

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

Alfie, Roseanne, Enoch, Sai, Ishaq, Fletcher

Many happy returns!

Have a lovely, restful weekend.

Ms Allen



Headteacher

Larkrise Primary School

## St JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & GREAT BADDOW HIGH SCHOOL WEEKLY SWIMMING LESSONS

<p><b>6 WEEK SWIM COURSE - GREAT BADDOW HIGH SCHOOL OR ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p> <p><b>FROM £26 A MONTH - 30 &amp; 40 MINUTES A WEEK TEACHERS IN THE POOL, MAXIMUM OF 4 CHILDREN IN A CLASS</b></p>	
	

**6 WEEK SWIMMING COURSE \*\* INTRODUCTORY OFFER \*\* WE ONLY**

CHARGE FROM £26 A MONTH OVER 2 MONTHLY INSTALMENTS

WE HAVE SWIMMING LESSON 30 & 40 MINUTES EVERY WEEK

SMALL CLASS SIZES MAX OF 4 CHILDREN AND YOU REALLY WILL NOTICE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY, AS LOTS OF INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION WITH TEACHERS IN THE POOL UP TO THE LENGTH SWIMMERS

**WE TEACH AT ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, CM3 4NS**

FRIDAY'S- BETWEEN 4-6PM

**WE TEACH AT GREAT BADDOW HIGH SCHOOL, CM2 9RZ**

SATURDAY'S- BETWEEN 9-10.30AM

SATURDAY'S- BETWEEN 12.45-2.45PM



CCHS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

# CCHS WINTER FAYRE



CRAFT STALLS  
FOOD & DRINKS  
GAMES - RAFFLE  
LIVE MUSIC



11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
2025



ADMISSION £1  
STUDENTS FREE  
CARD MACHINE AVAILABLE



CHELMSFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL,  
BROOMFIELD ROAD, CHELMSFORD

