



Lower Farm Weekly



Friday 26th April 2024

Congratulations to everyone for another amazing week here at Lower Farm.



Celebration of Vaisakhi

Saturday 13th April saw the Sikh celebration of Vaisakhi. Vaisakhi is about the birth of the Khalsa (Sikh Identity), signified by the 5 Ks, namely: Kes (hair), Kanga (comb), Kirpaan (sword), Kara (bracelet) and Kasherha (shorts).

We hope that everyone who was celebrating Vaishakhi enjoyed themselves and the festivities which included making and sharing food, remembering the three pillars of Sikhism as well as visiting the Gurdwara and being involved in long walks (Nagar Kirtan) from one Gurdwara to the next.

Value Awards



Beech Leighton-James	Resilience & Care
Birch Olivia	Care, Integrity & Care
Cherry Luna	Achievement
Chestnut Kacey	Care & Achievement
Elder Jayden	Achievement & Integrity
Elm Tyler	All School Values
Hazel Ryan	Integrity, Respect & Care
Holly Aminah	All School Values
Oak Carla	All School Values

Attendance For week beginning 22nd April 2024



Beech Class	95%
Birch Class	96.6%
Cherry Class:	98.7%
Chestnut Class:	94.1%
Elder Class:	91.1%
Elm Class:	98.8%
Hazel Class	95.9%
Holly	98.1%
Oak	92.4%

Congratulations to those classes that have reached an attendance of **97% or above**. It would be great to see every class reach 97% next week.



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Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday

Friday 17th May: Parent/Carer Share Event 14:30

Friday 24th May: Non-uniform day – bottle donation

Friday 24th May: Year 1 Fairytale themed Tea party

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Tuesday 4th June: Parents/Carers Welcome Evening for Reception starters Sept 2024 17:00—18:00

Friday 7th June: Non-uniform – gift donation for summer fayre

Friday 14th June: Year 3 Fathers' Day 14:00 — 15:00

Saturday 29th June: Summer fayre – sports day

Monday 8th July: Parent/Carer Share Event 14:30

Wednesday 10th July: Transition Day

Thursday 18th July: School closes at 13:30 for summer holidays



Fundraising **FASHION SHOW** & SHOPPING EVENT



YOUR FAVOURITE BRANDS AT UP TO 75% OFF

DOROTHY PERKINS WHITE STUFF RIVER ISLAND NEXT
EVANS NEW LOOK MISS SELFRIDGE TOPSHOP WALLIS
URBAN OUTFITTERS WAREHOUSE MONSOON & MORE!

**SIZES
6 TO 30**

PLUS FRENCH

**EVENT
CANCELLED**

All funds raised will go towards Lower Farm Academy school projects

SOS Charity Fashion Shows

DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

CHARITYFASHIONSHOWS.CO.UK



FRIENDS OF LOWER FARM ACADEMY

Second Hand Uniform

- Scan the QR code or use website link to access the store
- Stock levels automatically updated to show what is in stock
- Order directly from the store & any purchases will be given to child's teacher to pass on at pick up / drop off
- All proceeds go towards school projects

[HTTPS://FRIENDS-OF-LOWER-FARM-ACADEMY.SUMUPSTORE.COM/](https://friends-of-lower-farm-academy.sumupstore.com/)



LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (*Platt v Isle of Wight* 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2008 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

- Head teachers **shall not grant any** Leave of Absence during term time **unless they consider there are exceptional** circumstances relating to the application.

If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent is the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £80 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.