

# River Mead School



4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Lowbourn, Melksham SN12 7ED

Executive Head Teacher – Mrs Lyssy Bolton      Head of School – Mrs Karen Austin

[www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk) ☎ 01225 703428 ✉ [office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk)

The school office is open and you can contact school via the telephone if you need assistance

Our school latest news: <http://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk/news-dates/latest-news>

Our Twitter feed: @TweetRiverMead

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/River-Mead-School-728064724207622/>

**STAY AT HOME** 

**PROTECT THE NHS**

 **save lives**

Dear Parents and Carers

We are entering a further week of 'stay in, stay safe, save lives', we all know how challenging this can be, I know I am having to draw on my patience and resilience with everyone being at home! Be kind to yourselves and remember we are only a phone call away if you need us, even if you just need a to speak to a familiar voice. There is someone in the school office Monday to Friday, or leave us a message and we will call you back. Please send any enquiries about home learning to [homelearning@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk) and we will pass them on to the class teacher or respond!.

Don't forget the SMILES! If you are happy to share you amazing home learning and smiley moments with the wider community we will use them on Twitter, and here <https://www.themeadtrust.org/smiles/> Please send them to [smiles@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:smiles@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk) they can be messages or photos!  
#shareyoursmiles

Finally, I know that the media and press have been discussing schools returning as part of the easing of restrictions; please be reassured as soon as we have any information we will share it with you. We currently DO NOT have any information about when schools will return. Please do not be overly concerned about this, I can assure you, that when we are open to a wider group of children it will be done so safely, with strict guidelines and processes in place. We have already been open, (since we closed) for a number of children who have a Keyworker as a parent, or have an EHCP. During this time, we have managed this successfully and safely. Remember we will continue to do the very best for all of our children whether they are at home or school.

Stay safe everyone!

Best Wishes

Mrs Karen Austin

4<sup>th</sup> May 2020



We are fast approaching VE Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Wiltshire council have made a pack which contains simple advice and suggestions on how to celebrate with social distancing measures. These include themed recipe ideas, a World War II/VE Day quiz and wordsearch, some suggested e-reading materials from the council's library service, craft ideas on how to make bunting and paperchains, 1940s-inspired games and songs to sing to keep the family entertained.

VE Day took place on 8 May 1945 and saw people celebrate peace in Europe after years of conflict. You can access the pack on this link. <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/articles/ve-day-toolkit>

## River Mead School

### Display

Over the next few weeks we will be creating a display on one of the boards in the school hall that will remain up until we are all back together. We are going to create a 'River Mead Tree' where the leaves represent everyone in our school community.

We have been inspired by an idea that was shared on twitter. A tree with leaves that represent important people.

We would like children, families and staff to create a leaf/leaves that we can add to the display.

The leaves could be made in lots of different ways; drawing, painting, folding paper, Lego, using things in the garden – I'm sure you have lots of other creative ideas!

Photographs of your leaves can be sent to [homelearning@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk) and we will print them out and add to the display in school. We will keep you updated as the tree grows!

Your leaves could also be posted to school if that is easier.

River Mead School  
Lowbourne,  
Melksham  
SN12 7ED



### Star of the week

We will continue to celebrate 'Star of the Week', teachers are looking at your online learning and the other super activities you are doing and for those still with us, your work and activities in school too!

This week we are celebrating;

- **Otters** - Jake
- **Magpies** – Imogen
- **Frogs** – Harvey P
- **Herons** – Sienna
- **Kestrels** – Imogen
- **Badgers** – Tayla
- **Buzzards** – Kian
- **In-school** – Martha

Don't forget to celebrate your success at home!



## TINY Happy PEOPLE

*Your words build their world*

Tiny Happy People can help you develop your child's language and communication skills, so they get the best start in life.

We'll show you why and how you can bond with your child, before they're born and throughout their early lives – it's never too early to start.

Our ideas and activities are easy to build into your daily routine. They're quick and inspiring, but they're also based on expert advice and evidence, and are proven to help your child's development.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

You'll find some short videos and simple, fun activities that you and your children can do together.

We've broken down the activities by age, but no one knows your child better than you do.

So you could pick and choose the ideas that feel right for you, adapt our suggestions or even come up with your own. And you can use whatever language you feel most comfortable with

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

## Stay Safe Online

This information and these sites will support you and your children with staying safe online.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-staying-safe-online#parents>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

## Follow the code to stay safe online



## Click Clever, Click Safe!

We know this is a difficult time for many and through our Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub we are working hard to ensure the most vulnerable in our community get the support they need.

If you need support, or know someone who does, the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub can be contacted on 0300 003 4576 or by email at [wellbeinghub@wiltshire.co.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@wiltshire.co.uk)

The hub is open Monday to Friday, 8am – 8pm and weekends, 10am – 4pm.

So far, we have contacted more than 8,000 people and delivered more than 600 food parcels, so please get in touch if you need to.



## #WiltshireTogether

0300 003 4576

[wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Wiltshire Council

## School Nursing Service

"Dear Parents, Carers and Young People,

We are aware that it is a very anxious time and there may be concerns about where to access support in coming weeks should there be school closures or you needing to self-isolate.

As a school nursing service we would like to let you know we are here to support you during this time.

For secondary school age young people:

- We have set up a confidential telephone drop-in service Monday to Friday 12-2pm. Any young person that would like to call and speak to a qualified nurse on the end of the phone can call 0300 247 0090 Monday to Friday 12-2pm and speak to them.
- We also have our CHAT health text service so you can text a school nurse for advice or support for any health issues or worries, again this is confidential and you don't need to give your name if you don't want to the number is 07480 635513

For parents of any school age child:

We have duty school nurses available at the end of the phone Monday to Friday 9-5pm should you require any support with your school age child. This is available permanently for all parents to access for advice and support. If you would like support please call one of our nurses through our Single Point of access on 0300 247 0090

## **Creativity**

Create to Connect is a month-long set of creative challenges to do at home, established by 64 Million Artists. They've created [free downloadable activity packs](#) for community leaders, teachers and families to run challenges locally including a school pack.

The Get Creative Festival also normally takes place in May and has moved online this year with [#GetCreativeAtHome](#). Over 200 participatory activities are now listed on the [website](#), including the biggest life drawing class ever, and a [new series of online masterclasses by leading artists](#) including Sir Antony Gormley and features artist Clare Twomey

