

River Mead School Parent Newsletter

04.11.2022



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

WELCOME BACK!

It is lovely to see all of the children back in school after the break - so many smiles.

Please remember to send your child with a coat every single day (with their name in it), as the weather is so changeable, and we go out to play rain or shine as long as it is safe to do so, fresh air and daylight are both important.

Unfortunately, Mrs Purdie has been off poorly this week, so our apologies if you had an appointment with her, these will be re-scheduled, when she is back and feeling better.

Bags

A reminder that children DO NOT need large rucksacks for school. We do not have space for these bags on coat pegs in the classrooms. Children only need their lunch box/lunchtime drink bottle (if they bring one) their reading book and reading record for school, in a school book bag/zipper wallet. A small number of mainstream pupils may have a change of clothes or items for personal care if required which would be better in a drawstring PE style bag which takes up less space on a peg.

Clean play equipment

You may have seen on Twitter and our Facebook page that Mr Wild (parent) came into school over the holidays and cleaned off our landing surfaces and play equipment they went from green to clean! So, a huge thanks to him for supporting the school with this job - we really appreciate it!

A further reminder that children should not be on the equipment before or after school.



At school, on-time

This week and next, letters will be coming home if your child's attendance is below an acceptable level, for some of you, you will be invited in for a meeting to discuss this with myself or a member of the Leadership team, so we can see if we can help make improvements.

For others, it will be a letter informing you know that further unauthorised attendance, consistently arriving late or patterns of sickness will be closely monitored.

Significant absence rates below 80% may in some circumstances be referred to the education Welfare Officer.

Attendance is extremely important - school and attendance every day is a gateway to the future for your child/ren

Every week on a Friday we calculate the attendance for each class each week - your child being at school every day, makes a difference. We celebrate this in our 9am Celebration Assembly and the class with the highest attendance has a reward at the end of the day such as pop-corn in class or extra playtime.

Badgers 92.8%

Kestrels 95.2%

Frogs 93.5%

Dormice 91.9%

Beehive 82.0%

Otters R 90.1%

Hérons 94.3%

Buzzards 94.0%

Thank you for your continued support and in particular for getting to school on-time. Please don't forget the gates open at 8.30am and free breakfast is available; the gates shut at 8.45am, after this time you will need to go in through the school office and complete a late form - you **MUST** not drop you child in the carpark or at the school gates after this time as it is not supervised and is unsafe.

Learning starts promptly, so please be on time!!



Reporting Sickness

Just a reminder to always let the office know if your child is sick and cannot attend school. You can do this by calling 01225 703428 and choosing option 1 to report your child absence.

Although we appreciate children are unwell from time to time, children can still attend school when they have a cold or have not been sick if well enough to do so. We have enough tissues and TLC to go around, rest assured if we feel they are unable to take part in their class we will call you to collect them.

If your child has been sick or had an upset tummy, they are unable to return until 48 hours after their last episode.

STAR of the Week



Dormice - Freddie Hill

Frogs - Finley Peckover

Hérons - Chilli-Ray Edmunds

Kestrels - Sherkarnah-mae Ward-Jones

Badger - Samantha Cousins

Buzzards - Martha Southall

Bumble Bees - Sky Edmunds

Honey Bees - Riley Stevens

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 - Elia Duli

Frogs - Taylor Busby

Hérons - Kobey Wild Bryant

Kestrels - Esther Maritiro

Badger - Gracie Plumb

Buzzards - Sasha Razdobarova

Kingfisher Reading Challenge



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

Year 1

25 reads - Zachary Perrin

Year 2

25 reads - Ava Sears, Phoebe Adams, Ella0Rose Pearson, Hunter Jenkins, Mia Nealey, Freddie Wild, Jessica Swan & Taylor Busby

Melksham Town Council



Melksham Town Council will be holding another Giveaway Day of clothes, coats, blankets and toys for families in Melksham who would benefit.

The date is Wednesday 9 November, 3pm to 7pm at Melksham Assembly Hall.

The items were donated earlier in the year and now that we are heading into winter we understand there is a need for warm clothes and coats so we will make everything available for people to collect for free. There are things for men, women and children.

On-Line Safety Advice



What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Amigo

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships to unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more features become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as inappropriate contact, strangers and membership costs.

Friends of River Mead



Friends Non School Uniform Day

In preparation for our Christmas Fair we are celebrating early by having a non school uniform day on Friday 11th November.

If children would like to take part in wearing their normal clothes for the day, we are asking for a donation of some sort of bottle or chocolate to go towards the Christmas Fair Festivities.

We are also looking for any parents who have their own businesses who would be interested in donating a raffle prize for the event. If you would like further information please email rivermeadfriends@gmail.com

Each & EVERY one of you can make a very REAL difference for our children's school if you please read on.....

Please, please click the link below & vote for Friends of Rivermead School to help us secure £500 from ASDA for new playground equipment! You only need to enter your email, but you must click the **Confirm your vote** button in the email sent after voting. If you have more than 1 email address - please use them, we need all the votes we can get!

<https://www.asda.com/green-tokens/store?store=4345>

You can vote **EVERY 7 DAYS** & the more of us that do so, the more chance we have. We're up against Forest & Sandridge School who are twice the size of River Mead.....we have our work cut out but if we ALL put in maximum effort, voting every week (set a reminder!) & telling **ALL our friends & family** as regularly as possible until 31st December, **we know we can do this** 🙌

And don't worry - we'll keep the reminders coming! **Please vote & share for your children & our school!!**

Green Tokens - Vote | Asda

<https://www.asda.com/green-tokens/store?store=4345>

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:

3rd January 2023

5th June 2023



flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit
www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu i mmunisation
Helping to protect children, every winter

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New Parent, New Baby

Over 6 weeks learn hints and tips to support
your baby's brain development, enjoy craft
activities and lots more!

Join us and meet
other parents
with young
babies!
(0-6 months)

Devizes Children's Centre
Monday 10:30am - 11:30am
Starting 31st October

Queensway Chapel, Melksham
Thursdays 10:00am - 11:00am
Starting 3rd November

call/text Becky Seager
07855 276 434

Salisbury Methodist Church
Tuesday 10:30am - 11:30am
Starting 1st November

Amesbury Library
Tuesday 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Starting 1st November

Bemerton Methodist Church
Friday 10:30am - 11:30am
Starting 4th November

**Windmill Hill Children's Centre,
Tidworth**
Monday 10:00am - 11:00am
Starting 7th November

call/text Tamsin Vallance
07814 697 606

Holy Trinity Church, Trowbridge
Monday 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Starting 31st October

The Grove Building, Mere
Thursday 10:30am - 12noon
Starting 10th November

call/text Ruth Brooks-Martin
07901 332 829





Join us for an amazingly fun and creative session run in association with Wiltshire Scrapstore!

For families of children aged 0-5 yrs

Book your space now!

Tisbury Library, SP3 6HJ
Wednesday 9th November
10.30-11.30am


Devizes Library, SN10 1DL
Wednesday 16th November
10.30-11.30am

Westbury Library, BA13 3BD
Thursday 24th November
10.30-11.30am

For more information or to book a space contact the children's centre central line on: 0800 970 4669

www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

Booking for Scrapstore events will close one week before the scheduled event date



Five to Thrive

Join us for 5 fun filled practical sessions where we can share ideas to develop the positive connection between you and your child.

Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury
Tuesday 6th September, 10.00am - 11.00am

Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham
Thursday 8th September, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth
Thursday 8th September, 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford
Friday 7th October, 10.00am - 11.00am

Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury
Monday 17th October, 10.00am - 11.00am

Devizes Children's Centres, Devizes
Monday 24th October, 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Salisbury Library, SP1 1BT
Tuesday 1st November, 10.00am - 11.00am

Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham
Thursday 10th November, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford
Friday 18th November, 10.00am - 11.00am

Five to Thrive - continued

Marlborough venue TBC
Wednesday 16th November, 10.00am - 11.00am

Online via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 6th September, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Online Antenatal via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday 14th September, 11.30am - 12.00pm

Healthy Eating

For adults only - join us for 4 great sessions where you can learn about healthy eating! You will also receive the ingredients to cook a healthy family meal in your home!

Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes
Monday 26th September, 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge
Wednesday 2nd November, 10.00am - 11.30am

Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth
Thursday 3rd November, 10.30am - 12.00pm

Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury
Tuesday 8th November, 1.00pm to 2.30pm

Please note details may be subject to change. Information correct as of 28/09/22

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



November

7th November - Dormice Noah's Ark Trip

9th/10th November - Visit from Wiltshire Air Ambulance

11th November - Friends Non School Uniform Today

17th November - Kestrels White Horse Trip

24th November - School Photo's

29th November - Year R - 6 Nasal Flu Vaccinations

December

8th December - Christmas Jumper Day

12th December - Dorothy House Elf PE Lessons

January

25th January - Young Voices 2023

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 [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



Wiltshire Air Ambulance will be visiting to deliver Emergency Awareness Training soon




Wiltshire
Air Ambulance
funded by you, flying for you



**Text EAT to 70460
to donate £5**

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message




**Dorothy's
ELF RUN**

The sponsored run with bells on!

Where...
During every PE Lesson

When...
W/C 12th December 2022

dorothyhouse.org.uk



**Dorothy
House**
HOSPICE CARE