

# River Mead School Parent Newsletter

## 23.09.2022



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*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/>*

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## 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 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 the school MUST still apply for a school place. The Wiltshire Council guidance is as follows:

*Please read our [parents guide to applying for a primary school place in Wiltshire](#) 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 and 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.

# PLEASE



## NO PEANUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS

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



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- **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**

**Hérons - 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**

**Hérons - 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



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### *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.*

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## 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](mailto: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 [rivermeadfriends@gmail.com](mailto:rivermeadfriends@gmail.com) 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



The poster is titled 'Being a Parent' in a large, white, sans-serif font inside a dark blue circle. Below the title, a white banner with a blue border contains the text 'Suitable for parents of children aged 2-5'. The main body of the poster is light blue and contains the following text: 'A 9-week course run by local parents for local parents.' followed by a dotted line, 'Learn practical communication skills for everyday life to bring up happy, confident and cooperative children.' followed by another dotted line, and 'Call us on: 0800 970 4669'. On the right side, there is a white box with a blue border containing the following information: 'Devizes Children's Centre starts Tuesday 20th September 10am - 12pm', 'Little Folly Children's Centre Salisbury Starts Wednesday 21st September 10am - 12pm', 'Canberra Children's Centre Melksham starts Friday 23rd September 10.00am - 12pm', and 'Online session via Microsoft Teams starts 19th September 7pm - 9pm'. At the bottom, there are three logos: 'RISE TRUST' (a stylized blue wave), 'Wiltshire Council' (with the tagline 'Working in partnership with'), and 'spurgeons children's charity' (with a stylized orange and yellow logo).

**Being a Parent**

Suitable for parents of children aged 2-5

A 9-week course run by local parents for local parents.

.....

Learn practical communication skills for everyday life to bring up happy, confident and cooperative children.

.....

Call us on: 0800 970 4669

Devizes Children's Centre starts Tuesday 20th September 10am - 12pm

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RISE TRUST

Working in partnership with Wiltshire Council

spurgeons children's charity

## 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

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***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 [website](#) 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*

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A promotional poster for 'The Voice Kids 2023'. At the top, the show's logo is displayed in a stylized, metallic font with a glowing effect. Below the logo, the text 'THE VOICE KIDS 2023' is written in large, bold, white capital letters, followed by 'APPLY NOW!' in a smaller, bold, orange font. The background is dark red with abstract, glowing orange and white patterns. The text continues: 'The Voice Kids is back and we're looking for super talented SOLO SINGERS & DUOS who have what it takes to take over The Voice Kids stage!'. Then, 'If you know any 7-14 year olds who want their voices to be heard, we want to hear from you!'. Next, 'For more information about how to enter go to' followed by the website 'itv.com/beontv/thevoicekids' in orange, and 'or stv.tv/voicekids' in white. Below that, 'Applications close on' followed by 'Friday 11th November 2022' in orange. At the bottom, 'We reserve the right to extend the closing date at our discretion' in white. Small text at the bottom center reads: 'Other eligibility criteria and terms and conditions also apply (see entry form for full details). Personal data provided by you will be collected and processed in accordance with the privacy notices set out in the entry form.' The ITV logo is in the bottom left corner, and the STV logo is in the bottom right corner.

**THE VOICE KIDS 2023**  
**APPLY NOW!**

The Voice Kids is back and we're looking for super talented **SOLO SINGERS & DUOS** who have what it takes to take over The Voice Kids stage!

If you know any 7-14 year olds who want their voices to be heard, we want to hear from you!

For more information about how to enter go to  
**itv.com/beontv/thevoicekids**  
or **stv.tv/voicekids**

Applications close on  
**Friday 11th November 2022**

We reserve the right to extend the closing date at our discretion

Other eligibility criteria and terms and conditions also apply (see entry form for full details).  
Personal data provided by you will be collected and processed in accordance with the privacy notices set out in the entry form.

**itv** **stv**

Melksham Tennis Club

# Tennis

S a t u r d a y s



For more information visit:

[www.melkshamtennis.co.uk](http://www.melkshamtennis.co.uk)  
or message Mike 0781 436 5554