

# River Mead School Parent Newsletter

## 05/05/2023



---

*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**
- **Forthcoming Teachers strikes/Industrial Action in Schools**
- **(POET) Survey on EHCP Support - have your say**
- **Attendance**
- **Star of the week**
- **Hot Chocolate with Senior Leadership Team**
- **Kingfisher Reading Challenge**
- **Writer of the Week**
- **Mathematician of the Week**
- **On-Line Safety Advice**
- **School Term & Holiday Dates**
- **PE times**
- **Date's to Remember**
- **What's On**

## A message from Mrs Austin



### Coronation

We are looking forward to sharing lots of fabulous Coronation pictures from the activities in school this week, the children have been learning lots of facts and information. I hope that you all take time to watch such a momentous and historical occasion on the television, and you join in with community events, it will be a lifelong memory for us all.

### Parking

Please be considerate and use the car park sensibly. This morning due to cars parking on the double yellow lines and on the entrance road and outside the rear of the osteopath premises this reduced the entrance and exit to a single 'track' causing complete gridlock. I had to go and direct traffic!

In the morning if you are able to drive and drop older children, please do so as there is always someone on the gate. Please do not leave your car engines running and walk children into school your vehicle is unsafe if you do this.

Please think about others we know it's busy



### SATs and more...

Next week Y6 Badgers and Buzzards will have their SATs, they are all well prepared and I know they will do their best, each of them should have received a letter from me reminding them that they are special and unique individuals who are more than the results of a test. There was also a letter for you as parents so you know what they are doing each day.

Please make sure they have a good night's sleep and are at school bright and early - breakfast will be provided for Y6 from 8.15am to enable a prompt start for the tests, if for any reason you have

trouble getting them to school, please phone the office as soon as possible - we do expect to see them every day.

Y2 will also be taking their SATs over the next few weeks as they do not have to sit them at a particular time or on a particular day, so for them it will feel a bit more like a normal classroom activity.

On a personal note thank you to those of you who have taken the time to speak to me about my decision to resign as Headteacher, your words and understanding have been so kind. I know that the staff team will continue to strive to offer your children the very best education in a warm, friendly environment and I will continue to support them to achieve this whilst I remain in post.

I hope you enjoy another long weekend - see you Tuesday!

Mrs Austin

## Attendance



**Attendance week 28/04/23 was at 92.9% compared to National 94.7%**

Every day your child misses school they miss valuable learning that is really hard for them to catch up - It is so important that they are in every single day they are not unwell.

There are still a considerable number of children who are **NOT** in school every day - please speak to us if there is something we can do to help

Any term time holidays will be denied and any overall unauthorised absences that mean your child has accumulated 10 sessions will also be considered for a fine, this is a legal process and the school does not receive this money

## (POET) Survey on EHCP support

Wiltshire council want to hear what you think about the additional support children and young people receive in Wiltshire for their special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Published 17 April 2023

We'd like your views on the process of putting in place extra support in schools, and what it helps achieve for those with an EHCP.

An organisation called 'In Control' has devised questionnaires, with the help of children, young people, families and practitioners from across the country, for people to feedback about the process of getting and maintaining additional support that your child or young person needs and receives.

Complete the survey relevant to you, via the links; click on the 'button' for parents and carers;

[POET survey link](#)

## Star of the Week



**Due to the short week - and Coronation celebrations and Coronation assembly there will be NO stars of the week for this week**

## 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 - Oliver Merritt**

**Dormice - George Drew**

**Frogs - Ruby Lloyd**

**Hérons - Kyle Saward**

**Kestrels - Jasmine Kaur**

**Badgers - Jak Powell and Rowan Parker**

## Kingfisher Reading Challenge



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

## Kestrels

125 reads - Esther M

175 reads - Rubie C

200 reads - Lillie-Marie, Jasmine

## Dormice

50 reads - Rowan Mustali

175 reads - Tommy Sievwright

## Writer of the Week



**Due to the short week and Coronation celebrations there are no writers of the week for this week**

## Mathematician of the Week



**Due to the short week and Coronation celebrations there are no mathematicians of the week for this week**

## On-Line Safety Advice



### What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Wizz

Recently rising in popularity among children and young people, Wizz is a social networking app that allows users to chat live with people from around the world. In similar fashion to a dating app, it facilitates conversations with people that users would not ordinarily meet – but of course, making connections to individuals online bring its own self-evident potential safety issues.

While Wizz makes use of face recognition technology to assesses users' age and group them by age group – but the software is far from perfect and is no guarantee that some individuals won't attempt to exploit the app for sinister purposes. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide examines Wizz in detail, identifying pitfalls that parents and carers should be aware of.

In the guide you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as catfishing, explicit content and "sextortion", and examines how trusted adults can take young people to avoid these possible threats.

Kate Miller

Year 1 Teacher

Assistant Head Teacher



# Family & Community Learning



**April to June 2023**  
Request your place: 0800 970 4669



## Five to Thrive

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

**Tisbury Children's Centre, Tisbury**  
Wednesday 12th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Amesbury Library, Amesbury**  
Friday 14th April, 1.30pm - 2.20pm  
**Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge**  
Tuesday 18th April, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Salisbury Library, Salisbury**  
Tuesday 18th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Tidworth Leisure Centre, Tidworth**  
Wednesday 19th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Marlborough Library, Marlborough**  
Thursday 20th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes**  
Friday 21st April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Online via Microsoft Teams (Antenatal)**  
Friday 21st April, 12.30pm - 1.30pm  
**Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford**  
Friday 19th May, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Melksham Community Campus, Melksham**  
Wednesday 14th June, 10.00am - 11.00am

Please note details may be subject to change.  
Information correct as of 14/3/23

## Healthy Eating

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!

**Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge**  
Tuesday 18th April, 10.00am - 11.30pm  
**Amesbury Baptist Church, Amesbury**  
Tuesday 25th April, 1.00pm - 2.30pm  
**Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth**  
Monday 5th June, 1.00pm - 2.30pm  
**Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury**  
Tuesday 6th June, 1.00pm - 2.30pm

## Ready to Start School

Is your child starting school this September? Join us for 2 sessions to find out how you can support your child.

**Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham**  
Tuesday 4th April, 1.00pm - 2.00pm  
**Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge**  
Tuesday 4th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Westbury Community Project, Westbury**  
Monday 24th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Online via Microsoft Teams**  
Wednesday 31st May, 7.30pm - 8.30pm



**April to June 2023**  
Request your place: 0800 970 4669



## Bookstart

Four sessions held weekly where you and your child can explore stories and rhymes in fun and creative ways.

**Pewsey Library, Pewsey**  
Tuesday 18th April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford**  
Friday 21st April, 10.00am - 11.00am  
**Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury**  
Tuesday 8th May, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Bradford-on-Avon Library, BoA**  
Friday 6th June, 2.00pm - 2.45pm (under 1's)  
**Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham**  
Thursday 15th June, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

## One Off Events

Check out our Facebook page  
Spurgeons Wiltshire children's centres  
[Click here](#)  
Or visit our website [Click here](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)  
[www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)

Please note details may be subject to change  
Information correct as of 14/3/23

## Early Words Together

Join us for 5 weeks to learn a range of ways to support your child's language development through fun and engaging activities.

**Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury**  
Tuesday 4th April, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Melksham Library, Melksham**  
Thursday 20th April, 9.30am - 10.30am  
**Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes**  
Monday 15th May, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth**  
Thursday 8th June, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Westbury Community Project, Westbury**  
Monday 12th June, 10.00am - 11.00am

Please note that our sessions do not run on bank holidays

Don't forget all of our sessions are completely free of charge!



**April to June 2023**  
Request your place: 0800 970 4669



## Being a Parent

A 9 week course run by parents for parents of children aged 2-5 years. Parents learn practical communications for everyday life to bring up happy, confident and co-operative children.

**Online via Microsoft Teams**  
Wednesday 19th April, 7.00pm - 8.30pm  
**Devizes Children's Centre**  
Tuesday 18th April, 10.00am - 12.00pm  
**Amesbury Baptist Church, Amesbury**  
Wednesday 26th April, 10.00am - 12.00pm  
**Forest and Sandridge School, Melksham**  
Monday 15th May, 9.15am - 11.15am

## Play, Talk and Grow Together

For forces and civilian families with children aged 0-5 years

**Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth**  
Drop in  
Every Tuesday, 10.00am - 11.30am  
Every Friday, 10.00am - 11.30am

## Baby Massage

For parents and their non-mobile babies. Join us for 4 weeks learning how to encourage bonding and communication through soothing touch.

**Amesbury Baptist Church, Amesbury**  
Monday 17th April, 10.00am - 11.30am  
**Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury**  
Wednesday 19th April, 10.00am - 11.30am  
**Bradford-on-Avon Library, BOA**  
Wednesday 19th April, 9.30am - 10.30am  
**Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth**  
Thursday 20th April, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford**  
Wednesday 24th May, 10.00am - 11.30am  
**Tisbury Children's Centre, Tisbury**  
Wednesday 31st May, 10.00am - 11.30am  
**Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes**  
Thursday 8th June, 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
**Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge**  
Tuesday 13th June, 10.00am - 11.00am

Please note details may be subject to change. Information correct as of 14/3/23



**April to June 2023**  
Request your place: 0800 970 4669



## Scrapstore

We have partnered with Wiltshire Scrapstore to bring you a fun craft activity session near you!

**Bradford-on-Avon Library**  
Wednesday 26th April, 11.15am - 12.15pm  
**Downton Library**  
Thursday 4th May, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Amesbury Library**  
Thursday 11th May, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Westbury Library**  
Tuesday 16th May, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Wilton Library**  
Thursday 25th May, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Pewsey Library**  
Tuesday 13th June, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Warminster Library**  
Wednesday 21st June, 10.30am - 11.30am  
**Marlborough Library**  
Thursday 29th June, 10.30am - 11.30am

## Sensory Rooms

Sensory rooms are available free of charge in all our centres for 30 minute appointments. Give us a call to find out about availability at your nearest centre.

## Play and Connect

Play and connect with us and other families during these weekly play sessions.

**Westbury Community Project**  
Mondays 1.00pm - 2.00pm  
Just drop in!  
**Little Folly Children's Centre, Salisbury**  
Mondays 10.00am - 11.00am  
Just drop in!  
**Bulford Children's Centre, Bulford**  
Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00am  
Just drop in!  
**Sessions for children with SEND - Devizes Children's Centre, Devizes**  
Tuesdays (Fortnightly) 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
Please book your place  
**Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge**  
Fridays 10.00am - 11.00am  
Please book your place  
**Canberra Children's Centre, Melksham**  
Fridays 1.00pm - 2.00pm  
Please book your place  
**Sessions for children with SEND - Windmill Hill Children's Centre, Tidworth**  
Fridays (Fortnightly) 1.30pm - 2.30pm  
Please book your place

Don't forget all of our sessions are completely free of charge!

Please note details may be subject to change. Information correct as of 14/3/23

## 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 the remainder of this year 2022/2023 are:

5th June 2023

Teacher Training Days for the next academic year 2023/2024 are:

1st September 2023

4th September 2023

30th October 2023

4th January 2024

3rd June 2024

## PE timetable - Please see changes below

### PE Days

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

Badgers - Thursday

Dormice & Frogs - Tuesday

Herons & Kestrels - - Wednesday

Otters - Thursday - please remember no Logos, plain white t-shirt if you don't have a coloured one.

Buzzards - Thursday

Bumble Bees (Beehive) - Monday

Honey Bees / Busy Bees (Beehive)- Friday



## Dates to Remember



### **May**

15th /16th May - Year 5 Residential

24th/26th May - Year 6 Residential

### **June**

9th June - 'Parent Connect' session at 2.45pm join Mrs Austin for a cuppa, chat and Q&A

What's on

**CHARITY FAMILY FUN DAY**

RAISING MONEY FOR  
"RUHX" (Formerly  
FOREVER  
FRIENDS.)

In Memory Of  
**EMMA RODGER**  
(was Brewer)

**SAT. 10th  
JUNE 2023  
12pm Onwards..**

**RUHX**

**FOREST COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
MELKSHAM.**

**FACE PAINTING - LIVE MUSIC - FOOD TRUCKS  
GLITTER TATTOOS - ICE CREAM VAN - RAFFLE  
BOUNCY CASTLE - HAIR FEATHERS - TOMBOLA  
LUCKY DIP - ALL DAY BAR  
VARIOUS CRAFT STALLS & LOTS MORE.....**

CHARITY #No: 1058323



## MELKSHAM CRICKET CLUB YOUTH SESSIONS 2023

**THURSDAYS KS1 5pm-6pm**

**SATURDAYS KS2 & KS3 10am-11am**

**REGISTRATION OF INTEREST NOW OPEN.**

- SUITABLE FOR ALL ABILITIES
- PAY AS YOU PLAY OR BLOCK BOOK
- GIRLS/BOYS
- HARD/SOFT BALL SESSIONS
- ECB, DBS, FIRST AID TRAINED COACHES



Advanced coaching available for more information  
please contact us.

**WWW.MELKSHAMCRICKET.CO.UK**

**FACEBOOK/MELKSHAMCRICKET**

**FACEBOOK/THEBOUNDARYMELKSHAMCC**

**EMAIL - MELKSHAMCRICKET@GMAIL.COM**



# GYMABILITY MAY HALF TERM

TUESDAY 30TH MAY 12:45-1:45

WEDNESDAY 31ST MAY 9:30-10:30



OUR GYMABILITY DROP-IN SESSIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-12 YEARS WITH ANY PHYSICAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL, LANGUAGE, AND/OR SENSORY CHALLENGES. CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS/CARERS CAN EXPLORE OUR GYMNASTICS APPARATUS WITH OUR COACHES IN ATTENDANCE. SPACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED AND MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE.

BOOK ONLINE NOW!!

[WWW.WILTSHIREGYMNASTICS.CO.UK](http://WWW.WILTSHIREGYMNASTICS.CO.UK)

THE WILTSHIRE SCHOOL OF GYMNASTICS,  
LYSANDER ROAD, BOWERHILL,  
MELKSHAM, WILTSHIRE, SN12 6SP



**active**  
trowbridge



**ACTIVE  
KIDS  
CAMP**

[WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK](http://WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK)

WEEK DAYS 30TH MAY - 2ND JUNE 2023- JOHN OF GAUNT  
STANDARD DAY 9AM - 3PM £19.80 EXTENDED DAY 8AM - 4PM £24.60  
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED EXCLUDES BANK HOLIDAYS



SCAN ME



**active**  
trowbridge  
soccer schools

**GIRLS FOOTBALL  
JUNE 2023**

2ND JUNE 2023  
JOHN OF GAUNT

9AM - 3PM  
STANDARD DAY  
£19.80  
9AM - 4PM  
EXTENDED DAY  
£24.60



5 - 14 YEARS

KIT: TRAINERS,  
SHINPADS, PACKED  
LUNCH, WATER  
BOTTLE

CHILDCARE  
VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED



[WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK](http://WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK)

**active**  
trowbridge  
soccer schools

**MAY/JUNE  
HALF TERM**

30TH MAY - 1ST  
JUNE  
JOHN OF GAUNT

9AM - 3PM STANDARD  
DAY £19.80  
9AM - 4PM  
EXTENDED DAY £24.60



5 - 14 YEARS

KIT: TRAINERS,  
SHINPADS, PACKED  
LUNCH, WATER  
BOTTLE

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED



[WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK](http://WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK)

## TCS Open Evening June 23 - For parents of students in Years 4,5,6

### The Corsham School Annual Open Evening

You are warmly invited to our Annual Open Evening at The Corsham School on **Thursday 15th June 2023 from 6pm-8.30pm**. This is an opportunity for families to tour the school, visit curriculum areas and meet key staff. Mr Bell, Headteacher, will also give a presentation in our Main School Hall. His talk will take place at 6pm and, again, at 7pm.

If you would like to register your interest to attend the Open Evening and also book onto one of the Headteacher's talks, please go to our website - [Open events - The Corsham School](https://www.corsham.wilts.sch.uk/open-events)

**OPEN EVENING**  
Thursday 15th June 2023  
6 pm - 8.30 pm  
For more details, please visit 'Open Events' on our website

THE CORSHAM SCHOOL  
ACADEMY GROUP

TEL: 01249 713284 ■ EMAIL: [RECEPTION@CORSHAM.WILTS.SCH.UK](mailto:RECEPTION@CORSHAM.WILTS.SCH.UK) ■ [WWW.CORSHAM.WILTS.SCH.UK](http://WWW.CORSHAM.WILTS.SCH.UK)  
The Corsham School, The Tynings, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 9DF