

River Mead School Parent Newsletter

18.11.2022



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/>

In this Newsletter

- **Message from Mrs Austin**
- **Attendance**
- **Christmas Fuel Programme**
- **Reporting Sickness**
- **STAR of the Week**
- **Hot Chocolate with Senior Leadership Team**
- **Kingfisher Reading Challenge**
- **School Photo's**
- **Christmas Performance**
- **On-Line Safety Advice**
- **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



Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need!

It has been a busy week in school, well done to everyone who wore their odd socks on Monday and their spots today!

Work has been taking place in all classes to specifically discuss the theme of bullying and that we are all different and special. In my experience after this week, we then often have a flurry of incidents that children describe as bullying that might not be, so please if this is the case at home a reminder that 'bullying' is persistent, targeted and consistent. Children do fall out (a lot) and can say unkind things to one another, however as long as we know about this, we do investigate. We do speak to all of the children involved and those who might be bystanders to understand the issues hear everyone's opinions/thoughts and find resolutions or consequences; we do act, and bullying is NOT tolerated.

Well done for all your spotty and Children in need efforts - everyone looked amazing! If you sent a donation in, thank you, we will collect them up and make a school donation. If you have donated online directly thank you again - if not here is the link!

[Donate to BBC Children in Need](#)



Attendance

At school, on-time!!

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

Whole school data

	National	School
<i>Last week</i>	94.9%	94.3%
<i>This week</i>	94.4%	91.5%

Class data this week

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 93.4

Frogs 94.6

Dormice 92

Kestrels 95.6

Otters R 90.2

Hérons 94.4

Buzzards 94.1

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!!



Christmas Fuel Programme



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 <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/fuel-programme>

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.

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 fuelprogramme@wiltshire.gov.uk

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 - Eddie Edmunds

Dormice - Zachery Perring

Frogs - Corin Reminton

Hérons - Adam Shahzad

Kestrels - Rubie Cleverley

Badgers - Lacey-Mae Ward

Buzzards - Theo Kent

Honey Bees - Molly Bennett

Bumble Bees - Lukas Hann

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 - Bradley Smith

Dormice - Ayan Lordache

Frogs - Logan Norris

Hérons - Oscar Bole

Kestrels - Jack Swann

Badger - Harvey Kitchener

Buzzards - Mollie Bailey

Bumble Bees - Sky Edmunds & Marc Taylor

Kingfisher Reading Challenge



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

Reception

25 reads - Michael Brown, Eddie Edmunds, Cillian Jenkins, Reeva Linington, Hendry main-Woods, Kevin Marino, Escher Remington, Nela Salamonska, Eddie Sharp and Archie Wild.

50 reads - Reeva Linington, Nela Salamonska, Hendry Main-Woods, Kevin Marino and Eddie Sharp

Year 1

25 Reads - Effie Antoni-Turner, Bella Caven, George Drew

50 reads - Alora Brownsell & Tommy Sieviewright

Year 2

25 reads - Arabella Anotni-turner

50 reads - Ava Lilley Sears

Year 4

25 reads - Noah Cargill

50 reads - Jasmine Kaur

Year 6

25 reads - Martha Southall

50 reads - Lily Allum

School Photo's



School Photo's will be taking place on Thursday 24th November.

If you have sibling's in school and would like their photo's taken together, their photo session will be at 8.30am. Please ensure you arrive on time as the photographer will have a busy day ahead of him.

This is just for River Mead Children.

Nursery children will be having their photo's taken at 9am. If your child is not in on this day and you would like them to have their photo taken, please ensure you arrive for 9am.

All other classes will be taken throughout the day

Thank you

Christmas Performance



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

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

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 for the rest of the school to watch, **with adults welcome to watch without under 5s.**

12th of December, Years 1,2 and 3 will be practicing their dress rehearsals at 2:00pm **that can be attended by parents with children under 5.**

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE II

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. While 2021's release, Vanguard, wasn't quite as well received, this latest entry – Modern Warfare II – has so far proved a massive commercial success. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features – unsurprisingly – extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE
Like most of its predecessors in the franchise, Modern Warfare II carries an 18 age rating from PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system), which attributes games elements for extremely violent content and simulated gambling. It also includes profanity, depictions of torture, violence, and simulated gambling, or violence towards vulnerable characters.

OFFENSIVE CHAT & MESSAGING
Most CoD players are likely to spend the majority of their time in Modern Warfare II's online multiplayer modes, or co-operating with, and being seen by, other players. The fast-paced, cut-throat world of CoD means that the game's online chat and direct messaging often have heated and aggressive exchanges, and may upset younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES
Modern Warfare II follows the 'battle pass' model of games like Fortnite, but it has a 'store' where players can buy 'loot boxes' (also known as 'battle passes') which will be awarded to complete with challenges to earn new weapons and equipment. Online and in-game purchases, including new maps, can be purchased from the in-game store.

POLITICAL SENSITIVITY
Previous CoD games have been criticised for glorifying war, and 'revisiting history', leading to controversy around its inclusion in the US military. For example, the 2019 game Modern Warfare II was criticised for its depiction of the 9/11 attacks, and its depiction of the 9/11 attacks.

AN ADDICTIVE EXPERIENCE
Multiplayer modes in CoD of Duty have been criticised for being addictive, and for leading to social isolation, and even mental health issues. The game's fast-paced, cut-throat nature has been criticised for being addictive, and for leading to social isolation, and even mental health issues.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESPECT THE AGE RATING
Based on an accurately recreating combat situations, Call of Duty games are unsuitable for children under 18. Parents should ensure that their children are not playing the game, and that they are not using the game to communicate with other players.

SET SPENDING LIMITS
If your child is likely to be tempted by buying that 'next' level weapon or item, consider how much they will be spending. Consider or compare to previous in-game spending – and set a limit. Consider or compare to previous in-game spending – and set a limit.

CLOSE OFF COMMUNICATION
Unless they're playing with their real-life friends, it may be worth considering if your child needs to play the game. If your child needs to play the game, it may be worth considering if your child needs to play the game.

TRY OTHER MODES
If it seems that your child only ever plays Modern Warfare II in multiplayer, you may want to try out the single-player campaign mode. This could be a good way to ensure that your child is not playing the game in a multiplayer mode.

Meet Our Expert
Lord Cormack is a former editor of technology and entertainment. He has been writing about gaming for over 10 years. He is a former editor of technology and entertainment. He has been writing about gaming for over 10 years.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety

What Parents Need to Know about Call of Duty: Modern Warfare II

The Call of Duty (CoD) series is a worldwide gaming phenomenon, with millions of copies sold every year. While 2021's release, Vanguard, wasn't quite as well received, this latest entry – Modern Warfare II – is proving to be hugely popular. A sequel to the recent Modern Warfare reboot (and not to be confused with the original Modern Warfare 2, from back in 2009), the game is an online shooter which features – unsurprisingly – extreme violence, rendered in realistic graphics. Amid the explosions and potential political nature of the plot, there's much for parents to be aware of.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as offensive chat/messaging, in-game purchases and addiction.

Friends of River Mead



Santa Season is nearly here so the Friends of River Mead School want to remind everyone that our Christmas Fair is fast approaching!

Thank you so much to all those who have donated Prizes, Christmas Jumpers and Teddy Bears so far! We'd really love to keep momentum going – any prizes, big or small, are highly appreciated and will help us raise as much money as possible for the children!

We're still looking for volunteers to help us out with the Christmas Fair. We need some keen grownups to step in and get themselves on Santa's nice list by helping us set up, with stalls and packing up after! Even an hour of your time would be appreciated and would go a long way in helping.

Anyone who is interested in some more information on the Christmas Fair, donating a prize or volunteering – please contact the Friends either via email or our social media accounts. Thank you!!
Email: rivermeadfriends@gmail.com

Facebook: Friends of River Mead School

Instagram: @friendsofrivermead

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



the
national
sleep
helpline

**Does your child
suffer with
sleep issues?**

**Do you struggle
with your child's
bedtime?**

**Will your child
not sleep in
their own bed?**

WE CAN HELP

 **03303 530 541**
Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

NHS

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

© Crown copyright 2011. Product code: 580/21/01. Public Health England priority number: 2011/08. If you want to order more copies of this poster please visit: healthpublications.gov.uk/home/price or call 0300 121 1000.



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

21st November - Y6 NCMP

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

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 [website](#) 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

