# River Mead School Parent Newsletter 13/10/2023



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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#### **Message from Miss Harrison**

Another week has flown by! How is it nearly the end of term?!

I have spent quite a bit of time in our Early Years classrooms this week - in Otters Reception, Butterflies Nursery, and Busy Bees Resource Base. Children's first years in school are magical! They learn so much so quickly. It was lovely to see children engaging in all sorts of playful learning; water play, mark making, small world, dressing up, role play, den building the list could go on!

I have also been reflecting about how important it is for children to have lots of different experiences in school, to try new things, interact with new people and situations, challenge themselves in different ways. It has been great to children from Year 4, 5 and 6 represent the school at the Tag Rugby Festival on Wednesday this week. This was arranged by Bath Rugby Foundation and STAR Scheme, who have also been in school over the last two weeks coaching and preparing the children.

Year 1 have also been to Longleat this week and had an amazing time! What an exciting trip for the children (and adults!). Thank you to our parent helpers who came along to support.

#### Parent Survey - WIN £20 Amazon voucher!

Please take a few minutes to complete the parent survey to be in with a chance of winning an amazon voucher! Bribery at it's best! Miss Miller has been particular keen to catch you with her QR code on the gate! It is really important for you to have your say and we really value your thoughts.

#### Training day - Monday 30st October 2023 - School is CLOSED

Just a reminder that our last day of this term is Wednesday 18th October, and we return to school on Tuesday 31st October.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Harrison

#### Car Seats and the UK Law

We have had some concerns raised by parents and carers at pick up and drop off times about children being driven in cars without car seats. Please take time to read the following information about Car Seats and the UK Law and check that your children are safe (source:Which?):

#### What is the law for child car seats?

UK law states that children must use a car seat until they're 12 years old or 135cm/4ft 5in tall, whichever comes first.

However, safety experts, including Which?, recommend that you use a child car seat for all children under 150cm/4ft 11in. This is the legal requirement in Ireland and some other European countries, such as Germany and France.

For children weighing more than 36kg (5st 10lb) but under 150cm/4ft 11in, our advice is to go by height – so wait until your child is 150cm before letting them use the vehicle seatbelt.

Only an EU-approved car seat can be used in the UK. Those approved outside of the EU can't be used in the UK, and EU-approved seats can't be used in other countries, such as the US.

Buying the wrong one could mean you're putting your child's life at risk, while also breaking the law.

#### What is the correct child car seat?

You need a child car seat that:

- conforms to the United Nations standard, ECE Regulation 44/03 or ECE 44/04 (this is marked on a label on the seat), or is approved under UN R129 (i-Size is a part of R129)
- is suitable for the child's weight and size, or height (if buying an i-Size seat)
- is correctly fitted according to the manufacturer's instructions

#### When can a child sit forward-facing in a car seat?

By law, your child must sit rear-facing in a car seat until they are 15 months old.

Extended rear-facing car seats are becoming more common, though. Crash tests show they're safer, plus they keep your child rear-facing until the age of four.

#### Penalties for ignoring the law on using child car seats

The consequences of ignoring the legal requirements could be expensive (at best) and (at worst) fatal. Police are able to administer an on-the-spot fine, which could be as much as £500 if the case is referred to court.

Remember, the driver of the vehicle is responsible for ensuring all passengers are safely strapped in.

## Have your say and enter our Prize Draw!

We are currently inviting all parents of all children in Year R, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 to contribute to a parental survey to help us improve the work we do at River Mead School. Please complete this by the end of this term - before 12pm on Wednesday 18th October 2023.

Please follow the correct link below to submit your answers (please complete both forms if you have children in Reception AND in Year 1-6):

#### Reception

https://forms.office.com/e/R9Qa9CiFcg

#### Year 1-6

#### https://forms.office.com/e/VcM1UkKtMu

If you complete the survey, your name will be automatically entered into a prize draw to win a £20 Amazon Gift card. The winner will be drawn at random in the afternoon on Wednesday 18th

October and the winner will be contacted to collect their prize. The name of the winner will also be announced in the newsletter.



### **Star of the Week**



**Dormice** - Noah Hunt

Frogs - Caiden Brown

**Herons** - Isabelle Rogers

**Kestrels** - Ashton Boydell

**Badgers** - Faith Smith

**Buzzards** - Isabelle Thorpe

Bumble Bees - Lucas Goddard

**Honey Bees** - Evan Dowsett

**Busy Bees** - Francesca Saward

#### **Hot Chocolate with The Senior Leadership Team**



**Dormice** - Sapphire Duck

Frogs - Alora Brownsell

**Herons** - Finley Peckover

Kestrels - Emily Sievewright

Badgers - Rebecca Bogitini

Buzzards - Ersa Duli

**Bumble Bees - Lawson Miles** 

Busy Bees - Roman Gunner

Honey Bees - Josh Butcher

## **Kingfisher Reading Challenge**



#### **Bumble Bees:**

25 reads - Lawson Miles, Lukas Sartin Hann, Sky Edmunds

#### Otters:

5 reads - Esmee Billing, Eloise McDonald, Jack Stone, Kaiden Ferrett, Mabel Whittard, Olivia Hatton-Pocklington, Rory Peacock, Thea Paradise, Teddy Watson

10 reads - Olivia Sweet, William Whitney

#### Dormice:

10 reads: Arabella Gill, Jenson Nealey

20 reads: Sapphire Duck, Eddie Edmunds, Alistair Reece

25 reads: Janelle Cubagee, Escher Remington, Milena Sledz

30 reads: Noah Hunt, Kevin Marino, Archie Wild

35 reads: Reeva Linington, Nela Salamonska, Eddie Sharp, Mila-Rose Tuck

#### **Herons:**

25 reads: Jessica Swann, William Eanes, Sophia-Rose Carroll, Ella-Rose Pearson

#### **Kestrels:**

25 reads: Emily Sievewright

#### Badgers:

25 reads: Jasmine Kaur, Esther Maritiro, Imogen Gould, Lexie Smith, Sherkarnah Ward-Jones, Lillie-Marie Caven, Delilah Holbrook, Ella-Rose Willis

#### **Buzzards:**

25 Reads: Martha Southall, Gracie Plumb

#### Writer of the Week



**Dormice** - Archie Wild

Frogs - Freddie Hill

**Herons** - Oliver Bole

Kestrels - Kyle Saward

**Badgers** - Daniel Mitchell

**Buzzards** - Ben Brown, Gracie Plumb

**Bumble Bees** - Sky Edmunds

Honey Bees - Noah O'Shea

Busy Bees - Reece Billing

#### Mathematician of the Week



**Dormice** - Mila-Rose Tuck

Frogs - Carlos Neacsa

Herons - Amelia Thomas-Holland

Kestrels - Kobey Wild-Bryant

Badgers - Lexie Smith

**Buzzards** - Adam Ottway

Honey Bees - Logan Mumford

**Bumble Bees** - Thomas Wells

Busy Bees - George Rainford

#### **Online Safety**

What Parents and Carers Need to Know About Among Us

Created in 2018 by a small indie studio that (at the time) had only four employees, Among Us has become one of the gaming world's biggest breakout hits of recent years. In 2020, for example, it was the world's most-downloaded mobile game. Its simplicity helped Among Us to resonate with younger players in particular: the game's second largest audience slice is the 13–18 age bracket. While the 7+ age rating, emphasis on teamwork and cartoonish, colourful graphics all suit a young fan-base, however, the game does carry more serious risks than betrayal by a team-mate or an untimely onscreen demise – with in-game purchases and possible contact from strangers on our #WakeUpWednesday guide's list of hazards that trusted adults should bear in mind.



#### **PE timetable**

#### **PE Days**

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

Otters, Honey Bees, Badgers - Monday

Frogs, Kestrels - Tuesday

Buzzards - Wednesday

Dormice & Herons - Thursday

Bumble Bees & Busy Bees - Friday

#### Dates to Remember - Term 1



Sunday 15th October: FORMS AGM

Wednesday 18th October: Dormice RWI Parent Workshop



Wiltshire Council



### **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

## **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 2023/2024. 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:

30th October 2023

4th January 2024

3rd June 2024

#### From the Office

**Absence:** If your child is unwell please let the school know by contacting the office on 01225 703428 or emailing office@rivermead.wilts.sch.uk as soon as possible in the morning

**Arbor:** Arbor is a great tool to use to update any contact information, choose school meals, and consent to clubs and trips. If you need help with accessing Arbor and how to use it, please pop into the office so we can help!

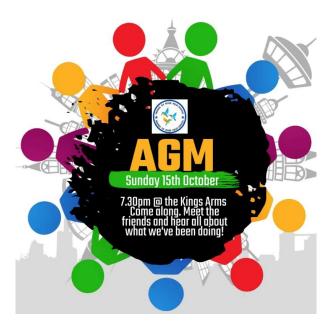
**Meals:** The winter menu is now available to make choices for the next 3 terms. **Please select choices** for term 2 as soon as possible

**Lost Property:** There is a black water bottle in the office, with a light blue handle on the rim. Please pop in if you think this belongs to you!



Please make your choices by Wednesday 18th October: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/vkmTDFvNJm">https://forms.office.com/e/vkmTDFvNJm</a>

#### **Friends of River Mead School**



#### **Annual General Meeting**

Please join us at our 2023 AGM where we will share what we have done over the past year and our plans for 2023 / 2024. If you have any ideas or have any questions then come along and meet the team. We are always welcoming of anyone that wishes to join us in any capacity so if you are interested or want to know a little more about what we do then come say hi, or drop us an email.

Keep an eye on our Notice Board (outside the main white gates) as well as our Facebook & Instagram pages for plenty of regular updates!

If anyone is interested in taking on a committee role for the year ahead please email the friends email address or speak to the office, Marie or Karli in advance of our meeting. The roles available are - Chair, secretary or treasurer.

Don't forget to keep the unwanted pennies coming for Penny Wars!



#### A competition between all classes RULES

Each class will have their own jar for collecting pennies ( 2ps also welcome).

Jars will be counted at the end of each term and running totals shared.

The class with the most pennies win a prize.



Made with PosterMyWsR.com

All proceeds will go to the FORMS fund raising for reinvestment in your children's experience

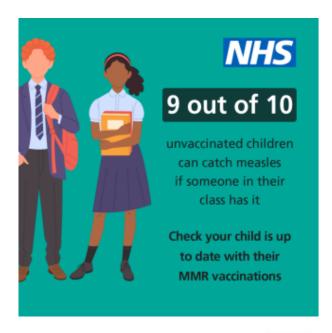
Facebook: https://m.facebook.com/groups/1816646455251366/?ref=share

Instagram:https://instagram.com/friendsofrivermead?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=

Email:rivermeadfriends@gmail.com

#### **NHS MMR Information**





#### Key messages



- Oneral
  Over 102,000 children in England (or use regional stats) are starting primary school this term (aged 4-5 years old) at risk of catching measles and becoming seriously unwell mental
  Nine out of her children can catch measles from an infacted classmate (ages)
  One in five children will require a hospital visit if they become unwell with measles (segme)
  Measles cases are rising across England and are over double the Eigures from last year
  One in 15 children develop serious complications from a measles infection, which can include meningitis and blindness
  There is no medical treatment for measles, vaccination is the best protection against becoming seriously unwell
  The Measles, Mumps and Rubelia (MMR) vaccine is safe and has been used since the early 1809s.
  Over 20 million cases of measles have been prevented since the start of measles vaccination in the UK. Over 4,500 lives have been saved as a result (15 lives per year) 'sports it (MSRA)
  MMR vaccination is five on the NHS with the first dose being offered when a child is one year and the second at 3 years and 4 months old. This provides long lasting protection against measles, numps and rubella which can cause long term health conditions such as blindness and autism.

  The evidence is clear, there is no link between the MMR vaccine and autism

- The enteriors is clear, interes to link owevern the wink' vaccine and ausent
   All to action
   If your child has missed their first or second dose of MMR vaccine, contact your GP practice to book an appointment.
   If you are unsure if your child is due a vaccination or has missed a vaccination, check their red book or contact your GP practice.
   For adults, it is never too late to catch up on any missed MMR vaccinations, contact your GP practice to book an appointment.
   For more information visit the NMS website

#### **Family & Community Learning**



#### **Early Years and Primary**

## WPCC's

#### Information Event

For parent carers of children with SEND, and those who work with them.

Are you looking for information to support you to help your child with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)?

This free to attend event, aimed at parent carers of early years or primary aged children could be just what you are looking for to help you find out more about some of the services and support in Wiltshire. Please join us and visit over 30 information stands in our popular information Market Place, participate in a workshop and enjoy free tea, coffee and cakes, and meet other parent car

#### Chance to win one of three £50

vouchers if you attend See our virtual pre-event

pack for lots more information

You can book using this QR code

**Tuesday 7th November** 

Civic Centre **Trowbridge BA148AH** 

Registration from 9.30am

**Event Runs from** 10am to 2pm

able to claim travel and childcare expenses from the WPCC

#### **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

Alternatively

Booking closes 5pm on

31st October 2023



- in person session in Semington. Age 11+
   Online Cooking Sessions: Monday 23 October, two sessions ages 5
- Indoor Climbing: Tuesday 24 October. Age 6 10 Location: Corsham.
   Team Building Challenges: Wednesday 25 October. Ages 10 14
- Archery & Axe Throwing: Wednesday 25 October, ages 14+ Location:
- In person Cooking Workshop: Thursday 26 October, two sessions ages 5 - 11 and 11+ Location: Paxcroft Mead

Find full dates, times and locations: carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on

Booking essential: email admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk or call us on: 0800 181 4118

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#### Support we offer

We are here to help with a whole range of topics including:

Ideas around implementing routines and setting boundaries.

Help to understand your child's needs and build your confidence as a parent.

Help around finances, housing applications, debt support and accessing benefits.

Advice on local childcare and applying for funding.

Supporting you 'back to work'.

Introductions to other services.

#### We can help families

access:

Breast pump loan Baby Bundles Food boxes New Parent, New Baby programme

Healthy Start vitamins

to work'.

#### Get in touch with us

Facebook
Our Spurgeons Wiltshire
children's centres Facebook
page is another way for

families to stay up to date with

current services. Make sure

you like and follow to stay in touch with us.

Simply click here:

If you have any questions or would like more information about our services please call us on one of our numbers below or check out our website:

#### Freephone: 0800 970 4669

email: wiltshirecc@spurgeons.org

Other useful numbers: Health visitor - single point of

0300 247 0090

National Breastfeeding helpline 0300 100 0212

tz (domestic abuse support service) 01225 775276

> Wiltshire out of hours domestic abuse helpline 01225 712880

Click here to visit our website



https://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org



Find out more about the services we provide by clicking on the buttons

PROFESSIONALS

FAMILIES with children 0 - 5

FAMILIES with children 6 - 11



# October 2023 Newsletter

#### LET'S FACE SOME ISSUES!

Wednesday 18th Oct 18:30 - 19:30 FREE



FREE SESSION Family Meetings: Why and How

Monday 2nd Oct 18:30 - 20:30 £24



Understanding the Teenage Brain

Why teens think, feel and behave differently from adults

Monday 23rd Oct 18:30 - 20:30 £24



Understanding Anger

Yours and theirs - what is anger, why do we feel it and how can we manage it?

Thursday 26th Oct 18:30 - 20:30



Supporting a Child with ADHD

interactive session explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk.

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



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

www.wiltshirechildrens centres.org.uk Join us online via Microsoft Teams

Friday 29th September -Friday 20th October 2023

1.00pm - 2.00pm

1:1 support available to join online sessions

#### What's on

# October Half Term Activities at Melksham Library

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> 2.30pm	Steams N THE DUST	Stories in the Dust Family Show Age 5+
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> 11am		Parachute Games for 3-8 year olds
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> 10am Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Q	Teddy Bear Stories plus special guest  Baby Rhyme Time
Thursday 26th 11am Thursday 26th 2pm	Guide Dogs	Toddler Rhyme Time  Guide Dog visit
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am		Author Ben Harte Storytime & activities for pre- schoolers.  Do you know the colours of the rainbow?
Saturday 28th 11am		Spooky Stories & crafts
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> 2pm- 4pm	LEGO	Lego Club

Halloween Picture Trail on all week!

Booking essential for all activities except for rhyme times: email <a href="mailto:libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk">libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk</a> or call us on 01225 702032



Wiltshire Council













WWW.ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK

WEEK DAYS 19TH - 27TH OCTOBER 2023 AT THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL STANDARD DAY 9AM - 3PM £19.80 EXTENDED DAY 8AM - 4PM £24.60





# active trowbridge soccer schools ĞIRLS

**FOOTBALL** THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER JOHN OF GAUNT

9AM - 3PM STANDARD DAY £19.80 8AM - 4PM EXTENDED DAY £24.60





KIT: TRAINERS, PACKED LUNCH REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE









WWW.AUTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK



# Half Term

23rd - 25th OCTOBER JOHN OF GAUNT MON - WED

9AM - 3PM STANDARD DAY £19.80 8AM - 4PM EXTENDED DAY £24.60





#### 5 - 14 YEARS

KIT: TRAINERS, PACKED LUNCH, REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED











TROWBRIDGE WWW ACTIVETROWBRIDGE.CO.UK











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32 Com Street, Bath, BA11UI

**Tickets** 

Bath Box Office: 01225 46336 www.bathboxoffice.org.uk



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www.hobgoblintheatrecompany.co.uk









The Wharf Theatre
The Wharf, Devizes, SNio IEB
0333 666 3366

Tickets £8-12

www.hobgoblintheatrecompany.co.uk

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