River Mead School Parent Newsletter 14/07/2023



Our school latest news: http://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk/news-dates/latest-news

Our Twitter feed: @TweetRiverMead

Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/River-Mead-School-728064724207622/

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A message from Mrs Austin

Summer Fayre - Thank You!!!

Hopefully by the time you read this you will have had some fun at the summer fayre (whatever the weather)!

A huge thanks must go to the 'Friends of River Mead School' who organise these events and raise funds to support extra things for the benefit of the children. If you think you can help out next year, please do get in touch with one of the current members, I know they are always keen for more helpers!

Work experience students

This week has also seen a number of students from local secondary schools join us for their work experience week, they have been excellent ambassadors for their schools and will have seen a school from a new angle, lets hope we have inspired a few to join the profession!

Staff absence

Unfortunately like children and yourselves, from time to time, staff are also unwell. Please be reassured we always make sure that the children have a familiar adult with them, particularly if we do need to use a supply teacher. We also only use two local agencies who know our school well and the needs of our classes and children and they match supply staff to our requirements. Whenever possible we try to cover absences from within our own staffing; hence why I am teaching in the Resource Base.

Transitions - new teachers & classes

Next week will see the final transition session for the children who will spend a day with their new teaching team in preparation for the next academic year. Year 6 pupils have already visited their secondary schools so will be busy around the school supporting our younger pupils to be successful.

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

This is a great opportunity to keep reading all through the summer, so sign up and join in!!

Sign up for this year's <u>Summer Reading Challenge</u>. Sign up at Melksham Community library from **15 July.**

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The challenge is for 4–11-year-olds to read 6 library books over 8 weeks of the summer in return for various fun prizes, including a medal and certificate on completion.

This year the challenge runs from Saturday **15 July to Saturday 9 September**. There will be an initial registration period in the first two weeks of the challenge, where children will receive a collector's folder, then after this period (from 31 July) they are invited to return to talk about the books they have read and start collecting their stickers. Children can also continue to register throughout the summer.

It's **FREE** to take part, and last year 75% of children taking part improved their reading skills over the holidays.

Why should my child sign up?

- They will be better prepared to return to school in the autumn.
- Becoming more independent in their reading boosts children's confidence and self-esteem.
- The library provides **free access** to books and fun family activities all through the summer.
- Library staff are on hand to offer support and book recommendations.

Your child will be part of a UK-wide programme developed by <u>The Reading Agency</u> and delivered in partnership with the <u>public library network</u>.

How can my child take part? (Library or online)

It's **FREE** to join the challenge and to take out a library membership, visit: <u>Join the library - Wiltshire</u> <u>Council</u> and library staff will be on hand to support reading choices. Children can also take part in the challenge online via the website: <u>Summer Reading Challenge</u> where they can rate and review books, download activities, and access video content, games and quizzes.

Have a good weekend and KEEP READING!

Mrs Austin



Transition to new classes - Meet the team!

All of these meetings will be held in the music room (mobile classroom on the playground).

The dates and times for these are as follows:

Current YR moving to Y1 - Monday 17th July at 2:45pm

Current Y1 moving to Y2 - Friday 21st July at 8:45am

Current Y2 moving to Y3 - Monday 17th July at 8:45am

Current Y3 moving to Y4 - Tuesday 18th July at 2:45pm

Current Y4 moving to Y5 - Thursday 20th July at 8:45am

Current Y5 moving to Y6 - Friday 21st July at 2:45pm

If you are a Resource Base parent transition meetings will be organised and shared with you as soon as class structure is finalised. If you would like to come along and meet your child's mainstream teacher at the sessions outlines above, you are most welcome to attend.

Attendance - every child, every day!



Attendance the last data (week 7/7/23) shows

School overall 90.5% compared to National 93.9% - Lets not let it drop again - every child, every day!!

You MUST inform the school of your child's absence if you as the parent are unwell you are expected to find support to ensure your children are at school and on time.

Check your Arbor App, what % is your child's attendance??? if it is below 90% you may well be asked to attend a meeting at school to discuss this

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

Curriculum Booklets

What is my child learning in school?

Our children benefit from an exciting and engaging curriculum which has been developed to ensure that learning is irresistible for children. Follow the link below to find out more about your child's curriculum for the year and to see photos of their learning environment.

https://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk/learning/classes/

Notice to all parents & carers



A polite reminder to all parents & carers that smoking or vaping is prohibited on site. Please refrain also from smoking & vaping outside the school gates to ensure the health & safety of all.

Please could we also ask you to consider and ensure that your clothing is appropriate when dropping off and collecting children, this includes tops being worn.

We thank you for your cooperation on these matters.

Star of the Week



Otters - Nela Salamonska & Hendry Main-Woods

Dormice - Logan Tucker

Frogs - Hunter Jenkins

Herons - Freddie Dechuna

Kestrels - Ella Willis

Badgers - Charlie Smith

Buzzards - Ben Brown

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:

Otters - Janelle Cubagee

Dormice - Ava Mullis

Frogs - Isabelle Rodgers

Herons - Chaitanya Gaur

Kestrels - Lexie Smith

Badgers - Lacey-Mae Ward

Buzzards - Theo Kent

Kingfisher Reading Challenge



Frogs

100 - Ava Sears

150 - Corin Remington

Kestrels

50 - Gracie W

150 - Delilah H

175 - Murdoch R

225 - Rubie C

Writer of the Week



Otters - Lincoln-Jai Ward-Storey

Dormice - Bella Caven

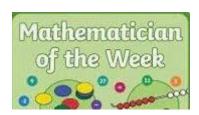
Herons - Alfie Adams

Kestrels - Faith Smith

Badgers - Riley Stokes

Buzzards - Ethan Gingell

Mathematician of the Week



Otters - Cillian Jenkins

Dormice - Zachary Perrin

Frogs - Jessica Swann and William Eanes

Herons - Joeli Maritiro

Kestrels - Esther Maritiro

Badgers - Martha Southall

River Mead Nursery



Graduation Invite - Thursday 20th July

For parents of children who are leaving nursery and starting their school journey to Reception in September, we would like to invite you to join with us in our graduation get together on Thursday 20th July, 2:00-3:15pm.

NEW Prices for Services - from 01/09/2023

Due to many costs rising such as energy and food we have needed to review the charges we make for our traded services. We have tried to keep this increase to a minimum, as we do appreciate that our families are also battling with all these increased costs.

From 1st September 2023, the prices for the following services will be as follows:

- Nursery: Half Day (3.75hrs) £21.80. Full Day (7.5hrs) £43.75. Nursery Breakfast £4.65
- Meals: Cost per meal £2.70
- Before School Club: Cost per session £2.55
- After School Club to 4:15: Cost per session £1.75
- Lettings: Hall (per hour, min 1.5hrs) £12.00. Kingfisher Court Weekdays £12.00. Kingfisher Court Weekends £18.00
- Music Lessons: £8.00 per 15 min individual lesson, or a 30 min group session

Online Safety Advice & Keeping Safe Online Over the Holidays



What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Amino

A sprawling online discussion forum with incentives for checking in each day and the facility to follow certain users, Amino bears comparison to Reddit – but with an added sprinkle of Snapchat and a Twitter twist. It may not be radically original, but's proving popular: there are now more than a million communities of fans exchanging views on topics from anime to zombies.

The concept is to recreate the passion and excitement of live conventions in the online world: from behind their screens and keyboards, however, not everyone behaves as well as they might in person. From hurtful comments to age-inappropriate images and predatory messaging, our #WakeUpWednesday guide highlights some potential hazards to protect young users from.



Friends of River Mead



Family & Community Learning











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 next academic year 2023/2024 are:

1st September 2023

4th September 2023

30th October 2023

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 - Monday

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)- Monday

Dates to Remember



Please see the table for our updated and confirmed dates to remember including Sports Day and our Lion King performance

| Monday | 19 th June | Y2 Trip to Hengistbury head |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 20 th June | Y3 Trip to Roman Baths |
| Wednesday | 21 st June | New intake (Year R in September) parents information meeting 6:30-7:30pm |
| Monday | 26 th June | Year 6 Geography field trip - local area |
| Tuesday | 27 th June | Year 5 Geography field trip - local area |
| Tuesday | 27 th June | Y6 Melksham Oak transition day |
| Tuesday | 27 th June | New intake (Year R in September) visits: |
| | | Group A 9:30-10:30 |
| | | Group B 11:00 - 12:00 |
| Wednesday | 28 th June | Year 5/6 - World War 2 Enrichment Day |
| Thursday | 29 th June | Y5 Melksham Oak taster day (parents to arrange child to meet River Mead staff at Melksham Oak |
| Monday | 3 rd July | Sports Day (if raining, back up day - 17 th July) timings tbc |
| Tuesday | 4 th July | New intake (Year R in September) visits: |
| | | Group A 9:30-10:30 |
| | | Group B 11:00 - 12:00 |
| Wednesday | 5 th July | Abbyfield Year 5 taster day (transport provided - leave River Mead 9am) |
| Wednesday | 5 th July | Life Bus visiting - PSHE |
| Thursday | 6 th July | |
| Friday | 7 th July | |
| Monday | 10 th July | Transition morning with new teachers/TAs (not RB) |
| Wednesday | 12 th July | New intake (Year R in September) visits: |
| | anth I I | All children 9:30-11:30 |
| Wednesday | 12 th July 12 th July | Y6 Abbyfield transition day |
| Wednesday | · · | Y5 Sheldon taster day (parents to book places for child to attend) |
| Thursday | 13 th July | Y4 field work - walk to library |
| Friday | 14 th July | Summer Fair 3:30-5:30pm |
| Manday | 17 th July | Parents/carers - meet your child's new teacher (Music Studio) |
| Monday | 17 July | 8:45-9:15 Mrs Udakis (year 2 to Year 3) 2:45-3:15 Miss Coates (Year R to Year 1) |
| Tuesday | 18 th July | 2:45-3:15 Mrs Boddington (Miss Veitch) (Year 3 to Year 4) |
| Thursday | 20 th July | 8:45-9:15 Mrs Sones (Year 4 to Year 5) |
| Friday | 21st July | 8:45-9:15 Miss Bartlett (Year 1 to Year 2) |
| _ | | 2:45-3:15 Miss Woods |
| Tuesday | 18 th July | Transition Day with new teachers/TA (not RB) |
| Wednesday | 19 th July | Lion King dress rehearsal to EY/KS1 2pm |
| Wednesday | 19 th July | New intake (Year R in September) teddy bears picnic 3:45-4:30pm |
| Thursday | 20 th July | Lion King performance to KS2 & parents (siblings under 5 years) 2pm |
| Thursday | 20 th July | Lion King Performance (no children under 5 years) 6:30pm |
| Monday | 24 th July | Year 6 Leavers Assembly - 9:00am parents welcome |
| Monday | 24 th July | Year 6 water fight and end of year celebration 3:30-5:00pm |
| <u>.</u> | · · · · | |

Year 1 Dormice trip to Alexandra Park, Bath on Monday 24th July 2023

Our Year 1s are off to Alexandra Park on Monday 24th July to help with their current Geography topic and learn about the differences between a city and a town. Children will need to bring a packed lunch, if you would like the school to provide one then please let the office know by Thursday 20th July. All trip information and sign up is on Arbor.

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















WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK

WEEK DAYS 25TH JULY - 31ST AUGUST 2023 - JOHN OF GAUNT STANDARD DAY 9AM - 3PM £13.80 EXTENDED DAY 8AM - 4PM £24.60 CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ASSENTED EXELUTES BANK HOLIDAYS

















WWW ACTIVE ROWBRIDGE.CO.UK



26TH JULY
- 31ST AUGUST
JOHN OF GAUNT
9AM - 3PM STANDARD
0 0 9AM - 4PM
EXTENDED DAY £24.60





KIT: TRAINERS, SHINPADS, PACKED LUNCH, WATER BOTTLE











WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK





INDIVIDUAL DAYS £18 5 DAY BLOCK £70

The PE & Sports Project uses elite level coaching practice, to provide the children with a fun, engaging, successful and positive experience.

We use our advanced 'explorationdiscovery-competition' model to give the children the independence and responsibility to think and to solve problems for themselves whilst supporting and encouraging their development in a wide range of different sports.

t: 0117 382 8444 e: info@thesportsproject.org



Lacock Scouts fundraiser



22nd July 2023 10am - 4pm

Start and finish at Lacock National Trust car park SN15 2RQ



£10 per car

All proceeds go to Lacock







Lacock is such a short drive away, and many of Melksham's groups have long waiting lists, many of our group's Beavers & Cubs live in Melksham.

We meet on Fridays from 6.30 to 8 in Lacock Village Hall.

We have a few spaces for Beavers - boys & girls aged between 6 and 8 and Cubs 8 - 10.5, from September 2023 onwards.

Our Beavers gain automatic places into our Cub Group when they reach 8 years old and then in local Scout groups at the age of 10.5.

Scouting is a tremendous global movement, and our Beavers & Cubs enjoy fun activities, camps & days out at a remarkably small cost for parents.

If you would like to take up places for your child(ren) this September onwards, please contact our group scout leader Keith.Holloway@wiltshirescouts.org.uk.

Wiltshire Parent Carer Council - Short Breaks Bulletin:
https://wiltshireparentcarercouncil.co.uk/en/Short breaks
Short Breaks Bulletin

Cost of Living

If you are struggling with the cost of living crisis and need some extra support, the team at Wiltshire Council are waiting to help however they can. Please follow this link for further information:

https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6665/Council-tax-benefits-and-financial-support