

River Mead School Parent Newsletter

29.10.2021



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

Our Twitter feed: [@TweetRiverMead](https://twitter.com/TweetRiverMead)

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

In this Newsletter

- **Message from Mrs Austin**
- **PAY360**
- **Teacher Led After School Clubs**
- **School Term & Holiday Dates**
- **River Mead Menu Choices**
- **PE time table**
- **Date's to Remember**
- **What's On**

A message from Mrs Austin



I hope you have all had a good break, remained well and stayed safe.

I have had some time to catch-up on some overdue work and jobs at home including an exciting visits to the dentist! Most enjoyable for me has been time to swim more often - I am in some people opinions slightly mad and am enjoying 'wild swimming', lake, sea and river swimming, cold, invigorating, and mentally really great! So if you see me dashing off after school as the weather gets darker its likely I'm off to squeeze a swim in and then back to the laptop!

It has been good to re-connect with some friends and spend time with my family. I hope for those participating in Halloween events over the weekend that you have a good time please remember that not everyone enjoys this time of year, keep yourselves safe and be considerate of other people.

Please don't forget that there is a teacher training/INSET day in Monday 1st November, the children are back on Tuesday 2nd November.

Clubs will continue when we return to school, and your child/ren must be booked onto a club to attend.

Covid-19 cases

Wiltshire have asked schools to review current mitigations in the light of national case increases, as a result we have reviewed our contingency plans. I am satisfied that we are already undertaking the measures they have suggested. The only change we are making for the short term is to reintroduce face coverings for staff in spaces where they can not socially distance and in communal areas in the building. Children may notice this and it is not because there is a greater risk in school specifically. If you have secondary aged pupils this measure is likely to have been re-introduced for them too.

Please be aware if you currently test positive with an LFT and then have a negative PCR, but are symptomatic or have a another positive LFT you MUST book a second PCR and remain in isolation. There have been a number of reports recently of this occurring and it has been on the local news. Public Health England are looking into the matter - please be cautious and seek advice if this happens to you.

We are continuing to remain vigilant and trying to keep everyone safe. On occasion we may re-instate some 'bubble' practices when we feel it is appropriate and only for a short period of time.

Please continue to let us know if you or your child/ren are unwell and in particular if you or a close contact household member tests positive on an LFT and/or PCR so we are able to advise you on what to do or mitigate risk for the school community. Please be reminded that LFT tests are not recommended by the government for children under the age of 11.

covidreporting@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk

Thank you

PAY 360

PAY 360 is the parent portal we use which enables parents/carers to pay for school activities and clubs. We have been using it over a period of time, but recent activities have shown that there have been a few issues when trying to log in, make payments and add siblings to accounts. This has resulted in the office receiving a large amount of cash to pay for recent trips.

We are unable to store large amounts of cash and it is becoming increasingly difficult to take to the bank, so we ask that you ensure you can pay online. **As of Term 2 starting Tuesday 2nd November 2021, the office will no longer be able to take cash payments unless in exceptional circumstances and previously arranged.** If you are currently not registered or using PAY 360, then please contact the office who will be happy to help. **Thank you.**

Teacher Led After School Clubs

We still have spaces in some of our after school clubs!

If your child is interested in any of the following clubs please click on the link below:

Construction, Football, Computing, Story Club, Forest School, Choir - Young Voices, French, Drama, Chess, Library Club

<https://forms.office.com/r/T84UbJfb87>

Breakfast and After School Club

We are now taking bookings for Before School Club and After School Care to begin in Term 2, 2nd October 21.

Before School Club runs from 8am - 8.40am and costs £2.20 per child per day

After School Care runs 3.15pm - 4.15pm and costs £1.50 per child per day.

Please let us know if you need to cancel either sessions as soon as possible.

All payments are to be made in advance via Pay360.

<https://forms.office.com/r/SCwaYK1x7T>

School Term & Holiday Dates

School holidays are important to all of us! To help you plan for some family time we have put together the School Term & Holiday Calendar for 2021-2022. You can find this by clicking on the link below - to clarify, children WILL be in school on Friday 3rd of September.

<https://www.themeadtrust.org/news-and-dates/term-dates/>

Teacher Training Days have also been set, these are:

Monday 1st November 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Hot Dinner Menu Choices

Term 2 Menu Choices is still open. If your child would like hot dinners during Term 2 then please click on the link below: <https://forms.office.com/r/kMKsmGfj3C> Without your child's choices we are unable to guarantee a hot meal will be available. **Closing date in Monday 1st November 21** Thank you

PE timetable - PLEASE NOTE CHANGES

PE Days

Children will need to wear their PE kits to school on the following days for their PE lessons, please remember that there is a 'uniform' for PE, No football shirts or similar please. Also remember PE will be outside unless it is torrential rain so children need to be prepared for this (joggers sweat shirt and coat)

Year R - TBC (once settled)

Year 1&2 - Tuesday

Year 3, 4 & 5 - Wednesday

Year 3, 5&6 - Thursday

Year 5 - Tuesday Swimming (Term 2)

Beehive - Friday (some children in Beehive will also be swimming on a Tuesday)

Date's to Remember



November

1st November - Teacher Training Day

2nd November - Term 2 Begins 4th November - Melksham Fun Run 8th November - Bumble Bee, Busy Bees and Honey Bees trip to Westonbirt 9th November - Year 5 Swimming begins

What's On

What should I do if my child has a respiratory illness? 
Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

We're seeing an increase in respiratory illnesses at the moment. Many of these illnesses, like bronchiolitis are caused by a virus called respiratory syncytial virus or RSV. Most cases are mild and clear up within 2 to 3 weeks without the need for treatment. But we know it's a worry if your child is unwell so use this guide to help care for them. If in doubt contact NHS111.

If your child has none of the symptoms described in the amber and red boxes below:

GREEN  **SELF CARE**
Most children can be cared for at home in the same way that you'd treat a cold. Make sure your child gets enough fluid to avoid dehydration.
You can give infants paracetamol or ibuprofen to bring down their temperature if the fever is upsetting them.
The infection usually clears up within 2 weeks without the need for treatment. If you feel you need advice, visit www.nhs.uk. You can also contact your Health Visitor, your local pharmacy, GP surgery or contact NHS111.

AMBER  **SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE TODAY**
If your child has any of the following:
Labouring or rapid breathing
Dehydration (sunken eyes, drowsy or not passed urine for more than 12 hours)
A persistent high temperature of 38°C or above
Seems very tired or irritable
Or if you're worried about your child
Ring your GP surgery or contact NHS111

RED  **SEEK URGENT HELP**
If your child has any of the following:
Pauses in their breathing, irregular breathing pattern or starts grunting
Severe difficulty in breathing – too breathless to feed
Tongue or lips are blue
Phone 999 or visit your local A&E

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be four years old before September 2022?

You must apply for a primary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

12 midnight, 15 January 2022

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a primary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

3

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2022?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

12 midnight, 31 October 2021

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

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3