



# The Mead School

## NEWSLETTER

**Term:** Autumn

**Issue:** 04

**Date:** 6 October 2017

### Key Dates:

#### Tuesday 10 Oct

Young Shakespeare Co visiting KS2

#### Wednesday 11 Oct

U10 netball at Bricklehurst, 2.30pm

#### Thursday 12 Oct

Open Day (10.00am-12.00pm/2.15-3.15pm)

U8/9 football at Beechwood, 2.30pm

#### Friday 13 Oct

FOM Film Night & Parents' Drinks (6.00-8.00pm)

### On Parentmail this week:

-First Day at School photos of Reception classes in Courier newspaper, Friday 6 October

-FoM Film Night & Parents' Drinks, information.

-Ski Trip Easter 2018, information & booking form

-KS2: Young Shakespeare Co. visit on Tuesday, information

-Year 2 Kew Gardens trip, information.

-Year 4 Chatham Synagogue & Rochester Cathedral trip, information

Dear Parents,

I was recently asked about the main challenges facing schools and education in general today. A stock and simplistic answer would be funding. It's difficult to pick up a paper these days without reading about the underfunding crisis plaguing the state sector. We're lucky to be buoyant, with a hugely supportive and successful parent committee and so have an exciting, ongoing investment plan for the school. I question, however, the inextricable link between money and quality. They're linked, for sure, you must invest wisely, but I've also seen spell-binding teaching with the only resource being a good imagination.

To answer the question therefore, I would say that establishing a healthy perspective is our profession's main challenge. We live and teach in the era of fake news and virtual living when children spend more time talking to their friends via social media than in person. To avoid raising a generation of isolated and blinkered people, we must aim for our children to grow a sound global awareness and venture outside of the school gates; literally, virtually and philosophically. To be inspired to help sustain and marvel at the beauty of our planet. To be curious, creative and critical in their thinking, discerning and objective in the digital age. To be moderate, to be tolerant and open minded and to develop a mature moral compass and a charitable demeanour. A healthy perspective ultimately leads to a happy life and so it should be at the forefront of educational thinking. It is certainly something you will see me promoting at The Mead.

Kind regards,

Mr Andrew Webster

For further school information please visit our website and for all our latest photos and news follow us on Facebook & Twitter (details overleaf).

### Thought for the Week:

How do we know who we're speaking to on the internet and where information has come from?



BBC weather presenter Sarah Keith-Lucas visits Year 3, Year 4s make 'journey sticks' & a game of hide & seek for our Kindergarteners!



Year 2 demonstrating their artistic skills; the U10 football team & Year 6 enjoying their stay on the Isle of Wight

### Next Week's Menu:

#### Monday

Sweet & Sour Chicken, Rice & Cucumber  
Fresh Fruit

#### Tuesday

Sausage Rolls, Wedges & Salad  
Crumble & Custard

#### Wednesday

Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes & Green Beans  
Ice Cream

#### Thursday

Pasta, Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread  
Jelly & Cream

#### Friday

Fish Friday  
Doughnuts

### Friends of The Mead News:

Tickets for the forthcoming Friends of The Mead movie night have been selling well this week. They will remain on sale until the end of next Wednesday, 11 October.

FOM is looking forward to welcoming lots of parents for drinks and nibbles while the children enjoy the film. If you haven't already done so, please let Ruth know that you are coming via [marketing@themeadschool.co.uk](mailto:marketing@themeadschool.co.uk) no later than the end of next Wednesday, 11 October, in order that catering arrangements can be finalised. There will be a cash bar for parents on the night, with proceeds going to FOM.

The next **FOM meeting** will take place in the dining room at **8:45am** on **18 October**. The turnout for the last meeting was fantastic and it would be wonderful to see a similar, if not greater, number of people at the next meeting.

Finally, I take the opportunity to remind you that this year's **Winter Fayre**, a key event for The Mead School and for FOM, will take place on **Saturday, 25 November** (12-2pm). Please save the date for what will, I'm sure, be a lovely day.

Thanks, as ever, for all of your help and support.

James Piggott

Chair

Friends of The Mead

### Term Dates - Autumn:

#### Fri 20 Oct

Break up for half term (12 noon)

#### Mon 30 Oct

Return from half term

#### Fri 15 Dec

Break up for Christmas holidays (12 noon)

### Notices:

-With the mornings and evenings closing in, please feel free to take the option to encourage children who cycle or scoot to school to wear a high-vis vest up to the school gates.

-Tunbridge Wells Library & Museum Fun Day, Saturday 14 October, 9am– 1pm. Free activities, photographic competition & meet local author Denise Barnes.



For further school information & news visit our: [website](http://www.themeadschool.co.uk): [www.themeadschool.co.uk](http://www.themeadschool.co.uk)

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