



# The Mead Community Primary School

## Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022



### Term 1, Week 7

Headteacher – Mr Mark Stenton

[www.themead.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.themead.wilts.sch.uk) ☎ 01225 759273 ✉ [office@themead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@themead.wilts.sch.uk)

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming – selected children</li> <li>• Cross Country event at Clarendon after school – selected children</li> </ul>
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8.45am – 9.00am Start of the Day Sharing - Parents are invited to come into school and look at their children's work</li> <li>• Wingfield Individual School Photos</li> </ul>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8.45am – 9.00am Start of the Day Sharing - Parents are invited to come into school and look at their children's work</li> <li>• Wear Red Day 2022 - Anti Racism Day (21st October but to be supported today as last day of term)</li> </ul>
Half Term Holiday - Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INSET Day (deadline for secondary school applications)</li> </ul>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School re-opens for Term 2</li> </ul>

Dear Mead Families,

Thank you all for your support as Term 1 draws to a close with the last day on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October. This week the children have been learning First Aid at Hilperton site, having done this a short while ago at Wingfield site. Wiltshire Air Ambulance are a truly outstanding organisation and it is brilliant to have them back on site delivering this essential learning after a few years without them due to the pandemic restrictions.

We also had a visit from Tiger Martial Arts' Instructor Nick, another reminder that we're back to doing all that we used to do! I know many children and young people across Trowbridge benefit from this sports club, and Mead pupils / ex-pupils represent one of the largest groups in the team.

On the subject of teams, well done to both of our upper Key Stage 2 football teams, who are playing really well – Hilperton Mead in Trowbridge's large primary league, and Wingfield Mead in the small primary league. All of the girls and boys involved have shown tremendous sporting attitudes and Mr Smith is super proud of you.

I'm writing this as we prepare for today's autumn disco, and want to thank both the outgoing Friends of the Mead Committee and this week's newly formed Committee for all that they have done and all that they will do to support our school sites – you make a huge difference. Thank you.

Enjoy the break when it comes.

Kind regards  
Mark Stenton  
Headteacher

#### INSET DAYS

31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

<https://www.themeadtrust.org/news-and-dates/term-dates/>

Please send comments or feedback to [feedback@themead.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:feedback@themead.wilts.sch.uk)  
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## For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2023?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at [wiltshire.gov.uk](http://wiltshire.gov.uk) or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

**12 midnight, 31 October 2022**

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

## For the attention of all parents

Will your child be four years old before September 2023?

You must apply for a primary school place

Apply online at [wiltshire.gov.uk](http://wiltshire.gov.uk) or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is

**12 midnight, 15 January 2023**

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010**

For more information or to request our guide to finding a primary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

### Reminder - After School Care Bookings

Please note that the ASC booking system on Arbor is not available from 11am for same day bookings. However, bookings for future dates can still be made. We will of course be able to make bookings for exceptional circumstances, but you will need to phone the school office to arrange this.

### Follow us



Wingfield Facebook and twitter are now both @MeadatWingfield  
Hilperton Facebook and twitter are now both @MeadatHilperton  
Hilperton Nursery Facebook and Twitter are now both @MeadatOrchard

### What Parents and Carers Need to Know about FIFA 23

You don't have to be football crazy or an avid gamer to have heard of the FIFA franchise. What you might not know is that this latest edition will be the last release to bear that name, thanks to a parting of the ways between football's governing body FIFA (that's Federation Internationale de Football Association, acronym fans) and developers EA Sports.

There's no disputing that the game's been an immense success – but what's less impressive is its tendency to look defensively shaky against some online threats. Young players aiming to recreate their football heroes' exploits can be at risk from abusive opponents, expensive in-game purchases and the "just one more game" mentality.

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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING  
**PEGI 3**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

#### IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

#### CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the "just one more game" mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder – a recognised mental health issue.

#### GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

#### STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

#### CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

#### AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



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**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.dexerto.com/youngster-spends-over-9000-ffr-on-highly-trip-production-game-dexerto/> <https://www.wired.com/story/questions-and-answers/teen-addictive-behaviour-gaming-disorder/> <https://www.gamesradar.com/ea-sports-fifa-23-ultimate-team-2022-features/>

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<b>Dates for your Diary</b>	<b><u>These dates are all subject to change</u></b> Parents are invited to all Community Assemblies
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	INSET Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	YR – Y6 Nasal Flu Immunisations – both sites
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Foxes and Ospreys to Trowbridge Civic Centre (STEAM Workshop)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am - Hilperton Site Community Assembly - Remembrance
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying Week – Wear Odd Socks Day
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Squirrels and Otters to Westbury White Horse
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly – Christmas Celebration
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas Lunch Day – available to book now on Arbor</b>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	INSET Day
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Deadline for September 2023 Primary School Applications
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices Event in Birmingham
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly –
9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Start of the Day Sharing with Parents (both sites)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day
6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Careers Week
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Trowbridge Youth Parliament
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Poetry Day
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Parent Conversation Week
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bees to Warleigh Lodge Farm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Butterflies and Cygnets to Warleigh Lodge Farm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs Week
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Trowbridge Youth Parliament
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Kestrels, Puffins and Fireflies to The Roman Baths
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Whole School Performance – Wiltshire Music Centre
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Squirrels and Otters to Bristol Buddhist Centre
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Start of the Day Sharing with Parents (both sites)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5 to Cotswold Water Park
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Hilperton Site Sports Day
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Hilperton Site Fall Back Sports Day
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Wingfield Site Sports Day
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	School Disco
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Wingfield Site Fall Back Sports Day
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3 to Thoulstone Park – long day
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 to Kilve Court – 3 night residential
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 4 to Braeside – 1 night residential
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am - Year 6 Leavers Assembly

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