



# Learning for life!

## Meridian Update

### Term 1

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

### Term 2

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

[www.meridianschool.co.uk](http://www.meridianschool.co.uk)



**Meridian Community Primary  
School and Nursery**



**@MeridianCPS**

**Monday  
1<sup>st</sup>  
October  
2018**

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Emergency contacts**

As part of our commitment to keeping children safe in school, **it is essential that we have at least 2 emergency contacts for your child** for the following reasons:

1. If your child is absent from school and we have not heard from you, we will call you first. However if we are unable to reach you, we will then call the emergency contacts until we can ascertain why your child is absent from school
2. If your child is ill or has an accident in school and we can't get hold of you, we will then call the emergency contacts – it can be really distressing for children if they need to go home and we can't get hold of you and don't have any emergency contacts

*Please make sure you have given the school the most up to date contact details for you and your emergency contacts – you can pop into the office any time to do this.*

### **Parent Coffee Morning**

Don't forget it's our Parent Coffee Morning on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 9am** in The Annexe room (just near the main entrance to the school.) Mrs Sawyerr, our Learning Mentor, runs these and they are a great way to meet other parents, chat over coffee and ask any questions you may have about Meridian. Babies and toddlers are welcome! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

### **School Photographs**

Children will be having their school photographs taken on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – these will be individual photos and family group photos.

### **Term Dates**

Apologies for the incorrect dates on my last newsletter – they are all up to date now (fingers crossed!)  
Thank you those parents who let me know.

Best wishes

*C. Westcott*

**Claire Westcott  
(Headteacher)**



## TERM DATES 2018/2019

### Term 1

Monday 3rd September – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
**INSET days on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – school closed for staff training.**

***Children back to school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September***

**INSET days on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

### Autumn break

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

### Term 2

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### Christmas break

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December to Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

### Term 3

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

### February break

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

### Term 4

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### Spring break

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

### Term 5

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

### May break

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

### Term 6

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

***Please note not all INSET days for 2018/2019 have been set***

## Important Dates

- 04.10 Parent Coffee Morning – **9am** in the Annexe
- 12.10 PTFA Fancy Dress Disco
- 19.10 INSET DAY – school closed for training
- 20.10 INSET DAY – school closed for training

### October break

- 30.10 Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm
- 01.11 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
- 12.11 Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day
- 15.11 Parent Coffee Morning – **9am** in the Annexe
- 06.12 Parent Open Afternoon **1.45pm**
- 07.12 PTFA Christmas Fair
- 10.12 Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performance to parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**
- 12.12 Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance to parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**
- 14.12 Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance to parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**
- 17.12 Reception Performance to parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**

### Data Sheets

At the start of each new curriculum year, we ask that parents update any contact details that may have changed over the summer holidays. These may include new addresses, telephone/mobile telephone numbers as well as contacts that we would call if your child is unwell or needs collecting from School. **Please ensure that we have at details of at least two emergency contacts.** Please pass all changes, in writing, to the School Office.

### Sickness and Diarrhoea

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea that has been caused by a **virus** – the advice is to keep your child off school for **48 hours** to avoid the virus spreading around school.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea that has been brought on by **other reasons** and you feel that they are well enough to come to school and **not infectious**, you are welcome to send them in.

Thank you for your support with this

### PTFA

We had a really great meeting last week – thank you to everyone that came along.




Our next event is on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October** which is a **Fancy Dress Disco**. The letter will be sent out via the school app and a paper slip will be put into children's book bags this week. All the information will be on the letter.

**If you are able to volunteer at one or both of the discos, please let the PTFA know.**

## Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is so important so that children do not miss the vital teaching and learning that takes place every day in class and do not fall behind.

*Each week we celebrate the class with the best attendance*

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?					
190 days	180 days	178 days	163 days	161 days	143 days
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%
Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
					
Only 1-2 day missed per term		Between 3-8 days missed per term		More than 9 days missed per term	

***Don't forget – if your child is off school you need to send in a written note on the day they return so that we can consider changing the registration code to an authorised absence. Please note a reason of "ill" or "unwell" is not acceptable.***

For more information about our attendance policy and procedures, please visit our website <http://www.meridianschool.co.uk/about-us/policies>

### Our Attendance Team!

Our Attendance Team are here to support you if you are worried about your child's attendance: Mrs Claire Erridge (Education Welfare Officer), Mrs Jacqui Dray (Attendance and Admissions Officer) and Mrs Rose Sawyerr (Learning Mentor). In Miss Maslen's absence, Mr Doody is supporting the attendance team.

If you have any concerns or worries about getting your child into school regularly and on time, please do make an appointment to meet with any of the team and we can look at different ways that we can support you and your child with coming to school. Please come and speak with us sooner rather than later! **We are here to help.**

### Best Attendance this term:

**Week 1** – Blue Tang class (1HS), Guppy Fish class (3M) and Narwhal class (4B) all **100%** - what a fantastic start!

**Week 2** – Octopus Class (2T) **99.6%** - great!

**Week 3** – Jellyfish Class (1A) **100%** - amazing!

**Week 4** – Dogfish Class (3Mo) **100%** - amazing!

**Our current whole school attendance is 96.7% - this is such an amazing start to the term and the school year!**

Our whole school attendance improved last year and we want to build on this success. Thank you to everyone for your continued support with attendance to make Meridian a fantastic school





### Ms Maslen

Unfortunately Ms Maslen continues to be unwell at the moment and is currently off work for the rest of this term. We are keeping in touch with her and will let you know when she returns. In the meantime, Mr Doody will be leading attendance and Ms Westcott will be leading safeguarding. Miss Miles is going to be supporting SEND on Thursdays and Fridays for the rest of this term – she has recently completed her National Award for SENCos, so for SEND support and advice, please continue speak to the class teacher in the first instance and if you wish to make an appointment to speak with Miss Miles (Thursdays and Fridays only), you are welcome to do so.

Thank you for support and understanding.

### Nursery

Our Nursery children are settling in well and we have been able to welcome lots of new children to our brilliant Meridian Nursery. Our Nursery is proving to be very popular and lots of sessions are getting fully booked. Thank you to all the parents for their support and positive recommendations about our Nursery.



The children have been enjoying cooking, practising scissor skills and playing in the new Nursery sandpit!

### Reception

Our Reception children have settled in really well and are enjoying the fantastic learning that Miss East and Mrs Reffell have planned for them. Don't forget this week parents are invited to come along and meet Miss East and Mrs Reffell to find out more about learning in Reception. You will also have the opportunity to read with your child too! We look forward to seeing you all on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm.



## DINOSAURS!

We had a great start to our Life Long Ago learning journey with the children learning about fossils and meeting Maisie the 7 year old Tyrannosaurus Rex! The children really loved excavating the fossils and learning about dinosaurs. What an amazing way to get the children excited and buzzing about dinosaurs!



### Healthy Snacks and Drinks

As part of us promoting healthy eating, it is great to see children bringing in fruit and vegetables for their snack.

Nursery provide their own snacks and Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can have a free piece of fruit.

Just a reminder that children should bring in a water bottle to keep hydrated through the day – **water only please, no squash or juice!**

Thank you!



### Harvest Assembly

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October we will be having our Harvest Assembly. This year a local vicar will be leading the assembly for us so that children can learn about Harvest from someone in the local community.

Children are encouraged to bring in donations of food (tins and packets please) which are then given to local charities. We look forward to seeing our Harvest table full of donations!

