

Monday 6th February 2023

Term 3, Week 6

Headteacher – Mr Mark Stenton

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INTERNET SAFETY WEEK
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Monday 6 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.30pm – Swimming for selected children
Tuesday 7 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Wednesday 8 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trowbridge Youth Parliament – Staverton School
Thursday 9 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start of the Day Sharing with Parents • West Wilts Dance Festival – Bath Forum
Friday 10 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.30am – Fitness Friday on the playground • Start of the Day Sharing with Parents • 2.20pm Star of the Week Assembly by invitation on Zoom

Dear Mead Families,

On Monday, all of our Year 1 to Year 6 children had assemblies and workshops regarding, online safety, delivered by Richard Pomfrett from The Stay Safe Initiative. On page 2 of this newsletter, you can read some of the comments from the workshops which highlight how children are often playing games or accessing social media which are age restricted for primary aged children. Please have a look at these comments and discuss with your child as appropriate.

World Book Day is fast approaching and, as always, reading is a daily obsession of all years in school. We were very lucky today to have a visiting author, Lis Jardine, talk to our Key stage 2 children. Lis is the author of 'The Detention Detectives' and inspired the children with talk about the wonderful craft of creative writing.

Finally, the temperature appears to be on the up, so I thought I'd share this picture of early noticing of the coming of spring by our reception children:



Kind regards
Mark Stenton,
Headteacher

INSET DAYS
5th June 2023

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

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On Line Safety Day

On Monday, Richard Pomfrett of The Stay Safe Initiative presented to all of our Key Stage 1 and 2 children regarding online safety. He kindly provided a summary of findings from the workshops. I think this is illuminating and shows the need for heightened vigilance around primary age children and the games and activities they play/are exposed to online:

"All year groups mentioned connecting with others on WhatsApp (16+), a large number of KS2 are using TikTok (13+), SnapChat (13+) and some Instagram(13+). SnapChat and WhatsApp were both mentioned by KS1 also. Unfortunately, out of them (especially in Yr5/6) the majority have public accounts. This obviously opens them up to 'anyone' making a direct connection.

In regards to gaming, GTA (Grand Theft Auto 18+) and COD (Call of Duty 18+) were both mentioned yesterday as well as the expected games, ROBLOX, MINECRAFT, FORTNIGHT. Most gamers regularly play and chat to people they don't know (in the real world).

All of the above has become quite common for lots of young people in all schools I visit, so please don't think you're an exception. Year by year digital users get younger and numbers are getting higher. This is a good opportunity to highlight these issues and concerns to parents.

I would highlight the importance for all parents to fully understanding what their children are using online and to educate themselves of the functionality of the games / apps their children use (can they chat? be connected to people they don't know? What content can they be exposed to (either suggested or sent by others)? What age rating? What are the risks?). It's by fully understanding these things that will allow parents to hopefully make informed decisions and be able to support and be involved along the way."

Teachers will continue to discuss these issues in school to keep children safe in school. I am sure you will continue to do the same, and I hope you find the regular information leaflets and posters which we send out about online safety helpful.

World Book Day

With industrial action in schools declared for 2nd March, we have taken the quick decision to move our **World book Day** celebration to the **Wednesday, 1st March** (not 3rd March is previously considered).

World Thinking Day

Wednesday 22nd February 2023 is World Thinking Day and as school we will be supporting this. It is a chance for all members who are part of the Guiding and Scouting community to wear their uniform with pride and think about the wider family around the world. If your child is part of Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, they will be able to wear their scouting uniform to school on 22nd February 2023 if they would like to.

Bikes and Scooters

Please be reminded to take bikes and scooters home at the end of each school day and particularly at weekends. The school does not accept any responsibility for the loss or theft of these possessions.

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The Mead Community Primary School



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Dates for your Diary	These dates are all subject to change Parents are invited to all Community Assemblies
Wednesday 22 nd February	Year 6 Bikeability – selected children on the Hilperton Site
Wednesday 22 nd February	World Thinking Day for the Guiding and Scouting community
Wednesday 22 nd February	Wonder Dome Planetarium visiting Bees and Butterflies
Thursday 23 rd February	Year 6 Bikeability – selected children on the Hilperton Site
Wednesday 1 st March	World Book Day celebration (not 3 rd March is previously considered)
Thursday 2 nd March	Potential Industrial Action
Friday 3 rd March	Woodpeckers, Wrens and Swans to Farleigh Hungerford Castle
Tuesday 7 th March	Foxes and Ospreys to Bristol Hindu Temple
6 th – 10 th March	Careers Week
Tuesday 14 th March	Trowbridge Youth Parliament – The Mead School hosting (note change of date)
Wednesday 15 th March	Potential Industrial Action
Thursday 16 th March	Potential Industrial Action
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 21 st March	World Poetry Day
Wednesday 22 nd March	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Monday 24 th – 28 th April	Parent Conversation Week
Tuesday 25 th April	Foxes and Ospreys walking to Trowbridge Museum
Friday 28 th April	Young Blooms visiting Woodpeckers, Kestrels and Swans
Thursday 4 th May	Bees to Warleigh Lodge Farm
Friday 5 th May	Butterflies and Cygnets to Warleigh Lodge Farm
Monday 8 th – 12 th May	Y6 SATs Week
Wednesday 17 th May	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Wednesday 17 th May	Trowbridge Youth Parliament
Thursday 18 th May	Kestrels, Puffins and Fireflies to The Roman Baths
Wednesday 24 th May	Whole School Performance – Wiltshire Music Centre
Thursday 25 th May	Squirrels and Otters to Bristol Buddhist Centre
Thursday 25 th & 26 th May	Start of the Day Sharing with Parents (both sites)
Monday 5 th June	INSET Day
Friday 9 th June	Woodpeckers, Kestrels and Swans to Hengistbury Head Beach
Tuesday 20 th June	Y5 to Cotswold Water Park
Monday 26 th June	Y5 Curriculum Day at Clarendon Academy
Tuesday 27 th June	Hilperton Site Sports Day
Thursday 29 th June	Hilperton Site Fall Back Sports Day
Friday 30 th June	Wingfield Site Sports Day
Friday 30 th June	School Disco
Monday 3 rd July	Wingfield Site Fall Back Sports Day
Wednesday 5 th July	Y5 Curriculum Day at John of Gaunt School
Monday 10 th July	Transition Day
Wednesday 12 th July	8.50am – Hilperton Site Community Assembly
Friday 14 th July	Y3 to Thoulstone Park – long day
Tuesday 18 th – 21 st July	Year 6 to Kilve Court – 3 night residential
Thursday 20 th – 21 st July	Year 4 to Braeside – 1 night residential
Tuesday 25 th July	9.00am - Year 6 Leavers Assembly

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