



# The Mead School

## NEWSLETTER

**Term:** Autumn

**Issue:** 09

**Date:** 17 November 2017

### Key Dates:

#### Saturday 18 Nov

ISA Swimming Gala

#### Monday 20 Nov

Year 5: Victorian Day

Reception, Year 1 & 2: Perform in school

#### Wednesday 22 Nov

FoM donations to be dropped off to front shed, 8.30 am

U11 football match vs Skippers Hill, home, 2.30pm

U11 netball match at Skippers Hill, 2.30pm

#### Thursday 23 Nov

FoM donations to be dropped off to front shed, 8.30 am

Jolly Jam Jars - last day

Charity Shoebox appeal - last day

Year 1: Trip to Tunbridge Wells Museum

#### Friday 24 Nov

FoM donations to be dropped off to front shed, 8.30 am

#### Saturday 25 Nov

FoM Winter Fayre, 12-2pm

Dear Parents,

If you're interested in what gets me out of bed in the morning (apart from two children seemingly incapable of sleeping to a decent hour!) or want to potentially shift your whole perspective on life then I'd highly recommend Carol Dweck's *Mindset* as a stocking filler.

This psychological self-help book has taken the educational world by storm in recent years but, as a result, its premise is in real danger of joining the scrapheap of fads and initiatives which fade over time.

Dweck's theory is far more fundamental than that and every school and parent should see it as their responsibility to embed it into everything we do with our children.

I don't have the space for an adequate precis here (you'll have to buy the book) but essentially it divides the world into two mindsets. Those with a Fixed Mindset believe that ability and intelligence are innate and unmovable and those with a Growth Mindset believe the opposite. The former fear failure and continuously feel judged in comparison to others whereas the latter see challenge and mistakes as opportunities for learning.

Her research shows staggeringly stark differences in the life journeys of both camps. As adults, minor changes can have a major impact on developing a Growth Mindset in children.

We should never praise ability or intelligence, instead praise the effort given or progress made. Honest self-reflection is key, as is being open about our areas of weakness but instead of a finite, summative comment like "I'm not good at this", the addition of a simple word... "I'm not good at this yet" creates hope and ambition.

My thought for the week and challenge for the weekend is to do something with your children which you know you're not very good at. For me, it's art, and so I plan to make my 5 year old daughter giggle at the fact that every animal I draw looks the same and like no creature on earth. However, I'm not good at drawing yet!

Kind regards,

Andrew Webster



Raising money for Children in Need with Own Clothes Day & our Catering team get 5 stars for Food Hygiene at inspection



History was brought to life this week for Key Stage 2 with Viking Day & a visit from a World War II evacuee, Victorian shoe-shine boy & an ancient Greek courtesy of the brilliant Ollie from Steps In Time.

### Menu (W/C Monday 20 Nov):

#### Monday

Roast Chicken, Cabbage & Carrots

Fresh Fruit

#### Tuesday

Lasagne, Carrots & Green Beans

Ice Cream Roll

#### Wednesday

Jacket Potatoes, Cheese & Beans

Choc Ices

#### Thursday

Chicken Wraps & Salad

Apple Pie & Cream

#### Friday

Fish Friday

Flapjacks

### Friends of The Mead News:

This week saw another well attended and productive Friends of The Mead meeting, where plans for the eagerly anticipated Winter Fayre were finalised.

With only a week-or-so to go here are some reminders and requests to help the day run smoothly:

**Volunteers** - Most class representatives are in need of more volunteers for the day of the Winter Fayre. Please refer to sign-up sheets or revert to your class representative(s) to see where help is needed. Our goal is to have enough volunteers across the board to enable everyone to enjoy the Fayre with their child(ren) as well as helping with their stall.

**Timing** - We will have access to the school from 10:00AM on the morning of the Fayre, Saturday 25th November. The Fayre takes place between 12:00 Noon and 2:00PM. After the Fayre closes, the school must be left clear, clean and tidy ready for Monday morning. Class representatives are co-ordinating schedules for the day.

**Small Change** - At the risk of sounding presumptuous, could we ask that, where possible, children come armed with some small change for paying to play the stall games, please? The same applies to parents and extended family members enjoying the cake and mulled wine stalls. Each stall will have an initial float but it would be an enormous help if we could all put more change into circulation.

**Jolly Jam Jars** - The deadline for jolly jam jars is Thursday, 23.11.17, and we just wanted to clarify that these are to be taken into your child(ren)'s classroom (s) and each jar should be clearly marked on the underside with the name of the child. Only children creating and contributing a jar will be entitled to buy a new jar.

**Other Deadlines and Key Dates** - For a more comprehensive list, please refer to last week's newsletter, dated 10.11.17, which can be found here:

[www.themeadschool.co.uk/school-termly-newsletter/](http://www.themeadschool.co.uk/school-termly-newsletter/)

It remains only for me to say thank you for all of the effort and energy which is going into planning the Winter Fayre and to thank you in advance for your hard work and kindness on the day.

Ultimately, FOM events benefit the current and future generations of school pupils and simply would not come together without the support and generosity of our school community.

Here's to another really great day... only 8 more sleeps now!

James Piggott

Chair, Friends of The Mead

### Notices:

**Christmas Market in aid of Hospice in The Weald:** Sat 18 Nov, 10am-12pm, URC Church Hall, Rusthall. Raffle, stalls, crafts, cakes & refreshments. Contact Mrs Patterson (mum to Rose, Yr 1) for further details.

**Meeting Need at Christmas:** Ms Playle (mum to Isla, Yr 5 & Felix, Yr 4) runs volunteer group Meeting Need, supporting those in need in Tunbridge Wells this Christmas: the elderly, homeless, those struggling financially & refugee children & families. The group is aiming to produce over 200 Christmas gift packs. Contact Ms Playle:

[info@meetingneed.com](mailto:info@meetingneed.com) for further information.

**Website:** [www.themeadschool.co.uk](http://www.themeadschool.co.uk) / **Facebook:** [facebook.com/themeadschoolTW](https://www.facebook.com/themeadschoolTW/) / **Twitter:** @TheMeadSchoolTW



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