

The Mead at Wingfield

Week beginning – 18th January 2021



Headteacher – Mr Mark Stenton
Head of Site – Miss Emma Holton

www.themead.wilts.sch.uk ☎ 01225 759273 ✉ wingfieldoffice@themead.wilts.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first two weeks of term for 2021 have not been as anyone would have hoped for and I must thank you all for your patience and resilience as we work together to get through these most difficult of times.

I personally long for the return of full schools, normal interactions and the freedom to focus entirely on education and our community without the permanent shadow of the pandemic – but we're some way from that at the moment. I've adjusted my thinking to regard the spring term as the one when we all come together to finally beat Covid, then hopefully see a return to some form of normality in the summer term. The vaccination programme is rolling out quickly now and I'm sure many of you, like myself, will have been relieved this week to hear that older family members are getting the vaccinations locally now; feels like the beginning of something better. We've also received news this week that the lateral testing kits will be available in primary schools from next week to enable school staff to test at home each Monday in the same way that health workers have to do – another control which will help us to keep everyone safe. As it stands, there has been no further talk of this testing extending to primary aged children in the way that it has been suggested for secondary school pupils, which seems very sensible!

We are operating with just over a quarter of the children on site to support critical workers. The staff are dividing themselves into teams in each year group so that they can focus on constantly supporting home learning during the day whilst also teaching those children in school. They have responded magnificently to the challenge and I am extremely proud of what they have achieved. Online learning is at another level now and we are trying to maintain the full curriculum for this term with live lessons included and a lot of devices shared with families from school to support at home (more to follow where needed).

You have also been absolutely wonderful as a parent body. The engagement from children has been extremely high via Seesaw and Google Meets, which is down to your support. I know it is extremely challenging and can't thank you enough for the time you're putting in to make this work. Thank you for all of your messages of support – the generosity of spirit has been tangible. We will continue to follow up every concern you raise as best as we can. Together we'll get through this safely.

Warm regards

Mark Stenton
Headteacher

Reporting Covid-19 symptoms to the school

If you or anyone in your family is being tested or has received a positive Covid-19 test please inform the school as soon as possible by emailing covidreporting@themead.wilts.sch.uk (including over the weekend and during school holidays).

For all other communication, (Covid or otherwise), please email office@themead.wilts.sch.uk

INSET DAYS 2020 - 2021: 7TH JUNE 2021

**Please send comments or feedback feedback@themead.wilts.sch.uk
Paper copies of this newsletter are available from the school office.**

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Wingfield updates:

Thank you for all you are doing to support your children to keep up with the learning set for them on Seesaw and attending our daily Google Meets. We have been blown away by the efforts that they (and you!) are making to stay in touch with school, and complete the learning that has been set. With your help they are keeping up with the planned curriculum and will be in a brilliant place to continue their learning when we are all able to return to school and get back to normal routines.

The daily Google Meet session will be planned to support the children in the best way possible on that day. The focus of these sessions will change depending on which aspect of the planned curriculum best lends itself to a live session or where the children will most benefit from their teacher's input. These might also be planned to enable the children to keep in touch with one another and feel connected as part of their class. We have had some emails requesting that these sessions focus on certain subjects. We are unable to fulfil personal requests, however we will ensure that we continue to be responsive to the children's needs and plan the sessions to effectively support the next stages of their learning and development. The best way to support the staff with this is to ensure that your child's learning outcomes are posted onto Seesaw for them to view; if there is nothing uploaded then teachers have no oversight of how children are doing to support their onward planning.

Please note that it will be challenging for Ms Heard, Miss Webber and Mr Hackett to teach the normal maths lessons that take place in school via Google Meet because these sessions include the whole class; usually in Maths sessions, children are taught their year group curriculum in 2 separate groups, rather than as a whole class. There may be times that some whole class number skills work is relevant and accessible to all, but for the majority of the time maths lessons will be uploaded onto Seesaw, not taught live via Google Meet. We are working hard to ensure that your children have video and voice recordings to help them engage with their learning and will always respond personally if a child is struggling with something. Please continue to let us know if you or your children need any support and we will do all we can to help.

I am very grateful for the support you have shown our team over the last few weeks. Our staff are supporting children in school full time, teaching live sessions via Google Meet and supporting those children learning at home simultaneously. We are getting to get into a good routine with all of this now and are hugely thankful for all of your feedback that has helped us shape and develop our offer.

We are in the process of putting together a Wingfield Wave video. If your child/ren would like to be involved please record a short clip of them waving (they do not need to say anything) and email it to wingfieldoffice@themead.wilts.sch.uk by 6pm on Wednesday 20th January. We will compile the videos together and share the film with the children on Seesaw and on Social Media.

Please do continue to report any symptoms/test results to us using our covidreporting@themead.wilts.sch.uk email address.

Remember that we regularly post news on our Twitter and Facebook pages. If you haven't seen these yet, please do follow the links below:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TweetWingfield>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MeadWingfield>

I continue to be extremely proud of our wonderful school, dedicated staff, supportive parents and amazing children. Together as a #wingfieldfamily we will stay safe and navigate our way to a better time when we be together again.

Best wishes,
Miss Emma Holton
Head of Site

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Supporting home learning routines Planning the day



Consistent routines are important for behaviour and wellbeing in school and our routines at home have changed significantly. Routines support behaviour and you will be finding a new rhythm with your family. You could share this checklist with your child. Talk to them to help them plan their new routines.

The importance of simple approaches as part of a regular routine is key recommendation 4 of the EEF's guidance report [Improving Behaviour in Schools](#)

	M	T	W	T	F
I woke up at a good time.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I did some exercise.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I had regular meals and drank water.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I enjoyed some reading in a quiet space.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I practised a maths skill.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I completed some school work at my work space. I chunked it so I had some breaks too.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I talked to my family about my day and how I am feeling. I asked them about their day.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I helped with a household job and talked to my family while I did it.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I contacted my friends.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I spent some time on my creative hobby.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
My parent/carer told me what I did well.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
My goal:	<input type="checkbox"/>				
My goal:	<input type="checkbox"/>				



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Keeping Up To Date

We want to make sure you are kept up-to-date about what is happening in our schools, especially at a time when you can't come in to school and see us in person. The Mead Trust – as well as our individual schools – has a range of social channels that we post to, as well as the emails and text messages that we send out. If you use any of these platforms, then please follow / like us! We will be sharing updates, but also love to feature news and achievements from our families, so make sure you tag us so that we can share your posts with our wider community.

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/themeadtrust>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-mead-academy-trust/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/themeadtrust>



#LockdownLearning

While you are supporting your children to access their learning at home, we would love to see your photos. It might be joining a live lesson, or completing an activity on Seesaw – but it might also be some home baking, going for your daily exercise, joining in with Joe Wicks – or something else!

Show us what you are up to, and tell us about your #lockdownlearning, to inspire and support others, and join our virtual community for the next few weeks.

Post your photos with #lockdownlearning and tag us @themeadtrust on [twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) and we will share them at www.themeadtrust.org/lockdown-learning (Please don't email your photos in to school, with so much going on we are not able to accept them on email at the moment.)

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