



Learning for life!

Meridian Update

Term 3

**Thursday 3rd January to Friday
15th February**

Term 4

**Monday 25th February to Friday
5th April**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



**Meridian Community Primary
School & Nursery**



@MeridianCPS

**Friday
15th**

**February
2019**

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't quite believe we have reached the end of term 3 so soon! The children have had a really great few weeks and have enjoyed visits to the Theatre Royal for a production of Horrible Histories (KS2) and Brighton Museum (KS1) – all linked to their learning about The Ancient Egyptians. The displays in school are coming along nicely and I know the children will have lots to share with you at our Open Afternoon next term.

Parent Council

We had to cancel our last Parent Council meeting due to illness, so our next one is now on Thursday 28th February at 9am. If you have any questions you would like to be raised or comments you wish to be shared, please do let your Parent Councillors know in advance of this meeting. If you would like to become a Parent Councillor (we are a very small, but friendly, group!) then please do come along to find out more.

Governors

Congratulations to Katie Browne who has become our new Parent Governor. I know that Katie is excited about her new role on the Governing Body. We have had a few new Governors join our Governing Body recently and their details will be made available on our school website very soon.

Miss Maslen

Unfortunately Miss Maslen continues to be unwell and so will not be back after half term. In the meantime, Miss Miles will continue to be Acting SENCo, Mr Doody will continue to lead on Attendance and I will continue to lead on Safeguarding. Thank you to everyone for their support and understanding during this time, particularly the parents of Miss Miles's class, whose children will continue to be taught by Miss Ballard until the end of term 4.

Welcome Back

Welcome back to Miss Howell who has returned from her travels and is coming back to teach in Year 4 after half-term.

I hope you have a lovely half term break and I look forward to seeing everyone back on **Monday 25th February**.

Best wishes

Claire Westcott

Claire Westcott
(Headteacher)



TERM DATES 2018/2019

Term 3

Thursday 3rd January – Friday 15th February

February break

Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February

Term 4

Monday 25th February – Friday 5th April

Spring break

Monday 8th April – Monday 22nd April

Term 5

Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 24th May

May break

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Term 6

Monday 3rd June – Tuesday 23rd July

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

IMPORTANT DATES

25.02 – Children back to school

28.02 – Parent Council 9am in the Annexe
PTFA meeting 7pm

07.03 – World Book Day – Pyjama Party and
Favourite Book

02.04 – Parent Open Afternoon – 1.45pm

05.04 – End of term 4

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We have several children at Meridian who have a life-threatening allergy to nuts so please can you ensure that any packed lunches do not contain nuts or nut butters to help keep these children safe. Thank you

Loose Parts

Keep those donations coming in for our OPAL playtimes! **All donations will be safety checked by the staff to ensure suitability for the children to use.** Here are suggestions of what we will be asking for:

Cardboard boxes



Cuddly Toys

Fabrics - all shapes and sizes

Metal pots, pans, trays etc. Especially catering sizes

Old clothes, jackets, overalls, hats, bags

Old household appliances, hoovers, fax machines, microwaves etc

Phones

Small Children's Bike Wheels, wheels

Sofa and chair cushions



Suitcases - all sizes

Tubes of all kinds

Carpet samples

Carpet squares

Guttering

Hoses

Brief cases

Buggies, push chairs



So if you are having a clear out, please think of us! The donation area is just behind the shed on the playground – please put your items in there ready for our safety inspection.

If you want to find out more about OPAL, please visit their website

<http://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/>



Thank you for your support with our playtimes!

World Book Day Thursday 7th March

Did you know? . . . World Book Day is a registered charity on a mission to give every child and young person a book of their own. It's also a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) it's a celebration of reading. In fact, it's the biggest celebration of its kind, designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and marked in over 100 countries all over the world.

Following last year's World Book Day, we had a discussion at our Parent Council, hearing views from parents and the school about how to celebrate and it was agreed that we would try something different again this year. We celebrated all things Harry Potter last year and this was met with mixed reviews. In the past we have celebrated by dressing up as book characters and again this has been met with mixed reviews, particularly around the cost of creating or buying elaborate costumes. So this year we are having a **Pyjama Party** to celebrate getting cosy and comfortable to read! Also, bedtime reading is a great way to immerse yourself in a story! Children are able to come into school in their pyjamas (sensible shoes please so they can still go outside) and if they want they can also **bring in their favourite book** to read and show their friends (please put your child's name inside the book so that we can return it should it get lost . . .)

Children will all receive their £1 book token which they can either swap for one of the special World Book Day £1 books or put it towards cost of a full price book. More information can be found on the World Book Day website www.worldbookday.com/books

A letter will be sent out the first week back by Miss Passingham (English Leader) with more information about World Book Day.

We look forward to seeing you all in your pyjamas!



Children's Parade

Every year we have a team of committed and dedicated teachers that are able to give up their time (at a weekend and after school) to make the Children's Parade structure and then a larger group of us that are able to attend on the Saturday for the parade.

We love going to the Children's Parade and joining in this community event. However this year, due to teachers' personal commitments and plans, we don't have enough staff to transport, carry, supervise and organise everything on the Saturday, so unfortunately we won't be taking part this year.

However, I know that we will be back bigger and better next year!

Thank you for your understanding with this.

Coats in School

As the weather continues to be cold, please can you ensure that your children have a suitable coat in school. We have some children coming into school in cardigans or hoodies which are not warm enough for when they are outside on the playground for an hour at lunchtime. We want to help ensure that your children don't get ill, so please help us by ensuring they have warm enough coats for outside. Thank you for your help with this.






Contact Details

Please don't forget to let the office know if your contact details (address, mobile number, e-mail) have changed.

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>

Best Attendance this term:

Week 1 – 100% - 4P – FANTASTIC!
 Week 2 – 98.3% - 6R – AMAZING!
 Week 3 – 99.3% - 6R – AMAZING!
 Week 4 – 97.6% - 1HS – SUPER!
 Week 5 – 98.6% - 3M – AMAZING!
 Week 6 – 98.8% – 1HS – WONDERFUL!
 Week 7 – 99.3% - 5P – FANTASTIC!

The classes with the best attendance this term are: 1HS and 6R with 97.3% - WELL DONE

Attendance in Term 3		
RR – 92.0%	3M – 94.7%	6R – 97.3%
RE – 91.5%	3Mo – 92.6%	6J – 94.9%
1HS – 97.3%	4D – 94.0%	
1A – 94.2%	4M – 91.5%	
2T – 93.5%	4P – 94.0%	
2D – 93.8%	5Y – 94.6%	
2M – 95.3%	5P – 94.4%	

Whole school attendance for Term 3 so far is 94.1% - which is an improvement on the same time last year. Whole school attendance this academic year so far is 95.5% - which is just below our target of 96% - which is fantastic and I am sure we will continue to improve over the spring and summer months.

Thank you to everyone for your support with attendance

