# River Mead School Parent Newsletter 09/12/2022



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

Our Twitter feed: @TweetRiverMead

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

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# A message from Mrs Austin

# **Christmas Fayre**

A HUGE thank you to all of the Friends or River Mead School who organised a fantastic Christmas Fayre last week; thank you also to Mrs Lewis for being the school link for all of the arrangements - the hall was buzzing with festive cheer, food, fun and gifts! If you missed the chance to buy your child's Christmas craft, then please speak to their class teacher to make a donation and collect it.

Make sure you take a peek at the photos on the school facebook page/twitter feed!

# **Christmas Jumper day**

A fantastic effort all round for festive jumpers, t-shirts etc yesterday - it was lovely to see some bright, sparkly and fun clothing - well done.



# Tis the season of..... colds, flu and bugs!

I can see there has been a significant increase in sickness absence in the last week, which I appreciate will be linked to the season. Please do remember though that unless 'properly poorly' your child/ren should be at school. If they suddenly 'bounce back' then do bring them in at any point in the day.

We have been vigilant and followed advice to minimise the risks of Scarlett Fever transmission in school/Nursery, it is important not to be victims of the media scaremongering. Transmission of such illnesses is currently more common, as children had a period of time/lockdowns where they were not in contact with lots of other people. Some cases of *Invasive Strep-A* (iGAS) you should be reassured that only a small number of cases become very serious, this is NOT quite the same as Scarlett fever and again can be treated effectively with anti-biotics . Further information below (which we have already sent out to you all) from the Health Protection Team/Public Health explains this in more detail.

Like all childhood illnesses being aware of the signs and symptoms and getting these treated is the MOST important thing we/you can do.

It is also helpful to tell us if you have confirmed case of any transmissible illness so we can support you and inform the Health Protection team/Public Health

## Signs and symptoms of scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red red 'strawberry' tongue.

If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed.
   Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

# Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called *invasive group A strep (iGAS)*. Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection. As a parent, you should trust your own judgement. Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty

your child is very tired or irritable Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

# Stop the spread

During periods of high incidence of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until **24 hours** after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.

# Attendance - In to Win!!



### Added incentive time - Your child has to be in school to win!!

If your child/ren have attendance that is above 90% for this academic year, you (the adult) will be entered in a draw for a **£50** Asda voucher!

If your child has the national expectation of 95% or more you get an additional chance for a festive reward in the 95%+ raffle too (two chances to win a prize)!

Attendance will be calculated next week (week beginning 12th December) and the winners will be announced in the Newsletter.

Next opportunity to win will be at the end of Term 3 with the winners being announced week beginning 6th February.

### At school, on-time!!

# Whole school data

	National	School
Week 28.11-02.1	2 92.%	90.3% ↓
This week		87.3 % ↓ (down on last week AGAIN)

### Class data this week

Every week on a Friday we calculate the attendance for each class each week. 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 84.5% ↓

Frogs 87% ↓

Dormice 86.7% **↓** 

Kestrels 94.3% ↓

Otters R 84.2% ↓

Herons 91.7% **↓** 

Buzzards 89.5% ↓

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 8.45 am 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!!



# Christmas Fuel Programme





To apply for a place to a FUEL camp please follow the link below, applications close at noon on 11 December, places are limited so apply early to ensure you don't miss out!

# Apply for Christmas FUEL camp

For any questions please email <u>fuelprogramme@wiltshire.gov.uk</u>

The **FUEL** programme is a **free** holiday activity and food project that offers eligible participants the opportunity to take part in a range of fun activities during school holiday periods in 2022. On each day of the programme all participants will also be provided with a nutritious meal.

The Christmas FUEL camps will run in 10 locations across Wiltshire, Monday to Thursday (10am to 2pm) from 19 December to 22 December.

For further information on camp locations, food provision, activities on offer and the nutritional workshops please visit <a href="https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/fuel-programme">https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/fuel-programme</a>

# We have listened to your feedback and we've made some changes to the Christmas FUEL camp including

- Our online application form is on a new and improved format that is user friendly on both computer and mobile devices, time saving and allows you to attach relevant documents straight to your application form. You can also opt for our new application form to send you a confirmation email and copy of your submission and reference code for your records
- You'll no longer have to pick meals in advance as we are trialling a new 'feast model' approach, meaning a range of nutritional food will be available for participants to pick and choose from each day. We will also have the chefs and food experts available at lunchtime to guarantee participants are having a positive experience at lunchtime. All dietary requirements and allergies will still be catered for, along with standard meal choices (such as jacket potatoes) so nobody goes hungry
- Introducing a FUEL rewards scheme to support and encourage our young participants to make friends, learn new skills and build positive experiences that support their personal growth
- Expanding our science and engineering activities to provide new and exciting opportunities for participants

• Having a FUEL hotline number, that will be available once your space is confirmed, for you to liaise with should you need to, improving customer communication.

We look forward to seeing you at a FUEL camp soon!

Regards

**FUEL** team

# **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**



**Otters - Kevin Marino** 

**Dormice - Lola Brookbanks** 

Frogs - Arabella Antoni-Turner

**Herons - Molly Welch** 

**Kestrels - Lottie Welsh** 

**Badgers - Ruby Smith** 

**Buzzards - Jessica Taylor** 

**Bumble Bees - Ashley Lloyd** 

Honey Bees - Noah O'Shea

**Busy Bees - Evie McCallum** 

# 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:

**Otters - Teagan Norris** 

**Dormice - Rowan Mustali** 

**Frogs - George Cook** 

**Herons - Kohen Porter** 

**Kestrels - Gracie Wheeler** 

**Badger - Maddy Holland** 

**Buzzards - Lillie Goddard** 

# Kingfisher Reading Challenge



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

### Year 1

25 reads - Lola Brookbanks, Florence Jarman

50 reads - Alice Edwards, Noah Hunt and Escher Remington

75 reads - Eddie Sharp

# Year 2

50 reads - Hessica Swann, Corin Remington

# Year 3

25 reads - Molly Welch, Grace Guy

75 reads - Kyla Gerrish, Kyle Saward

### Year 4

75 reads - Jasmine Kaur

# Christmas Performance



We are super excited to announce that we will be holding our Christmas Performances this year where families can attend!

Unfortunately, unless you have previous permission from parents we will not be allowing photo's or videos to be taken during any of the performances below!

To support our young stars with their performances we ask that children under 5 attend specific dates, please take a detailed look below:

12th of December, Years 1,2 and 3 will be practicing their dress rehearsals at 2:00pmm for the rest of the school to watch, *that can be attended by parents with children under 5*.

13th of December, Reception and Nursery classes will be singing around the Christmas Tree at 2:30pm with *adults welcome to attend*.

14th of December, Years 1,2 and 3 will be performing at 2:00pm with adults welcome to watch without under 5s.

15th of December, - Years 4, 5 and 6 will be performing at 2:00pm for the rest of the school to watch, with adults and children under 5 able to attend.

For the evening performance, Years 4, 5 and 6 will be performing at 6:00pm *for adults without children under 5s.* 

We hope to see you there!

# On-Line Safety Advice



HiPal is a trending social media app which turns phones into walkie-talkies, allowing people to have voice conversations with friends or strangers. There are two account options: one for users aged under 12 and one for those aged 12 or above. The former has fewer features and limits interaction with strangers; enabling use of the walkie-talkie feature or photo sharing with friends and family only. The 12+ accounts offer more options, including adding strangers as friends, sharing photos and videos publicly, send private messages and holding voice chats with strangers as well as friends.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as contact with strangers, dangerous challenges and intrusive features.

# Term 3 Teacher Led Clubs



Teacher Led Clubs will be running from Monday 9th January. The following clubs are available:

# Monday

Science Club - Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Building Club - Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

# **Tuesday**

Choir Club - continuing to practice for Young Voices

Drama - Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Multisports - Years 4, 5, 6

# Wednesday

Multisports - Years 1, 2, 3

# **Friday**

Cooking Club - Years 1 & 2

Art Club - Years 4, 5, 6

You will be able to book the clubs from 9am Monday 12th December. We will be monitoring the bookings to ensure they are booked equally and fairly and will make changes if needed.

# Friends of River Mead



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

Please 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.

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

# Family & Community Learning Service





Jan to March 2023 Request your place: 0800 970 4669

# **Five to Thrive**

Westbury Community Project, Westbury Monday 9th January, 10.00am - 11.00am Salisbury Library, Salisbury Tuesday 10th January, 10.00am - 11.00am Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes Monday 9th January, 1.30pm - 2.30pm Vindmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth Thursday 12th January, 1.30pm - 2.30pm Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford Friday 13th January, 10.00am - 11.00am Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury onday 20th February, 10.00am - 11.00ar Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes onday 20th February, 1.30pm - 2.30pm Canberra Children's Centre, Devizes Thursday 23rd February, 1.00pm - 2.00p

Pewsey Library, Pewsey Thursday 23rd February, 2.00pm - 3.00pm Online via Microsoft teams (Antenatal) Friday 24th February, 12.30pm - 1.30pm

### **Healthy Eating**

rvizes Children's Centre, Devize Thursday 19th January, 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham Wednesday 22nd February, 10.00am - 11.30am

### Play, Talk and Grow Together

ndmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidwo Drop in Every Tuesday, 10.00am - 11.30am Every Friday, 10.00am - 11.30am

Jan to March 2023 Request your place: 0800 970 4669

# **Bookstart**

Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes Friday 6th January, 10.00am - 11.00am

Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge (Under 1s) Tuesday 10th January, 10.00am - 11.00an

Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury Tuesday 10th January, 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford Thursday 19th January, 10.00am - 11.00am

Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth Monday 20th February, 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge Tuesday 21st February, 10.00am - 11.00am

Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham Thursday 23rd February, 10.00am - 11.00am

Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford Thursday 2nd March, 10.00am - 11.00am

### **Early Words Together**

Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury Monday 9th January, 10.00am - 11.00am

Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes Thursday 3rd February, 10.00am -11.00am

Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham Thursday 12th January, 10.00am -11.00am

Windmill Hill Children's Centre,

Tidworth
Thursday 23rd February, 1.30pm 2.30pm

Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford ursday 2nd March, 10.00am - 11.00ar



# 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



### December

12th December - Dorothy House Elf PE Lessons

12th December - Year 1, 2 & 3 Dress Rehearsal/ Christmas Performance (children u5 may attend with a parent)

13th December - Reception and Nursery singing around the Christmas Tree 2.30pm

14th December - Years 1, 2, & 3 Christmas Performance 2pm (no children u5)

15th December - Christmas Dinner Day

15th December - Years 4, 5 & 6 Dress Rehearsal/ Christmas Performance 2pm (children u5 may attend with a parent)

15th December - Year 4, 5 & 6 Christmas Performance 6pm (no children u5)

16th December - Last day of Term

# January

3rd January - Teacher Training Day - No children

4th January - Start of Term - All children in

25th January - Young Voices 2023

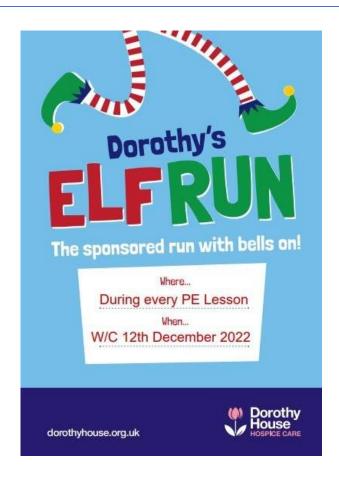
# What's on

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 <u>website</u> until the national deadlines 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









# Bee the difference and #DonateYourDigital

We securely wipe all devices to government standards and can provide data destruction certificates on request. We can also let you know when and where they are allocated, so usu can follow their refurbishment journey and see the impact your donation has.



To support Wiltshire Digital Drive, please contact us:

info@wiltshiredigitaldrive.org





http://www.wiltshiredigitaldrive.org