River Mead School Parent Newsletter 23.09.2022



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/

In this Newsletter

- Message from Mrs Austin
- STAR of the Week
- Hot Chocolate with Senior Leadership Team
- Kingfisher Reading Challenge
- Pupil & Parent Information
- On-Line Safety Advice
- Harvest Festival
- Celebrating Participation
- Donations
- Friends of River Mead
- School Term & Holiday Dates
- Family & Community Learning Survey
- PE times
- Date's to Remember
- What's On

A message from Mrs Austin

A short but busy week

It was good to see everyone back on Tuesday this week - it has felt like a really busy week even though it was only 4 days. I know Y3 were looking forward to going to Stonehenge, but we have had to postpone the trip as the visitor centre had a mix-up and we wouldn't have had enough time there if we had gone to have made the trip worthwhile.

Free School Meals - are you eligible???

The government is gives money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a Pupil Premium. Please check and see if you are eligible for Free School Meals (Pupil Premium) EVEN if you don't want a free hot dinner, mind you with the cost of living going up, a free hot dinner sounds like a bonus!

The money we receive as a school is spent directly on your children in supporting their learning so please check and see if you are eligible in addition, as a school we are able to access other offers and support if we have certain % of pupils who are signed up for Free School Meals - so please check here - Information about Free School Meals



Sign up even if your child doesn't want a free school meal the funding is MUCH more than this.....

Parent Conversations / Meet the teacher

Next week we will have parent conversations / parent teacher meetings. Booking for this will be online so don't miss the opportunity to catch-up with class teachers for those classes who are holding sessions, these will be held in the classroom and you will be asked to wait outside the room till it is your turn, please stick to the timings because if everyone over-runs by 5 mins the poor teachers are here really, really late! If you need to see them again, or you have something to discuss in greater detail we can arrange another meeting where this can be given more time. Outside the classroom you can have a look at work books and displays too. If you can come without little ones it is easier for everyone, there is not a creche facility.

Teacher led clubs

Don't forget to sign up for teacher led clubs - once the lists are in we will check that everyone has at least one club and if it is possible and there is availability more than one club!



Starting School September 2023!

If you know of someone or your own child is due to start school in September 2023 and you/they would like a school tour, please then click on the link below the River Mead logo to book a tour slot to have a look round and chat with me or a member of the leadership team.

click - Open Days 2022-23 - The Mead Trust

All parents including those of children who attend River Mead Nursery, or have a brother/sister at teh school MUST still apply for a school place. The Wiltshire Council guidance is as follows:

Please read our <u>parents guide to applying for a primary school place in Wiltshire</u> before making your application.

The easiest and quickest way is to apply online Apply online

There is no automatic entry from a nursery into a school, and there is no automatic offer of a sibling place (a place for a brother or sister).

The School place application deadline for Reception Class applications, for River Mead School and all other Infant and Primary schools is 15th January 2023.

Mrs Austin

Allergies - Important reminder

In school we have a number of children and adults with allergies and intolerances, so it is important we remain vigilant and supportive.

In particular we say please avoid nuts ad nut products for snacks and lunchboxes.

Please avoid nuts and nut products.

In Butterflies Nursery we have a child with a very serious and potentially life threatening allergy to eggs and nuts. So no eggs, egg products please (which i know is tricky)!

We know which children we need to support, but we also need you to be supportive and vigilant in what you put in lunch boxes.



In addition we are a 'Healthy School' so a reminder that if you provide a snack, it should be healthy, so NOT crisps and chocolate (which also are quick sugars and don't help concentration) but fruit or cheese or plain/buttered crackers.

Lunchboxes should also have a healthy mix of foods and the main items should not be chocolate based. a small chocolate bar for 'dessert' is fine.

Attendance



Attendance

• CONGRATULATIONS to Kestrels 96.8% for this week!

The government and local authority have been very clear that term time holidays are **NOT** permitted and if you choose to go on an unapproved holiday this will be an unauthorised absence and you may be fined.

Fines will be issued where a child has had 10 days unauthorised absence within a 6 month period (this includes unauthorised holidays).

Authorised absence may be granted for exceptional circumstances such as a wedding or funeral but you may be required to present evidence of these.

You are required to let us know if your child will not be in school & you should still bring your child in even if they are going to be late!

STAR of the Week



Dormice - Alice Edwards

Frogs - Ava Lilley Sears

- Herons Alfie Adams
- **Kestrels Murdoch Remington**
- Badger Charlie Smith
- **Buzzards Roxy Mitchell**

Bumble Bees - Lawson Miles

Hot Chocolate with The Senior Leadership Team



Well Done to those children who have gone 'above and beyond' this week with their attitude and behaviour, this week the Leadership Team will be welcoming the children for their hot chocolate

- These children are:
- Dormice Effie Antoni-Turner
- Frogs Jeremiah Cubagee
- Herons Sophia Quintin
- Kestrels Rebecca Bogitini
- Badger Lacey-Mae Ward
- **Buzzards Martha Southall**

Kingfisher Reading Challenge



A big well done to those children who have completed the following reads:

Year 1

5 reads - Caiden Brown, Alora Brownsell, Elia Duli, Ava Mullis

Pupil & Parent Information



We are obliged by law to keep all pupil & parent information up to date on our school system.

We appreciate that life gets in the way and we are sometimes not informed of any personal changes, such as contact numbers, addresses or allergy/medical information.

To ensure that we have your information as up to date as possible please can you click on the following links and complete the forms:

https://forms.office.com/r/Dw9X3eDXLf

https://forms.office.com/r/u7XUxMB394

Thank you

On-Line Safety Advice



What parents need to know about Reddit

Most exchanges on Reddit are interesting and entertaining discussions of technology, sport, health or pop culture. The site has attracted controversy and criticism, however, for communities sharing depictions of violence against women, leaked or stolen explicit images (including those of minors) and online hate (particularly racism).

Because of its popularity, links to Reddit frequently turn up among search engine results – so young people may be exposed to the site's content even without purposely looking for it.

Harvest Festival



The school will be holding a Harvest Festival on Tuesday 4th October, where the local Foodbank will come in to talk to the children during an assembly about what they do.

If you are able to, and would like your child to bring in a donation which will then be distributed via the Foodbank, please bring an item of non-perishable items on the day.

Thank you

Celebrating Participation



Have you recently achieved something you are proud of?

Have you recently taken part in a sports team event? Are you a member of a local group? Do you have any new certificates or awards to celebrate?

If so, please send in a picture of you with your celebration to office @rivermead.wilts.sch.uk.

School Support

As we are heading into financially tougher times, we wanted to make you aware of support that is out there for you that we can help with:

Free School Meals: Information for parents about access and benefits of claiming FSM can be found at: Free school meals - Wiltshire Council

We also have access to the local food bank, so please contact the office if you would like us to obtain some for you.

Donations

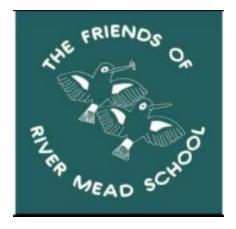


Our Honey Bees class are look for donations of kitchen equipment. If you have any unwanted saucepans, frying pans, flat baking trays and mixing bowls cluttering up you kitchen we will gladly take them off you.

Please pop them into Reception.

Thank you

Friends of River Mead



Please send any second hand uniform requests to <u>rivermeadfriends@gmail.com</u> or message via our Friends of River Mead social media pages!

School Term & Holiday Dates

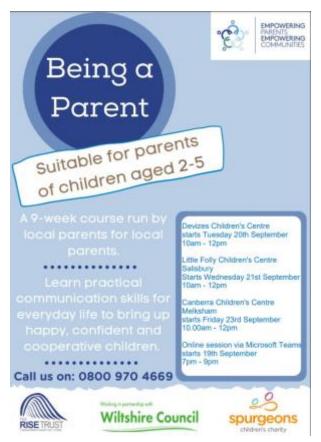
School holidays are important to all of us! To help you plan for some family time we have put together the School Term & Holiday Calendar for 2022 - 2023. You can find this by clicking on the link below.

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

Teacher Training Days for next academic year 2022/2023 are:

31st October 2022 3rd January 2023 5th June 2023

Family & Community Learning Service



PE timetable

PE Days

Please see changes for Herons & Badgers

On PE days children should come in wearing their PE kit to avoid changing at school.

Otters - we will let you know when they will start!

Dormice & Frogs - Tuesday

Herons & Kestrels - - Wednesday

Badgers & Buzzards - Thursday

Bumble Bees (Beehive) - Monday

Honey Bees / Busy Bees (Beehive) - Friday

Dates to Remember



September

26th & 27th - Year 6 Bikeability

26th September - Parents Evening

October

4th October - Harvest Festival 19th October - Last Day of Term 31st October - TD Day **November** 1st November - Term 2 Begins

What's on

School admissions window open for secondary and primary school places

Wiltshire residents can now apply for secondary and primary school places for September 2023 entry.

Applications can be submitted online on our <u>website</u> until the national deadlines of 31 October 2022 for secondary schools and 15 January 2023 for primary schools and infant to junior. The National Offer Day for school places for applications received before the published deadlines are 1 March 2023 for secondary and 19 April 2023 for primary and junior. Applicants will be able to log back into the online system on the National Offer Day to view the outcome of their application





For more information visit:

www.melkshamtennis.co.uk or message Mike 0781 436 5554